

Alumni Magazine

Spring 2017



CONNECTION.
INNOVATION.
SCHOLARSHIPS.

Justin Varland, '02
Head of Carrier Sales at Apple

Sustainability

| 2016 Swarm Week

| Difference Maker

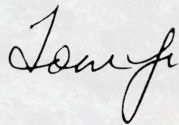
Greetings BHSU Alumni,

The scenic beauty of the Black Hills greets us each day on campus. To the east we see Lookout Mountain and to the west Crow Peak. You will be proud to know your alma mater is dedicated to doing everything we can to maintain and enhance the profound beauty of our Black Hills.

At BHSU, "Go Green" is more than a rally cry at athletic events for our school colors of green and gold. "Go Green" embodies our commitment to environmental sustainability. Recent developments on that front include our plan to install an extensive rooftop solar panel system and our goal of having 2,000 trees on campus by 2021. The BHSU campus continues to evolve and we recently finished a landscaping project that connects the campus to the community with a walk/bike path.

Black Hills State University continues to earn national rankings. We are noted as one of the most affordable small colleges for a master's in education and BHSU is among the top universities in the nation for outdoor adventurers.

I invite you to visit campus and see our progress as we work to preserve the beauty of our Black Hills.



Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr., President
Black Hills State University

 WATCH RANKINGS VIDEO AT [BHSU.EDU/EXPLORE](https://www.bhsu.edu/explore)



Photo Courtesy of Bryce Boser, Class of 2017
Featured in GoPro's Picture of the Day Contest

Interact with us.  Read more online.  Watch a video.  Learn more online.
Watch for these icons throughout the magazine for extra online content!

BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE - SPRING 2017

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.

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MAINTAIN & SUSTAIN

Campus updates enhance University life



The BHSU campus, which was already recognized as the most beautiful in the region, was significantly enhanced recently making it much more inviting, accessible, and sustainable. Pictured here, an extensive landscaping project was completed this fall on the southwest side of campus toward Lookout Mountain. Regrading a steep hill to a gentle slope created the opportunity for an ADA-accessible walkway connecting campus with the Spearfish community along St. Joe Street. The new sidewalk, which adjoins the city walk/bike path, leads to the heart of campus and the campus green that is used for campus and community events.

Black Hills State uses energy efficient and dark-sky friendly LED outdoor lighting which reduces light pollution. The campus has also increased the number of benches and bike parking.

 [LEARN MORE ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY AT BHSU.EDU/GOGREEN](https://www.bhsu.edu/gogreen)



Black Box Theatre

Theatre productions have a new home in the Black Box Theatre located on the third floor of Woodburn Hall.



Photography Studio

The finest photo facilities in the state are housed at BHSU after renovation of space in the basement of the Library. The Photography Studio has three separate bays complete with iMac computers and rail systems for lighting.



Einstein Bros. Bagels

Coffee and bagels are on the menu at the new Einstein Bros. Bagels café located in the E.Y. Berry Library-Learning Center.



BHSU-Rapid City

More daytime classes are now offered at BHSU-Rapid City along with enhanced science labs and a photography lab providing additional course options for students.



Welcome Center

Prospective students and visitors are now greeted at the Admissions Welcome Center, an easy-to-find campus location next to the Bookstore in the David B. Miller Yellow Jacket Student Union.



Tree Sustainability

BHSU is increasing the number of trees on campus by planting 200 trees per year for five years. Over 1,000 trees on our 123 acre campus were recently identified, assessed for health, and mapped.



TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION. STUDENT EDUCATION.

“Hey Siri, who do I want on my team when technology changes quickly and businesses must respond efficiently?”

Justin Varland is who you want on your team.

Last year Justin Varland, '02, was recruited by the No. 1 brand in the world, Apple, to lead U.S. business-to-business mobile sales. Based in the San Francisco Bay Area, Justin leads enterprise sales and strategy for Apple at the four major wireless carriers - AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon.

Justin says it was the “allure of mobile technology” that inspired him to try his hand at the emerging mobile industry in 2003. That forward-thinking vision and ability to find (and create) connections is what makes Justin Varland distinctive.

Now Justin is thinking-forward to the advantage of current BHSU students. He and his wife, Christine (Winegar) Varland, '01, recently established a scholarship to benefit students involved with Sigma Tau Gamma and majoring in mass communication at BHSU.

APPLES TO APPLE

Like many millennials, Justin says he always admired Apple’s innovation as a company. He recalls working with Apple products as a BHSU student on the *Jacket Journal* newspaper.

“I remember hoping for the latest and greatest Apple computer models in the lab,” the mass communication major said. “Newspaper advisor Steve Babbitt and I petitioned a grant and worked with Student Senate to get funding to outfit the entire lab with iMacs.”

Backtrack to 1998 in Gregory, S.D., where Justin was finishing high school and beginning the process of looking at colleges. He loved the idea of going to a big college in a warm climate. But his dad advised him to have multiple plans.

Justin received an invite from then President Tom Flickema to visit BHSU as

one of several South Dakota graduating seniors achieving high marks on placement exams.

“I spent the weekend in Spearfish and fell in love with BHSU. I went from one of 30,000 students at a bigger college to Justin, a citizen of this community.”

Starting with his first semester on campus, Justin made connections. He joined the newspaper and radio staff. He became a Student Senator, helped re-charter Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, and participated on the student programming UP Team. Justin met his wife and many lifelong friends at BHSU.

“My college advisor Steve Babbitt was the most impactful person on my adult life outside of my parents,” said Justin. “We did a lot at a small school and had a fantastic time.”

“ I LOVE APPLE, IT’S LIKE HOME TO ME. IT’S SIMILAR TO THE WAY I FELT WHEN I ARRIVED AT BHSU. ”

ON THE MOVE TO MOBILE

Justin landed his dream job right out of college working in public relations for the Green Bay Packers. As a senior at BHSU, he telephoned the Packers organization and left a voicemail saying he’d like to freelance or complete an internship with no expectation of pay. Lee Rimmel, iconic spokesman for the Packers, returned Justin’s call.

After an hour-long phone conversation with Rimmel, the Packers invited Justin to help with the draft. He worked as a stringer running updates to the press. Justin was then offered an internship to return for the summer followed by a full-time public relations position.

“Without question the reason I got the job with the Packers was that I’d done so much at BHSU. That great support made me shine. I’d been working in media four years at that point, two more years than students from bigger schools.”

After two years with the Packers, Justin and Christine decided to start a family and moved to Kansas City where they were surrounded by family and friends. Christine continued to teach middle school science and completed her master’s degree.

Justin found his calling in the emerging mobile industry at Sprint. Starting as a sales rep, Justin performed well and was promoted. Over the next six years he worked his way up from Senior Data Sales Account Manager to National Sales Manager where he was in charge of sales contests and incentives for Sprint throughout the U.S. In 2008, BlackBerry devices were a staple in the

mobile world and they needed someone to help them sell at Sprint. With his background and relationships, Justin was a perfect fit for the Canadian Mobility company.

Justin’s hard work has been noticed throughout his career by those in positions to create opportunities to best utilize his skills. In 2011 when Samsung Electronics America started an enterprise sales division, leaders looked to Justin. He left BlackBerry for the exciting opportunity and after multiple years and successes was promoted to Vice President - Enterprise Carrier Sales at Samsung where he and his team increased revenue to \$4.5 billion, a 20 times return in just four years.

That’s when Justin caught the attention of Apple.

A NEW GIG

At Apple, Justin leads teams that find the right decision makers in organizations to help companies change the way they do their jobs.

“We’ve sold 1 billion iPhones. Now the question is, how do we do grow from that? We work with enterprises to transform their business and define new use cases that just a few years ago were impossible.”

Justin’s team works with companies to utilize Apple products to accomplish their work more effectively and efficiently. General Electric (GE) uses a combination of iPhone, iPad, and custom apps built in-house to manage gas turbine inventory and electric transformers throughout the world. PepsiCo’s North America Beverages Division replaced printed schedules of order quantities and tasks with iPad

apps to coordinate merchandisers and delivery drivers seamlessly, running approximately 17,000 distribution routes a day.

After being recruited by Apple last year and relocating to the San Francisco Bay Area with his wife and their twin 12-year-olds, Justin says he and his family are getting more active in their new community. Christine is substituting and volunteering at local schools with plans to return to teaching fulltime. Recently asked to speak at a local middle school, Justin shared his experience at BHSU where he says being active in the University expanded his horizons.

Justin says scholarships he earned at BHSU made a big difference for him. He and his wife are now in a situation where they’re able to give back to the organizations that helped shape them.

“It’s important to leave a mark wherever you are - helping people and bettering yourself, too,” says Justin.

In 2016 they established the Justin and Chris Varland Scholarship to support BHSU students active in Sigma Tau Gamma with preference given to students majoring in mass communication.

Although he jokes with Steve Babbitt, his former newspaper advisor and professor of mass communication, about returning to BHSU and replacing him someday, Justin anticipates working at Apple for a long time.

