

2021 Fall Newsletter

Parkston's own All American Red Head

The Allegra “Stubby” Winter Story

By Bob Swanhorst

Most South Dakota basketball fans know about Becky Hammon, Mandy Koupal, Becky Flynn-Jensen, and SuAnne Big Crow, but have they heard about Allegra “Stubby” Winter and the All American Red Heads? Allegra was one of twelve children born to Nathaniel and Mathilda (Tiede) Winter. Miss Winter graduated from Parkston High School in 1941 and the story begins.

There are no facts that show Parkston High School had a girls' basketball team in 1941 or the three previous years, although they had girls' basketball previous to those years. When a traveling girls team came to Parkston, their coach Ollie Olson of Cassville, Missouri, noticed a young lady shooting hoops in the gym with the boys and he was impressed. Evidently she asked or he requested a try out. After the try out Coach Olson was sold and offered her a position to travel and play with a team called the Missouri Hillbillies. Allegra first needed permission from her parents and when that was agreed upon the story continued.

Coach Olson had played and coached a men's team known as the Terrible Swedes. He had sent out his first “All American World's Championship Girls' Basketball Club” back in 1936. He was apparently a man of vision. When war broke out Coach Olson took a



Submitted Photo
 Allegra “Stubby” Winter (with ball) was a longtime mainstay in the lineup of the All American Red Heads traveling basketball team. Winter was a 1941 Parkston High School graduate.

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5-year time out. Being inspired by his wife, Mrs. C.M. Olson, he named his new team the All American Red Heads. Mrs. Olson had a chain of beauty salons operated in the Ozark area near Cassville, Missouri. Since basketball was a popular sport the girls working for her formed a basketball team. Two of the girls were redheads but not any of the

remaining team members had red hair. The other team members liked the striking appearance of redheads and with the aid of Henna (a hair dye) they all became Red Heads. With bold, blazing red uniforms Coach Olson soon had them known as the Missouri Red Heads. Over the next several years the team's popular attraction drew many A.A.U. stars of All American status. Hence the name All American Red Heads. The name was so coveted that Olson obtained a copyright for sports and entertainment naming and the Red Heads became the only girls' team in history to have a copyright in 1973.

Continued on Page 2

Parkston's own All American Red Head



Submitted Photo

Part of the All American Red Heads game plan was a trick play which the fans loved. The 5-2 Allegra "Stubby" Winter would score a basket in the lane while perched on the back of her 6-4 teammate Genevieve Love.

"They (All American Red Heads) will be traveling 30,000 miles in a shiny brand-new station wagon to play 180 games in thirty-eight states."

From a magazine story

Continued from Page 1

With the war ending, they were back on the road. With seven players including Allegra, Stubby as she was now dubbed, the team became a hit. A February 8, 1947, account in *Colliers Magazine* said, "They will be traveling 30,000 miles in a shiny brand-new station wagon to play 180 games in thirty-eight states - which makes them the hardest working girls in professional sports." Besides *Colliers*, over the years they were featured in *Life*, *Look*, *Sporting News* and *Sports Life*. They even visited Paramount Studios in Hollywood and were guests on the set with Bing Crosby and Bob Hope.

How did they do it? To begin with they only played against men's teams with men's rules, and they usually won more games than they lost. Each of the seven players had their own tricks or practical jokes to play out during the game. But the games were

mostly serious affairs. "Hazel Walker was a National Free Throw Champion and for ten years a member of the Women's All American of the A.A.U. During the halves, she challenged all comers to a free-throw contest, and in February of '47 she still had not been beaten for the season." Stubby and Gene Love, the 6-4 center, had their own trick. Stubby would come down the court and while Gene was in the lane jump on her back and lay the ball in the basket. She also made a habit of dribbling between the much taller Gene Love's legs to escape a defensive player. The players were making \$5,000 a year plus all expenses when traveling. They earned a \$5.00 bonus for every game they won. That could be an additional \$600 to \$700 per year.

On April 6, 1948, the team played at the Coliseum in Sioux Falls against a VFW team. LeRoy Carlson made a tip in that won the game 36-35 for the VFW quintet.

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Parkston's own All American Red Head

It was the 66th defeat in 175 games for the Red Heads. Even Hazel Walker, called the best woman athlete and noted free throw champ, was edged at half time. Don Lambert, a Washington High School senior who was never on the WHS varsity, made 15 in a row while Hazel had missed one. The attendance was announced at 2,000.

