



Fall 2012

# Alumni Magazine

*Transforming Lives*



## Monica Mills | Class of '82

*How her education degree helped her become a top lobbyist*

### Also in this issue



Floyds honored with Difference Maker Award



Odle earns Young Alumni Achievement Award



Knutson named 2012 Distinguished Faculty

# Experiential Learning

**G**reetings from Black Hills State University!

The annual Black Hills Research Symposium, which was held this spring, showcased more than 30 undergraduate student research projects from across the disciplines and covered a wide range of topics including a cure for malaria, physics research at the Sanford Underground Research Facility, experiences of Special Olympics athletes, effectiveness of an after school program, adolescent depression, analyzing twitter posts, the role of religion in youth literature, the power play in the tragedy of Romeo and Juliet, and more. I am always impressed with the students' initiative and originality in choosing research projects and their dedication to seeing the projects through to completion. I also commend the faculty members who provide exceptional mentoring for students. The research conducted by our students is one of several experiential learning opportunities that give BHSU alumni the edge in their careers.

When I meet with BHSU alumni from across the nation, I often hear anecdotes from alumni who fondly recall their college years and pinpoint specific experiences that gave them direction for their careers. Whether it was working at the student-run radio station, doing research with a faculty mentor, studying business in France, leading a successful student organization, or completing an internship with a human services agency, BHSU alumni use these experiential learning opportunities to open doors and create possibilities for careers that may have seemed out of reach. Monica Mills, who is featured in this issue of the magazine, notes that her career path began with an internship in Pierre which led to an internship in Washington, D.C., and now she's the director of Strategic Initiatives for Lael Brainard, the Under Secretary for International Affairs at the Department of Treasury.

It's so gratifying to hear from BHSU alumni. Please continue to send your news and updates!

Sincerely,  
President Kay Schallenkamp



**BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp congratulates undergraduate student Jennifer Johnson, mathematics major from Hettinger, N.D., who was the oral presentation winner at the Black Hills Research Symposium held this spring at BHSU. Her presentation was titled "Generating Cwatssets from Multiple Graphs." Johnson graduated in May and will attend graduate school at Kansas State University. She was accepted directly into their Ph.D. program in mathematics.**

## Black Hills State University Alumni Magazine Fall 2012

The Alumni Magazine is published twice a year by the Black Hills State University Alumni Association for alumni and friends of BHSU. Your comments are welcome. Email us at [Alumni@BHSU.edu](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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## A REWARDING LIFE AND CAREER

...and it all started at Black Hills State University

**M**onica Mills, Class of 1982, earned her double major in elementary education and special education at Black Hills State University. However, after earning an internship at the state legislature during her senior year, her career as a teacher was quickly transformed.

Although she did complete her student teaching, Monica didn't end up teaching in her own classroom. But that doesn't mean earning her education degree didn't help her get where she is today. She is currently the director of Strategic Initiatives for Lael Brainard, the Under Secretary for International Affairs at the Department of Treasury.

Monica says that learning to teach helped her become better organized and a better speaker. "When I speak before an audience, I try to think that I am a teacher helping them to understand a new concept," said Monica. She feels her special education degree helped her to understand about setting boundaries and letting go, especially in her work as a manager and mentor.

Monica was involved in student government in high school and at BHSU so she always had an interest in politics.

Her career got its start during her internship with Lars Herseth, who served in the South Dakota State Legislature for two decades. She learned the ins and outs of the legislative process, how a bill becomes a law, and how important it is to have the state's people talk with the legislators.

Monica then took a leap of faith and traveled to Washington, D.C., after a friend in Pierre recommended she intern for Tom Daschle, who was a state representative in the House at the time. Monica was able to learn the ways of Washington and explore the city. She discovered the influence of the White House and learned firsthand how one person can really make a difference.

The summer after graduating from BHSU, Monica worked on Daschle's campaign when he was running for re-election to Congress.

Working on the campaign side of politics helped Monica really understand what motivates a member of Congress. She was eager to go back to Washington, D.C.,

but when there were no openings in the Daschle office, she decided to work another session in Pierre for the South Dakota Water Congress, which lobbied on funding for water projects. This is where Monica started to learn the art of lobbying.

Since that time Monica has really made a name for herself, working in numerous facets of politics and upper management. She began working as a secretary for a law firm and was quickly promoted to director of the Human Resources Department after just one month. She says this was her first real break into management and her boss was an amazing mentor who took her under his wing and taught her a lot about life.

Throughout her career Monica has worked for the federal government, public policy groups, nongovernmental organizations, and political campaigns including working as a field staffer, field director, scheduler, fundraiser, speech writer, opposition researcher, press spokesperson, and campaign manager.

For six years she worked for the Peace Corps, starting as the regional manager in charge of the recruitment of volunteers in the mid-Atlantic region. She was promoted to a presidential appointee in the Clinton Administration directing national recruitment and placing volunteers overseas. During her tenure, the Peace Corps recruited its highest number of volunteers since 1974, as well as the most minority volunteers ever to serve in the Peace Corps.

In 2006, Monica began working for an organization called Bread for the World, a collective Christian voice that urges the nation's decision makers to end hunger in the United States and abroad.

Monica was the director of Government Relations for Bread for the World for nearly six years. During this time she was selected as a top grassroots lobbyist three consecutive years by *The Hill* newspaper, Capitol Hill's largest publication.

"It was an incredible honor to be selected as a top grassroots lobbyist for three years in a row. My experience on Capitol Hill as a chief of staff; around the country as a campaign strategist; and as a consultant on communications issues and

of Congress at key points during the legislative process," said Monica.

This year Monica was offered a remarkable opportunity to go back to work for the federal government. She jumped at the chance, and in April, took over as the director of Strategic Initiatives for Lael Brainard, the Under Secretary for International Affairs at the Department of Treasury.

As the director of Strategic Initiatives, Monica is responsible for outreach into the NGO community, a group of non-governmental organizations that advocate for poverty issues. She makes sure they understand what the administration is doing and gets feedback from them as well. She also helps determine venues for the Under Secretary's appearances and makes sure she has what she needs to get the right message to the right audience. Monica writes speeches, remarks, and testimony for the Under Secretary and coordinated the first-ever Development Impact Honor Ceremony, which honored excellence in projects all over the world funded by the multilateral development banks.

"It's an honor to work for Under Secretary Brainard and the Treasury Department," said Monica. She loves the challenge and finds her new position incredibly interesting, enjoying that she gets to learn something new every day.

Monica said, "I have worked very hard, but I am also very lucky. I have had really interesting and rewarding positions in my career, and now I work in a wonderful place with incredibly smart people in a building filled with history. I have a group of very special friends, a home near the Capitol with a big garden, and vibrant church and neighborhood communities. And I get to teach a little. I lead a spiritual discussion every Thursday from Labor Day to Memorial Day. These parts of my non-work world, along with walking my dog, keep me centered and focused."

And it all started at Black Hills State University.



message development all contributed and helped me understand how to get folks back home to write or call their member

**Lael Brainard (left), Under Secretary for International Affairs at the Department of Treasury, discusses the days agenda with Monica Mills, Class of '82. Monica is currently the director of Strategic Initiatives for Brainard.**

Photos courtesy of Chris Taylor, Treasury Department Photographer

## Kudos & Announcements

### The 40s

**William "Bill" L. Lynn**, Spearfish, recently received his 60-year pin as a member of Spearfish Masonic Lodge No. 18. Bill first petitioned the Spearfish Lodge in November 1950 and was initiated in January 1951. He was named a Master Mason in September of 1951. Still an active member of the Lodge, Bill has held several offices.

### The 60s

**Bob Buck**, Class of '61, Dodgeville, Wis., was honored by the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association. Bob received the Eli Crogan Humanitarian and Service Award for his family values and his concern for other coaches and their families' well-being.

**Daryl Johnson**, Class of '68, Spearfish, was elected to another four-year term on the Lawrence County Commission.

**Ken Richardt**, Attended, Winthrop Harbor, Ill., celebrated 35-years as owner/operator of Ken Richardt Excavating.

### The 70s

**Clair Donovan**, Attended, Spearfish, was recognized at the State A wrestling tournament for 25 years (1987-2011) of service as a high school wrestling official.

**Sandy (Schuring) Jebens**, Class of '79, Rawlins, Wyo., was inducted into the Wyoming Sports Hall of Fame. Sandy

was the head coach at Rawlins High School for 30 years and has a career record of 554-246-30. Her teams won three state championships, were runners-up seven times, and qualified for the state tournament for 21 consecutive years.

**Gary A. Johnson**, Class of '78, Fort Pierre, was elected to the Stanley County School Board.

**Kenneth "Ken" V. McKee**, Class of '72, Pearland, Texas, retired from the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas as senior vice president and general auditor after 30 years of service.

**Donald "Don" Meink**, Class of '72, Crofton, Neb., retired after 35 years at Crofton Community School as the media director/teacher and computer network manager. Don taught library skills, 11th-grade history, eighth-grade social studies, and was the junior high football coach.

**Katherine "Kathy" (Gayette) Meink**, Class of '76, Crofton, Neb., retired as superintendent of Ewing Public School and Allen Consolidated School; a position she had held since 2008. Previously, Katherine was superintendent at Springview, Neb.

**Tim Rounds**, Attended, Pierre, will return to the South Dakota State Legislature as a District 24 House member.

**Marlys Sittner**, Attended, Windsor, Colo., joined

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Fort Collins, Colo., as a broker associate.

### The 80s

**Bev (Crabill) Banks**, Class of '80 and '83, Belle Fourche, was named president of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota in January 2012. Bev has been on her local board for 12 years and currently serves as the Belle Fourche School Board president. She also owns and operates Western Web Technologies, Inc., a web design company.

**Glenn Cole**, Class of '85, Dutch Harbor, Alaska, is the principal of Unalaska City Junior/Senior High School, which was named by the U.S. Department of Education as a 2011 National Blue Ribbon School. It is one of 255 public schools and 49 private schools in the nation, and one of only two schools in Alaska, to receive the national designation.

**Carol (Moeller) Edwards**, Class of '83, Lead, was elected to the position of second vice president for the Department of South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary.

**Pat Jones**, Class of '85, Alliance, Neb., was named principal at Alliance High School.

**Georgia Sandgren**, Class of '84, Sturgis, was awarded Administrator of School Finance and Operations certification by the Association for School Business Officials. Georgia is a business manager

for Black Hills Special Services Cooperative. She also serves as business manager and program administrator of Black Hills Education Benefits Cooperative.

**William Schiller**, Class of '85, Fredericksburg, Va., recently retired as chief engineer for Technical Publications at General Atomics Aeronautical Systems.

