



ALUMNI MAGAZINE

SPRING 2020



Embracing
the
Black Hills

11th President of BHSU
Dr. Laurie S. Nichols

HELLO FROM THE President

In January, I had the distinct honor to be inducted as Black Hills State University's 11th President. I was filled with humility as I listened to representatives from the Board of Regents, BHSU Foundation, alumni, faculty, staff and students offer words of congratulations and best wishes. Having Executive Director of the Board of Regents Paul B. Beran place the Presidential Medallion around my neck was a special moment filled with feelings of great responsibility, and incredible honor.

It is moments like these that cause one to reflect on his/her career trajectory. How did I get here? What led up to this very special moment?

As a lifelong educator, I started my career in education right here in the Black Hills. It was 1980 and having just completed student teaching at Douglas High School on Ellsworth AFB, I graduated with my degree and a teaching certificate. After a semester-long substitute teaching job at Dakota Junior High in Rapid City, I accepted my first professional job as a junior high and high school teacher at Hill City. It was a special school and a job that I loved.

Fast forward ten years. I will always remember my first days as assistant professor at the University of Idaho. After a decade as a high school teacher, graduate student, college instructor and a doctoral fellow, I had finally arrived. I had a faculty office, research start-up funds, and the skills and values I had learned from my mentors. It was a little scary, but also incredibly exhilarating.

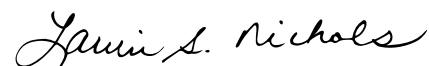
Many years have passed since those days, but at my core, I remain unchanged. I have been a secondary teacher, professor, a dean, provost, and president. And now, 40 years later, I find myself back in the beautiful Black Hills of my home state of South Dakota, as my career culminates in the presidency of Black Hills State University. Without a doubt, this is a monumental time in my life where I feel as though I have come full circle.

I can truly say that the life of the mind--a life committed to education--is a life unlike any other.

Our ambition at BHSU is to live our mission well...to be a university that is student-centered, intellectually challenging, locally and regionally engaged.

And our mission--always--will be to improve the world through education. As Sitting Bull said, "let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children."

There is no more noble and essential work, and I am honored to have the opportunity to lead this special university forward. Thank you for trusting in me.



Dr. Laurie S. Nichols, President
Black Hills State University



Celebrating 137 years of

EDUCATORS,
RESEARCHERS,
SCHOLARS,
CREATIVES,
SCIENTISTS,
MENTORS,
ENTREPRENEURS,
AND INNOVATORS.

Where
Anything
is Possible

BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE - SPRING 2020

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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CONNECT WITH BHSU!



ALUM NAMED INTERN OF THE YEAR, EARNS \$43K IN THREE MONTHS

Following his graduation from BHSU, Collin Powers, '19, wanted an opportunity where he could "bet all the cards on himself" and prove his ability. After a record-breaking internship experience, Collin is now a full-time employee expecting to make six figures this year and visits the BHSU campus to recruit student interns for his company.

Collin started his internship with Caliber, an industry leader in direct-to-consumer sales, selling Dish Network memberships door-to-door. Typically, new interns with Caliber can expect to earn \$10,000 over the summer. But Collin earned four-times that amount, \$43,000 in three months, and was named Intern of the Year.

"When Caliber spoke to us on campus, it hit home for me as a student preparing for graduation. Growth opportunities, personal growth, and compensation. I was attracted to that," says Collin.

Collin pursued a business administration – economics and finance degree at BHSU. Sports fans may recognize his name as the Yellow Jacket quarterback from 2016-2018. Collin says he chose to attend BHSU to play football, but the academic quality convinced him to stay.

"Faculty at Black Hills State are really good at putting you in a position where you're hands-on, learning how to communicate and present yourself in front of class," says Collin. He noted that those classroom experiences translated into success with his sales internship.



Collin Powers, '19



Marcia (Jarvi) Hultman, '85

SECRETARY OF LABOR AND REGULATION MARCIA HULTMAN REFLECTS ON CAREER AND BHSU EDUCATION DEGREE

South Dakota Secretary of Labor and Regulation Marcia (Jarvi) Hultman, '85, chose to follow the same path as two women she greatly respected, her mother Kerin Jarvi, '77, and grandmother, Edith Jarvi, '68, pursuing a degree in education at Black Hills State.

After graduating with her English education degree, Hultman taught in Belle Fourche, Hot Springs, at a juvenile corrections facility in Custer, and was the first teacher hired when the alternative high school began in Rapid City.

Marcia then moved to Pierre in 1998 when her husband, Brian Hultman, '83, started a new job. With no available teaching positions mid-year, Marcia accepted an entry-level position at the Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR).

"In retrospect, the solid communication skills I gained from my English background at Black Hills State helped me grow over my 25 years with the DLR," she says.

Marcia was provided great opportunities for advancement in the DLR. A strong female mentor, former Secretary of Labor Pam Roberts, who now serves on the Board of Regents, appointed Marcia as her Deputy. When Roberts retired, Gov. Dennis Daugaard appointed Marcia as Secretary.

"DLR is very diverse – workforce programs, helping employers find workers and helping South Dakotans gain the skills they need. We oversee nine licensing boards and commissions," says Marcia.

When asked about her road from an education degree at Black Hills State to the top labor position in the state, Marcia says the DLR employs many teachers. The Department works with employers to explore what they value for degrees and certificates. That means a constant connection to education.

"Many people didn't take a direct path to their career," says Marcia. "I want young South Dakotans to know there are hundreds of opportunities for you to create your career in our state."

ALUMS RECEIVE PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHING

Leah (Termes) Oxner, '13, math teacher at West Middle School in Rapid City, and James Stith, '10, science teacher at Newcastle High School, received the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). They received a citation signed by President Trump and \$10,000 from the National Science Foundation.

Leah completed a master's degree at BHSU in 2013. She says having her father, former BHSU professor Tom Termes, video-record her in the classroom as part of the award selection process was especially meaningful. After being nominated for the award and selected as a state finalist, nominees record their teaching activities, keep track of student test scores, and submit a written report.

"When I invited my dad to help with the classroom recording, it was the first time he'd been in my classroom. To have him experience a day with me after he had been in education for so long was really special," says Leah.

Leah says she enjoys seeing students' victory when they work on a math problem, struggle to find the solution, and get it right.

"You see so much growth teaching middle school math. Sixth grade is just beyond elementary school and they transform into high school students during that time," says Leah. "It is fun and rewarding to see that growth."

Leah encourages other educators to take the leap and earn their master's degree from BHSU. "On the other side of getting your master's, you'll be a better teacher, more reflective about what's going well and what's not in your teaching," says Leah.

James says the advice of BHSU faculty to diversify his course load helped him land his first permanent job teaching biology in Newcastle, Wyo. He graduated with history and biology education degrees in 2010.

In Newcastle, James teaches environmental science, anatomy and physiology, scientific research, and computer science.

"My department as a whole has been very driven to change the way we teach science. I haven't taught the same way any of the nine years I've been at Newcastle," says James. "I use lesson plans as a guide, but my teaching department has strong cohesion and that gives me the freedom to be innovative."

James recently collaborated with the NASA Space Grant Consortium to launch weather balloons with his students and analyzed trash in a nearby park with his environmental science class. After competing in speech and debate at BHSU, James now coaches at Newcastle alongside his wife, Lexie Barrett-Stith, '16.



Tom Wheaton (right), director, Alumni Affairs, visited the classroom of Leah (Termes) Oxner, '13, to congratulate her on receiving the Presidential Award.



The BHSU mascot, Sting, made a visit to Newcastle, Wyo., to surprise James Stith, '10, for receiving the prestigious Presidential Award. Sting also congratulated Stith's wife, BHSU alum Lexie Barrett-Stith, '16.

CFO BRINGS HUMAN SIDE TO ACQUISITIONS



Lisa Kammerer, '87

Lisa Kammerer, '87, works for AssuredPartners, Inc., as the Western Regions Chief Financial Officer (CFO). She covers five regions for the \$1.3 billion insurance broker. Assured is the 12th largest broker in the U.S.

"We complete many acquisitions each year and I think of myself as the guidance counselor along the way. I understand finance and operations, and am someone who will roll up my sleeves and help the process," says Lisa.

Lisa was promoted to CFO after another company she worked for, AirSure Limited, LLC, was acquired by Assured. Working throughout the acquisition with Assured, Lisa's accuracy, attention to deadlines, and quality work product led to her promotion. In her role as CFO, she serves as a main point of contact and help for the agencies and employees Assured acquires, ensuring they are treated with value and respect as hardworking employees.