“I love Apple, it’s like home to me. It’s similar to the way I felt when I arrived at BHSU. My wife and I found a nest at BHSU where we were challenged and empowered. We wouldn’t trade our experience at BHSU for the world.”



Justin says he and his fraternity brothers may not have been expert float makers but they made sure they had the most fun in the Swarm Day parade, pictured here in 2001.



Justin and his wife Chris enjoying the great outdoors in Northern California.



Retired BHSU President Dr. Tom Flickema presents the Rising Star Award to Justin in 2000.



Alum honors Native Americans with *Dignity* statue



Dale Lamphere, Attended, is currently South Dakota's Artist Laureate. Over the past two years, he's worked on a 50-foot tall sculpture of a Native American woman titled "Dignity" made entirely of stainless steel. That sculpture has been placed near I-90 in Chamberlain for generations to see as an honor to Native American culture.

"I was happy to celebrate the richness, character, and presence of the Native people that we have here in South Dakota through this piece of artwork," Dale said.

Dale's love for art came from traveling to 18 different countries during his university years. This exposure to different cultures and to the greater art society helped shape his career.

"Society works best when it's inclusive rather than when it's divisive," said Dale. "Native people are people of good will and good faith. [Dignity] is something that celebrates that."

Two BHSU mass communication students, Bryce Boser from Box Elder and Richard Walbe from Deadwood, had the opportunity to document Dale's process of making "Dignity" via photography and video.

"It was a pleasure to have the students there and to see their innovation. They had the energy to scurry up and down the piece to take pictures. They attached a GoPro camera for the sculpture's transport, and helped create a document that will be important in the future," Dale said.

Dale continues to work on art projects at his studio in Sturgis, planning and creating multiple sculptures at the same time. His next projects will be permanently displayed in Aspen, Colo., and Sioux Falls.

“ I WAS HAPPY TO CELEBRATE THE RICHNESS, CHARACTER, AND PRESENCE OF THE NATIVE PEOPLE THAT WE HAVE HERE IN SOUTH DAKOTA THROUGH THIS PIECE OF ARTWORK. ”

Science in the Arctic inspires BHSU alum

Dr. Jennifer Mercer, '97, was one of the first environmental physical sciences majors at BHSU. She put her knowledge gained at BHSU to good use working as a scientist in Antarctica and is now helping other researchers get into the Arctic to complete their research.

Based out of New Hampshire and Virginia, Jennifer works as a Program Director of Arctic Research Support & Logistics for the National Science Foundation.



Q. Your expertise was recently featured in a National Public Radio (NPR) story, “Melting Ice in Greenland Could Expose Serious Pollutants From Buried Army Base.” How did that come about?

I worked in the Camp Century area of Greenland over the last seven years. As a navigator I had boots on the ground experience assessing the annual ice melt and changes in the ice sheet along the margin west of Camp Century. Christopher Joyce from NPR contacted me after I had provided comment for a press release on the researchers' recent findings published in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*. I was literally standing in the kitchen cutting vegetables when he cold-called me.

Q. Can you tell me why that mix of environmental science and journalism is familiar to you?

I was a mass communication major at BHSU when I took the Physical Geology course with Steve Anderson. He was in the process of developing the Environmental Physical Sciences major at the time. Environmental science was a relatively new thing in the mid-90s. The mentoring I received at BHSU was the best in the world. The confidence that my BHSU professors placed in me really helped to shape my career.

Q. What is a typical day like for you working for the National Science Foundation (NSF)?

I've been working within the Arctic Research Support & Logistics Program since 2009 and now am part of the team that oversees the program. We help researchers get into the Arctic to do their research more safely and efficiently. When NSF receives a research grant proposal, we review the field support component and all the logistics needed to make the project happen. We do everything from coordinating runways on the Greenland Ice Sheet, landing cargo airplanes on the snow, building elevated infrastructure on the ice sheet, to acquiring vessel time on ice breakers. We assess safety and help with risk management planning. It is exciting and rewarding. I was a scientist in Antarctica for several years managing one project, now I make a whole bunch of different science projects happen.

Q. Why were you initially drawn to this career field?

I've always been very curious, always had a desire to see more of the world. As a kid I loved looking at *National Geographic* and the national costumes of the world in the *Encyclopedia*. Growing up in Spearfish, I spent time outdoors, loved playing in the dirt and exploring Spearfish Canyon. Physical science is part of how the world works and involves the human dynamic, too.

Schallenkamp Amphitheater dedicated

There was standing room only as supporters gathered in October during the dedication of the new Kay and Ken Schallenkamp amphitheater on campus. BHSU dedicated the new outdoor amphitheater, located in front of The Peaks Residence Hall Complex on Yellow Jacket Lane, in honor of the leadership and legacy of the retired President and retired business professor.

“Kay and Ken Schallenkamp had a remarkably positive influence on this campus. Their dedication and commitment to students, faculty, staff and alumni is celebrated today with the dedication of the Schallenkamp Amphitheater,” BHSU President Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr., said. “We are sincerely thankful for their exceptional service to BHSU.”

The Amphitheater will be used for University art, theatre, and music events as well as activities hosted by student organizations.



Left to right: Dr. Ken Schallenkamp and Dr. Kay Schallenkamp accept a plaque from BHSU President Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr., during the Schallenkamp Amphitheater Dedication.

BHSU-Rapid City offers more daytime classes, enhances labs for science and photography

In the two years since Black Hills State University-Rapid City, the former University Center, was renamed and placed under the leadership of BHSU, rebranding has increased awareness of university courses.

BHSU-Rapid City has enhanced science and photography lab spaces and began offering classes at alternate time frames – including more daytime classes and Saturday morning classes – in its ongoing effort to meet the needs of students in the state’s second largest city.

Gene Bilodeau, executive director at BHSU-RC, said the University is committed to making additional learning opportunities available and to becoming an integral part of the greater Rapid City community.

“We’re seeing an increase in the number of students who want to take daytime classes in addition to the evening classes we already offer,” said Bilodeau. “BHSU-RC offers more than 32 programs including associate, bachelor, and a master degree along with credit and non-credit professional certificates.”

Bilodeau noted that the daytime classes create an opportunity for high school students to take Dual Credit

Solar installation planned at BHSU



BHSU plans to install solar panels this summer.

Black Hills State University is making plans for a solar panel installation that could potentially be the largest in the state. The solar project is the latest of many energy saving and sustainability initiatives on campus.

“We are humbled to be living in this beautiful area and it’s a priority for us to care for the environment and advance energy saving programs. Creating sustainable solutions is a part of who we are as an institution,” said Kathy Johnson, VP for Finance & Administration at BHSU.

The solar panels will be added to the rooftops of four buildings on campus – the Young Center, the Life Sciences Lab, Woodburn Hall, and the Library. The solar panels will be tied directly to the building to reduce the amount of energy needed for heating and cooling.

classes (which allow students to save money by earning high school and university credit concurrently while completing general education courses).

For details on course offerings and schedules call 605-718-4194 or visit www.BHSU.edu/RapidCity.



Black Hills State University-Rapid City is offering additional daytime courses including Saturday morning classes. Updated science labs provide more course options for students pursuing degrees in the sciences. A state-of-the-art darkroom has also been added for high-demand photography courses.



Student builds cosmic ray detector during internship in Italy



Rachel Williams, physical science and chemistry major from Spearfish, recently returned to BHSU from Italy where she completed a paid Dept. of Energy internship. One of her projects was to build a background detector for a dark matter project.

Research at the BHSU Underground Campus at Sanford Lab created an opportunity for Rachel Williams, physical science and chemistry major from Spearfish, to earn an international internship with the U.S. Dept. of Energy and the National Institute for Nuclear Physics. Her work at the National Institute for Nuclear Physics, Catania section in Italy, included building a detector that is now the highest efficiency cosmic ray detector housed at the Institute.

Williams took her first physics class at BHSU with Dr. Brianna Mount, assistant professor of research. Williams then went underground to work with Mount at the BHSU Underground Campus, a mile below the earth's surface at Sanford Lab in Lead.

During her time at the Underground Campus, Williams says she maintained the

cleanliness around the detectors enabling them to take data properly. She also changed samples in the detectors with Mount's supervision.

All this hands-on experience in research benefitted Williams when applying for the Dept. of Energy internship. One of Williams' internship projects was to build a background detector for a small dark matter project.

As a part of her internship, Williams was tasked with building a whole new cosmic ray detector from scratch, as two panels on the existing detector were not working.

"I built it, I tested it, I characterized it, which parts of the cosmic ray veto scintillator detector were the most efficient in detecting background particles and which weren't," said Williams, who presented her research results to an international collaboration at the end of the internship.

BHSU taps talent from liberal arts for graduate dean



Black Hills State University appointed Dr. Amy Fuqua as Graduate Dean and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. BHSU enrolled more than 400 graduate students across seven graduate programs this fall.

Dr. Amy Fuqua, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at BHSU, was recently appointed to the position of Graduate Dean. Fuqua will retain her current role in addition to new responsibilities as Graduate Dean.