### The 90s

**Tracy (Jochim) Dufloth**, Attended, Spearfish, is the owner of the newly opened Willow Boutique and Spearfish Uniform Center. The business combines a boutique that sells unique accessories, including handbags, scarves, and jewelry, along with a line of medical uniforms (scrubs).

**Sheryl (Baysinger) Eisenbraun**, Class of '90 and '98, Vale, was named as a board member to the South Dakota Center for Enterprise Opportunity (SD CEO), which is housed at BHSU. Sheryl is the vice president and branch manager of Pioneer Bank and Trust in Sturgis.

**Ben Latham**, Class of '94 and '97, Kadoka, was named band director at Kadoka High School. Ben will start his new position this fall.

**Tim Reilly**, Class of '92, Rapid City, was honored as the Silver Medal Recipient at the 2012 ADDY Awards. The American Advertising Federation (AAF)-Black Hills, an affiliate of the

AAF, honors its members' best creative work in broadcast, print, and online media during the annual ADDY Awards. Tim is an advertising producer at Midcontinent Communications in Rapid City.

**Deborah (Eldridge) Snook**, Class of '95, Midland, won the mathematics portion of the 2011 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching in South Dakota. Deborah has taught upper level mathematics at Philip High School for the past 12 of her 17 years as an educator.

**Leora "Ann" (Schneidt) Will**, Class of '96, Newcastle, Wyo., earned her MS in Education (special education) from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Ariz., with Summa Cum Laude honors. She recently received the Peabody Energy Leaders in Education Award for her commitment and dedication to students. Ann is a special education teacher in the Weston County School District.

### The 00s

**Bree Anderson**, Class of '09, Cheyenne, Wyo., was hired as a multimedia specialist by the Wyoming Business Council.

**Megan "Meg" Beckwith**, Class of '07, Spearfish, recently graduated from the Arizona School of Dentistry with a doctorate of dental medicine and a certificate in public health. It is one of the few dental schools in the nation that allows students to spend

# Kudos & Announcements

their last year out on rotations. Meg had the opportunity to travel to Ganado, Ariz., Phoenix, and Greeley, Colo., to provide dental care at community health care centers.

**Steven B. Cowley**, Class of '09, Box Elder, will fill the mayor's vacant Ward 3 seat under recommendation by Box Elder Mayor William Griffiths. Steven retired from the Air Force after serving 26 years; he was stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base. He is currently the assistant

superintendent of the Prairie Ridge Golf Course in Box Elder.

**Lauren (Beyersdorf) Dahl**, Class of '04, Spearfish, was hired by Lawrence Title Company. Lauren writes and prepares all the final title insurance policies.

**Kelsie (Hoffman) Darling**, Class of '07 and '08, Whitewood, received the Enterprising Young Entrepreneur Award from the BHSU South Dakota Center for Enterprise Opportunity. Kelsie is the owner

of Quik Signs, Inc., in Spearfish.

**Anne Dickman**, Class of '07, Spearfish, was hired as a student success advisor in the Student Success Center at BHSU.

**Jodi (Hill) Howley**, Class of '03, Gillette, Wyo., is a human resources specialist with the Campbell County School District.

**Elise (Klima) Kietzmann**, Class of '08, Thornton, Colo., was hired as an administrative assistant for Luminare in Denver. Luminare is

an engineering company that focuses on renewable energy sources.

**James Mortenson**, Class of '03, Whitewood, is a credit analyst at First Interstate Bank in Spearfish.

**Theresa Mutter**, Class of '06, London, United Kingdom, is now employed with Europe Hilton in the Community Foundation as a communications and fundraising executive.

**Dennis Newell**, Class of '04, Bismarck, N.D., received the 2012 United

States Track and Field and Cross County Coaches Association Central Region Women's Assistant Track Coach of the Year Award. Dennis is the assistant coach for the University of Mary women's track and field team, which captured both the Northern Sun indoor and outdoor titles this year.

**Melanie Shurtz**, Class of '02, is teaching high school English at Sekolah Ciputra, an International Baccalaureate World School in Surabaya, Indonesia.

## BHSU 50-Year Club inducts members from the Class of 1962



Black Hills State University graduates from the Class of 1962 gathered on campus during spring commencement to celebrate their induction into the 50-Year Club. Each year, classmates from the 50-year class return to campus to celebrate the anniversary of their graduation. Members from prior graduating classes are also invited to attend a banquet in honor of the Class of 1962. Members of the 50-Year Club in attendance for the banquet were (standing, l to r): John Hostler, Class of '62; Ken Everett, Class of '62; James Dunn, Class of '62; Everett Follette, Class of '55; Delbert Blume, Class of '61; Mildred (Johnson) Cundy, Class of '62; Bill Anthony, Class of '59; Doneen (Daughenbaugh) Grimm, Class of '62; Roger Bell, Class of '61; Mary Ellen (Davis) Osloond, Class of '62; Delbert Harbaugh, Class of '57; Robert Julius, Class of '60; Diana (Babb) Glover, Class of '61; Phyllis (Krause) Eastman, Class of '58; Otis Eastman, Class of '58; Marguerite (Mickelson) Kleven, Class of '54; Keith Shostrom, Class of '57; Ruth (Zitting) Robinson, Class of '62; Loyal Robinson, Class of '62; (seated, l to r): Duane Brooks, Class of '62; June (Endes) Land, Class of '62; Karen (Kovarik) Patterson, Class of '62; Carlene (Maus) Rosencranz, Class of '62; Mary Ann (Stephenson) Erickson, Class of '54; Helen (Goerndt) Meink, Class of '62; Sonya (Bell) Albers, Class of '56; and Beverly (Olsen) Carr, Class of '55.

## Kudos & Announcements

**Charlene (Baker) Smith**, Class of '00, Lake Alfred, Fla., earned her master's degree in special education from the University of Central Florida. Charlene has taught Pre-K exceptional students for the past 12 years.

**Bruce Speidel**, Class of '09, Sundance, Wyo., won the National Wild Turkey Federation's (NWTF) 2012 stamp contest. In addition to the honor of having his original artwork featured on the federation's 2012 stamp, Bruce also earned a trip to the NWTF headquarters in Wisconsin to sign limited edition prints of his work.

**Elizabeth "Liz" Woodruff**, Class of '07, Chamberlain, graduated from physical therapy school at the University

of South Dakota with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy Degree (DPT). Last July she started the Marquette University Physical Therapy Neurological PT Residency Program co-sponsored by Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Milwaukee, Wisc.

**The 10s** **Jessica Coulter**, Class of '11, Tracy, Minn., is a manager of Hampton Inn and Comfort Inn in Fairmont, Minn.

**Kelani Estencion**, Class of '11, Lincoln, Neb., is a case worker at the Nebraska State Penitentiary.

**Megan Kruthoff**, Class of '12, Spearfish, was hired as an admissions counselor at BHSU.

**Sarah O'Donnell**, Class of '11, White, was hired by the Deubrook School District as an art instructor.

The Historic Homestake Opera House's Volunteer Recognition and 2011 Awards Night honored **Rose (Mitchell) Speirs**, Class of '86, with the Directors Award for exceptional effort to interpret a playwright's vision, and **Wendy Schamber**, Class of '00 and '05, with the Volunteer of the Year Award for showing a superior example of unconditional volunteerism, positivity, time, and effort.

The Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce honored **Dennis Simmons**, Attended, with the Lifetime Membership Award and **Tara (Hicks) Knapp**, Class of '03, and **Craig Knapp**, Class of '03, with the Employer of the Year Award.

The City of Spearfish recognized several employees for their years of service: **Jeremiah Cano**, Class of '01 (10 years); **Jamie (Schneider) Hafner**, Class of '97, (10 years); **Patrick "Pat" Rotert**, Attended, (10 years); **Michelle Wenzel**, Class of '01, (10 years); and **Tom Paisley**, Class of '93, (15 years).

Alumni recognized by the *Black Hills Pioneer* as "Our Teachers Making a Difference" include: **Melinda "Mindy" (Gooddale) Capp**, Class of '02, Spearfish, teaches seventh-grade science

and reading at Spearfish Middle School; **Patrick "Pat" Gainey**, Class of '92, Spearfish, teaches American History/constitutional government at Spearfish High School; **Brenda Huffman**, Class of '94, Belle Fourche, teaches kindergarten at North Park Elementary School in Belle Fourche; **Jennifer (Bailey) McNabb**, Class of '05, Spearfish, teaches music and fifth-grade band at Lead-Deadwood Elementary School; **Phil McNally**, Class of '04, Belle Fourche, teaches government, American History, and civics at Belle Fourche High School; **Wendy Schamber**, Class of '00 and '05, Lead, teaches math, algebra, and history at Lead-Deadwood Middle School; and **Connie Sheahan**, Class of '90 and '98, Spearfish, teaches first grade at West Elementary School in Spearfish.

Alumni recognized as the "20 to watch under 40" by the *Black Hills Pioneer* were: **Jill Broecher**, Class of '09, Spearfish, marketing and public relations assistant at Visit Spearfish, Inc.; **James "Nick" Gottlob**, Class of '00, Spearfish, secondary principal for the Lead-Deadwood School District; **Mallory (Everett) Hook**, Class of '09, Summerset, director of the Black Hills Mining Museum in Lead; **Christopher J. Jackson**, Attended, Belle Fourche, dentist at Jackson Dental Clinic; **Katherine "Katie" Kindsfater**, Class of '08, Belle Fourche, finance officer at Scott Peterson Motors; **Kayla (Klein) Westby**, Class of '10, Lead, operations director at

the First Step Child Care Center in Deadwood; **Tara (Hicks) Knapp**, Class of '03, Belle Fourche, co-owner of the Dairy Queen Grill and Chill; **Craig Knapp**, Class of '03, Belle Fourche, co-owner of Dairy Queen Grill and Chill; **Janelle (Skaggs) Rauterkus**, Class of '05, Spearfish, coordinator for the Spearfish Community Coalition; and **Michelle Wenzel**, Class of '01, Spearfish, assistant finance officer for the City of Spearfish.

Several alumni were inducted into the 2012 Sturgis Brown Athletic Hall of Fame. This class of inductees included: **Scott Lensegrav**, Class of '11, athlete; **Forrest "Frosty" Paris**, Class of '10, athlete; **Tyler Steinle**, Class of '04, athlete; and **Cal Corey**, Class of '71, coach.

Alumni honored for years of service by the Meade School District include: **Teresa "Terri" (Krammerer) Barry**, Class of '81, (30 years); **Janice (Blaha) Gutierrez**, Class of '94 and '02, (15 years); **Lisa Haslip**, Class of '87, (20 years); **Jamie (Ferguson) Hockenbary**, Class of '94, (15 years); **Carolyn (Moore) Jensen**, Class of '88, (20 years); **Joyce (McKee) Schieffer**, Class of '82, (30 years); and **Carolyn (Thomson) Schuldies**, Class of '92, (20 years). **Chad Hedderman**, Class of '98, was named the Meade School District Teacher of the Year.