After growing up outside Sturgis, Lisa attended Black Hills State with the goal of getting an accounting degree, but not necessarily becoming an accountant.

Lisa says she used her accounting degree from BH to "get in the door," and that it was a friend from Black Hills State, Lori (Fischer) Caldwell DeVries, '87, who opened that door for her. Lori was working for Lockton Companies, another insurance broker, in Colorado, and helped Lisa get her first interview. Lisa later earned her MBA from the University of Colorado and found her niche in insurance accounting and operations in which she has worked for 30 years.

"Students sitting in accounting classes today may think they need CPA experience to get promoted down the line," says Lisa. "I didn't go that route and it hasn't held me back."



BHSU students and faculty members completed a public art mural on Jackson and 5th Streets in Spearfish in September. The mural was a collaborative project with organizations and students of all ages and abilities from the community participating. Photo credit: The Matthews Opera House and Arts Center

WORKING ON A BIG PROJECT WITH A BUNCH OF PEOPLE, THERE'S SOMETHING **TRANSFORMATIVE** ABOUT THAT PROCESS. ART CAN BRING PEOPLE **TOGETHER.**

Student Gina Soriano
Studio Art & K-12 art education major from Rapid City

FACULTY AND STUDENTS CREATE DOWNTOWN MURAL

Black Hills State University spearheaded the creation of the new public art mural on Jackson and 5th Streets in Spearfish. The vibrant mural, which was a true community project, was completed in September.

BHSU students and assistant professor of art, Desy Schoenewies, collaborated with K-12 schools and community organizations to create mural pieces for installation. "The Matthews Opera House held community painting sessions where anyone could come by and participate in this huge paint-by-number," said Schoenewies.

The team of artists also took mural pieces to Spearfish Canyon Healthcare and the Spearfish and Belle Fourche schools, where residents and students were able to paint and contribute to the community project.

According to the Mural Artist Statement, the BHSU student artists wanted to design a mural that utilized the diverse natural beauty of Spearfish. The mural is officially titled "Layers of Spearfish" and includes icy caves, blooming Echinacea, changing seasons, and the rigid peaks in canyon cliffs. The artists consulted the American Indian Studies Department at BHSU for a symbol "to represent the humanity in us all." The result was the white buffalo in the top right of the mural.

The process to create the mural started in 2018 when visiting artist Paul LaJeunesse was on campus. He taught the students his mural process, which allows community members to take part in mural development.

The students began working on their next public art project just days after the mural was completed. They were commissioned by the City of Spearfish to use their creativity in painting the tunnel on Nevada Street leading to the Lookout Mountain hiking and biking trails. Other businesses in Spearfish have contacted the Art Department about additional murals in the city after seeing the completed project.

Funding for the mural project and special support was given by the BHSU College of Liberal Arts, Matthews Opera House, South Dakota Arts Council, and Bush Foundation.

ALUM RECEIVES FRANCE'S HIGHEST DISTINCTION AND HONORARY DOCTORATE AT BHSU



Kenneth Higashi meets Spearfish Mayor Dana Boke at BHSU on the day the Consul General of France Guillaume Lacroix visited campus to award Higashi the French Legion of Honor.

WWII Veteran Kenneth R. Higashi, attended, was awarded the French Legion of Honor by Consul General of France Guillaume Lacroix in a public ceremony held in Meier Hall. The French Legion of Honor is the highest distinction that France can bestow upon those who have achieved remarkable deeds for France. Higashi attended BHSU after his military service. During the ceremony, the S.D. Board of Regents and BHSU awarded Higashi an honorary doctorate of public service.

Sgt. Higashi was a member of the C "Charlie" Company, 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, a famous Japanese American special fighting force. During his service, Higashi was an infantry assault squad leader. He participated in the North Apennines, the Po Valley, the Rhineland and Southern France campaigns and was honored for his service with many medals including the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart.

FLAGSTAD AND CRAWFORD ANNOUNCE RETIREMENTS FROM BHSU

Dr. Lois Flagstad, vice president for Enrollment and Student Affairs, and Dr. Chris Crawford, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, both announced they plan to retire from BHSU in June.



Flagstad

Flagstad, who came to BHSU in 2007, has a long and impressive career as a higher education professional. During her 12 years at BHSU she was instrumental in a student-focused residential hall rejuvenation which included the construction and opening of Bordeaux Hall. The number of student clubs and organizations on campus also increased during her tenure, and TRIO/Student Support Services consistently met or exceeded goals for student graduation and retention of students in the program.



Crawford

Crawford, who has served as provost at BHSU since 2016, retires with significant academic and leadership accomplishments. In his four years at BHSU, Crawford successfully led the completion of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), and the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditations, and oversaw a 50 percent increase in the number of online students. Several new, high-demand academic programs were added under Crawford's leadership including a master's degree in special education, associate's degree in business, and a certificate in adventure education.

BHSU COMMUNITY DAY VISITS

Black Hills State University is making a renewed effort to connect with our region by dedicating time to go to nearby communities and be immersed in their unique situations.

The community visits provide the opportunity for President Laurie S. Nichols along with staff members from Admissions, Academics, and Alumni to meet with school, business and community leaders in each town. The BHSU Community Days include a visit to the local high school to visit with the principal and high school counselors. When possible, the group also visits with high school seniors to get their feedback on their university selection process.

Visits are also made to local businesses and community organizations, often including the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development groups to discuss workforce needs and better understand the unique facets of each community. The community days culminate with an Alumni and Friends gathering hosted by the BHSU Alumni Association.

Pres. Nichols noted that the community visits have been enlightening and invigorating for University staff members. "Each location is really unique. We learn so much when we have the opportunity to come to your school, your business or your organization. Thanks to all who have taken the time to meet with us and provide us with valuable input as we make plans for BHSU to have an even greater impact for this region."



Cody Oliver, '06, interviews President Nichols at KDSJ Radio during BHSU Community Day in Lead/Deadwood.

2019 SWARM WEEK

RETROSPECTIVE



Hall of Fame Inductees from the 2005 Women's Cross Country Team L to R: Coach Scott Walkinshaw, Wesleigh (Hardy) Bishop, attended; Jaime (Adams) Bosl, '09; Crystal (Hostetter) Huntrods, '06; Kerry (Washburn) Nekuda, '08; Alicia (Verhulst) Porsch, '09; Jamie (Hahn) VanDeest, '06.



Annual Kiddie Carnival for the community.



Swarm Day King Josh Vaith and Queen Rachael Hopperdietzel on the parade route.



Students participate in a hike to the H during Swarm Week 2019.



Alumni Award Recipients L to R: Les Lindskov, '71; Dr. Tracey (Surdez) Vik, '95; Wayne R. Mundt, '70; Cheryl (Cowan) Westland, '10; Dr. Everett Follette, '55.



Hall of Fame Inductees L to R: Jaime Bentley, '07 & '11; Lacey Haughian, '08; Aaron Nida, '93; Aubrey (Baxter) Schuurmans, '09; Tim Treick, attended; Allen Finch, '79.



Hall of Fame Inductees from the 2003 Men's Cross Country Team L to R: Coach Scott Walkinshaw, Brandon Bertram, '07; Mike Nekuda, '08; Ryan Cowger, '07; Zach Kintzley, '07; Bo Red Bow, '08; Andy VanDeest, '04.

▶ To watch a video from the 2019 Swarm Week celebration, go to BHSU.edu/SwarmWeek

- SWARM QUEEN | Rachael Hopperdietzel, Rapid City
- SWARM KING | Josh Vaith, Scotland, S.D.
- PARADE MARSHALS | Gene and Norma Schlekeway, Spearfish

Save the Date
 2020 Swarm Day - Oct. 3, 2020





Nichols

Embracing the Black Hills

PRESIDENT LAURIE S. NICHOLS



Visiting Sanford Lab with BHSU faculty



Meeting community members at the Joy Center

Dr. Laurie Stenberg Nichols remembers the eagerness and exhilaration she felt during her first days leading a classroom of students. After growing up in eastern South Dakota, Nichols completed her student teaching experience across the state at Douglas High School on the Ellsworth Air Force Base.

Forty years, many classrooms, and several states later, Nichols returned to the Black Hills where her education career began – now as President of Black Hills State University.

When asked about her approach to the BHSU presidency, Nichols says she is guided by her experience as a secondary teacher.

“Being a teacher has influenced the way I think about the relationships between high schools and colleges,” says Nichols, who makes it a priority to visit high schools. “It’s about forming relationships and letting students know you don’t have to go out of state to get a high quality education.”