Graduate education continues to be an important aspect of the BHSU mission. Dr. Chris Crawford, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at BHSU, said this fall BHSU enrolled more than 400 graduate students across the seven graduate programs currently offered at the University. In addition, Crawford said BHSU has two new graduate offerings under review to meet regional needs.

"In an effort to directly support the graduate school at BHSU, I'm pleased to announce the

appointment of Dr. Amy Fuqua as the Graduate Dean and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts," said Crawford. "Dr. Fuqua's strengths are well suited to provide leadership as BHSU seeks to grow and improve the quality of our graduate offerings."

Fuqua said she looks forward to working with the BHSU graduate council to make strategic additions to graduate offerings including the addition of new Master of Arts in Teaching programs in English and math. Fuqua said BHSU is also developing a master's degree in American Indian Studies.

Visit www.BHSU.edu/academics for more information on graduate programs.

ENHANCE YOUR FUTURE. EARN AN ADVANCED DEGREE AT BHSU.

9 Master Degree Programs

Business Administration (MBA)
Curriculum & Instruction K-12
Math Education
Science Education
Education Technology

Integrative Genomics
Reading
Secondary Education
Sustainability
Strategic Leadership

Learn more at BHSU.edu/GraduatePrograms



PAST ALUMNI GATHERINGS



The Alumni Mile was a record breaking event with more participants and more funds raised than ever before. More than 90 former BHSU track & field and cross country athletes returned to campus to participate in the 25th annual Stadium Sports Grill Alumni Mile. Held in conjunction with the Dave Little Invitational, the weekend event included a Friday night social at the Stadium Sports Grill in Spearfish and an after-race social took place in the Joy (Proctor) Krautschun Alumni/Foundation Welcome Center on Saturday. This year the event raised over \$9,100 for the Alumni Mile endowment. This endowment goes to BHSU track & field and cross country student-athletes. Josh Davis, exercise science major from Lamar, Colo., and Christine Thorn, elementary education major from St. Michael, Minn., were awarded this year's Alumni Mile Scholarships.



Current BHSU runners, alumni and friends attended the USA Olympic Track and Field trials in Eugene, Ore. and had an impromptu gathering. Pictured is the group that gathered for a picnic at the campsite of retired coach Dave Little (front row, second from left) and his wife Claudia (front right).



Johnnie Johnson, '70, addresses the ball at the Arizona Yellow Jacket Golf Classic & Alumni Gathering in Glendale. Thirty-eight people gathered to raise scholarships for BHSU athletics.



Marie Keller presented a star quilt to former head football coach Gene Schlekeway and the 1979 to 1982 BHSC football teams during a reunion of the teams on Swarm Day, Oct. 1. Marie is the daughter of the late Tom Keller who played defensive tackle for the Jackets from 1979 to 1982.



Last fall, the BHSU Alumni Association hosted the Annual Retired Faculty and Staff Picnic in the Joy (Proctor) Krautschun Alumni/Foundation Welcome Center. Over 60 former faculty and staff members were in attendance. BHSU President Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr., welcomed the retirees.



Last September, the 2006 BHSU football team was honored at halftime during the season home opener. The team was celebrating the 10th anniversary of their DAC-10 championship. A post-game social took place for the team at the Joy (Proctor) Krautschun Alumni/Foundation Welcome Center.

UPCOMING ALUMNI GATHERINGS

CLASS OF 1967 / 50-YEAR CLUB REUNION - MAY 5 & 6, 2017

Members of the Class of 1967 are invited to a gathering May 5 & 6 to celebrate their induction into the 50-Year Club at Black Hills State University. Each year, classmates from the 50-year class return to campus to celebrate the anniversary of their graduation. Members from prior classes are also invited to a banquet in honor of the class celebrating its 50th. Contact Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu or call (605) 642-6385 to receive a registration packet. Pre-registration for this event is required. Please RSVP by Friday, April 14.

BHSU ALUMNI AND FRIENDS GATHERINGS IN CASPER, CODY AND GILLETTE, WYOMING - JUNE 2017

The BHSU Alumni Association will host three alumni and friends gatherings in Wyoming during the month of June:
Casper, June 15, in conjunction with the College Nationals Finals Rodeo (CNFR)
Cody, June 16
Gillette, June 17

For more information and/or to register please contact Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu or call (605) 642-6385. Pre-registration for these events is required.

THE DENNIS KIRK JACKET RIDE FOR VETERAN SCHOLARSHIPS - AUG. 7, 2017

For more information contact BHSU University Advancement at Kanda.Guthmiller@BHSU.edu or call (605) 642-6385.

SWARM DAY - SEPT. 9, 2017

Homecoming week "Swarmin' in Paradise" will be held Sept. 5-9, 2017, with the Swarm Day parade, tailgate social, and football game on Saturday, Sept. 9. Visit BHSU.edu/SwarmWeek for more information.



Headed to an upcoming BHSU event?

Get all your Yellow Jacket apparel at the Jacket Zone!

- JACKET ZONE DOWNTOWN SPEARFISH | 617 MAIN STREET
- JACKET ZONE DOWNTOWN RAPID CITY | 611 MAIN STREET
- JACKET ZONE SIOUX FALLS | 41ST & KIWANIS
- YOUNG CENTER | OPEN FOR EVENTS

WWW.BHSUBOOKSTORE.COM



Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame inductees left to right: Rick Sperry, '90, athlete; Robin Schamber, coach; Jody (Wherley) VerHey, '97, athlete; Randy Nicholas, '82, athlete; Zac Alcorn, '06, athlete; Mike Lewis, '80, contributor; Robert W. Marney, '06, athlete, Dean and Mary Ann Myers, '96, contributors; Nikki (Underwood) McDaniel, '03, athlete; Mike McDaniel, '03, athlete.



Alumni Award recipients left to right: Bill Hughes, former professor and coach, Special Service Award; Megan Beckwith-Temple, '07, Young Alumni Achievement Award; David Mickelson, '94, Distinguished Alumnus Award; Dr. Kristine Wiest Webb, '75, Excellence in Education Award; and Vince P. Gravelle, '62, Special Achievement Award.





2016

SWARM WEEK



FLASH BACK

Swarm Queen | Sonja Pederson, Sioux Falls, SD

Swarm King | Jordan Thaler, Pickstown, SD

Parade Marshalls | Hugh "Junior" and Ella Schloe

Football Game Results | Yellow Jackets celebrated a victory over the New Mexico Highlands Cowboys, 36-10

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE 2017 SWARM DAY, SATURDAY, SEPT. 9



To watch a video from the 2016 Swarm Week celebration, go to [Youtube.com/BlackHillsState](https://www.youtube.com/BlackHillsState).



Lacy Stevens earns top RMAC honor



Stevens

Black Hills State University volleyball player Lacy Stevens from Edgemont ended her career on a high note when she was named the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Co-Defensive Player of the Year.

Stevens, a senior libero, ended her

season as the league's leader with 568 digs, an average of 5.61 digs per set. Throughout the season, Stevens earned RMAC Defensive Player of the Week honors after she set not only a school record but RMAC record with 49 digs in a match. She tallied the number, which was the highest in an NCAA match in 2016, when the Yellow Jackets played Newman University in early September.

She went on to break the Black Hills State career record for digs in the final match of the season, tallying 1,771 digs throughout her four-year career. She surpassed Devin Eppler, who held the previous record for 11 years with 1,762 digs from 2002-2005.

Stevens is the first Yellow Jacket volleyball player to earn a player of the year honor from the RMAC and first player of the year from a conference entity since head coach Kristin Carmichael was named the Dakota Athletic Conference Player of the Year in 2008.

"This award is very well deserved and a great exclamation point to her career," Carmichael said of Stevens. "It goes to show how her play was respected throughout the conference and we are so proud of her."

Stevens, a First Team All-Academic selection by the RMAC, graduated in December with a degree in biology.

Yellow Jacket Athletics sees record fundraising year

The Black Hills State University Athletic Department and Yellow Jacket Foundation had a record-breaking fundraising year in 2016.

When BHSU made the transition to NCAA Division II in 2012, the athletic department awarded \$400,000 in scholarships to student-athletes. Now, for the first time ever the awarded scholarships will reach \$1 million starting in 2017-18.

"We have been extremely fortunate, as we have made the transition to NCAA DII, that alumni, donors, and sponsors have shared our vision and continue to contribute financially to increase scholarship dollars for our student-athletes," said Athletic Director Jhett Albers.

The Sutton Bay Event and the generosity of Dana Dykhouse and Sanford Health was a major contributing factor in the big jump that was made from 2016-17 to 2017-18. The event raised \$252,000 in just its second year.

The Black Hills State Athletics Department is set to host six golf tournaments this year to continue fundraising efforts, along with the inaugural Yellow Jacket Gold Rush Raffle April 29 in the Donald E. Young Center. Information on the events, along with all news related to Yellow Jacket Athletics, can be found on the new BHSUAthletics.com, complete with an up-to-date schedule for Yellow Jacket Club events.