The following alumni were honored for their retirement from the Belle Fourche School District:

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**Black Hills State University**

**Valorie (Heide) Gusso**, Class of '80, social studies teacher, (28 years); and **Jeanne (Michels) Hoffman**, Class of '73, music teacher, (15 years). The following received National Board Certification, the most rigorous certification standard educators can achieve: **Ann (Rinas) Anderson**, Class of '10; **Julie (Owen) Hatling**, Class of '05 and '09; **Wendy (Stanton) Larson**, Class of '98; and **Penny (Shuster) Louks**, Class of '83 and '03.

## *Odle recognized with the BHSU Young Alumni Achievement Award*

**Mike Odle**, Class of 2002, was honored with the Young Alumni Achievement Award during the 2012 Student Volunteer Awards Celebration.

The Young Alumni Achievement Award 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.

Mike earned his bachelor's degree in hospitality management with an emphasis in marketing. He was a member of the track and field team and was very involved in campus organizations.

He was also very involved in the community, serving as a board member for the Spirit of the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, where he helped establish the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization status. Mike was also a cadet programs director, a public affairs officer, and a search and rescue team leader for the Spearfish Civil Air Patrol.

Mike is currently the chief of staff to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment. He is responsible for providing leadership and managerial support to the 155 national forests and 20 grasslands within the National Forest System, state and private forestry programs, and forestry research and development. He also provides leadership and support in the development of natural resource initiatives.

Mike has received numerous awards including being named as one of 15 young public relations professionals of the year. He was the recipient of the 2002 Colonel Robert 'Bud' V. Payton National Public Affairs Officer of the Year Award, the Meritorious Service Medal for public affairs, and the California Commendation Medal for public affairs.



**Odle**

## *Brummond honored as the Spirit of BH*

**Alexandria Brummond**, recent elementary education graduate from Plentywood, Mont., was presented with the Black Hills State University 2012 Spirit of BH Award.

The Spirit of BH Award is presented annually during the Student Volunteer Awards Celebration to a BHSU student who has made significant contributions that reflect favorably on the University, as well as the community as a whole.

Alexandria was very active on campus and in the community while maintaining an excellent grade point average. She balanced her academic responsibilities exceptionally well.

Alexandria joined the University Programming Team in 2008 and served as the lectures chair and the fine arts and music chair. She was named president of the student organization in 2011 and helped plan numerous activities for students. She served as coronation chair on the Swarm Days Homecoming Committee and also helped plan activities for Swarm Week.

Alexandria was a New Student Days leader, a Green and Gold Days group leader, a Thomas Hall representative for the Residence Hall Association, and a former vice president for the Thomas Hall Community Council.

In addition to her extensive involvement on campus, she spent the past three years participating in the Alternative Spring Break. She volunteered at Camp Campbell Outdoor Science Camp in Boulder Creek, Calif., worked in New Orleans, La., and volunteered in various projects at the Natural Tunnel State Park in Virginia.

Alexandria also founded the BHSU Dance Marathon organization, one of her biggest achievements. This organization provides opportunities for students to get involved in making a difference in the region while also providing numerous leadership enhancement opportunities while raising funds to benefit the Children's Miracle Network at the Rapid City Regional Hospital. This public event, which features dancing and games, is held each year in April.



**Brummond**



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- Master of Science in Strategic Leadership (MSSL) - entirely online

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## Engagements & Marriages

**The 90s** **Jeff Livengood**, Class of '98, married Michelle Wells June 16, 2012. Jeff is employed with First Western Agency in Sturgis.

**The 00s** **Britney Clark**, Class of '06, married Andrew Lewis July 14, 2012. Britney teaches at Stevens High School in Rapid City.

**Mallory Everett**, Class of '09, married Tom Hook Sept. 30, 2011. Mallory is the director of the Black Hills Mining Museum in Lead.

**Lucas Keeler**, Class of '01, married Sara Asbury March 3, 2012. Lucas is employed as a natural resources technician for the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission.

**Anthony Kitchens**, Class of '06, married Danielle Scherer June 8, 2012. Anthony is a fine arts framer for Prairie Edge Trading Company and Galleries.

**Jennifer Thompson**, Class of '08, married Tyler Hengen Dec. 17, 2011. Jennifer is a registered nurse at Advanced Dermatology in Rapid City.

**Molly Tope**, Class of '07, married **Joel Blair**, Class of '07, June 9, 2012. Molly is an executive assistant manager at Walgreens. Joel is a junior observer for Microseismic.

**Amber Tweedy**, Class of '08, will marry Christopher Roy Oct. 6, 2012. Amber is a patient care coordinator at Valley Chiropractic Center in Kalispell, Mont.

**The 10s** **Jenna Deutscher**, Class of '10, married Will Hansen July 13, 2013. Jenna is a special educator in the Rapid City Area School District.

**Sarah Kolbach**, Class of '11, married Brian Davis May 26, 2012. Sarah is currently employed as a teacher's assistant at Meadowlark Elementary School in Gillette, Wyo.

## Record-breaking number of alumni and friends gather for Alumni Mile



The Black Hills State University 20th Annual Alumni Mile registered a record-breaking number of runners for the second consecutive year, with over 40 alumni and friends in attendance. This year over \$2,400 was raised for scholarships, bringing the total contributions for the Alumni Mile Endowment to just under \$29,000. Erin Curran, exercise management major, and Jed Morgan, accounting major, were awarded the annual scholarships. Lunch was sponsored by the Stadium Sports Grill in Spearfish. Alumni and friends at the event were (standing, l to r): Dave Little, former BHSU track and field and cross country coach; Bill Jordan, former BHSU cross country and track and field coach; Gary Dohman, Class of '87; Cody Bordewyk, Class of '10; John Ziegler, Class of '76; Seth Mischke, track and field coach; Phil Bjerneberg, Class of '86; Rob Condon, Attended; Rob Welo, Class of '92; Neil Long, Class of '11; Jack Kirtley, Class of '93; Jeremy A. Miller, Class of '10; Bruce Venard, Class of '82; Curran; Brad Schardin, Class of '82; Curt Fiedler, Class of '82; Doug Knaub, Attended; Morgan; Lee Lockwood, Class of '05; John Heck, Class of '68; Fred Romkema; John T. Williams, Class of '07; Tim Bishop, Class of '03; Birch Haraden, Class of '10; KC Fiedler, Attended; Brandon Bertram, Class of '07; Luke Watkins, Class of '07; Zach Kintzley, Class of '07; Jamie (Hahn) VanDeest, Class of '06; Nikki (Underwood) McDaniel, Class of '03; Trent Waage, Class of '09; Mike Nekuda, Class of '08; Scott Walkinshaw, cross country coach; (kneeling, l to r): Aaron Nida, Class '93; Elizabeth "Lisa" (Sprigler) Condon, Class of '92 and '10; Jim Glazer, Class of '82 and '96; Brian Harms, Attended; Dan Bergland, Class of '89; Lori (Hanson) Fiedler, Class of '82; Tricia (Hanson) Sedevie, Class of '92; Priscilla (Young) Romkema, Class of '79; Carsi (Little) Padrnos, Attended; Kayla Ferguson, Class of '10; Elizabeth "Liz" Woodruff, Class of '07; and Ashley (Cordell) Pearson, Class of '03.



Jessica Schultz, Class of '11, married Lee Rausch, Attended, Nov. 11, 2011. Jessica is a teacher at Oahe Child Development Center in Onida. Lee is a construction worker for his family business, R&M Construction.

## What have you been up to?

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

Did you get a promotion, have a baby, win an award, or retire? Send us your news items and updates so we can keep your file up-to-date. Include your graduation year, mailing address, phone number, email address, and spouse's name.

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

Check out the lost alumni list at [www.BHSU.edu/Alumni](http://www.BHSU.edu/Alumni) 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

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

## Jandreau helps American Indian youth find their path to college and entrepreneurship



Jandreau

Whitney Jandreau, Class of 2011, is currently the youth program coordinator for Hunkpati Investments in Fort Thompson. Whitney graduated from BHSU with a degree in American Indian Studies and sociology.

Hunkpati Investments is a Native Community Development Financial Institution that services the Crow Creek Reservation and the surrounding area. The two biggest services the company offers are credit builder loans and small business loans, which both come with extensive education as well as one-on-one coaching.

One of Whitney's responsibilities within the organization is teaching teens about Individual Development Accounts (IDA). These IDAs enable teens who are living on the reservation or who are enrolled in a federally-recognized tribe to open savings accounts they'll use for educational or professional purposes. All Hunkpati Investments savings goals come with a 2:1 match.

In addition to administering the teen IDA accounts, Whitney teaches a class instructing the importance of setting goals and budgeting, as well as initial workforce skills, such as filling out job applications, interview etiquette, and employer expectations. She also teaches a class that prepares teens for college application paperwork, financial aid, and scholarships.

Whitney also works with the Boys and Girls Club, as well as overseeing the Crow Creek Community Garden. The garden is part of Hunkpati Investments' promotion for self-sufficiency and a higher quality of life.

As a first generation college student, Whitney knows first-hand what it can be like for students to lose their way and get discouraged through college. "I am so proud and enthusiastic when it comes to the rewarding work that we do at Hunkpati Investments. We get to help people make their dreams come true. I am so glad that I get the opportunity to work with the youth; they are the future of Indian Country and they have the power to transform it," said Whitney. She said that she wishes she hadn't had to learn the hard way, but is grateful she had the support that she did at BHSU and can now pass along her knowledge to future generations.

Whitney says her professors at BHSU were passionate and dedicated and all became part of her family. She speaks highly of Dr. Sandra Marker, assistant professor of sociology, and says it was her enthusiasm and passion that made her discover sociology. She notes that Jace DeCory, assistant professor of American Indian Studies, and Dr. Urla Marcus, director of the Center for American Indian Studies, really believed in her and made her realize her own potential.

## Riley earns second in Governor's Giant Vision Business Awards Competition

Dr. Lorri Riley, Class of 1987, earned second place in the 2012 Governor's Giant Vision Business Awards Competition for her latest product, J1 Insoles. She received a cash prize of \$5,000.

J1 Insoles are a medical-grade insole made of a quality, plastic shell with a cushioned top cover. The insoles come in two styles, flat and high/average. In the past, if a person had flat feet, they had to have prescription orthotics. Lorri says that 80 percent of her patients are able to successfully use J1 insoles instead of prescription orthotics to relieve plantar fasciitis, foot pain, shin splints, knee pain, and back pain.