WELCOMING A NEW LEADER

Nichols came on board as Interim President at BHSU in July 2019. Six months after Nichols began her interim year at BHSU, the Presidential Search Committee cut short the national search, realizing the best person for the University’s top position was already living in Spearfish and working at the University. Nichols was named the permanent president of BHSU in December 2019.

From her very first days on campus, Nichols made it known she wanted to meet with as many faculty, staff, and students as possible. She met with every campus department. She held BHSU Days in several area communities. Employers and business owners attended

listening sessions where Nichols gauged employment needs.

Nichols reviewed the University’s strategic plan and zeroed in on stabilizing and growing enrollment.

“Solidifying enrollment at BHSU is a must. There is no higher priority right now,” says Nichols. “Although the overall enrollment at BHSU declined this fall, it is encouraging to see the steady and increasing numbers for new freshmen at BHSU. That signals a positive trend.”

Under Nichols’ leadership, a team of representatives from inside and outside the University was formed to address enrollment in a new, strategic way. The goal was to approach the 10-year enrollment decline



Eriq Swiftwater, '19, of Oglala, receives his diploma from Pres. Nichols during the fall commencement ceremony

at BHSU from all angles. As a result of this decisive action, a student satisfaction survey has already been completed. Plans are also underway to quickly and positively influence BHSU retention and enrollment with a Student Success Center and changes to the student orientation program.

“I am committed to enhancing the University’s standing as a place where gifted faculty focus on teaching and mentoring the rising generation to become engaged citizens and tomorrow’s leaders,” says Nichols.

RISING TO A NEW CALLING

The middle of five children, Nichols grew up on her family’s farm 20 miles south of Brookings. She says she especially enjoyed the



Pres. Nichols (center) led a group of BHSU students and staff to Pierre in January to meet with legislators

social aspects of school and was inspired by her sixth grade teacher at Colman Junior/Senior High School, Mrs. Stofferan.

“In all of my education in K-12, Mrs. Stofferan was the standout teacher. She was warm and likeable, but she was also a creative teacher in how she structured her lessons plans and organized the classroom,” says Nichols.

The decision to attend SDSU was a natural one for Nichols, due to proximity to her home and familiarity after attending 4-H Camps at SDSU.

Not so natural, however, was the college experience.

“I was a very classical example of a first-generation college student,” says Nichols. “I applied to one school and paid for my own education. My education completely changed my life.”

Nichols says she felt very prepared as she embarked on her student teaching experience. She then taught home economics in Hill City and in the Denver Public School System.

With no intention of pursuing graduate education at the time, Nichols learned from a fellow teacher about a master’s degree program onsite in Denver through Colorado State University (CSU). The increase in pay a master’s would bring intrigued Nichols and she began the two-year program. One year in, her trajectory changed.

She was offered and accepted a full-time graduate teaching assistantship at CSU-Ft. Collins, her first entrée into serving in higher education. After graduating with a master’s degree in vocational and adult education, her plans to apply for a principal position were changed by a job offer from Wayne State College in Nebraska.

Finding a good fit in higher education, Nichols pursued her Ph.D. thanks to a full graduate assistantship at The Ohio State University. Nichols then taught at the University of Idaho where she met her

husband, Tim, who was working on his master’s degree. Tim now serves as dean of the Davidson Honors College at the University of Montana.

Having met in higher education is fitting for the couple who have continued to work in higher education throughout their lives. The couple have two daughters, Jordan, age 26, who lives in Denver and works at the Denver Aquarium, and Hannah, age 22, who is spending the year in Europe and India pursuing her love of dance.

GUIDING TOWARDS THE MISSION

In previous leadership roles, Nichols has been known for strategic planning, decisive action, and open communication. Prior to BHSU, Nichols served as President of the University of Wyoming; as Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dean and Professor at SDSU; and as Interim President at NSU.



Mike Headley (left) welcomes Pres. Nichols to the BHSU Underground Campus at Sanford Lab

Among her many achievements in higher education administration, Nichols has consistently supported Native American education, transfer and Honors student success, and the implementation of university-wide strategic planning.

Nichols says she will focus on three central tenets as the University works together to create a vision of BHSU for the next decade:

- First, that BHSU embrace its mission as a public, regional institution whose role is to provide access to higher education and in doing so, to serve as an economic engine for the region;
- Second, BHSU must be a diverse and democratic community—open, and highly accessible, especially to the citizens of South Dakota and to those who need us most;
- Third, that members of the BHSU community will seek out, encourage, and value all voices.

In the near future, Nichols aims to analyze the university’s academic portfolio and align programs to future workforce needs.

“We are providing a quality education while being diligent about graduating students who are ready to go to work, creating a pipeline of graduates into positions employers need,” says Nichols.

The BHSU campus and community have embraced Nichols, the same way she is embracing the Black Hills. She can often be found walking around campus and engaging with students, partaking in an important exchange that energizes both Nichols and the students she encounters.

“Impacting young lives was the reason I entered this profession some 40 years ago,” says Nichols. “The enthusiasm of students, their resilience, passion and energy – it’s one of the great joys of devoting one’s life to the academy.”

Past Alumni Gatherings



ALUMNI & FRIENDS GATHER IN DENVER

The Alumni Association hosted an Alumni and Friends pre-game gathering on the campus of Regis University in Denver. That afternoon, the Yellow Jackets took on the Rangers from Regis University in women's and men's basketball action. Over 60 Alumni and Friends gathered for the event in January.



STUDENTS TRAVEL TO SAN FRANCISCO TO MEET WITH ALUMNI

BHSU students and faculty met with Bob, '74, and Vicki Worth, and Ben Latham, '94, in the San Francisco Bay Area over the semester break. The students were part of a Personal Selling business course at BHSU and were invited to meet with executives from Apple, Golden State Warriors (GSW) Stadium, Fitbit Headquarters, AT&T Park, Amazon Headquarters, Google Campus, and Hewlett Packard Headquarters.



STURGIS



BELLE FOURCHE



HULETT, WYO.



LEAD



28TH ANNUAL ALUMNI MILE

Nearly 70 former BHSU track & field and cross country runners returned to campus to participate in the 28th Annual Stadium Sports Grill Alumni Mile on Jan. 25. Held in conjunction with the Dave Little Invitational, the event raised \$5,590 for track & field and cross country student-athletes. Abbie Fredrick, exercise science major from Cheyenne, Wyo., and Jordan Theisen, exercise science major from Kenai, Alaska, were awarded this year's Alumni Mile Scholarships.



1970s BHSC FOOTBALL TEAMS REUNION

Members of the 1970s Black Hills State College football teams gathered in the Joy Center for a reunion after the BHSU Swarm Day football game in September. The decade started (1970) and ended (1979) with the Yellow Jackets winning the South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference (SDIC) championships.

YELLOW JACKET GOLF CLASSIC HELD IN ARIZONA

BHSU donor Ron Junek tees off and Johnnie Johnson, '70, looks on during the Yellow Jacket Golf Classic held at the Firerock Country Club in Fountain Hills, Ariz. Johnson and his wife Shirley host the event for BHSU. A record \$57,000+ was raised for BHSU during the event. Next year's Yellow Jacket Golf Classic will be held Jan. 18, 2021. Spots are filling up fast. For more information or to RSVP, contact Thayer.Trenhaile@BHSU.edu or 605-642-6460.



Text your gift, donate online at BHSUFoundation.org, send a gift using the enclosed envelope, or call 605-642-6385.



MAKE A DONATION FROM YOUR PHONE

- Step 1**
Text JACKETSGIVEBACK to 71777
- Step 2**
Click the link in the reply message to make a donation





TRIATHLON PLACES AT WOMEN'S COLLEGIATE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Buckley

The Black Hills State Yellow Jacket triathlon team had their best performance of the season at the Women's Collegiate National Championship in November. The team's third place overall finish in Division II was led by junior Mathilde Bernard, and was made possible by strong performances from fellow Yellow Jacket scorers, sophomore Chelsea Basford, and freshman Myna Buckley. Other Yellow Jacket competitors include freshman Hannah Hirschi, and sophomore Kennedy Teeslink, who played integral roles in pushing back scoring athletes from other DII teams.

Basford led the Jackets out of the 750m swim in a time of 10:56. Bernard and Buckley were close enough behind Basford for all three to complete the 20K cycling portion of the race in the same draft pack. All three dismounted their bikes into the transition area within seconds of each other. The Yellow Jackets headed out onto the run course with a two-minute deficit behind the second draft pack of the race, which contained the leading Division-II athletes. Over the 5K distance, Bernard was able to work herself up to a 6th place finish with an impressive run time of 20:14. Basford and Buckley worked the run together and finished in 13th and 14th, respectively. With triathlon as an emerging sport in the NCAA, the Yellow Jackets face the challenge of competing alongside both DI and DII teams from across the country.