In March of 1949 the Red Heads were playing at the Corn Palace. Stubby was already playing her fourth season with the Red Heads. She was considered the best set shot artist in the game. The team was playing its tenth season on the road. The previous year they had 125 wins and 75 loses.

C.M. Olson and his wife, as previously stated, got the ball rolling at Cassville, Missouri, in 1936. The team and organization was sold to Orwell and Lorene Moore in 1955 and they made their new base of operations at Caraway, Arkansas, in 1956. Lorene "Butch" Moore, incidentally, played in over 2,000 games and scored 35,426 points over a twelve-year period. The complete tenure of the Red Heads had begun in 1936 and lasted until 1986 when Coach Moore retired and disbanded the Red Heads. It represents a tremendous chapter in the history of women in sports in the United States. The teams were known from time to time as The Missouri Hillbillies, The Arkansas Travelers and for most years, as The All American Red Heads.

In the middle of all of this was Parkston, South Dakota, native Allegra "Stubby" Winter. She will be forever remembered as the 5 foot 2 inch Stubby that played on some of the greatest All American Red Heads teams. Her famous 'Piggy-Back Play' and the 'Dribbler



Submitted Photo
Allegra "Stubby" Winter posed for and signed this 1940s promotional photo.

Through the Legs' act became all-time favorites. Her partner on the court was 6 foot 4 inch Genevieve "Gene" Love. Known as "Careless Love" after an old song, they both found work in the defense industry in Wichita, Kansas, during the war and after their careers in basketball they returned to work and live out their years in Wichita. Stubby's brother James also resided in Wichita.

On December 10, 2016, Allegra L. "Stubby" Winter died. She was 93 years old. The Red Heads had three or four teams that traveled and played at the same time

during the last few decades. One of the Red Heads had this to say in remembrance:

Prayers to the family and friends of Stubby, I also played for the Redheads, loved hearing the stories of the ladies. They made it easy for us to follow their great footsteps. Again prayers for the family

Jolene Ammons
All American Red Heads

The Stubby Winter story had strong connections in South Dakota. Sometime during the 1950s the Winters moved from Parkston to Emery. By 1973 Emery had been to the "B" tournament five times while winning the crown in 1950 and 1973. Richard "Whitey" Mayer, star of the 1950 tourney champs, was related through family marriage. On the 1973 championship team was Mike Winter, a steady, reliable junior guard who was a nephew to Stubby. Stubby had recognized Mike with congratulations and letters.

Most importantly Stubby Winter was a true pioneer in women's sport. Long before Title IX, women across the United States found an outlet through basketball. Parkston and South Dakota should be proud to honor an almost forgotten star who helped make The All American Red Heads a shining light in the struggle for women's equality in the field of sports.

(Thanks to Kathy and Mike Winter for disclosing and contributing to this story. All materials and memorabilia from Stubby will be stored and archived by the HOF at the Sanford Pentagon)

Class of 2020 welcomed into Hall of Fame

There are now 171 members in the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame after the Class of 2020 was inducted Aug. 28.

The 11th annual banquet was held at the Ramkota Hotel in Sioux Falls.

The Class of 2020:

Janel Birrenkott, Frederick, Md. (Lemmon 1982): After excelling at Lemmon, where she averaged 25 points per game as a senior, Birrenkott scored 1,352 career points at Northern State. She represented the U.S. in the Deaf Olympics.

Jerry Even, Sioux Falls (Dell Rapids St. Mary 1964): Even was a four-year starter for St. Mary, producing 26 points and 14 rebounds per game as a senior. He surpassed 2,000 career points, totaling 2,038.

Jayne (Even) Gust, Fargo, N.D. (O’Gorman 1996): Gust led O’Gorman to the Class AA state title in 1995 when she averaged 21 points per game. She scored 1,228 career points. An All-American at North Dakota State, she joins her father, Jerry Even, in the inductee class.

Austin Hansen, Milwaukee, Wis. (Brandon Valley 1998): The Lynx got 18 points per game from Hansen in winning the 1998 Class AA title. He had 1,815 career points at South Dakota State.

Joe Krabbenhoft, Waunakee, Wis. (Roosevelt 2005): Krabbenhoft had 911 points and 544 rebounds as a prep. At Wisconsin he totaled 827 points and 756 rebounds. His pro career included time with the Sioux Falls Skyforce.