Riley

Lorri was recently chosen as one of eight 2012 Dakota Rising Entrepreneur Fellows. The Fellowship award includes a \$10,000 grant, as well as mentor and peer support for the entrepreneurs. Administered by Dakota Resources: Economic and Leadership Development, Dakota Rising cultivates rural entrepreneurs dedicated to growing themselves and their businesses.

## Births

**The 90s** Sarah (Fisher), Class of '98, and Joel Chase, Class of '96 and '03, Greeley, Colo., had a baby boy, Kaelen Quinn Robert, Oct. 7, 2011. He weighed 9 lbs. 2 oz. He joins big sister Kendall (4). Sarah is the director of the McNair Scholars Program at the University of Northern Colorado. Joel is a physical education teacher at Highland Elementary School.

**Jodi (Rembold) Garcia**, Class of '99, and husband

Loren, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Eli Dean, May 29, 2012. He weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and was 19 in. long. He joins big brother Christian (3). Jodi is currently an agency intern with State Farm Insurance.

**Jodi (Martin) Noll**, Class of '95, and husband Craig, Commerce City, Colo., had a baby boy, Reece Walker, Dec. 19, 2011. He weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. and was 20 in. long. Jodi is assistant director of operations for a financial planning association.

**Traci (Price)**, Class of '94, and husband **Robert "Bobby" Stohrer**, Class of '03, Spearfish, had a baby girl, Bailee Jo, May 18, 2012. She weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and was 19 in. long. She joins big sister Madison.

**The 00s** Laura (Ponwith), Class of '02, and **Brad Buerge**, Attended, Casper, Wyo., had a baby boy, Tyler Edge, Nov. 12, 2011. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 20 in. long. Laura and Brad are managers for

FedEx Ground.

**Kari (Selland)**, Class of '04, and **Bart Clayton**, Class of '03 and '06, Fairmont, Minn., had a baby boy, Hudson William, Jan. 7, 2012. He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and was 21 in. long. Kari is a special education teacher in the Fairmont School District. Bart is an account specialist for Fastenal.

**Angie (Becker)**, Class of '00, and **Scott Duncan**, Class of '01, Spearfish, had a baby girl, Jordyn Marie, Feb. 8, 2012. She

weighed 6 lbs. 4 oz. and was 18 in. long. She joins big sister Tayler and big brother Evan. Angie and Scott are both health and life insurance agents for First Western Insurance in Spearfish.

**Andy Erickson**, Class of '02, and wife Crystal, Sioux Falls, had a baby boy, Rockley Thomas, Nov. 14, 2011. He weighed 9 lbs. 7 oz. and was 21 in. long. He joins big sister Jacqueline (4). Andy is the program director and morning host for Hot 104.7 FM.



## Black Hills State University

# OPERATION SWARM DAYS

### MONDAY, SEPT. 17

7 p.m. Coronation  
Meier Recital Hall

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

4-6 p.m. Kiddie Carnival, featuring Phil Baker  
Campus Green

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

12 p.m. Alumni Awards Luncheon\*  
Jacket Legacy Room

5 p.m. Float Prep  
Fieldhouse

6 p.m. Hall of Fame Banquet\*  
Jacket Legacy Room

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

10 a.m. Swarm Days Parade  
Downtown Spearfish

11:15 a.m. Tailgate Social  
Young Center Parking Lot

1 p.m. Football Game  
Lyle Hare Stadium

All-Athletic Reunion  
Immediately following the football game

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 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.

**Holly (Boehnke)**, Class of '02, Black Hawk, and the late **James R. Freudenberg**, Class of '10, had a baby girl, Reagan James, Nov. 17, 2011. She weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz. and was 20 in. long. Holly is a physical therapist at Lead-Deadwood Regional Hospital.

**April (Kleinschmidt)**, Class of '06, and **Michael Hobert**, Class of '06, Hoven, had a baby boy, Easton Michael, Nov. 4, 2011. He weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz. and was 19 ½ in. long. He joins big brother Xavier (4). April is an elementary special education teacher and special education director for the Gettysburg School District. Michael is a high school social science teacher at Selby Area High School.

**Jessica (Painter) Holmes**, Class of '09, and husband Casey, Rapid City, had a baby girl, Tommi Jo, June 12, 2012. She weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz. and was 21 in. long. Jessica is the marketing director at Furgo Horizons, Inc. in Rapid City.

**Chris Hoy**, Class of '08, and wife Mitzi, Gillette, Wyo., had a baby boy, Ivan Oakley, June 12, 2012. He weighed 6 lbs. 5.4 oz. and was 19 in. long. Chris was recently hired by Anadarko Petroleum, as a spatial data analyst. He is responsible for locating and digitally mapping all of the company's existing pipelines and related facilities in the Powder River Basin. Chris is also in charge of mapping and new

pipeline construction.

**Ann (Pipal) Perkins**, Class of '01, and husband Kyle, Denver, Colo., had a baby girl, Hannah Layne, Jan. 28, 2012. She weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz. and was 21 in. long. Ann is an eighth-grade Language Arts and American History teacher in the Denver Public School System.

**Cindy (Winjum) Riss**, Class of '00, and husband Paul, Rapid City, had a baby boy, Evan Chandler, Oct. 21, 2011. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 20 ½ in. long. He joins big brother Conner. Cindy is a stay-at-home mom.

**Amber (Aker) Vogt**, Class of '03, and husband Jay, Whitewood, had a baby girl, Ainsley Jean, Jan. 16, 2012. She weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz. and was 21 in. long. She joins big sister Jaysa Jane (4). Amber is the director for Lawrence County Planning and Zoning in Deadwood.

**The 10s** **Lindsay (Rose) Jimenez**, Class of '10, and husband Jorge,

Spearfish, had a baby girl, Maya Jean, Aug. 10, 2011. She weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz. and was 19 in. long. Lindsay is the owner/photographer for Lindsay Rose Photography & Design.

## *BHSU graduates carry on research and work to transform the lives of children*

**Jake and Chandra Miller**, Class of 2009, are currently living in Sioux Falls and helping transform the lives of children by carrying on their research expertise learned in the classrooms and labs at Black Hills State University.

Chandra is a registered nurse at Sanford Children's Hospital. She began her career in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, and has recently transitioned into the Children's Specialty Clinic. Her new role includes working with all pediatric specialty groups and managing pediatric infusions. She will soon complete additional training for informatics at Sanford Health. She is currently involved in writing the monthly column for Evidence-Based Practice in the Children's Specialty Clinic, as well as serving on the Nursing Research Committee. In January 2012 she received a National Research Service Award Training Grant and is currently attending a healthcare informatics graduate program at the University of Colorado.



Chandra Miller

Chandra, who was a member of the BHSU Honors Program, earned her bachelor's degree in political science, with a minor in economics from BHSU, and her bachelor's degree in nursing from South Dakota State University. She notes that her political science degree taught her how to think outside the box. She is grateful for the inspiration her professors gave her and knows that if it wasn't for them, she would not have developed the necessary skills needed for graduate school.

"Thanks to Dr. Ron DeBeaumont, Dr. Ahrar Ahmad, and Dr. Amy Fuqua, I was pushed to a new level of understanding research and statistics. It required a lot of time on their part to teach me this and I will always be grateful. I learned the importance of research to advancing my knowledge. As a nurse, I utilize evidence-based practice every day."



Jake Miller

Jake is currently in his fourth year of the M.D./Ph.D. program at the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine. He started his Ph.D. research last summer under Dr. David Pearce at the Sanford Children's Health Research Center.

Jake's research focuses on a rare genetic neurodegenerative disorder that affects the pediatric population. He had the opportunity to present his research at the International Conference on Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (Batten disease) in London, England in March 2012.

The research he is working on with Dr. Pearce focuses on the molecular neurogenetics of Batten disease and identifying potential targets for treatment and/or prevention. He is currently preparing manuscripts for publication. Jake was also a member of the Honors Program at BHSU and feels that being a part of the program was a huge influence in his undergraduate education. "My honors thesis project allowed me to explore my critical thinking abilities and learn important research skills. I also feel strongly that the honors courses were an invaluable part of my education at Black Hills State."

Jake was also engaged in several research projects as a Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (BRIN) fellow at the BHSU Center for the Conservation of Biological Resources (CCBR) and the Western South Dakota DNA Core Facility (WestCore).

He notes that the rigorous training he received working with Dr. Shane Sarver and Dr. Cynthia Anderson in the CCBR and WestCore labs prepared him for graduate school and allowed him to get a great head start in conducting his own research.

## In Memory

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

Betty L. (Moore) Dorr, Attended, Gillette, Wyo.  
Ruth S. (Swallow) Hale, Attended, San Antonio, Texas  
Lillie E. (Shalander) Holden, Class of '37, Hillsboro, Ore.

### Black Hills Teachers College 1941-1963

Margaret "Peggy" L. (Johnson) Benne, Class of '54, Rapid City  
Cecelia R. (Bowen) Brandorff, Class of '54, Denver, Colo.  
Charles J. Box, Class of '61, Casper, Wyo.  
JoAnn (Hanson) Durgin, Class of '60, Spearfish  
Lavon M. (Hass) Eide, Attended, Fort Worth, Texas  
Marcelline "Marcy" J. (Comes) Goggin, Class of '61, Rapid City  
Thomas J. Greseth, Attended, Veblen  
Ruth C. (Holton) Helmer, Class of '49, Belle Fourche  
Rose M. (White) Julien, Class of '42, Billings, Mont.  
Bernice E. (Pfeifer) Langley, Attended, Purcell, Okla.  
Adele F. (Ankle) Little Dog, Class of '57 and '68, McLaughlin  
Rollin C. Maize Jr., Class of '63, Trenton, N.J.  
William "Bill" E. Patton, Class of '60, Missoula, Mont.  
Nellie Y. (Hayes) Scott, Attended, Rapid City  
David W. Treber, Attended, Spearfish  
Janice E. (Schafer) Went, Class of '57, Belle Fourche  
John R. Whitford, Class of '51 and '57, Hot Springs