The race was a Collegiate National Championship debut for four of the five athletes racing. Despite the rapid growth in level of competition in the Division II ranks each season, this marks the third year the team has made an appearance in the top three at the National Championships. The team has already signed two promising recruits for the 2020 season and are looking forward to bringing a strong, veteran-led team to the event next year.

YELLOW JACKET ALUM JOSH BRESKE NAMED HEAD FOOTBALL COACH FOR BHSU

Joshua David Breske, '10, was named the 29th head coach in Yellow Jacket football program history in December.

Breske returns to the Yellow Jackets after serving three years as the offensive line coach and recruiting coordinator at NCAA Division II Lindenwood University. "Coach Breske is the complete package. He brings a strong knowledge of the game, tremendous recruiting connections, experience from highly successful programs with talented mentors, and possesses an unmatched passion to serve as the next leader for the Yellow Jacket football program," commented athletic director Jhett Albers. "We can't wait to work with Josh, and we welcome him and his family to the community of Spearfish, the campus of BHSU, and the Yellow Jacket family."

The Breske name should be familiar to Yellow Jacket fans, as he was a standout member of the BHSU offensive line from 2005-09. During his time as an athlete, he started all four years garnering three Dakota Athletic Conference (DAC) All-Conference awards and two National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) All-American honors. The two-time captain led his team to two DAC championships and two NAIA playoff appearances.

"My wife and I are so excited to be coming home to Spearfish. Black Hills State has always been such a memorable place for us. I'm extremely honored to join such a rich history of phenomenal coaches," said Breske. "I want to thank the administration at BHSU, namely our athletic director Jhett Albers, for believing in me."

Breske replaces John Reiners who announced his resignation following the conclusion of the 2019 season. Reiners led the program the past eight seasons.



Breske, '10

WALKINSHAW ERA ENDS WITH RETIREMENT

As the 2020 track season gets under way there will be a familiar face and highly successful coach missed. Scott Walkinshaw, head cross country coach and former head track and field coach, retired in December after 22 years of coaching.

Walkinshaw said the drive of the athletes kept him going. Every individual and every group wanted to make their own mark on the program.

"It was a privilege to coach so many good athletes here at BHSU who were committed to excellence," says Walkinshaw. "Thank you to everyone who has supported the program over the years."

Walkinshaw took over the program from Dave Little in 1998. He came from Odessa College where he served as the head coach for women's cross country/track and field.

"I was in a unique situation to hire my replacement," said former athletic director and former head track and field coach Dave Little. "Reflecting back, I am very happy and incredibly impressed with what Scott did with the program, and more importantly, what he did for the people involved with the program over the years."

Walkinshaw will enjoy retirement in Spearfish with his wife Laurie.



Walkinshaw

WALKINSHAW'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1998-2008 Head track and field/cross country coach

- Dakota Athletic Conference (DAC) Coach of the Year 19 times
- 7-time NAIA Region III Coach of the Year
- 6-time South Dakota Cross Country/Track Coaches Association Coach of the Year
- 2000 NAIA National Coach of the Year
- 2001 South Dakota Sportswriters College Coach of the Year
- Coached 199 NAIA All-Americans (25 became national champions)

2008-2019 Head cross country coach

- NAIA:**
- 5-time DAC Coach of the Year
- 19 All-Americans
- 3 Individual National Championships
- From 2000-2008 only program in the nation to have both men's and women's team competing at National Championships
- 17 top 10 team finishes
- Four runner-up finishes
- Six top three finishes
- 2000-2002 finished runner-up in the combined team scoring
- Inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 2019

NCAA:

- Led 2015 men's team to Cross Country National Championship
- 1 national title in steeplechase
- 2 national runner-ups
- 26 NCAA Division II All-Americans
- 3 teams qualified for the National Cross Country Championships

RHOADES NAMED FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

Freshman volleyball player Haedyn Rhoades of Douglas, Wyo., earned Freshman of the Year honors and was named to the All-RMAC Second Team this season. She had the second highest number of digs in the RMAC with 603, averaging 5.69 a set. During the regular season she set RMAC highs with the most digs in four sets and the second most digs in three sets.

In her first year at BHSU, Rhoades posted the fourth highest number of digs in a game, 44, against Fort Lewis and moved to No. 2 all time for digs in a season, breaking the 600 mark. The Yellow Jacket Volleyball Team finished the season with a 10-8 RMAC record.



Rhoades



BHSU students (center) thank First Interstate Bank representatives for their support.



BHSU President Laurie S. Nichols (left) congratulating Travis Lantis (center) and his sister Wendy (Lantis) Soulek (right) on the Lantis Family being named the 2019 Difference Makers.

GALA DOUBLES SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT; LANTIS FAMILY NAMED 'DIFFERENCE MAKERS'

Over \$164,000 was raised for students during the 2019 BHSU Scholarship Gala, more than double the amount raised at the previous year's event. The amount raised at this year's fifth annual event was also greater than the last four years combined.

The Lantis Family were named the 2019 Difference Makers for their sustained support of the BHSU Rodeo Team, including the use of Seven Down Arena for practice and horse stabling.

"This year more BHSU supporters purchased tickets for the event, event sponsor First Interstate Bank increased their contribution, and alum Mary Furois, '60, donated a 1948 Jeepster to the live auction," said Steve Meeker, vice president for University Advancement. "We thank all participants and supporters for making this a record-breaking year."

Meeker said the Jeepster donation is one of many unique ways individuals can give to the BHSU Foundation. The car was sold during a live auction at the Gala for \$25,000. The proceeds were used to set up an endowment in honor of Mary and her late husband, Edward (Ed), Furois, '60.

A celestial theme at the Gala, "Helping Our Students Shoot for the Moon and Land Among the Stars," commemorated the 50th year of the 1969 moon landings. The event featured entertainment and fine dining, along with a silent and live auction.

The 2020 Gala will be held Aug. 22 with the goal of continuing to raise funds for BHSU academic scholarships.

\$164K
RAISED
FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



Tim and Laurie Nichols

PRESIDENT NICHOLS ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIP FOR FRESHMEN

President Laurie Nichols was on campus just 30 days before she and her husband set up a scholarship endowment. The Laurie

and Tim Nichols Scholarship is for freshmen students.

"I have always had a special place in my heart for first year students," said Nichols. "It is a big transition to go from high school to college and I want to support them in any way I can so they persevere and finish their degree."

Freshmen scholarships are recruitment scholarships, said Nichols, helping a university to recruit good students and secure the next class.

"BHSU needs to continue to grow its freshman scholarship program to have the scholarships needed to secure solid numbers and strong students," said Nichols. "I am happy to help in this regard and in doing so, share how scholarships and enrollment are intricately connected."



Elaine and Joe Floyd

FLOYD ADDS \$1 MILLION TO SCHOLARSHIP

Longtime BHSU supporter Joe Floyd made an additional \$1 million gift toward the Joe and Elaine Floyd Scholarship for female ranch students from South Dakota. With this gift, an additional eight full-ride, four-year scholarships will be awarded to BHSU students. Joe and Elaine lived in South Dakota throughout the years and Elaine attended BHSU in 1953. Elaine also worked for the University as a recruiter. It was Elaine's dream to not only send her grandchildren to college but to also make it possible for other young people to earn their degrees. Elaine passed away in 2017.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SCHOLARSHIPS BREAKS RECORDS RAISING \$45,113,949



Steve Meeker, vice president for Advancement, shares the campaign's achievements with donors, alumni, and friends of BHSU during the Capital Campaign Celebration in December.

In December, Black Hills State University celebrated the conclusion of the largest fundraising campaign in university history. Over \$45 million was raised over the past five years, greatly benefiting BHSU student scholarships.

"In 2014, BHSU made a commitment to have a scholarship campaign to assist our students with the cost of their education. We are grateful to all the supporters that made this campaign successful," said Steve Meeker, vice president for University Advancement at BHSU.

Meeker announced at the celebration that the BHSU Capital Campaign surpassed all goals set for the fundraising effort. In 2014, the goal of the five-year "Because of You, Anything is Possible" Campaign was set at \$23 million with the majority of funds going towards scholarships.

"We quickly found out that anything was indeed possible as we flew by our goal," said Meeker.

By the end of 2017, BHSU had already raised \$23.7 million and recommended a new goal of \$32 million. The announcement in December of \$45 million nearly doubled the initial goal for the campaign.