Volleyball makes big difference in elementary school

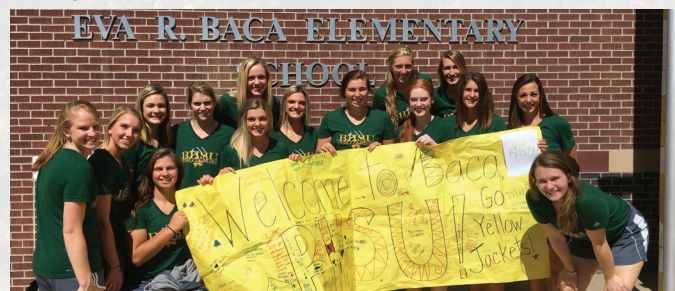
Before its Sept. 23 match, the BHSU volleyball team made a pit stop to Eva R. Baca Elementary to interact with the third-grade class in Pueblo, Colo.

The elementary school contacted BHSU because they pride themselves on a slogan called "No Excuses University," showing students they can be whatever they want to be. The teacher of the class is from South Dakota.

"The kids were shocked when the team walked in," head coach Kristin Carmichael said. "The whole class was dressed in BHSU gear. It was awesome for everyone involved and it was a memory that is going to last a lifetime."

After introducing themselves, the team taught the students basic volleyball skills and the Yellow Jackets' pre-game ritual.

"It was very touching to go and give to these kids," said volleyball player Chloe Zimmer. "It was the best feeling in the world to be a role model like that. We formed very strong connections with the kids."



Football earns individual and team success



The Black Hills State University football team played its best season in the NCAA era in fall 2016 and has been showered with postseason accolades including Drew Hebel being named First Team All-American by three different entities.

Hebel, a redshirt sophomore from Broomfield, Colo., led NCAA Division II with nine interceptions en route to being named the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year. Shortly after becoming the first Yellow Jacket football player to earn the player of the year distinction

from the RMAC, the safety garnered First Team All-America accolades from the American Football Coaches Association. Since then, Hebel has also been named First Team All-America by the Associated Press and HeroSports.

Hebel led the RMAC in passes defended with 17, a mark that ranked 14th in the nation. He also tallied 49 tackles with 24 solo to become the first All-American for the football team since Tanner Tetrault in 2006. Other past players to earn All-America accolades include Zac Alcorn in 2005 who later went on to play for the Green Bay Packers, two-time selections Kelly Merager and Lance Marr, along with the first-ever All-American selection Mike Savoy. Savoy was drafted in the ninth round of the 1971 NFL Draft although he did not see game action.

Other postseason honors included head coach John Reiners earning the 2016 RMAC Coach of the Year honors, voted on by his peer coaches. Reiners, who completed his fifth year as the head coach of the Yellow Jackets, guided BHSU to a 7-4 record, a turnaround from the 0-11 season in 2015.

Black Hills State saw a historic year with a total of nine players earning postseason honors from the RMAC led by First Team All-RMAC selections Shandon Jones and Phydell Paris along with Hebel. Jones tallied 35 receptions for 665 yards and four touchdowns while ranking seventh in the league with an average of 60.5 yards receiving per game. Against Colorado Mesa, Jones totaled 217 yards receiving with two touchdowns.

Paris, the all-time rushing leader in Black Hills State history, earned first team accolades after rushing for a single-season record 1,314 yards and 13 touchdowns. Paris set the single-game rushing mark when he ran all over New Mexico Highlands for 244 yards. Paris finished the season ranked eighth in NCAA Division II with his 131.4 yard per game average.

Andrew Blaylock and Cody Benne each earned Second Team All-RMAC while Isaiah Birkel, Travis Groves, Ryan Hommel and Thayer Sauter each earned Honorable Mention All-RMAC honors.

Black Hills State looks to carry the momentum of the season into the Spring Practice season with the Spring Game slated for April 22.

Women's Soccer makes strides in inaugural season

Ronnie Theisz Field served as home turf for the BHSU Women's Soccer inaugural campaign in 2016. Head coach Rob Blake set the standards high for the team with early morning practices and workouts.

Black Hills State announced the addition of women's soccer in 2015. A team of 25 women, most stemming from the South Dakota/Wyoming area, was assembled.

Katie Nielson made history for BHSU by scoring the first goal ever for the Yellow Jackets, bringing them to a 1-0 lead in the 56th minute during a game against Minnesota State University-Moorhead. The final score was 1-2 with MSU taking the win.

The first win for the Yellow Jackets was in early September when BHSU defeated Dakota Wesleyan. The Yellow Jackets finished the season 1-16 in overall and 0-12 in conference action. In February, Blake announced the addition of six student-athletes on the second-ever signing day for the Yellow Jackets women.

Two members of the BHSU women's soccer team were honored by the RMAC with Honorable Mention All-Conference honors. Rose Miller hailing from Rapid City ranked first and Katie Nielson a native of Pierre ranked second on the team in goals scored.



CREATING A LEGACY

Students meet with local donor supporting their scholarships

Three Black Hills State University scholarship recipients who have earned significant scholarship awards through an endowment established by Carol Lundberg, met with the local philanthropist recently to discuss their college and career plans.

Kaitlin Spargur, biology education major from Spearfish, said she will graduate from BHSU next year debt free, thanks to the financial support of BHSU scholarships, including Lundberg's.

"I want to express my sincerest gratitude to Carol for her generous contribution to my college education. I am honored to be among the many students she supports and I will be forever grateful," said Spargur.

During their recent meeting, Lundberg asked the students about their classes and their campus involvements, sharing advice with the students as they work to achieve their goals. Spargur said Lundberg is proud of her scholarship recipients and wants to help them take full

advantage of the opportunities at BHSU.

Lundberg has been a strong supporter of BHSU scholarships. She has been especially dedicated to providing scholarships in math and science to students from the state of South Dakota. Since 2011, nearly \$30,000 in scholarship funds have been distributed to BHSU students from the Carol Lundberg Endowment.



Left to right: Michael Hurst, biology major from Spearfish; Kaitlin Spargur, biology education major from Spearfish; Madison Jilek, physics major from Spearfish; and donor Carol Lundberg, Spearfish.

Memorial scholarship at BHSU will support nontraditional students

A new scholarship has been established in memory of BHSU alum Elizabeth Fritz Ruff to support nontraditional students pursuing a degree in education.

Ruff graduated from BHSU in 1972 after farming with her husband in the Nisland area. After the untimely death of her husband, Ruff decided to pursue her degree in special education.

Her daughter, Rebecca Kunzman, says obtaining her degree was a lifelong goal for Ruff.

"We hope this scholarship will encourage nontraditional students like our mother to know they can succeed at any time, that they still have choices and opportunities," said Kunzman.

Kunzman said Ruff was a dorm mother at BHSU while attending classes. After graduation, she taught children with special needs in Alliance, Neb., and later in Pine Ridge. Ruff traveled worldwide and earned her master's degree in 1979.

She retired in 1987 and was active in the United Church of Christ, alumni activities at BHSU, and Spearfish volunteer activities for which she received numerous awards and recognitions.



The first Elizabeth Fritz Ruff Scholarship was awarded to Rockiel Akason, special education major from Rapid City.

A memorial scholarship has been established at Black Hills State University in honor of Elizabeth Fritz Ruff. The scholarship supports nontraditional students pursuing a degree in education.

Alum creates international development scholarship for students

After traveling to 100 countries throughout his career, alum James Dzierwa, '63, is paving the way for students to build international careers.

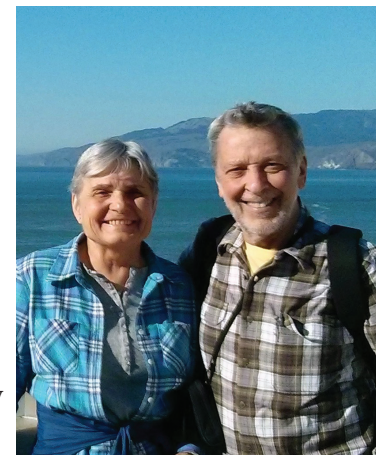
Dzierwa and his wife, Ivanka, established a scholarship at BHSU for students interested in international development. The first scholarship was awarded to Carissa Deming, music education major from Newcastle, Wyo.

"With this scholarship, we hope to help young people with interest in the global world but who need financial help pursuing their dreams," said Dzierwa.

As a program officer and contracts director with a Top Secret U.S. Government security clearance, Dzierwa has 25 years of experience as a U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) contracts administrator. USAID is the lead U.S. Government agency working to end extreme global poverty and enable resilient, democratic societies to realize their potential.

Retired and living near Washington, D.C., Dzierwa says there are many international jobs for today's students.

"Through this scholarship, we're hoping to inspire recipients to dig deep and envision their careers in international affairs," said Dzierwa. "We're helping to open doors, and it's the window seats that get the view."



Ivanka and James Dzierwa

BHSU names Difference Maker, celebrates donors during 1883 Gala

Nearly 200 BHSU supporters gathered during the recent 1883 Gala to celebrate a successful year of fundraising and to promote student scholarships.

The annual event raised \$33,000 for student scholarships at BHSU, more than double the amount raised the year before.