### Black Hills State College 1964-1988

Steven Aleksich, Attended, Boise, Idaho  
Donald K. Arithson, Class of '71, Rhame, N. D.  
Rosemary T. (Johnson) Bickett, Class of '82, Rapid City  
Timothy E. Bickett, Class of '74, Upton, Wyo.  
Velda E. (Eilers) Brandt, Class of '70, Rapid City  
Betty J. Coon, Class of '85, Rapid City  
Kathryn A. (Townley) Dykstra, Class of '77, Spearfish  
James "Jim" Gelino, Class of '64, Portland, Ore.  
James J. Goen, Attended, Mesa, Ariz.  
Dixie L. (Helmer) Grantz, Class of '64, Las Vegas, Nev.  
Nick F. Hontol, Class of '69, Rapid City  
Robert "Rick" E. Johnson Jr., Class of '68, Bismarck, N.D.  
Roy T. Kittock, Class of '71, Rapid City  
Carla L. (Thompson) Livingston, Class of '87 and '93, Sundance, Wyo.  
Jane J. (Oberlander) Maas, Class of '65, Kingston, Wash.  
Kathleen H. (Hanson) Doherty Mason, Class of '64, Globe, Ariz.  
Arlene "Choach" L. (Goings) Means, Class of '76, Pine Ridge  
Rose M. (Tuynman) Pulford, Attended, Madison  
Lisa K. (Haug) Reese, Attended, Sisseton  
Ruth M. (Bickerdyke) Rosencranz, Class of '77 and '87, Spearfish  
William "Bill" Ryther, Class of '64, Saint Onge  
Robert "Bob" L. Shevling, Class of '83, Belle Fourche  
Robert "Bob" G. Sullivan, Attended, Caputa  
Lyle B. Tyler, Attended, Sheridan, Wyo.  
Loretta "Lorie" H. (Krug) Velte, Attended, Spearfish  
Wesley E. Wahlfeldt, Class of '69, Belle Fourche  
Roberta S. (Crow) White, Attended, Oglala

### Black Hills State University 1989-Present

Steven T. Coy, Class of '97, Rapid City  
Steven D. Hanson, Class of '91, Martin  
Stephen E. "Salsa" Larson, Attended, Rapid City  
David C. Reetz, Attended, North Mankato, Minn.  
Jade J. Thie, Attended, Sioux Falls

### Former Faculty and Staff

Betty M. (Weaver) Anderson, Class of '66 and '78, Spearfish  
Leonard Edwards, Spearfish  
G. Richard "Dick" Ruddell, Class of '58, Spearfish

### Remembering Myrle Hanson

Myrle G. Hanson Jr., Class of '53, Spearfish, passed away Wednesday, April 11, 2012.

Myrle was a longtime supporter of BHSU. His family has a long history with the University. In addition to Myrle earning his education degree at BHSU, his father was a business manager for many years at the University.

Myrle was born Aug. 12, 1931, to Myrle and Georgia (Peters) Hanson in Sioux Falls. At a young age, his family moved to Buffalo. When he was 11 years old, his family moved to Spearfish, where he graduated from Spearfish High School and continued his education at BHSU.

He then entered Naval Officers Candidate School and served three years on the U.S.S. Wren, later serving in Bermuda as assistant operations officer and athletic officer.

Following his naval career, he earned his master's degrees from the University of Northern Colorado and the University of Utah.

In 1958 Myrle began his teaching career, which lasted for over 30 years. He taught and coached at all levels from high school to college, also serving on various committees.

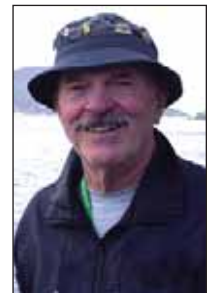
He taught and coached in Powell, Wyo.; and was the dean of men at Northern State College in Aberdeen, later becoming the director of Extension and Continuing Education and assistant to the vice president for many years. He was an outreach coordinator in Kemmerer, Wyo., for Western Wyoming College; was a community services coordinator in Kingman, Ariz., for Mohave Community College; and retired from his education career as the director of Off-Campus Programs in Prescott, Ariz., at Yavapai College.

Myrle married Shirley Doult and to this union four children were born, Dane, Erik, Mark, and Lisa.

He married Pamela Staab in 1993, and the couple resided in Spearfish. Together they traveled the world and worked together for the South Dakota Department of Tourism.

Myrle and Pam established an endowment at BHSU in 2010 for athletic scholarships. The couple established the endowment because they wanted to help support BHSU students and have always had a love for athletics.

Myrle was known for being the kind of person that we all inspire to become - intelligent, humorous and loveable.



Hanson



# Congratulations Class of 2012!



Purchase these photos and more at [photos.bhsu.edu](http://photos.bhsu.edu).

**I got a job!** Many BHSU graduates are continuing their education at graduate or professional schools or have landed their dream jobs and are putting their knowledge and expertise to work.

Travis Langer | Public Relations Internship with the Minnesota Vikings and Athletic Communications Assistantship at Minnesota State University - Mankato

Mary Jo May | History Teacher | Rapid City Stevens High School

Samantha Cremean | Graduate School for Linguistics and Rhetoric | University of Nevada - Reno

Katrina Salitros | Visual Coordinator | Home Shopping Network

Seth Hipple | Accounting Analyst | State of South Dakota Bureau of Finance and Management

Shauna Walker | Platoon Leader | United States Army

Christopher Braddy | Assistant Director of Choirs | Rapid City Central High School

Bailee Clarkson | Language Arts Teacher | Crook County School District

Scharen Collingwood | Graduate School for Counseling | University of Wyoming

Jed Morgan | Staff Auditor | Casey Peterson and Associates

Bethany Hansen | Morning Show Co-host | Rushmore Radio

Caleb Moore | Sales | Hills Products Group

Austin Albers | Health and Wellness Instructor and Assistant Volleyball Coach | Sheridan College

## Five honorees will be recognized during Swarm Week festivities

Black Hills State University will honor several outstanding alumni during the annual Alumni Awards Luncheon during Swarm Week. William "Bill" Weyer will be honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award; the Excellence in Education Award will be presented to Keith Stover; Jerome A. Greene will be recognized with the Special Achievement Award; and Johanna Meier and Guido Della Vecchia will be honored with the Special Service Award.



Weyer

**William "Bill" Weyer,** Class of '62, earned his degree from BHSU in business education. He received an award from the *Wall Street Journal* for being the highest scholastic ranking student with a degree in business education or administration.

After graduating he traveled west to California and found a teaching job in Eureka, where Bill spent the next 16 years teaching math and science.

In 1978, Bill purchased his wife Sandra's parents' business, Hensell Materials, and took a different career path. Hensell Materials sells building materials to contractors. Over the next two decades, they expanded the business and increased sales.

Bill served as chairman of the Board of the Redwood Empire Unit of the California Trucking Association for two years. He also served as president on the Board of the Humboldt Builders' Exchange. He was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011, which is given to those who have contributed their skills and expertise to the local construction industry for over 20 years.

Bill and his wife have been supporters of the Salvation Army, Easter Seals, Soroptimist International, and countless little league teams.

**Keith Stover,** Class of '71, earned his bachelor's degree in education from BHSU and went on to graduate from South Dakota State University with his master's degree in educational administration.

Keith is currently the president of South Central College (SCC), a comprehensive two-year community and technical college with campuses in Faribault and North Mankato, Minn. He has served as president for the past 14 years.

Keith received an announcement from the White House press secretary in the fall 2011 that SCC was named one of



Stover

the two colleges in the nation to receive the designation of a "Right Skills Now" initiative by President Obama. "Right Skills Now" is an accelerated manufacturing program designed to market manufacturing careers, embrace students in the occupation, and implement a national credentialing model.

Keith has been a leader in developing relationships with the secretary general of the two-year technical institutes in Thailand in support of the benefits of global education. He served a six-year term on the Faribault Chamber Board and currently serves on the Boards of Greater Mankato Growth and the Southern Minnesota Advocates. He is a member of the Rotary Club and served on the Rotary STRIVE Board.

**Jerome A. Greene,** Class of '68, enrolled in the United States Army after graduating high school in Watertown. He then went on to further his education, earning his bachelor's degree in history education from Black Hills State University and his master's degree in history from the University of South Dakota. He also completed doctoral work in American History from the University of Oklahoma.

Jerome has a wealth of experience in careers associated with American History, including most recently serving as a research historian and staff curator for Historic Furnishings at Harpers Ferry Center in West Virginia.

Jerome officially retired in 2007 but continues his love of writing and making appearances around the nation speaking about history. He is the author of many articles, books, contributed chapters, reviews, and government reports pertaining to Indian-white relations in the trans-Mississippi West and other aspects of American History and cultural resources preservation.

Jerome has been a part of numerous history projects including completing a special reconnaissance study of Indian-U.S. Army Battlefields of the Northern Plains for the American Battlefield Protection Program and conducting oral history interviews with Pearl Harbor survivors for the USS Arizona Memorial.

He is a member of the boards of editors for *South Dakota History*, *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, and the *Campaigns and Commanders Series* by the University of Oklahoma Press.



Greene



Johanna Meier and Guido Della Vecchia

**Johanna Meier** is known for being one of the foremost Wagnerian sopranos of her generation. She is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music and began her career at the New York City Opera, which was the start of her major

international pursuit.

She was the first American ever to sing the role of Isolde in "Tristan und Isolde" at the Bayreuth Festival in Germany. As a recitalist, she has appeared at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and others, as well as throughout Europe.

After retiring from her singing career in 1994, she returned home to the Black Hills, where she was awarded and Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from BHSU. She was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame in 2006 for her work in the field of arts and humanities.

Johanna served as director (1991-2008) of the famed *Black Hills Passion Play*, an outdoor drama presented for 70 years in its South Dakota and Florida amphitheaters.

In 1998 she founded the Johanna Meier Opera Theatre Institute, which is held annually on the campus of BHSU. Johanna teaches the institute, joined by an internationally recognized faculty of former operatic colleagues.

**Guido Della Vecchia** began vocal studies at the age of 18 and was a radio man during the Korean conflict. He was selected as one of six to go to Germany where he sang as an entertainer in the Special Services. Following his discharge in Germany, Guido moved to Italy where he refined his musical art by studying with several of Italy's foremost maestri at the Cherubini Conservatory in Florence and at the Florence Comunale.

Guido moved to Spearfish in 1984. He acted in and co-produced the *Black Hills Passion Play* from 1991 to 2008. He has appeared several times in concert with his wife, Johanna, and was active in the inception and promotion of the annual Johanna Meier Opera Theatre Institute.

He was granted an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in 2003 by the South Dakota Board of Regents of Education in recognition of his distinction within his profession, his outstanding contributions to the community of Spearfish, and his dedication to the advancement of the arts in the state of South Dakota.

Johanna and Guido have been married for 50 years.

## BHSU Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame inductees announced

The Black Hills State University Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame will induct six individuals and two teams during the 2012 Swarm Day festivities. Monica (Headlee) Dorn, Pat Guptill, and Steve Harshman will be inducted as athletes, and Eldon Marshall will be inducted as a coach. Dana and LaDawn Dykhouse will be inducted as contributors for their support of BHSU athletics. The 1983 football team and the 2000 men's cross country will also be inducted.