The majority of funds (\$32 million) will go towards endowed student scholarships, which benefit students for generations to come. With endowed scholarships, the capital is preserved allowing additional scholarship funds to be distributed to students year after year.

The other \$13 million raised will go toward the Annual Fund, which also includes scholarships along with money used for the purpose of donor's wishes.

\$40,000,000
UPDATED GOAL

\$23,000,000
ORIGINAL GOAL



CAMPAIGN ACHIEVEMENTS

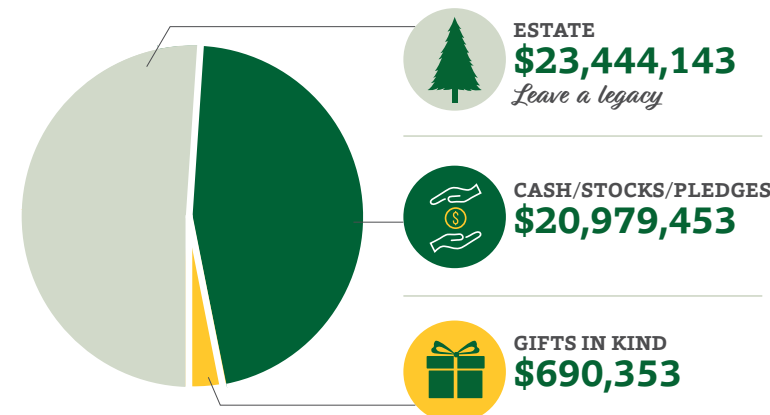
23,790
TOTAL DONORS

260 BHSU EMPLOYEES DONATED
\$2,273,817

4,699 1ST TIME DONORS RAISED
\$2,112,931

62 NEW ENDOWMENTS

CAMPAIGN BREAKDOWN



Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE!

CLASS OF 1970 / 50-YEAR CLUB REUNION | MAY 8 & 9, 2020

Members of the Class of 1970 are invited to a gathering May 8 & 9 to celebrate their induction into the BHSU 50-Year Club. 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.

MORE INFO / REGISTRATION | Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu • (605) 642-6385

Pre-registration for this event is required. Please RSVP by Monday, April 20.

THE DENNIS KIRK JACKET RIDE FOR VETERAN SCHOLARSHIPS | AUG. 11, 2020

INFO / REGISTRATION | Kanda.Guthmiller@BHSU.edu • (605) 642-6335

SWARM DAY | OCT. 3, 2020

Swarm Week 2020 will be held Sept. 28 - Oct. 3 with the Swarm Day parade, tailgate social, and football game on Saturday, Oct. 3.

MORE INFO | www.BHSU.edu/SwarmWeek

THE 1970 FOOTBALL TEAM CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SDIC TITLE | OCT. 3, 2020

Members of the 1970 football team are invited back to campus to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their SDIC title. The gathering will be held during the tailgate social (11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.) and again after the game.

MORE INFO | Ken "Mummy" Richardt • (847) 204-3657 | Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu • (605) 642-6385

THE 1980s DECADE FOOTBALL TEAMS REUNION | OCT. 3, 2020

Any player, coach or trainer from the 1980s is invited back for a reunion on Swarm Day. The gathering will be held during the tailgate social (11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.) and again after the game.

MORE INFO | Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu • (605) 642-6385

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECOGNIZE A BHSU LEGACY FAMILY

The BHSU Alumni Association needs your assistance in identifying a Legacy Family. In 2008, BHSU created the Legacy Family award honoring family members that have attended, graduated or are currently attending Black Hills State. For more information or to nominate a deserving family, contact Tom Wheaton, Director of Alumni Affairs, at (605) 642-6385, Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu or online at www.BHSU.edu/Legacy.

PROPS AND LINERS CELEBRATE 100 YEARS - 2021

Plans are underway to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Props and Liners, an honorary dramatic society and the oldest active student organization at BHSU. The centennial gathering will take place in 2021. More information will be forthcoming in the Fall 2020 issue of the BHSU Alumni Magazine.

1960s

Alberta (Hook) Krush, '65, Belle Fourche, and her husband Pete sold Pete's Clothing and Western Wear in Belle Fourche, a well known mainstay in the Belle Fourche community for over half a century. The couple plan to enjoy retirement, spending more time with their sons and grandchildren.

Dale Lamphere, Attended, Sturgis, designed and built the Arc of Dreams, the Sioux Falls Sculpture Walk's first-ever permanent piece. The structure weighs about 60,000 pounds on each side, spans 280 feet from base to base, and at its highest point stands 70 feet above the Big Sioux River. In addition, Dale was named 2019 Champion of Architecture by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) South Dakota. Last December, he received an honorary doctor of public service from the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology.

1970s

Marv Bohnet, '75, Hazel, was inducted into the inaugural South Dakota High School Golf Coaches Association (SDHSGCA) Hall of Fame in 2019. Marv served as the Hamlin High School head boys and girls golf coach from 1987-2006. In 1996, Marv founded the SDHSGCA. He implemented the Region Coach of the Year awards and plaques and was the first golf coach for the South Dakota High School Activities Association's (SDHSAA) All-Star games in 1999. In 2001, Marv was named the National Federation of Coaches Association (NFCA) boys golf Coach of the Year for South Dakota, in 2006 was the NHSCACA golf Coach of the Year finalist, and in 1991 was the South Dakota High School Coaches Association (SDHSCA) golf Coach of the Year.

Tony "T.R." Chytka, '77, Belle Fourche, created a large bronze sculpture of four-time World Champion Saddle Bronc rider Clint Johnson. The sculpture was unveiled last August at the Casey Tibbs South Dakota Rodeo Center's Sculpture Garden in Fort Pierre. His statue joins those of Casey Tibbs (Fort Pierre) and Billy Etbauer (Ree Heights), the top three World Champion Bronc riders from South Dakota. T.R. has created all three of the bronze sculptures.

Bruce "Toby" Day, '73, Chandler, Ariz., was named senior vice president, business development, for Enterprise Bank & Trust in Phoenix. Toby previously served as president of the Arizona Business Bank and chairman of the Arizona Bankers Association. He brings more than 40 years of commercial banking experience to Enterprise.

John H. Fitzgerald, '77, St. Onge, was elected president of the South Dakota State's Attorneys Association during its annual conference in Deadwood. John serves as the Lawrence County State's Attorney.

Paul Higbee, '76, Spearfish, wrote a book titled "The First Strike: Doolittle Raider Don Smith," which tells the story of Don Smith, who piloted one of the 16 American bombers that struck Japan in April 1942 in what became known as the Doolittle Raid. Don

Smith went from a South Dakota boy who spent most of his childhood in Belle Fourche to an American hero. The air raid, planned, led by, and named after Lt. Col. James Doolittle, was a pivotal moment in history. The Doolittle Raid showed that Japan could be attacked by air and boosted the morale of American people, as it was the first strike on Japan after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

Cliff Janke, '77, Maple Grove, Minn., a former long-time fine arts teacher at Fairmont High School, was inducted into the Minnesota State High School League Hall of Fame. Cliff began his 31 years in Fairmont, where he taught choir, directed theater and musical productions, and served as co-head speech coach. He also served as the artistic director for more than 100 high school and community theater productions from 1977 to the present. As co-head speech coach in Fairmont, Cliff coached 14 Class A champions, including four-time gold medalist Sarah Bankson. Sarah was the first and only student in the state to achieve the honor.

Priscilla (Young) Romkema, '79, Spearfish, received the Athena Award by Project Solutions, given under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce division of Elevate Rapid City. The award, presented by S.D. Gov. Kristi Noem, honors a local woman for professional excellence, community service and for actively assisting women in the attainment of professional excellence and leadership skills. Priscilla is president of the Monument Health Foundation.

1980s

Marcy (Clem) Jones, '85, Rapid City, recently started her own house flipping business, Just Jones'n LLC. Her mission is to rebuild affordable homes for the hopeful, one family at a time.

Pat Jones, '85, Rapid City, was hired as the managing director of the Adult Day Center of the Black Hills. The center is a non-profit organization whose mission is to enable aging and disabled populations to remain at home by providing daytime respite care for families and caregivers. He previously served a three-year run as program counselor at Community Alternatives of the Black Hills. In 2015, Pat retired after serving students and schools in South Dakota and Nebraska for 33 years as a teacher and administrator.



Kallas

Jim Kallas, Attended, Belle Fourche, was named general manager for Riverfront Broadcasting - Spearfish. Jim will serve as the Spearfish GM for KDDX-FM (X-Rock) and KZZI-FM (Eagle Country). He has played a significant role with the station since 1996. Among other duties, Jim has served as program director, on-air talent, operations manager, and account executive.