Jim Moravec, '79, and his wife, Laura, were honored during the event as the 2016 Difference Makers, celebrating the couple as the top donors of the year. The Moravecs will leave a portion of their estate, nearly \$3 million, to the BHSU Foundation. Jim Moravec is the general manager of Stott Outdoor Advertising in Chico, Calif., the largest outdoor advertising company in the state.

"Educating and graduating students is at the heart of what we do at a University, and donors help make that possible," said Mona Jackson, spouse of BHSU President Tom Jackson, Jr. "At BHSU we are fortunate to have such an immensely supportive community of alumni and donors who play a key role in shaping the University for the future."

Jackson said the goal of the Gala was to recognize major donors, those contributing \$1,883 or more to the University in 2015 along with lifetime donors who have donated \$50,000 or more, and also to celebrate the success of students thanks to the generosity of donors' scholarship support.

The Gala's theme, Elegant Summer Nights, was enjoyed throughout the evening. Back by popular demand, the Green Dolphin Jazz Quartet provided musical entertainment.

Steve Meeker, Vice President for University Advancement, expressed this thanks to the attendees, committee members, and donors of auction items for a successful event.

"The 1883 committee and donors take great pride in providing BHSU students the best possible education through their gifts," said Meeker. "We sincerely thank all donors and supporters for helping make a bright future for all who attend BHSU."

BHSU announces scholarship to benefit future music teachers

The Flora Menzel Lee Memorial Music Scholarship has been established at BHSU to benefit future music teachers. Family and friends of the late Flora Lee have established the scholarship to honor a woman whose love of music was a joyous part of her 97 years. A native South Dakotan, Lee received her teaching certificate from Spearfish Normal School in the spring of 1938 and her bachelor's in education from Black Hills Teachers College in 1963. Lee's career thrived as an elementary classroom teacher in Flandreau and Spearfish.

Peggy Juneke, one of Lee's children, said her mother was passionate about music her entire life. Lee taught each of her children to play the piano and encouraged them to play other musical instruments.

"We want to thank all those who contributed to Flora Lee's memorial and this scholarship," said Juneke. "Our mother would be thrilled to know

the scholarship will support a local student as they further their education in music."

Juneke said Lee had her organ in her room while in assisted living at Belle Estates. Residents would come to Lee's



Family and friends of the late Flora Menzel Lee, a longtime music educator, established a scholarship with the Black Hills State University Foundation to benefit Spearfish High School graduates pursuing a music degree or education degree with a music emphasis at BHSU.

room to sing and dance while she played.

"She could even make *Chopsticks* sound fancy," said Juneke.

In recognition of her 35 years of distinguished service to young people and devotion to music education, Lee was presented with the Silver Staff Recognition Award from the S.D. Music Education Association. She ended her career as a music teacher in the Spearfish School District in 1982, upon retiring she continued her participation in local volunteer music activities.

The scholarship exists to help graduates, or children of graduates, from Spearfish High School who will pursue either a music degree or education degree with a music emphasis at BHSU. Kevin Kaitfors, music major from Spearfish, is the first recipient of the annual \$500 scholarship.

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BHSU Scholarship Gala - July 22, 2017

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KUDOS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 40s

Susan (DeLaney) Kary, Attended, Parmelee, received the 2016 Spirit of Dakota Award, known as South Dakota's premier woman's award. The award is given to a woman who has represented educational advancement for others. After attending Black Hills Teachers College in 1947, Susan's career in education spanned all grade levels and included teaching positions in West Rosebud School, Prospect School, Surprise Valley and He Dog School in Parmelee, along with St. Francis Indian School and Brunson School.

The 60s

Dave Dahl, '69, Fort Pierre, a saddlemaker, had six of the top fifteen saddle bronc riders ride his bronc saddles during the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo (WNFR), including world champion Zeke Thurston. Former world champions from '01, '02, '05, '07 and '11 have also used Dave's Saddles.

Merlin Doyle, '62, Wall, was inducted in the Wall Hall of Fame. Merlin taught middle school from 1959-63. He then taught high school from 1963-68. From 1968 until his retirement in 1990 he served as the High School Principal and Activities Director. His entire 31-year teaching/principal/coaching career was in the Wall School District. Merlin was chosen High School Principal of the Year in 1986-87. He was involved in the SDHSCA for 25 years and was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 1990. Merlin was the head boys' track coach for many years. He started the girls' track program in 1970 and coached them to State Track Championships in 1974 and 1975. For his efforts, Merlin received the girls' track Coach of the Year award in 1974 and 1975.

Jerome A. Greene, '68, Arvada, Colo., edited *Soldiering in the Shadow of Wounded Knee: The 1891 Diary of Private Hartford G. Clark, Sixth U.S. Cavalry*. Drawing on his extensive knowledge of 19th century military history,

Jerome offers a richly annotated version of Private Clark's remarkable original text, replete with information on the U.S. Army's final occupation of the American West. Jerome is retired as Research Historian for the National Park Service.

John Nicholas, '62, Eau Claire, Wisc., was inducted last fall, at Memorial High School in Eau Claire, into the Eau Claire Memorial Old Abe Hall of Fame as a coach. John took over as basketball coach in 1977 and served 16 years, fashioning a 241-111 record. His teams won four Big Rivers championships and took part in five state tournaments, reaching the finals to place second in 1977. John retired with an overall career record of 442-117 after earlier coaching stints at Cuba City and Antigo, Wisc.

Bill Thorson, Attended, Belle Fourche, owner of Sand Creek Printing of Belle Fourche, was the recipient of the Friend of the Chamber Award. Bill received the award during the annual Whitewood Chamber of Commerce Banquet last January. This award goes to a business lending their help, talents, and support to the chamber.

William "Bill" Young, '63 & '70, Custer, was inducted into the Custer Jr./Sr. High School 2017 Hall of Fame. Bill was a long-time educator and coach. His first teaching assignment was in Broadus, Mont., where he coached football and started the schools wrestling program. He taught in Broadus for three years and then taught one year in Glendive, Mont., where he also coached football and wrestling. He returned to Spearfish for a brief teaching and coaching stint before making his way back to Custer. During the next 30 years, Bill coached football, wrestling, basketball, golf and track. He started the Custer Invitational Wrestling Tournament in 1970 and it continues today. In addition to coaching, he taught mathematics and science. He received numerous accolades during his career: was the South Dakota Assistant

Track Coach of the Year in Region 8 in 1992; Custer School District's Golden Apple Award recipient in 1992; and inducted into the South Dakota Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2004, to name just a few.

The 70s

Francie (Ruebel) Alberts, '70, Sturgis, was named the Volunteer of the Year (public affairs category) with the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) during a ceremony last November in Washington, D.C. The award, presented by the Assistant Secretary of Defense – Manpower and Reserve Todd A. Weiler and ESGR National Chair Paul Mock, was presented to Francie for her years of service with the South Dakota ESGR program highlighting employers' support for National Guard and reserve employees through press release and local media connections.

Bruce "Toby" Day, '73, Chandler, Ariz., was elected Chairman of the Board by the Arizona Bankers Association; an association he served for eight+ years. His two-year term started last summer. Toby is the Arizona Market President for the Arizona Business Bank in Phoenix, Ariz.

Clair Donovan, Attended, Spearfish, was named the 2016 Distinguished Lawrence County Friend of 4-H. Clair has been active with youth and youth programs, including 4-H, for many years. He currently serves on the county's fair board.

Elaine (Doll) Dunn, '79, Spearfish, recently published, *My Mom Said... "Bloom Where You're Planted" and other prairie woman proverbs*. Her book is a series of vignettes depicting the succinct wit and wisdom of a wise woman. Elaine is a retired educator and has written four books on the joys of fitness. She has traveled the world logging over 50,000 running miles and 125 marathons.

KUDOS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donald "Don" Herrmann, '72, Rapid City, donated 100,000 books to the Western South Dakota Community Action Agency (WSDCAA) based in Rapid City. The nonprofit organization provides programs and services for low-income citizens of all ages in the Black Hills. Don has had a lifelong, unabashed love affair with books. He has collected, sold and donated hundreds of thousands of books during his lifetime. He is still sorting through his vast collection and plans to donate more books to the WSDCAA.

Paul Higbee, '76, Spearfish, wrote *Powering Homestake*, which tells the history of the hydroelectric plant located along Spearfish Creek near the Spearfish City Campground. The plant has been producing electricity since 1912. The booklet was published by the Spearfish Historic Preservation Commission.

Chris Miller, '73, Tyler, Minn., recently retired after 43 years in music education. Chris taught three years in Gary, two years in Groton, 16 years in Tyler, Minn., and completed his career after 22 years in Tracy, Minn. His teaching experience included Elementary General Music, and Junior/Senior High Vocal and Instrumental Music. His primary assignment was band at all levels. Chris continues to be active as a music contest adjudicator, student teacher supervisor, and music education consultant.

Michael "Mike" Pangburn, '73, Pierre, received an honorary award for outstanding service to the arts community during the 23rd South Dakota Governor's Awards in the Arts last February in Pierre. This event is sponsored by Arts South Dakota and the South Dakota Arts Council.