**Monica (Headlee) Dorn**, Class of '02, will be inducted for her accomplishments in cross country and track:

- All-American for cross country (2000)
- Competed in three National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) cross country meets
- Member of the women's distance medley relay team that finished fourth at the indoor nationals in 2001 with a time of 12:27.04 (BHSU school record)
- Member of the women's 4 x 800-meter relay team that finished third at the indoor nationals in 2001 with a time of 9:22.74 (BHSU school record)
- Holder of three BHSU school records (1000-meter, 1500-meter, and mile run - all indoor)
- Member of BHSU record-breaking outdoor 3200-meter relay team with a time of 9:16.85 (All-American)
- All-Scholar (2000)

**Pat Guptill**, Attended, will be inducted for his achievements in track, football, and basketball:

- Third-place finish in the 110-meter hurdles (1979 South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference (SDIC) meet)
- Second-place finish in the SDIC 4 x 100 relay (1979 and 1981)
- SDIC champion in the 110-meter high hurdles with a time of 15:34 (1980)
- Fifth-place finish in the 400-meter hurdles (1980 SDIC meet)
- SDIC champion in the 110-meter high hurdles with a time of 15.2 (1981)
- Fourth-place finish in the 400-meter hurdles (1981 SDIC meet)
- Second-place finish in the high jump with a jump of 6'2" (1981 SDIC meet)
- Four-year letter winner in football, track, and basketball

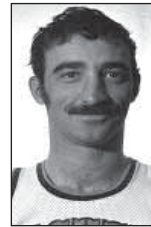
**Steve Harshman**, Class of '86, will be inducted for his success in football and wrestling:

- Two-time All-Conference center
- Two-time team captain
- Three-time Most Valuable Player (offensive line)
- Started every game of college career
- Four-year letter winner in football
- Letter winner in wrestling (1982-83)

**Eldon Marshall**, Class of '10, has been a head boy's basketball coach for 11 years at St. Francis and White River High School with a career record of 206-57. His White River teams went to the State B Tournament seven consecutive years, including a record-setting five straight championship game appearances. He also coached his teams to Jones County Tournament championship wins for seven consecutive years (2006-2012). He was named Boy's Basketball Coach of the Year by the South Dakota High School Coaches Association in 2010. Eldon is also the athletic/activities director at White River.



Dorn



Guptill



Harshman

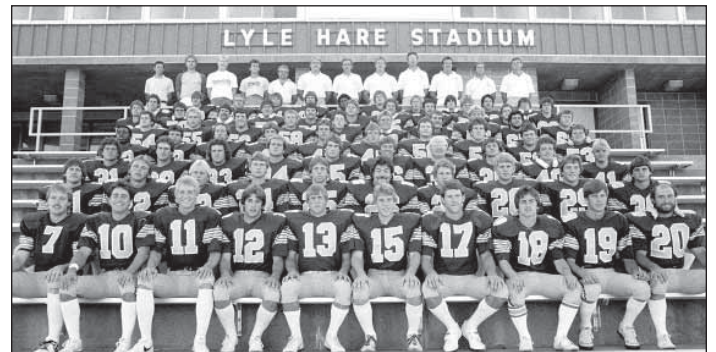


Marshall

**Dana and LaDawn Dykhouse** are being recognized as contributors for their dedicated support of BHSU athletics and for their donation of \$1 million. The gift was used to establish the Dykhouse Family Athletic Scholarship and for new video scoreboards in the Young Center. They also recently donated an additional \$100,000 for athletic scholarships.



Dana and LaDawn Dykhouse



The 1983 football team was led by Coach Carl "Duke" Iverson. They were SDIC champions with a 5-0-2 record and a 5-2-2 overall record.



The 2000 men's cross country team ended their season as the Dakota Athletic Conference - 10 champions and placed second in the national meet.

# Creating a Legacy

## Floyds pledge \$1 million to establish endowment

**B**lack Hills State University alumna and former employee Elaine Floyd and her husband, Joe, announced a \$1 million pledge to endow the Elaine and Joe Floyd Scholarship at the University's annual 1883 Donor Recognition Dinner.

Joe and Elaine were honored at the event as the 2011 "Difference Makers."

BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp expressed her sincere appreciation for Joe and Elaine's generous support.

"I thank Joe and Elaine Floyd for their continued support of our students with this \$1 million dollar pledge," Schallenkamp says. "Their commitment to scholarships at the University is already having a significant impact on our students. Their named scholarship is providing full tuition and fee support for several students for four years. That's a remarkable commitment."

Joe and Elaine established the scholarship program at BHSU because they believe that creating opportunities for young people to earn their degrees will make the world a better place.

"I'm a ranch girl. Growing up in western South Dakota, it was my big dream to go to Black Hills State," Elaine says. "For

a lot of us in that area, it was our big dream to go to Spearfish and attend Black Hills State."

Their \$1 million pledge is in addition to the \$250,000 the couple already donated to establish the Elaine and Joe Floyd Scholarship at BHSU.

When speaking about the BHSU scholarship recipients, Elaine speaks with pride and says that's been the best part of the whole experience.

"These are some of the finest ladies I've ever met. They will do well in life. They have become a part of our family. That's the great thing about this scholarship program. We feel like we have three new daughters and it has been so good to get to know the girls," Elaine says.

Joe and Elaine 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.

## Recent endowments

- **The Vets Club**, established at Black Hills State University in 1966, has recently funded the first-ever BHSU Vets Endowment Scholarship. The scholarship is available to any junior or senior veteran who is enrolled full time at BHSU. The organizers of the endowment encourage anyone wishing to assist in growing this endowment, to do so by establishing a charitable contribution utilizing their will or by making a donation to the BHSU Foundation. For more information contact 605-642-6385 or email [Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu](mailto:Steve.Meeker@BHSU.edu).
- **Rollin Maize, Jr.**, Class of '63, left BHSU \$82,647 from his estate. The endowment will be used for scholarships and the construction of the BHSU Alumni/Foundation Welcome Center. He was in vocal music, student senate, and debate as a BHSU student. Rollin spent his entire career as an English teacher at Trenton Central High School, and retired after 39 years of loyal service.
- **James Mortensen** left BHSU \$50,000 from his estate to add to the Genevieve Edsall Mortensen Fund for the Handicapped at BHSU. Jim was formerly vice chairman and chief financial officer of Young & Rubicam. He retired in 1981 and volunteered his management expertise to a number of arts organizations, including the Florida Orchestra and the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg. He was known for being a kind and generous man and supported scholarship funds at the University of Denver, St. Petersburg College, and the BHSU Genevieve Edsall Mortensen Fund for the Handicapped, in honor of his wife.
- **Adele (Ankle) Little Dog**, Class of '57 and '68, left the University \$35,368 from her estate. Her gift will be used for education scholarships with preference given to American Indian students. She was the first American Indian woman to receive a master of arts degree from BHSU. She was recognized with the Special Achievement Award from the BHSU Alumni Association. Adele's distinguished career as an educator and principal was recognized in 1981 when she was chosen as Educator of the Year by the South Dakota Indian Education Association. She retired in 1998 after 44 years of dedicated service in education.



Black Hills State University alumna and former employee Elaine Floyd (second from left) and her husband, Joe, announced a \$1 million pledge to endow the Elaine and Joe Floyd Scholarship at BHSU. The couple announced their scholarship endowment at the University's annual 1883 Donor Recognition Dinner. Their \$1 million pledge is in addition to the \$250,000 the couple already donated to establish the scholarship. The three students currently attending BHSU on the Floyd scholarship are (l to r): Joey Painter, business administration major from Buffalo; Shandel Yordy, biology major from Martin; Katie Doll, freshman from Prairie City.



## Painter family honored as the 2012 BHSU Legacy Family



The descendants of Lewis Levi and May (Bovell) Painter were honored as the 2012 Black Hills State University Legacy Family. The Painters, who have deep roots in rodeo and ranching, span five generations of family members who have attended, are attending, or have graduated from BHSU. Members of the family attending the ceremony were: Randy Routier, Attended; Edward “Ned” Painter; Madelaine “Maddie” (Erickson) Wood, Attending; John Tyler “Ty” Wood; Helen (Painter) Watson, Class of '70; Paul Jay “PJ” Painter, Class of '10; James B. Watson, Class of '71; Joe Painter, Class of '82; Ruth (Painter) Henrikson, Attended; Cindy (Schutt) Painter, Class of '80; Marvin Heesacker, Class of '10; Joey Painter, Attending; Marilyn (Scott) Painter Freimark; Jessica (Painter) Holmes, Class of '09; and Laurie (Painter) Goehring, Attended. Read more about the Painter family at [www.BHSU.edu/Alumni](http://www.BHSU.edu/Alumni). The Legacy Family Award honors families who have a tradition of attending BHSU. Others who have received the Legacy Family Award include: the Peter and Kirsten Matthesen family; the Guy and Sylvia Doll family; and the Robert L. and Elizabeth Crosswait family. To nominate a deserving family, contact Tom Wheaton, director of Alumni Relations, at 605.642.6385 or email [Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu](mailto:Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu).

## Alumni/Foundation Welcome Center pre-construction gathering raises over \$50,000 in additional donations



A pre-construction gathering at the site of the future BHSU Alumni/Foundation Welcome Center drew more than 120 attendees and raised more than \$50,000 in additional donations for the Center. Guests at the gathering showed their lasting support for the project by purchasing engraved pathway bricks to be displayed on the patio. The Lyle Berry Band donated their time and provided the entertainment. Thanks to 30 local businesses and a number of individual donors, construction plans are underway for the Welcome Center. This facility will become the front door to campus and will showcase the past, present, and future of BHSU. Over \$500,000 in cash donations have been raised so far to fund the project.

## BHSU in the news

### BHSU names new associate vice president and college dean

Black Hills State University has named Dr. Curtis Card associate vice president for Academic Affairs and Dr. David Wolff dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

In making the announcement, Dr. Rodney Custer, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, noted that both administrators have shown tremendous leadership at the University and outstanding accomplishments in their fields of study.

"These are both exceptionally qualified and capable professionals who have served BHSU for a number of years in a distinguished manner, and I'm looking forward to working with them in their new roles," Custer said.

Card has a Ph.D. in applied mathematics from the University of Wyoming, an M.Sc.T. in mathematics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of South Dakota. He has served as interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts at BHSU since 2011. Card first joined



Card



Wolff

Card is a member of the Mathematical Association of America, National Council

of Teachers of Mathematics, and Pi Mu Epsilon. Wolff, who has a Ph.D. in history from Arizona State University as well as a master's degree in history from the University of Wyoming, joined the faculty at BHSU in 1998. Wolff has received numerous honors and recognition for his dedication to teaching and community activities. Recent honors include the BHSU 2010 Distinguished Faculty Member, Mining History Association's Clark Spence Award, BHSU Student Senate Outstanding Faculty Member Award in 2005, and BHSU Community Service Award in 2003. Wolff currently serves on several museum and historical society boards. He is an expert on regional mining history and is the past president of the Mining History Association in Denver, Colo. Wolff is the author of two books and has also contributed essays and chapters for other publications. A recognized historical expert, Wolff is often called upon for television interviews and appearances.