Brad LaCroix, '86, Newcastle, Wyo., was named to the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees. Brad is the superintendent of Weston County School District 1 in Newcastle.

Gary Linn, '85, Lead, received the South Dakota Library Association (SDLA) Distinguished Service Award. Gary, who is currently in his 33rd year as the Lead-Deadwood School District librarian, has spent the past 39 years in the library business and has served on the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Free Library Board for 32 years, acting as president for the last 10.

Dawn (Neubert) Pence, '88, Rapid City, started a new service business, Care-A-Ride. Dawn transports people to appointments (and attends appointments with them, if need be, and reports back to their families), runs errands, takes care of household services, and troubleshoots/sets up computers and smart phones.

Jim Phillips, '84, Deadwood, received the South Dakota State Senior Games Outstanding Athlete award for 2018. Jim won 19 gold medals for the 2018-19 year while entering 24 events. He won eight gold medals at the State Games in Watertown to complement 11 gold medals in Sioux Falls the previous year.

Pat Rotert, Attended, Spearfish, was promoted to public safety director in August. Pat was also honored during a Spearfish City Council meeting for his exemplary service to the Spearfish Police Department in December after serving for nearly 20 years as Spearfish's Chief of Police.

Dick Tschetter, '80, and wife **Sandy (Youngberg) Tschetter**, '81 & '06, Spearfish, H&R Block franchise owners, were recognized as an Elite 25 franchise at the company's annual convention held last fall. The winners were selected from nearly 1,350 national franchises. Dick and Sandy own and operate offices in Spearfish, Sturgis, Belle Fourche and Lead.

Lana Williams, '86, Colorado Springs, Colo., reached a writing milestone when she recently published her 25th book on Amazon. She was also recognized as an upcoming new author by USA Today.

1990s

Robert "Robbie" Fyles, '97 & '15, Aurora, Colo., was named the assistant vice president and mortgage sales manager for Collegiate Peaks Bank (CPB), which is a division of Glacier Bancorp. CPB has five locations; three of which are in the Denver metro area. Robbie previously served as a loan officer for Home American Mortgage Corporation in Greenwood Village, Colo.

Julie (Shiple) Olson, '90 & '92, Spearfish, adjunct professor in the School of Business at BHSU and owner of Turner Lee Consulting (TLC), worked with Brand Experience (BXP) Magazine to create a special job board for internships with design, marketing, branding, and consulting agencies. This will

help raise the future generation of design leaders and have a positive impact for BHSU students looking for internships. Julie was featured in the magazine and TLC was identified as an agency to watch.

Doug Pavel, '99, Whitewood, and wife Carol, owners of Butte Vista Farm, received the 2019 Conservation Citizenship Award by the Lawrence County Conservation District. They live on a small acreage near Whitewood where they raise hay, goats, a small cow/calf herd, and garden produce. On their farm, they use no-till practices and incorporate cover crops in their fields. Cross fencing has allowed them to maintain healthy pastures through rotational grazing.

Shawn Rost, '90, Rapid City, was elected chairman of the South Dakota Bankers Association (SDBA) in 2019 during their annual convention in Sioux Falls. The SDBA is comprised of over 70 banks with branches throughout South Dakota. Shawn is the South Dakota Market president for First Interstate Bank.

Carolyn (Thomson) Schuldies, '92, Spearfish, received the 2019 Governor's Award for Outstanding Transition Services at the Capitol Rotunda in Pierre. The Governor's Awards recognize individuals and employers for their contributions to rehabilitation and employment of South Dakotans with disabilities. Carolyn, a special education teacher, has taught at Sturgis Brown High School for 28 years.

Marc Stacey, '90 & '15, Spearfish, was promoted to the rank of Command Sergeant Major assigned to the 153rd Engineer Battalion South Dakota Army National Guard (SDANG), headquartered in Huron. Marc is the senior enlisted adviser to the colonel for the battalion's enlisted soldiers. Marc's previous rank was Master Sergeant with the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade SDANG, headquartered in Sioux Falls. Marc is an associate representative with Thrivent Financial.

Paul Thomson, '94, Spearfish, was recognized for 10 years of service as a volunteer firefighter with the Deadwood Volunteer Fire Department. Paul also serves as the Emergency Management director for Lawrence County.

2000s

Shawn Darling, '04, and his wife **Kelsie (Hoffman) Darling**, '07 & '08, Spearfish, owners of Recreation Station, were honored with the Spirit of Enterprise Award during the Spearfish Economic Development Corporation's (SEDC) annual award meeting. This award is given in recognition of outstanding achievement within small business development and for exemplifying the spirit of free enterprise.

Blake Gardner, '05, Hill City, was named the superintendent in Hill City. Blake spent was previously the Hill City Elementary School principal. Prior to that he served seven years as the principal and athletic director at Hill City Middle School.

Robert "Bob" Holm, '05, and wife Meagan (Skold), Rapid City, had a baby boy, Emmett Duane, Aug. 30, 2019. He joins big brother Owen (10) and big sisters Olivia (6) and Eden (3). Bob is the owner of Home Grown Lawncare in Rapid City.

Sara (Schafer) Hornick, '07, Rapid City, was hired as the homeless coalition coordinator by Volunteers of America - Northern Rockies. She will plan, coordinate, and conduct outreach and advocacy efforts to increase community awareness of homelessness issues and commitment to solutions. Sara previously served as office manager for Thrive Acupuncture and Wellness in Rapid City. In addition, Sara and her husband Chris officially welcomed Jesse Freed Aug. 15, 2019, through adoption. He joins big sister Lucy (10).

Dan Patterson, '02, married Amy Spitalnick Nov. 2, 2019. Dan is the senior producer at CNET and CBS news. The couple resides in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Kelli (Marler) Shuman, '04, was named associate vice president for human resources and chief human resources officer at Elon University (Elon, N.C.). Kelli has nearly 15 years of experience in higher education human resources and comes to Elon after serving as vice president for human resources at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City. She is a 2014 graduate of the Institute for Educational Management at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Paige (Entringer) Stensland, '09, Larchwood, Iowa, is the co-owner and head of account relations of Stensland Family Farms. Their product is now available in Spearfish. The Bee's Knees natural foods carries a variety of their products, with ice cream soon to be introduced. Their fried curds can be found at The Farmhouse and Killian's Food & Drink in Spearfish.

Travis Swartz, '06, Rapid City, was named as the interim head coach for the Rapid City Stevens girl's basketball team in 2019. Travis spent the previous five seasons as the Raiders girl's assistant coach. Prior to that he served four years as the Raiders boy's assistant coach. Travis is a sixth and eighth grade social studies teacher at West Middle School in Rapid City.

Becca Walters, '06, and Kevin McGill, Denton, Texas, had a baby girl, Lila Marie, Aug. 30, 2019. Becca is the assistant director of Athletics Communications at the University of North Texas.

Jamie (Richey) Weller, '09 & '12, and husband **Kyle Weller**, '09 & '12, Rapid City, had a baby boy, Jacob Harrison, June 14, 2019. Jacob joins big brother Thomas (3). Jamie and Kyle are employed in information technology at Monument Health in Rapid City. Jamie is a manager of knowledge management and Kyle is an applications analyst.

2010s



Tessa (Krog) Braddy, '10, Rapid City, portrayed the part of Belle in the Disney classic "Beauty and the Beast" during the 52nd season for the Black Hills Community Theatre (BHCT) in Rapid City. Tessa previously appeared in the BHCT production of "Cats" and garnered the role of Maria in "The Sound of Music." Additional acting credits include Dorothy in "The Wizard of Oz" and the female lead in "It's a Wonderful Life" and "Oklahoma." Tessa is currently enjoying and embracing her greatest role to date: being a mom.



Once a Jacket, always a Jacket! **Dimitri Butts**, '18, Midland, Texas, completed his first season playing safety for the Burghausen Crusaders of the German Football League 2 South League. The team is located 50 miles southeast of Munich, Germany, in the town of Burghausen, which is in the southern state of Bavaria. Prior to the start of the 2019 season, Dimitri signed a three-year contract with the Crusaders. Photo credit: Janine Kübler

Courtney Gross, '15, Washington, D.C., recently started a graduate program at the University of Maryland, College Park. She will pursue an M.A. in English and Literacy Education with a focus on adolescent, adult, and community literacies. Courtney will continue her education research and policy work at the American Institutes for Research.

Taylor Guthmiller, '15, married Dan Martin Aug. 31, 2019. Taylor is currently employed with Children First Preschool. The couple resides in Spearfish.