Priscilla (Young) Romkema, '79, Spearfish, was named president of the National Business Education Association (NBEA) for 2016-17. The NBEA is the nation's leading professional organization devoted exclusively to serving individuals and groups engaged in instruction, administration, research, and dissemination of information for and about business. Priscilla is the dean of the College of Business and Natural Sciences at BHSU.

Michael Shann, '70, Minneapolis, Minn., served as executive producer of the U.S. Bank Halftime show for the Minnesota

Vikings vs. Green Bay Packers NFL game earlier this fall. More than 66,000 people watched the show that honored musical artist Prince, a Minnesota native and supporter of the Vikings. Michael and his team orchestrated a striking tribute to Prince in the second half of the show to the tune of his hit song "Purple Rain." With the stadium drenched in purple lighting, the Minnesota Orchestra joined Prince's former collaborators and the rhythm section for New Power Generation, Prince's backing band, in honor of the musician.

The 80s

Billie Jo (Keckler) Bakeberg, '87, Spearfish, director of Kids Club Kids in Spearfish, has been selected among 16 leaders in the field of after school and expanded learning nationwide to be named a White-Riley-Peterson (WRP) Policy Fellow. The WRP Policy Fellowship is made possible through a partnership between the Riley Institute at Furman University and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

Brett Birkeland, '88, Aurora, Colo., was hired by University of Colorado Health in Aurora as an endoscopy nurse.

Cassie (Miller) Gomez, '89, and her husband, **Lenny Gomez**, '87, Spearfish, owners of Captain Clean of the Northern Hills, received the 2017 Rising Star Award at the Spearfish Economic Development (SEDC) annual meeting last January. Captain Clean of the Northern Hills is a company that uses truck-mounted hot water extraction systems for deep cleaning services for homes and businesses.

Marcia (Jarvi) Hultman, '85, Pierre, secretary of the S.D. Department of Labor and Regulation, has been selected to participate in one of the nation's premier leadership development programs for state government officials, The Council of State Governments' Henry Toll Fellowship program. The 48 leaders in the Class of 2016 Toll Fellowship Program hail from 29 states, Puerto Rico, and Guam and represent all three branches of state government.

Susan Scheirbeck, '83, Hill City, created and owns *insideout*, a gallery, home and garden store in Hill City. Susan previously created and owned the Granite Sports Outdoor Store

and the Sylvan Rocks Climbing School & Guide Service, both in Hill City.

Tom Wheaton, '87, Spearfish, was recognized last November at halftime of the 11AAA state football championship game, at the Dakota Dome in Vermillion, by the South Dakota Officials Advisory Counsel and received the 25-year officiating award. Tom began officiating high school football in 1992.

The 90s

Tom Callaway, '93, Spearfish, retired after 34 years with the City of Spearfish. Tom was the environmental services manager for the city.

Corey Christians, '99, Prescott Valley, Ariz., was recently promoted to the position of director for the Yavapai County Free Library District in Prescott, Ariz. Corey previously served as manager for the Yavapai Library Network.

Jacquelyn (Bierer) Cunningham, '97, Davenport, Fla., was hired as student accounts coordinator for The DAVE School (Digital Animation and Visual Effects) in Orlando, Fla. Jacquelyn previously served as cash office clerk for Landry's Restaurant Group.

Ethan Dschaak, '97, Sturgis, is among 58 outstanding elementary and middle school principals from across the nation and abroad who have been named as 2016 National Distinguished Principals (NDP) by the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). Ethan was honored last fall by the NDP at an awards banquet at the Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C., as part of a two-day program. Ethan is principal of Piedmont Valley Elementary School in Piedmont.

Stacy (Trezona) Goodman, '99, Alexandria, Va., was promoted last November to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel during a promotion ceremony in her honor. The ceremony was held at the Army Navy Club in Washington, D.C. Brigadier General William W. Way, director of government relations, served over the proceedings.

KUDOS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Genine (Peters) Mace, '94 & '06, Belle Fourche, was named the Belle Fourche High School Veteran of the Year. Genine served in both regular Army and National Guard units in the U.S. and overseas. She has taught first grade for more than 20 years at Belle Fourche South Park Elementary School.

Leslie (Deutscher) Merrill, '96, Wall, was inducted into the Wall Hall of Fame. Leslie was a four-year letter winner and starter in girls' basketball and a six-year letter winner in track. In her senior season she led the girls' basketball team to an undefeated season until the State Tournament. She was part of the Lady Eagles teams that went to the State Tournament her junior and senior seasons and was named to the State B All Tourney Team both years. Leslie currently holds the record for scoring 59 points in one game. In track she was a two-time State B Champion in the 100 meter hurdles. Leslie is the current record holder at Wall High School in the 100 meter hurdles, 300 meter hurdles, and the long jump.

Dave Mickelson, '94, Sioux Falls, was appointed to the S.D. Lottery Commission by South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard. His term will run until Jan. 1, 2020. Dave has spent the last five+ years running Graham Tire Auto Parts. The company has 18 locations in South Dakota and Nebraska.

Susan (Sander) Ruff, '96, Fort Collins, Colo., was hired as a broker associate for C3 Real Estate Solutions in Fort Collins.

Rhonda (McDonnell) Williams, Attended, Wall, was inducted into the Wall Hall of Fame. Rhonda was a four-year letter winner in girls' basketball and a six-year letter winner in track. In her senior season she helped guide the girls' basketball team to an undefeated season until the State Tournament. She was part of the Lady Eagles teams that went to the State Tournament her junior and senior seasons. Rhonda was selected All Conference for three years. In track she was a regular at the State B track meet throughout her career. Rhonda was a two-time Shot Put State Champion. She also participated in the discus and sprint relay teams. In her era, Rhonda held the South Dakota State B Shot Put record.

The 00s

Lillian "Lily" (Van Vlack) Bruckner, '07, Rapid City, was named founder and president of The Children's Museum of the Black Hills scheduled to open in 2020 in Rapid City.

Jonathan Crosswait, '09 & '10, Rapid City, graduated last December from Northwestern Health Sciences University with a doctorate in chiropractic medicine. Jonathan previously taught science and coached at Rapid City Stevens High School. Dr. Crosswait is now practicing in Rapid City.

Tacey (Lundin) Dunwoody, '01, Spearfish, joined Benchmark Human Services (BHS) as the new state director. BHS is a company that serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families and guardians. The Spearfish location is the first South Dakota location for BHS. Tacey brings with her 14 years of experience in the case management field.

Jeremy Hoven, '02, Spearfish, was promoted to the position of Spearfish Market President by the Black Hills Community Bank. Jeremy has 16 years of banking experience and has been with Black Hills Community Bank since it opened in 2014 as a commercial loan officer.

Rose (Hunter) Ikemba, '09, Lubbock, Texas, is an educator for the Sharp Academy in Lubbock. She teaches high school English, junior high and high school art and coaches the track team.

Brandis Knudsen, Attended, Rapid City, also known as "B. of Dakota South Records" won the award for Single of the Year by the Native American Music Awards for "*Come and Get Your Love*", a single on his second album. Brandis, a hip-hop artist, traveled to Salamanca, N.Y., for the award ceremony, which was held at the Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino Event Center last fall.

Nikki (Underwood) McDaniel, '03, Rapid City, recently took possession of a pink Mary Kay Cadillac. Nikki oversees around 150 beauty consultants across the U.S. She started with the company 12 years ago in her hometown of Brookings. The pink Cadillac is the first awarded in Rapid City by the global women's cosmetics company in 10 years.

Krista (Vaplon) Morrison, '02 & '16, Whitewood, was featured in the November-December 2016 issue of *Black Hills Woman Magazine - It's a MAN'S World. Or is it?* Krista is the internet sales manager/director of marketing for Rapid Chevrolet and Toyota of the Black Hills.

Anya (Olverson) Mueller, '02, Summerset, was the cover story in the July-August 2016 issue of *Black Hills Woman Magazine - Girl Gives Back*. Anya is currently the morning anchor/reporter for KNBN-TV (NewsCenter1) in Rapid City.

Michael "Mike" Odle, '02, Washington, D.C., was name-requested to serve as Director of Public Affairs for National Guard Operations during the Inauguration of President Donald Trump. In this role he communicated the activities of 7,500 National Guardsmen from 44 states, 3 territories and the District of Columbia in their job to provide safety and security during the inauguration. Mike works as Executive Director, Office of Communications for the Veterans Health Administration, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Bjorg Remmers-Seymour, '01, Rapid City, is one of four South Dakota teachers who were named winners of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science teaching. Last September, the Obama administration recognized the winners in Washington, D.C. Bjorg received a cash award from the National Science Foundation to be used at her discretion. She teaches at Rapid City's East Middle School.

Samantha (Mushitz) Schnabel, '08, Volin, is now Certified in Spinal Manual Therapy (CSMT) by the International Spine and Pain Institute. She specializes in physical therapy of the spine and has completed a series of courses, assignments and examinations to become highly skilled in the evaluation and treatment of spinal pain. Samantha is the Lead Physical Therapist for Lewis and Clark Orthopedic and Sports Therapy in Yankton.