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### Lila Mehlhaff named sole 2012 Udall Scholar in South Dakota

Black Hills State University senior Lila Mehlhaff was recently named to the prestigious list of Udall Scholars by the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation. Mehlhaff was the only South Dakota student to receive the award in 2012 and is the second BHSU student to ever receive the Udall Scholarship.

The award includes a scholarship of up to \$5,000 for Mehlhaff's senior year at BHSU. Mehlhaff, a political science and American Indian Studies major from Rapid City, was one of 80 students nationwide to be named a 2012 Udall Scholar.

"It's a tremendous honor to be chosen as a Udall Scholar," notes Mehlhaff. "I look forward to traveling to Tucson, Ariz., in August to meet the other 80 scholars and the Udall Foundation staff, as well as working to craft real solutions in the area of tribal public policy. I'm really thankful to have been given this uniquely wonderful opportunity and look forward to my upcoming senior year at Black Hills State University."

"Lila is a very deserving recipient of the Udall Scholarship," said Dr. Urla Marcus, director of the Center for American Indian Studies at BHSU. "She is a great

example of what hard work and motivation can accomplish, both in and out of the classroom."

Mehlhaff has 20 years of business development experience. She is the founder of *Native Legacy* magazine and was a co-founder of the Rapid City Networking Roundtable. She hopes to work in some capacity of tribal economic development after graduating from BHSU. Mehlhaff is married and has four children, ages 10 to 23, and one grandchild.

In August, Mehlhaff will travel to Tucson, Ariz., to receive her award, network with other Udall Scholars and meet policymakers and community leaders involved in environmental fields, tribal health care and government affairs.

A 14-member independent review committee selected this year's group of Udall Scholars on the basis of commitment to careers in the environment, health care



Dr. Urla Marcus (left), director of the Center for American Indian Studies, and BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp (right), congratulate Lila Mehlhaff, senior political science and American Indian Studies major from Rapid City, who was recently named to the prestigious list of Udall Scholars by the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation.

or tribal public policy, leadership potential, and academic achievement. This highly qualified class of Udall Scholars was selected from 585 candidates nominated by 274 colleges and universities.

# BHSU in the news

## BHSU professors earn NSF grant to improve math instruction

An interdisciplinary team of researchers at Black Hills State University was awarded a \$178,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to assess student learning in algebra courses and improve math instruction.

The grant project, "Predictability of Student Attributes and Instructional Milieu on Success in Developmental Math Courses," will be conducted over the next two years. The researcher team includes: investigator Dr. Lee Pearce, associate professor in the School of Education, along with co-principal investigators Dr. Curtis Card, mathematician and associate vice president for Academic Affairs; Dr. Daluss Siewert, professor of mathematics and chair of the School of Mathematics and Social Sciences; and Dr. Kristi Pearce, educational psychologist and faculty development specialist.

This NSF project is the culmination of work begun three years ago by Card and Siewert to increase pass rates in the basic and intermediate BHSU algebra courses. With several key changes, including the restructuring of instructional time from three to five hours a week so struggling students could repeat one unit of material and still complete the course during the same semester, pass rates improved significantly. However, there were still students having difficulty, so the research team was created to investigate the impact of student attributes (e.g., math anxiety/math confidence) on success and the use of specific instructional methods supported by the National Math Advisory Panel and approved by the Institute of Education Sciences as scientifically-based researched practices.

The primary goal of the grant is to measure the impact of these research-based instructional methods in a multi-tiered support model that includes peer tutoring (with math majors and future math teachers). It will also measure the frequent use of formative assessments to identify students at risk of failing as early as possible to provide additional instructional support. Such supplemental interventions are in addition to instruction in the regular classroom with the intensity, frequency, and duration of instruction increasing as needed to pass the course while decreasing the student/teacher ratio for more individualized attention.

This is one of many initiatives that BHSU has in place to advance all levels of math and science education.

## U.S. Senator Johnson welcomes BHSU student to internship program

Samuel Goldberg, political science major from Spearfish, has joined U.S. Senator Tim Johnson in Washington, D.C., as part of a 12-week internship program.

A graduate of Spearfish High School, Goldberg is the son of Jeffery and Jennifer Goldberg. At BHSU Goldberg has been involved with the campus Political Science Association. The internship with Senator

Johnson will provide Goldberg with a wealth of knowledge and an opportunity to garner real life experience.

"Senate internships give students the opportunity to gain firsthand knowledge about the federal government," Johnson said. "I welcome Samuel

to Washington, and I know that he will take advantage of this opportunity."

"I have long respected Senator Johnson and am eager to help in any way I can," Goldberg said. "I feel that it is part of my civic duty to work in government, and I'll be gaining valuable experience that I'll be able to use later on."

After earning his degree from BHSU, Goldberg plans to go to graduate school and study foreign policy.

The Washington, D.C., internship program matches interns' interests to South Dakota and federal issues while providing a firsthand opportunity to experience a wide-range of office duties. Interns may attend hearings, research issues for projects, and work with the office administrative staff.



Samuel Goldberg (right), Black Hills State University political science major from Spearfish, is currently in Washington, D.C., for a 12-week internship with U.S. Senator Tim Johnson's office. The internship program matches interns' interests to South Dakota and federal issues while providing a firsthand opportunity to experience a wide-range of office duties.

## BHSU faculty in the news

### Longtime art professor receives BHSU Distinguished Faculty Award

Black Hills State University professor of art Jim Knutson received a surprise announcement from BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp and Dr. Rod Custer, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, honoring him with the 2012 Distinguished Faculty Award. Faculty members are chosen for the award by their peers.

Knutson, who was very excited to receive the award, said he was actually really nervous at first when he saw Schallenkamp and Custer enter his Introduction to Visual Arts class. "When the President comes into your classroom

and closes the door...you're not sure what to think," said Knutson. Schallenkamp and Custer praised Knutson for his dedication to education and to the University and for his outstanding work through the years with the Ruddell Art Gallery.

Knutson, a 1972 BHSU art graduate, has been a member of the BHSU faculty for 36 years. He received his master of arts and his master of fine arts degrees from the University of Wyoming. He is recognized for his continued excellence in teaching and for his creative talents in expanding an appreciation of the arts at BHSU and throughout the community.

According to a colleague who nominated Knutson, his commitment to art education in the public schools and preparation of BHSU graduates is central to Knutson's success. "He is driven to prepare his students to succeed as art educators. He has supervised countless art education majors during their student-teaching experiences and has placed many of his graduates in teaching positions. He has served his profession and the University well as an advocate for art and art education."

Dustin Price, a 2006 art graduate who is now an adjunct art instructor at BHSU, said that he always knew he wanted to become an artist, but it was having Knutson as a professor that made him realize he also wanted to become an educator.

Knutson credits his former BHSU art professors - Richard DuBois, Richard Hicks, and Dick Termes - as the reason he began teaching art.

Lisa Koch, art education major from Spearfish, said Knutson is the most influential professor she's had at BHSU. "He has always been there to answer my questions and help guide me in the right direction with my art. He definitely started me off on the right track for becoming an art educator, and because of him, I am more confident in myself, my abilities as an artist, and my abilities as a future educator."

Knutson says it may sound like a cliché, but it is in fact the students that are his favorite aspect of teaching. The most important thing he hopes his students take away from his classes is the fact that they need to continue to learn. "I give them as much knowledge and information as I can, but the most important skill my students can be taught is to be able to carry that knowledge with them their whole life and to be able to think critically," said Knutson.

This year marks the end of an exciting career for Knutson as he plans to retire from teaching. He does plan to remain actively involved with the arts on campus and throughout the community.



James Knutson (right), professor of art, received a surprise announcement from BHSU President Kay Schallenkamp and Dr. Rod Custer, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, honoring him with the 2012 Distinguished Faculty Award. Knutson, a 1972 BHSU art graduate, has been a member of the BHSU faculty for 36 years.

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

**Kent Meyers**, associate professor of humanities, has been invited to Vincennes, France, in September to present his novel *Twisted Tree* at the major literary expo Festival America. Meyers is one of only 70 authors from North and South America to receive an invitation to present at Festival America, a four-day celebration of American writing. He will give readings from his book and participate in several workshops.

**Dr. David Wolff**, professor of history and dean of the College of Liberal Arts, was presented with two of the Mining History Association's highest honors, the Rodman Paul Award for Outstanding Contributions to Mining History and

the John Townley Award for the best article to appear in the 2011 *Mining History Journal*. Wolff has served in every possible office for the Mining History Association, including president; he has published books and articles relating to mining history; he has given numerous presentations on mining history, both within the classroom and throughout the Black Hills region; and he has supported efforts to preserve mining history.

**Nancy Wietgreffe**, director of the BHSU Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), was recently appointed by Governor Dennis Daugaard to the South Dakota Commission for National and Community Service. The major role of

the Commission in the first year will be to conduct a statewide assessment of service needs. Once this assessment is completed, the Commission will oversee prioritizing funding requests for such federally-supported volunteer programs as AmeriCorps and Senior Corps.

**Dr. Symeon Waseen**, assistant professor of music, has been chosen as the winner of the South Dakota Music Teacher's Association (SDMTA) 2012 Composer Commissioning Project. His new composition will be premiered at the 2012 SDMTA annual conference, which will be held at BHSU Nov. 1-3.

# BHSU students in the news

## Lynn works to connect Uganda and South Dakota entrepreneurs

**B**lack Hills State University student Devin Lynn recently attended the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGIU) Conference in Washington, D.C., as he begins a project using social media to connect entrepreneurs in Uganda with entrepreneurs in South Dakota. Lynn is currently in the process of planning a trip to Uganda to carry out his project.

As part of the initiative Lynn, junior mass communication and history major from Powell, Wyo., has committed to take action to create a mutually beneficial business relationship for entrepreneurs in Uganda and South Dakota. He will be working on the project until March 2013.

Lynn devised the project by researching how the Allen Foundation in Wyoming helps women in Africa start an entrepreneurial venture by selling baskets to provide for their families. He wanted to take that a step farther with the use of fair trade. He hopes to connect the two groups of entrepreneurs using the social media platform Ning.com. Lynn will create a social community on Ning.com where entrepreneurs from South Dakota and Uganda can communicate through a blog format.

He hopes to connect the groups and then see an exchange of goods under fair trade agreements. "Success of the project will be measured by the amount of fair trade relationships established," says Lynn.