Kristen Harding, '15, Spearfish, was hired by Pioneer Bank & Trust as their new mortgage loan officer. Kristen bring 12 years of financial services experience, including banking and most recently mortgage background, to the Pioneer team.

Niki Henriksen, '10, Helena, Mont., was recognized by Independent Records, Helena newspaper, as a 2019 20 Under 40 award winner. Independent Records collaborated with the Helena Area Chamber of Commerce and hosted a special luncheon celebrating the winners. Niki is an optometrist and co-owner of Helena Vision Center.

Nathan Hoogshagen, '10 & '12, Spearfish, received credit for his video work on the TV show "Building off the Grid." The episode, "Dakota A-Frame," aired Dec. 15, 2019, on the Discovery and DIY Networks. Filming was completed near Hill City. Nathan owns and operates Black Hills Real Estate Photography.

Jonna Langston, '12, Casper, Wyo., graduated from SDSU with M.S. in clinical mental health. Last July, she started her own private practice, Psychiatry Associates of Wyoming, with a coworker in Casper.

Mandy (Brumfield) Lemmel, '11, Faith, was named the South Dakota Region 8 Volleyball Coach of the Year, for the second year in a row, by the South Dakota Volleyball Coaches Association. Mandy has been leading the Faith Longhorns since 2015. In that time, she has guided them to the State Volleyball

Tournament the last three years in a row. Over the last five years, she has amassed a record of 113 wins and 49 losses. For the 2019 season, she led her team to a 32 and 5 record, ending the 2019 State Tournament with a sixth place finish.

Chynna Lockett, '16, Rapid City, won a regional award in the Hard News category as reporter/producer for her piece "Dakota Students Participate in National Walkout" at the 2019 Regional Edward R. Murrow Awards. The story was about Rapid City Central High School students who participated with many students across the country in a walkout to protest gun violence. Chynna works for South Dakota Public Broadcasting.

Karen (Zortman) Loos, '14, Aurora, Colo., accepted a teaching position as a seventh and eighth grade social studies teacher at South Middle School in Aurora. Karen previously taught at the New America School with the Adams 12 School District in Thornton, Colo.

Sarah O'Donnell, '11, married **Ryan Conrad**, '17, July 12, 2019, in a ceremony in Spearfish. Sarah is an art instructor at Madison Middle School. Ryan is a football and track coach for Dakota State University. The couple resides in Madison.

Lindsay Rose, '10, married Justin Harris Feb. 15, 2019. Lindsay is a self-employed photographer. The couple resides in Piedmont.

Lindsey (Schloredt) and husband Forest Sainsbury, Beulah, Wyo., had a baby boy, Seger Jett, July 26, 2019. Seger joins big sister Sloan Sandra (2). Lindsey is an administrator at Belle Estate Senior Living. Forest owns his own construction company.

Jamie Schroeder, '15, Spearfish, received the New Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award by SHAPE South Dakota (Society for Health and Physical Educators of South Dakota). Jamie is in her second year in the Spearfish School District teaching adapted (students with special abilities) physical education. She works with kids across the entire district from preschool through 12th grade and travels from school to school.

Julia (Gibson) Symonds, '18, Sturgis, was hired as the events/catering coordinator and marketing director for BHSU Dining Services/A'viands.

Trevor Tridle, '13, Deadwood, was inducted into the Lead-Deadwood High School Hall of Fame. Trevor capped off a list of lifetime accomplishments when he competed in the weightlifting events at the 2019 Special Olympics World Games held in Abu Dhabi. He earned a gold medal in the bench press and bronze medals in the deadlift and squat. His efforts enabled him to earn the overall gold medal.

Megan (Merchen), '11, and husband **Jess Weaver**, '09, Spearfish, had a baby girl, Esme Carolyn Joy, Sept. 25, 2019. Esme joins big brothers Liam (5) and Graham (3). Megan

serves as the school administrator of Summit Education Center. Jess is a CPA/Partner at Ketel Thorstenson, LLP.

Lisa (Casteel) Weyer, '13, Pierre, was named the new executive director of the Parks and Wildlife Foundation and Second Century Habitat Fund by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks. She will provide administrative services and oversight of the Foundation. Lisa has held leadership positions in many governmental and non-profit organizations. Some of her work experience includes serving as the director of the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, the executive director of the Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce, and the director of the Motor Vehicle Division of the South Dakota Department of Revenue.

Drew Skjoldal, '10, Spearfish, was named a 2019 Great Plains Rising Star. This award recognizes the top up-and-coming attorneys who are 40 years of age or younger, or who have been practicing 10 years or fewer. Drew was recognized for his work in estate and probate law. Drew is an attorney at Lynn, Jackson, Shultz, and Lebrun, P.C., in Spearfish.



1883-2018

Darlene (Richardson) Thompson, '70, **Paul Young**, '78, and former BHSU President **Kay Schallenkamp** were honored during the 22nd Elders' Wisdom Children's Song (EWCS) concert. The concert is the culmination of fifth graders from Creekside Elementary School in Spearfish listening to the stories of community elders and developing songs and narrations from these stories with the help of their teachers and local songwriters. The Spearfish Foundation for Public Education funds this program each year.

Two former BHSU men's basketball players, **Fraser Malcolm**, '19, and **Makaleb McInnis**, Attended, have signed and are playing on Scottish clubs. **Fraser** is playing with the Glasgow Rocks in the British Basketball League. **Fraser**, a Scottish native, played for BHSU for four seasons, finishing his career with 1,260 points and 554 rebounds. He was a three-time All-RMAC player, earning First Team accolades following his senior season. He has played internationally for the Scottish Team that finished fourth at the 2018 Commonwealth Games. **Makaleb** signed with the Falkirk Fury. The team, located in Falkirk, Scotland, plays in the Scottish Basketball Championship (SBC is the national basketball league of Scotland). **Makaleb** played his final two collegiate seasons with BHSU. He averaged over 10 points and three rebounds per game, helping the Yellow Jackets to their first two appearances in the RMAC Tournament in school history.

Land of Enchantment

BHSU ALUMNI AND FRIENDS TRIP TO NEW MEXICO

Unwind and immerse yourself in the rich cultural history of New Mexico. Visit the living pueblos of Taos, Canyon de Chelly, and the remarkable Sky City, Acoma. Explore Albuquerque's original central plaza and Santa Fe's museums. Meet modern-day Native Americans who will share their insights and cultural heritage. Visit historic trading posts and tour Gallup's famous "paw row."

SEPT. 2-10
2020

PER PASSENGER FEES
(includes 8 night's lodging and more):
\$2,947 double occupancy
\$3,437 single occupancy

All details are expertly taken care of for you.
For trip details contact:
Shabby Lee Tours
605-343-4852
Murray@ShabbyLeeTours.com



DAKOTA TERRITORY/SPEARFISH NORMAL SCHOOL • 1883-1940

Mary J. (Heiserman) Rockwell, Attended, Shakopee, Minn.

BLACK HILLS TEACHERS COLLEGE • 1941-1963

James "Jim" J. Bierle, '59, Midland
 George W. Blair, Attended, Spearfish
 Lyle H. Bockwoldt, Attended, Spearfish
 Nate Brenneise, Attended, Ontario, Ore.
 Wayne J. Bryant, '58, Spearfish
 Alta L. (Larsen) Cable, '57, Chamberlain
 Jerry P. Carter, '59, Colorado Springs, Colo.
 Donna J. (Reid) Copps, Attended, Helena, Mont.
 Charles M. Donovan, Sr., '58, Marysville, Calif.
 Loren G. Eikanas, Attended, Bismarck, N.D.
 Beverly J. (Dodds) Garrett, Attended, Rapid City
 James Grube, '48, Bismarck, N.D.
 Shirley L. (Milberg) Hollister, Attended, Spearfish
 Dean A. Johnson, Attended, Saint Paul, Minn.
 Joan M. (Halley) Lintz, '45, Rapid City
 James "Jim" A. Mack, '51 & '60, Rapid City
 Joan M. (Schindler) McDonnell, '60, Boise, Idaho
 Donna L. (Murray) Miller, Attended, Sturgis
 Marilyn F. Mindigo, Attended, West Jefferson, Ohio
 Jerry L. Mitchell, Attended, Belle Fourche
 Jean M. (Faber) Moore, Attended, Chamberlain
 Ronald D. Morton, Attended, Yuma, Ariz.
 Loretta H. (Winter) Otteson, Attended, Spokane, Wash.
 Clarice A. (Richards) Owen, Attended, Dickinson, N.D.
 Gilbert "Gil" G. Raben, '52, Rapid City
 Mary J. (Tufte) Rasmus, Attended, Urbana, Ill.
 Beatrice Y. (Fairbairn) Rein, '57, Fort Collins, Colo.
 Vivian R. (Starks) Roseland, Attended, Seneca
 Helen E. (Carroll) Sharkey, Attended, Gillette, Wyo.
 Mary "Jean" J. (Ayres) Simon, '43, Pierre
 Claudette F. (Speker) Stapert, '57, '60 & '67, Lantry
 Maye A. (Moulton) Stout, Attended, Winner