Brian Shaw, '04, Brighton, Colo., finished in first place to win the 2016 World's Strongest Man competition in Botswana, Africa. Brian has finished within the top four every year since 2011, and takes the World's Strongest Man crown for the fourth time - first in

2011, again 2013 and the third and fourth triumphs in 2015 and 2016 respectfully. He also holds an impressive set of world strength records, from the 825lb Squat, to the 880lb Deadlift, to the 1,140 Strapped Hummer Tire Lift.

The 10s

Mike Abell, '10, Sturgis, was hired last fall as a 5th grade teacher at Sturgis Elementary School. Mike also became the head wrestling coach at Sturgis Brown High School. Mike previously taught for six years and coached for eight years in Spearfish.

Bailie (Mills) Burress, '11, has been selected to join the Teach for America 2016 teaching corps. Teach for America is a nationwide organization that recruits talented and committed graduates and professionals to teach students in high need classrooms over a two-year commitment.

Kylee (Lamb) Johnson, '13, and her husband **Will John Johnson**, '11, Whitewood, owners of Whitewood Creek Chiropractic received the Rejuvenation Award. The award was presented to Kylee and Will John during the annual Whitewood Chamber of Commerce Banquet last January. This award goes to a business that improves property in the city.

Andrew Kliewer, '11, Spearfish, was hired as program manager for the Western Resources Adult Day Service in Spearfish. This non-profit program provides cognitive and physical activities to adults with disabilities.

Mark Kreie, '15, Brookings, received the Daktronics Outstanding Math Teacher Award. This award fits in with Daktronics' core values and beliefs in the importance of education. Mathematics education in particular plays a huge role within the

company. Mark is a math and geometry teacher at Brookings High School. Mark also coaches the freshman girls' basketball team.

Scott Lemon, '16, Billings, Mont., was hired as the sports information and marketing director for Yellowstone Christian College in Billings. Scott is assisting in building their athletics program from the ground up.

Scott Lensegrav, '11, Sturgis, received the Sturgis Municipal Medal of Honor for his life saving action in a house fire. Scott, assistant chief of the Sturgis Volunteer Fire Department, and another member of the department, located and removed a woman from the house. The Municipal Medal of Honor is awarded by the Sturgis City Council to persons who have distinguished himself or herself by the performance of an act of gallantry and intrepidity at imminent personal hazard of life, with knowledge of the risk assumed. The persons performed an act of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree concern for the well-being of others.

Mariah Lockert, Attended, was hired by the Dakota Western Bank - Bowman North Branch - as a loan secretary. Dakota Western Bank is based in Bowman, N.D., and has branches in Rhame, Scranton, and Hettinger.

Sarah O'Donnell, '11, Spearfish, was hired last fall as the art teacher for Spearfish Middle School. Sarah previously taught in the Deubrook School District.

Mandy Roth, '14, Spearfish, was hired as a leasing agent for Evergreen Management Services, Inc. Mandy oversees over 600 property units throughout Spearfish, Belle Fourche, Sundance and Gillette, Wyo.

Joanna Schriver, '16, Spearfish, was recently hired as an admissions representative for the Office of Admissions at BHSU.

Graham Wickwire, '15, Spearfish, was hired as sales & communications coordinator with the Spearfish Area Chamber of Commerce.

1883 - 2016

Claudia Little, '78, Spearfish, published, and **Sharon Grey**, '03, Rapid City, illustrated, *"My Two Bugs"*, which features two sisters, inspired by Claudia's twin granddaughters, Ashlynn and Morgan. In the story, the two girls, Skeeter and Cricket, overcome their fear of bugs.

Susan (Magedanz) Peterson, '13, and her husband, **Scott Peterson**, Attended, Belle Fourche, owners of Scott Peterson Motors in Belle Fourche and Sturgis, were honored by the South Dakota Retailers Association with the 2017 South Dakota Retailer of the Year Award. Their business was recognized for commitment to customer service and contributions to the community. Scott Peterson Motors is the first business from Belle Fourche to win the award and only the second from Sturgis. The Retailer of the Year Award has been presented annually since 1982 by SDRA, a nearly 4,000 member statewide business organization.

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ENGAGEMENTS & MARRIAGES

The 90s

Jodi (Kaiser), Attended, married Jamie Watts, July 23, 2016. Jodi is a personal banker at Black Hills Community Bank in Spearfish. The couple resides in Spearfish.

BIRTHS

The 90s

Scott Kieper, '95, and wife Chelsea "Chels" (Gordon), Commerce City, Colo., had a baby girl, Tennyson Raye, Oct. 28, 2016. She joins big brother Stone (2).

The 00s

Renee (Kummer), '09 & '11, and husband **Matthew Bolie**, '07, Colome, had a baby girl, Brooklyn Lois, April 20, 2016. Renee teaches math and science at Colome High School. Matthew is the assistant vice president at First Fidelity Bank in Colome.

Lindsey (Backes), '08, and husband **Tyler Foster**, '08, Winner, had a baby boy, Lawson Gentry. He joins siblings Carter (8), Weston (6) and Emry (2). Lindsey teaches Spanish and history at Winner High School. Tyler is a sales processor at Grossenburg Implement in Winner.

Roxanne (Gray), '12, and husband **Cody Hartl**, '09, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Addison Ray, Sept. 30, 2016. Roxanne is the learning center teacher at West Elementary School in Spearfish. Cody is the controller at Deadwood Mountain Grand.

Jill (Kary), '09, and husband **Fred Hartmann**, '09, Arvada, Colo., had a baby girl, Alice Grace, July 16, 2015. Jill is the manager of events and community relations for Jefferson Center for Mental Health in Denver, Colo. Fred works as a well planner for QEP Resources in Denver.

Robert "Bob" Holm, '05, and wife, Meagan (Skold), Rapid City, had a baby girl, Eden Lynn, Nov. 9, 2016. She joins big brother Owen (7) and big sister Olivia (3). Bob is the owner of Home Grown Lawn care in Rapid City.

WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

Got a new job? Had a baby?
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Graduation Year | Mailing Address | Phone Number
Email Address | Spouse's Name

Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu
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1200 University Street Unit 9506
Spearfish, SD 57799-9506

The 10s

Amber (Rowe), '14, and husband Ryan Bodell, Whitewood, had a baby boy, Silas Carter, April 2, 2016. Amber is a stay-at-home mom.

Kalin (Engle), '11, and husband Beau Chapman, Bison, had a baby girl, Macrae Kathleen, July 13, 2016. She joins big brother Maddox (3). Kalin has taught K-12 Physical Education and coached varsity volleyball in Bison since 2011.

Megan (Reder), '10, and husband, **Stephen Schopp**, '09, Rapid City, had a baby girl, Vivienne Marie, June 4, 2016. Megan is the Director of Counseling and Disability Services at SD Tech. Stephen is self-employed.

Amanda "Mandy" (Detweiler), '12, and husband Jason Woolston, Spearfish, had a baby girl, Claire Marie, June 21, 2016. Mandy is the marketing director at The Real Estate Center of Spearfish.

Alison (Turner), '15, and husband John Walk, had a baby girl, Leyna Brigitte, Aug. 31, 2016. Alison is employed at the Black Hills Pioneer as layout designer for the newspaper.

Megan (Merchen), '11, and husband **Jess Weaver**, '09, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Graham Stephen, Dec. 4, 2016. He joins big brother Liam (2). Megan is a Kindergarten teacher at Mt. View Elementary School. Jess is a CPA with Ketel Thorstenson.

Chris Hoy, '08, and wife Mitzi, Gillette, Wyo., had a baby girl, Ariel Lanae, May 27, 2016. Ariel joins big brother Ivan (4). Chris is a Spatial Data Technician with Anadarko Petroleum in Gillette.

Melissa (Giggee), '07, and husband Casey Kistler, McCordsville, Ind., had a baby boy, Jaxson Mateo, March 7, 2016. Melissa is a first grade teacher in the Carmel Clay School District.

Jammie (McKey), '01, and husband Ryan Prager, Ladera Ranch, Calif., had a baby girl, Spencer Avery, July 11, 2016. She joins big sister Sydney (5). Jammie is a division director for Robert Half Management Resources.

Domico Rodriguez, '06, and wife Jamie, Rapid City, had a baby boy, Devon Rodney, Oct. 22, 2016. He joins big brother Domico Jamir (6). Domico is the vice president of operations for Liv Hospitality.

Samantha (Bollwerk), '09, and husband **Mark Slocum**, '09, Rapid City, had a baby girl, Mara Jo, July 28, 2016. Samantha is a librarian at the Rapid City Public Library. Mark is the operations manager at the Journey Museum in Rapid City.

Tracie (Seyfer), '04, and husband **Nathan "Nate" Vogel**, '03, Belle Fourche, had a baby girl, Cora Lynn, Nov. 23, 2015. Tracie is an admissions counselor at BHSU. Nate is the assistant women's basketball coach at BHSU.