Currently Lynn is working with another BHSU student—Lisa Simmons, mass communication major from Spearfish. Lynn also formed a committee of advisors that are helping him with the project. The committee includes: Dr. Mary Caton-Rosser, assistant professor of mass communication; Gina Gibson, assistant professor of digital communication; Dr. John Alsup, professor

of math education; Dr. Christian Nsiah, associate professor of economics; Dr. Amy Fuqua, associate professor of English; and Helen Merriman, director of SD CEO.

Lynn was accepted to attend the CGIU conference based on his proposed project idea and outline. He also had to submit a resume and a personal statement as a part of the selection process.

"It was reassuring and inspiring to see so many other students working on commitments that help others," comments Lynn. "I met a few people that I may be working with in the future or at least looking to for advice. There was also a long list of distinguished speakers that were able to share some advice as we move forward with our commitments to action."

During the conference Lynn had the opportunity to participate in a service project in Washington, D.C., where students were put into random groups and sent into the community to help people.

Over the summer, Lynn plans to launch an informational website about the Uganda entrepreneurial project, find operational funding, and make connections between



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the entrepreneurs in S.D. and Uganda. He will also travel to Uganda to meet with entrepreneurs there and then share details about his experiences on a blog.

After completing his education at BHSU, Lynn plans to go to graduate school and utilize his degrees by continuing this project and starting other ones like this one to help others around the world. Ultimately he would like to be able to turn his project into a sustaining nonprofit organization and share his experiences through writings, possibly in a blog format.

This experiential learning project has had a very positive impact on his future plans. "It has helped me change my focus and use the media in a less traditional way," notes Lynn.

## BHSU students are transforming their lives and making headlines

**Hayli Johnson**, business administration major from McIntosh, and **Heather Theis**, business administration major from Rapid City, were awarded first place certificates for their work on an experiential learning project with the Rapid City Regional Airport to help improve customer satisfaction.

**Heather Milliren**, business administration major specializing in tourism and hospitality management from Hettinger, N.D., received

a \$1,000 stipend from the International Gold & Silver Plate Society to defray the cost of her 2011 summer internship as an event coordinator at the Surbeck Center in Rapid City.

**Samantha Brush**, chemistry major from Miles City, Mont., won best poster presentation for her poster titled "Analysis of Surface Chemistry and Optical Properties in CdSe Quantum Dots" during the 14th Annual Black Hills

Research Symposium. **Jennifer Johnson**, mathematics major from Hettinger, N.D., was the oral presentation winner. Her presentation was titled "Generating Cwatsets from Multiple Graphs." The Black Hills Research Symposium is an interdisciplinary conference to showcase undergraduate research activity in the Black Hills region.

## Sports

### Joey Painter captures national title in breakaway roping

Joey Painter, Black Hills State University business administration major from Buffalo, finished her rodeo season winning the national title in the breakaway roping with a four go-round time of 13.0 seconds at the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) in Casper, Wyo.

"I'm proud of the effort that Joey put into this season," said head coach Glen Lammers. "Going into her final run she knew that she had to post a time of 3.4 seconds to win the title, and that's exactly what she did. The crowd was amazing, you could hardly hear yourself think. When Joey put together the run she did to win the national title, all of her hard work paid off."



Photo courtesy of Hubbell Photography

Painter's older sister, Jessica (Painter) Holmes, won the breakaway in 2006 while attending National American University in Rapid City, also under head coach Glen Lammers. Jessica was riding her horse Louie, the same horse on which Joey won the national title. Holmes and her husband were in attendance for the CNFR, and the couple ended up giving birth to a baby girl, Tommi Jo, at a hospital in Casper on June 12, four days prior to Joey entering the final performance as the breakaway leader.

In the first two rounds, Joey posted times of 2.7 and 2.9 seconds, respectively, before a 4.0 third round, giving her a three round combined time of 9.6 seconds. This was fast enough to take the lead in

the average by 1.5 seconds.

Painter was the last participant to compete in the breakaway roping and knew that a 3.4 second run would win her a national title. In her fourth and final run, Joey posted a time of 3.4 seconds flat.



Joey Painter (right), business administration major from Buffalo, accepts her championship saddle with Glen Lammers, head coach of the BHSU Rodeo Team, and Shelly Lammers, volunteer coach. Joey won the national title in breakaway roping at the 2012 College National Finals Rodeo.

"My hat goes off to Joey. She has shown extreme physical and mental toughness to become a national champion. I couldn't be more proud of her," said Lammers.

### BHSU prepares for third provisional year of NCAA Division II transition

Black Hills State University is ready and hopeful to enter its third and final provisional year of National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II transition this fall.

NCAA officials visited the campus in March to evaluate the institution on its implementation of all NCAA policies and procedures. The NCAA committee will notify BHSU in July of their status toward the third year of the transition. The Yellow Jackets began the transition from a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) affiliation to joining the NCAA in 2010 and will compete in its first year of sanctioned Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) competition during the 2012-2013 school year.

BHSU completed their second transitional year into the NCAA Division II ranks this past spring. The NCAA set out a three-year process for the transition in order to assure that the university is

meeting the expectations set forth by the NCAA governing body. During its second year of candidacy, all but one BHSU athletic program competed as an NCAA Division II independent institution. The Yellow Jacket softball team was the only program with a conference schedule serving as associate members of the RMAC for the 2012 spring season.

"Our focus as an athletic administrative team became not just training and educating members of the Athletic Department, but others on campus, in the community, and our alumni and boosters, about the NCAA Division II regulations and policies," said Jhett Albers, director of Athletics. "We feel very good about our progress over the course of this past year and how much improvement we've made in getting our constituents on board and supporting this transition," added Albers. "When we take a look back at how far we've come in a short period of time and look at being both a

member of the RMAC and NCAA Division II, we're extremely excited and very proud of what we've accomplished. It makes all the time and energy put in worthwhile."

The RMAC is a 14-team conference made up of some of the nation's top-ranked athletic programs in NCAA Division II and consists of the following institutions: Adams State, Black Hills State University, Chadron State, Colorado Christian, Colorado Mesa, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State-Pueblo, Fort Lewis, Metro State, New Mexico Highlands, Regis, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Western New Mexico, and Western State. BHSU was accepted into the RMAC in the summer of 2011 and will be eligible to compete in post-season play during the 2013-2014 campaign.

To follow all the Yellow Jacket athletic programs through their first year of RMAC play, visit [BHSUAthletics.com](http://BHSUAthletics.com).

# Sports

## BHSU hosts Gridiron Gathering and Aces and Familiar Faces alumni events

The Black Hills State University football and volleyball teams capped off their spring seasons with coordinated weekend alumni gatherings. The football program held the third annual Gridiron Gathering while volleyball hosted the first annual Aces and Familiar Faces event. Both events are structured to connect former Yellow Jackets with current student-athletes at the University and build continued support for BHSU Athletics.

The Gridiron Gathering is held in conjunction with the spring football scrimmage when the Yellow Jacket offense squares off against the Yellow Jacket defense. The spring game showcases the hard work that the student-athletes have put in as they conclude the spring practice season. The Gridiron Gathering is a reunion

for former football players, their families, friends, and football boosters. The gathering consists of a campus tour, the Yellow Jacket spring football game, a barbecue, and a banquet.

The Gridiron Gathering was able to raise over \$10,000 for football scholarships through the auction and the "Football 250 Campaign," which when filled with 250 \$1,000 gifts, will generate a minimum of one full-ride equivalency per year.

The Aces and Familiar Faces reunion included a campus tour, the spring football game, barbecue, an alumni volleyball game, and a banquet.

The alumni game featured former players Mandy Brumfield, Class of '11; Kalin Engle, Class of '11; Maggie O'Neill, Attended; Kayla Haines, Class of '10;

Jen Weitzel, Class of '08 and '11; Amber Nolen, Class of '08; Lindsey Schloredt, Attended; and Carina Sweet, Class of '10, squaring off against the current team in a scrimmage. The alumni team was coached by Jhett Albers, former head coach.

Both programs plan to host the events again for the 2013 season as they recap their first seasons as members of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

The Yellow Jacket football team will begin their season in Pocatello, Idaho, as they face Idaho State while the BHSU volleyball team opens their season at the Northern State Invitational in Aberdeen.

Purchase photos of both events online at [photos.bhsu.edu](http://photos.bhsu.edu).



The BHSU football and volleyball teams hosted coordinated alumni gatherings this spring. The football team played their annual spring scrimmage game, and the volleyball team invited former players for a scrimmage. Both events included a campus tour, barbecue, attendance at the games, and a banquet.

## Black Hills State University Athletic Department unveils Yellow Jacket Club

The Yellow Jacket Club is the new booster club in support of Black Hills State University Athletics and was founded this past February. It is an



organization of active and engaged Yellow Jacket fans and boosters who help promote and raise funds for BHSU Athletics.

The mission of the Yellow Jacket Club is to help fund annual scholarships so BHSU may continue to attract elite student-athletes from around the region. The Yellow Jacket Club aims to promote an environment that encourages student-athletes to reach their maximum potential in academia, athletic competition, and personal development.

"It is a very exciting time to be a Yellow Jacket," said Tim Collins, assistant athletic director at BHSU. "The support we've received already is outstanding. We look forward to the continued support of our student-athletes in the future."

The newly-formed organization aims to assist the University in providing the

resources necessary for student-athletes to achieve success in each of these pursuits. By providing the maximum allowable financial support to talented and worthy student-athletes in a wide variety of sports, the Yellow Jacket Club and BHSU Athletics aim to enhance community spirit and encourage community investment in the education of young adults.

To learn more on how to become a member of Yellow Jacket Club, contact Tim Collins at 642-3520 or email [Tim.Collins@BHSU.edu](mailto:Tim.Collins@BHSU.edu).

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# Looking ahead

**Swarm Week**  
Sept. 17-22

**Alumni Art Show**  
Aug. 27 - Sept. 23

**Commencement**  
Dec. 15

**Alumni Mile**  
Jan. 26

*Dates are subject to change. Please check  
[www.BHSU.edu](http://www.BHSU.edu) for the most up-to-date information.*

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

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



# Looking back

At 10 a.m. on Oct. 15, 1969, everything came to a stop on college campuses across the United States in protest of our country's commitment in Vietnam. At that moment, the BH Vets Club released 10,000 leaflets from an airplane stating the message "America - Love It or Leave It!" The leaflets covered the entire BHSU campus. *Time* magazine covered this national event, and the BH Vets Club was mentioned in their Oct. 24, 1969, issue. The Vets Club is still active on campus, and a new Vets Center is now located in the Student Union.

## Vets Club Reunion

Swarm Days | Sept. 22 | Tailgate Social

If you were a member of the BH Vets Club and/or a veteran, please make plans to join us as we gather for a tailgate social during Swarm Days. Come and share your old stories... and some new ones! For more information contact Carol Edwards at [CarolEdwards@wildblue.net](mailto:CarolEdwards@wildblue.net) or 605-578-3435.