BLACK HILLS STATE COLLEGE • 1964-1988

Michael "Mike" P. Besso, '77, Deadwood
 Ivan G. Bettelyoun, '71, Pine Ridge
 Robert "Bob" J. Biegler, '64, Junction City, Ore.
 Lynnette J. (Woeste) Blakeman, Attended, Bismarck, N.D.
 Roy E. Brandenburg, III, '70, Scott City, Kan.
 Dorothy L. (Ferderer) Bridger, '68, Stuart, Fla.
 Eileen L. (Curtis) Broadhurst, '73, Rapid City
 Harold H. Brost, '72 & '77, Spearfish
 Micheal "Mike" T. Calmes, '86, Glenrock, Wyo.
 Delores A. (Robeson) Collins, '67, Rapid City
 Lynn J. Day, Attended, Rapid City
 James B. Fahrni, Attended, Spearfish
 Randy D. Fudge, Attended, Mobridge
 Richard L. Gilkey, Attended, Gillette, Wyo.
 William "Chick" C. Gipp, '68, Bismarck, N.D.

Leola K. (Fenenga) Gross, '70, Rapid City
 Mary L. (Plenty Holes) Her Many Horses, '80, Manderson
 Tommy R. Hickman, Attended, Bronte, Texas
 Forrest G. Houlette, '77, Norfolk, Neb.
 Kathryn "Kat" L. (Mauch) Kinsall, Attended, Sundance, Wyo.
 Ronald R. Kleinsasser, Attended, Caputa
 Douglas "Doug" D. Kloppel, '80, Spearfish
 Linda L. (Anderson) Kooiker, '70, Harrisburg
 Arliss "Jean" J. (John) Kopren, '73, Sturgis
 Bart J. Krebs, '66, Tacoma, Wash.
 Ronald "Ron" L. Lawrence, Attended, Pierre
 Mary A. (Rose) Loeffen, '70, Lead
 George M. Martin, '69, Spearfish
 Virginia "Ginger" R. Massie, '81, Sundance, Wyo.
 Chrisann L. Mateer, Attended, Belle Fourche
 John J. McKay, '66, Sturgis
 Larry "Joe" Monheim, '68, Rapid City
 Ramona (Neilson) Policky, '69, Rapid City
 Amir C. Sancher, '65, Pagosa Springs, Colo.
 Roxann L. (Fuerstenau) Sauter, Attended, Bismarck, N.D.
 Ann L. (Ramey) Schaefer, '67, Bozeman, Mont.
 Ronald "Ron" G. Schuttler, '85, Spearfish
 Thomas V. Shangreau, Attended, Rapid City
 Larry L. Shavlik, '73, Gregory
 Doris M. (Force) Sherman, '64, Cheyenne, Wyo.
 Sharron L. (Clayton) Sprague, '86, Rapid City
 Patricia A. (Dement) Stewart, Attended, Rapid City
 Kenneth "Ken" L. Stubbs, '71, Madill, Okla.
 Shirley A. Temple, '71, Spearfish
 Sandra B. (Little) Woodard, '85, Pine Ridge
 Jeannine J. Woodward, '68, White River
 Helen M. Zapp, '78, Rapid City

BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY • 1989-PRESENT

Stephen "Reno" M. Bambeck, '93, Rapid City
 Frank L. Bowers, '95, Rapid City
 Tallon E. Brey, Attended, Rapid City
 Jerry A. Clown, Attended, Dupree
 Colleen M. (Streeter) Driscoll, '89, Grand Forks, N.D.
 Bradley "Brad" W. Fawver, Attended, Georgetown, Texas
 Robert "Chad" C. Johnson, '04 & '10, Douglas, Wyo.
 John D. Jones, III, '16, Spearfish
 Patricia "Patty" R. (Patterson) Koppmann, '92, Rapid City
 Michael R. Lichtenecker, '03, San Rafael, Calif.
 Olenka M. McDowall, Attended, Spearfish
 William "Bill" P. McGrath, '92, Spearfish
 Amy D. Michaels, Attended, Rapid City
 Michael "Mike" R. Stevens, '94, Gillette, Wyo.
 Cara K. (Hatch) Zacher, Attended, Rapid City

FORMER FACULTY/STAFF

Deborah "Deb" L. Larive, Rapid City

ALBIN "AL" SANDAU, WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINN.



Al Sandau, age 77, passed away in December 2019. He began his tenure as a theatre professor at Black Hills State in 1974 and retired in 2004, the same year he was honored with the BHSU Distinguished Faculty Award. In his three decades at BHSU, Al directed or assisted with the direction of nearly 160 theatre productions. He saw the stage as a lab for his students and said theatre "provides students a different way of thinking about the world." Al was born in Beulah, N.D., and had a younger brother, Jerry. He received his bachelor's degree in English/speech/journalism at Wartburg College (Iowa). While achieving his master's degree in speech/theater at the University of South Dakota, Al met his wife Dianne. Both taught at Huron College, where Al was named Teacher of the Year in 1971. Al was drafted and served in the Vietnam War: U.S. Army First Battalion, 40th Artillery (1967-68). Al returned from the war to meet his infant son Alan. He modeled compassion, humility, generosity, poise and parented hundreds of students over the years. His children (actual, in-law, grand, and theatrical) will remember him fondly.

MYRON SULLIVAN II, SPEARFISH



Myron Sullivan II, age 64, passed away due to complications of open heart surgery in December 2019. Myron spent the end of his career as the director of Public Safety at BHSU from 1999-2012. Prior to his time at BHSU, Myron was a Lead School District employee for many years and a reserve police officer for the Deadwood/Lead Police Department. He was an EMT and served on various community boards, always looking for what needs he could meet. He was a member of the Spearfish United Methodist Church. Myron was born in Lead July 30, 1955, to Margaret and Myron Sullivan. He was the youngest of their three children and only son. A kind hearted and gentle soul are the words that best describe Myron by those that knew him best. Myron was a loyal man who loved sports cars, upbeat music, telling jokes, and spending time with family. Myron was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Sharon Ann Miller. He is survived by a brother-in-law, Jerry Miller (Judy); nieces, Tiffiany Moser (Dustin), Tonya Strand (Daniel), Amanda Michel, Natalie Swensen; a nephew, Jason Miller (Katie); a sister, Kathy Swensen; his uncles, aunts, cousins, great nieces and nephews and friends.

Rudy Stradinger, Powell, Wyo., died Jan. 29, 2020, at the age of 93. Stradinger was a former professor and emeritus faculty at BHSU. He is survived by his wife Barbara Stradinger. Due to the print deadline for the Spring 2020 Alumni Magazine, a full obituary will appear in the Fall 2020 Alumni magazine.



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Looking Ahead

04 APRIL

- 3 Yellow Jacket Preview Day
- 25 4th Annual Yellow Jacket Gold Rush Raffle & Auction

05 MAY

- 8-9 50-Year Class Reunion
- 9 Commencement

06 JUNE

- 26-27 Stadium Sports Grill Yellow Jacket Golf Classic

07 JULY

- 3 Mark Larscheid Memorial Golf Classic

08 AUGUST

- 11 Dennis Kirk Jacket Ride
- 14 Yellow Jacket Golf Classic at Devils Tower
- 17-19 Sutton Bay Golf and Fishing Outing
- 22 BHSU Scholarship Gala

09 SEPTEMBER

- 28-30 Swarm Week

10 OCTOBER

- 3 Swarm Day
- 3 1970 Football Team Reunion
- 3 1980s Football Teams Reunion

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

Looking Back



1980s FOOTBALL TEAMS TO REUNITE DURING SWARM DAY 2020

Carried by his players in this historic photo, head football coach Duke Iverson led the Yellow Jackets in back-to-back South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference (SDIC) Championships in 1983 and 1984. Black Hills State either won or shared the conference title four times throughout the 1980s (1983, '84, '87, and '89). All members of the 1980s Football Teams are invited to a reunion after the BHSU Swarm Day football game Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020. For more information, contact Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu or call 605-642-6385.