Jamie (Richey), '09 & '12, and husband **Kyle Weller**, '09 & '12, Rapid City, had a baby boy Thomas James, Sept. 8, 2016. Jamie is a strategic media partner and Kyle is an application analyst, both are employed at Regional Health in the Information Technology Department.

Dakota Territory/Spearfish Normal School 1883-1940

Charlotte M. (Hall) Chaon, Attended, Canton
 Laura I. (Dachtler) Compton, '36, Spearfish
 Alpha "Jane" (Dorsett) Edwards, Attended, Sundance, Wyo.
 Lola M. (Johnson) Francis, Attended, Rapid City
 Stella M. (Reimer) Goertz, Attended, Riverton, Wyo.
 Dorothy "Lois" (Bowers) Kennedy, Attended, Sundance, Wyo.
 Juanita L. (Janes) Sinkie, Attended, Wessington Springs

Black Hills Teachers College 1941-1963

Jean E. (Linton) Baldwin, '48, Warrensburg, Mo.
 Robert "Bob" L. Baldwin, '49, Warrensburg, Mo.
 Steve J. Bestgen, Attended, Sturgis
 Marilyn R. (Kellogg) Brockel, '53 & '63, McIntosh
 Margaret M. (Harnisch) Buckles, Attended, Eugene, Ore.
 Helen M. (Ventling) Callan, '43, Hermosa
 John "Pup" W. Carlow, '60, Northglenn, Colo.
 Dorothy "LaVerne" (Greenough) Clem, Attended
 William "Bill" D. Crawford, '53, Modesto, Calif.
 Jerald "Jerry" C. Cross, '54, Buffalo, Wyo.
 Shirley M. (Brunson) Cummings, Attended, Spearfish
 James "Jim" B. Dunn, '62, Lead
 Edwin "Gene" N. Egge, '59, Newcastle, Wyo.
 Charlotte P. (Lamb) Engstrom, Attended, Spearfish
 Wayne H. Evans, Sr., '62, Vermillion
 Nicholas "Nick" D. Feller, '59, Wall
 Helen M. (Omdahl) Franks, '49, Philip
 Robert "Bob" L. Helmer, '56, Rapid City
 Paul W. Hennessey, '60, Belle Fourche
 Betty J. (Johnson) Hopkins, Attended, Sugar Land, Texas
 Edward "Ed" L. Houghton, '60, Ashland, Ore.
 Marjorie A. (Hollister) Junek, Attended, Belle Fourche
 Shirley E. (Hale) Kammerer, Attended, Rapid City
 Dorothy R. (Marshall) Kennedy, Attended, Virginia Beach, Va.
 Robert "Bob" G. King, '62, Helena, Mont.
 Norma I. (Foster) Kokesh, Attended, Mitchell
 Edna M. (Draper) Larson, '49, Rapid City
 Eugene C. Leao, Attended, Pierre
 Keith J. Lehman, Attended, Brush, Colo.
 George D. Levin, Attended, Sturgis
 Gerald "Jerry" E. Lundberg, Attended, Missoula, Mont.
 Margaret J. (Pederson) Nussbaum, Attended, Garretson
 Ida M. (Renelt) Orwick, '48, Sturgis
 Carl E. Partridge, '60, Las Vegas, Nev.
 Ila J. (Whiting) Pastian, Attended, Mesa, Ariz.
 Lyle E. Petersen, '62, Black Hawk
 William "Bill" R. Renning, '61, Valentine, Nebr.
 Marjorie "Boots" (Newstrom) Reoh, '63 & '69, Rapid City
 Leonard "Len" L. Robinson, '57, Henderson, Nev.
 Irene M. (Hanten) Ryan, '57, White Lake
 Myron H. Schaaf, Attended, Bowman, N. D.
 James "Jim" E. Scheirbeck, '58, Portland, Ore.
 Coila M. (Smith) Smith, '50, Olive, Mont.
 Elden P. Titus, Jr., '59, Rapid City
 John "Buck" W. Varvel, Attended, Yankton
 Donald "Don" R. Vodopich, '60, Atlanta, Ga.
 Robert "Bob" C. Vodopich, Attended, Spearfish
 Georgine G. (Nass) Wolff, Attended, Lemmon

Black Hills State College 1964-1988

Paul G. Baker, Attended, Spearfish
 Ida G. (Simon) Brown, '73, Sturgis
 Iris A. (Sidebottom) Brownrigg, '69, Rapid City
 Larry D. Burkhead, '86, Rapid City
 Harvey T. Byrd, '81, Kadoka
 Tommie "Marceline" (Blankenship) Cliver, '78, Sundance, Wyo.
 Patrick "Pat" L. Dobbs, '78 & '05, Rapid City
 Robert "Dan" D. Dryden, '68, Rapid City
 Ella F. (Plihal) Dvoracek, '65, Rapid City
 Linda D. (Seitzinger) Edel, Attended, Rapid City
 Dewayne M. Johnson, Attended, Upton, Wyo.
 Rosamae "Rose" (Bonenberger) Kimball, '71, Rapid City
 Lorraine J. (Johnson) King, '69, Spearfish
 Leona F. (Trantina) Klinkner, Attended, Mitchell
 George H. Kosola, '73, Spearfish
 Markus S. Kryger, '71, Forsyth, Mo.
 Terry L. Laitala, Attended, Vermillion
 Kandie S. (Cunningham) Lewis, '71, Ogallala, Nebr.
 Dolores B. (Schopen) Mattson, '69, Rapid City
 Richard L. McRae, '77, Rapid City
 Jene H. Melton, '74, Idaho Falls, Idaho
 Eva M. (Prlenda) Muir, '68, Hilliard, Ohio
 Sharon H. (Wilson) Munson, '88, Belen, N.M.
 Patricia R. (Sykes) Musil, '82, Ashland, Wisc.
 Gary L. Pechota, '71, Hill City
 Jerald "Jerry" W. Pierson, '72, Wahpeton, N.D.
 John W. Purcell, '73, Le Roy, N.Y.
 Alice C. (Frances) Rebbeck, '88, Rapid City
 Robert L. Robison, Attended, Prescott, Ariz.
 Christine H. (Oudin) Sewell, '82, Laramie, Wyo.
 Sonia K. (King) Sieg, Attended, Douglas, Wyo.
 David H. Steinberg, Attended, Bozeman, Mont.
 Margie R. (Johnson) Strom, Attended, Billings, Mont.
 Paul E. Thomas, '69, Wanblee
 Marilyn A. (Kissack) Trione, Attended, Spearfish
 Daniel "Dan" R. Trotter, '74, Yakima, Wash.
 Dee (Jessen) Warnick, '68, Buffalo, Wyo.
 Gerald "Jerry" W. Weisbeck, Attended, Glasgow, Mont.
 Mary J. White Bull, Attended, Mobridge

Black Hills State University 1989-Present

Sharon M. Anderson, Attended, Rochester, Minn.
 Justin R. Bachelor, Attended, Spearfish
 Erik A. Caudill, Attended, Spearfish
 Lance L. Cooper, '91, Lawrence, Kan.
 Terry L. (Heston) Hoeye, '97, Rapid City
 Brett D. Larson, '02, Rapid City
 Danielle M. McCollam, Attended, Mobridge
 Jodi L. McDermand, '91, Rapid City
 Mark A. Proctor, '99, Saint Paul, Minn.
 Brittany A. Thompson, Attended, Spearfish
 Connie (Garber) VanBockern, '94, Pierre
 Beverly A. (Ahonen) Winkler, '93, Newell

Former Faculty/Staff

Betty R. (Pedersen) Bell, '50, Belle Fourche
 Marvin D. Bunch, '70, Spearfish
 Jane (Abbott) Prosper, Attended, Pueblo, Colo.

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LOOKING AHEAD

19th Annual BHSU Research Symposium
March 21-23

Open House for Prospective Students
April 1

California Rail Discovery Alumni Excursion
April 19

Gridiron Gathering
April 22

Student Volunteer Awards Celebration
April 24

Yellow Jacket Gold Rush Raffle and Auction
April 29

50-Year Reunion
May 5-6

Commencement
May 6

Old Baldy Golf Classic
June 2-4

Stadium Sports Grill Yellow Jacket Golf Classic
June 24

Mark Larscheid Memorial Golf Classic
July 1

Sutton Bay Event
Aug. 14-16

Yellow Jacket Golf Classic presented by
White's Canyon Motors
Aug. 18

Swarm Week
Sept. 5-9

Dates are subject to change. Please check BHSU.edu
for the most up-to-date information.
For athletic events, visit BHSUathletics.com



LOOKING BACK

'Swarmin' in Paradise' during BHSU Swarm Week 2017

Pictured above, the
Women's Athletic Association
performs a Hawaiian-themed
song in 1958.

Swarm Up and Warm Up in
Spearfish Sept. 5-9, 2017,
as BHSU prepares to be
'Swarmin' in Paradise' during
BHSU Swarm Week 2017. Visit
BHSU.edu/SwarmWeek for a full
listing of homecoming week events.