Sarah Mannes Homstad,



John Simko Photo

The Class of 2020, from left, front, Dave Thomas, Sarah Mannes Homstad, Jayne (Even) Gust, Jerry Even, Bart Uhler representing the late Stanton Uhler. Back, Dennis Womeldorf, David Perrin representing the late Sam Perrin, Arlo Mogck, Janel Birrenkott, Dick Thornton representing the late Loren Thornton, Bob Pidde. Not shown: Austin Hansen, Joe Krabbenhoft.

Yankton (Yankton 1988): Mannes Homstad sparked Yankton to Class AA titles in 1986 and 1987. She had 913 career points. She played in four NCAA Tournaments for Vanderbilt.

Arlo Mogck, Worthington, Minn. (Parkston 1955): Mogck led Parkston to second in 1954 and third in 1955 at the Class A tourney. He had 1,259 career points. Mogck then excelled at Southern State.

Sam Perrin (Huron 1927): The late Perrin led Huron to the 1927 one-class state title. Huron then took fourth in the 43-team National Interscholastic Tourney in Chicago. Perrin starred at Carleton (Minn.) College.

Bob Pidde, Freeman (Freeman 1975): Freeman finished 27-0 in 1975 as Pidde averaged 17 points and 16 rebounds per game for the Class B champion Flyers. He then played at SDSU.

Dave Thomas, Sioux Falls (Onida 1969): Thomas averaged

22 points per game as Class B state champion Onida had a 28-0 record in 1969. While at SDSU he scored 1,355 career points.

Loren Thornton (Harrisburg 1936): The late Thornton led Harrisburg to its first-ever state tournament in 1936. He was chosen as tourney MVP. Known as “Dutch,” he went on to play collegiately at SDSU.

Stanton Uhler (Kadoka 1951): In the Class B tourney in 1951, the late Uhler notched 50 points in a game and totaled 92 overall. He had 2,023 career points at Kadoka and later was an SDSU football standout.

Dennis Womeldorf, Rapid City (Wessington Springs 1966): Known for his defense, Womeldorf’s career scoring total as a Spartan was 1,521 points. He helped SDSU to three NCC titles while totaling 1,006 points for the Jackrabbits.

(To read complete bios of all Hall of Fame members go to www.sdbbhof.com)

- 2010:** Robin Anderson-Thormodsgaard, Clear Lake '80
Bruce Bad Moccasin, Pierre '67
Steve Brown, Hamlin '74
Becky Flynn-Jensen, Wakonda '92
Max Gonzenbach, Milbank '54
Becky Hammon, Stevens '95
Jim Iverson, Platte '48
Don Jacobsen, Lake Norden '57
Lance Luitjens, Custer '92
Tom McGrann, Watertown '59
Rod Merriam, Huron '80
Gene Smith, Watertown '47
Bob Swanhorst, Cresbard '57
Rex Swett, Huron '58
John Thomas, Alexandria '65
Harold Thune, Murdo '37
Lisa Van Goor, Yankton '80
- 2011:** JoElle Byre-Benson, Washington '82
Harry Carleton, Washington '43
Cathy Coyle-Grubb, Belle Fourche '79
Terry DuPris, Cheyenne-EB '76
Gordon Fosness, Presho '53
Diane Hiemstra-Gabriel, Yankton '80
Tom Malchow, Aberdeen '61
Alan Miller, Stickney '81
Roger Nelson, Brookings '54
Rick Nissen, Miller '72
Harley Petersen, Hayti '54
Rena Sallquist, Brookings '86
Terry Slattery, Salem St. Mary '56
Jim Sutton, Onida '53
Kim Templeton, Miller '72
Jerry Wingen, Canova '56
- 2012:** Randy Fletcher, Reliance '65
Barry Glanzer, Armour '78
Greg Hansen, Hurley '70
Randy Jencks, De Smet '71
Eric Kline, Aberdeen '91
Jesse Mendoza, Cheyenne-EB '71
Myron Moen, Sisseton '63
Dana Nielsen-Honner, Armour '88
Tom Orton, Madison '65
Taran Stapp, Newell '96
Courtney Stapp-Pool, Newell '94
Karla Stevenson, Hamlin '83
Bob Stewart, Aberdeen '49
Jason Sutherland, Watertown '93
Jack Theeler, Sisseton '63
LaMoine Torgerson, Forestburg '59
- 2013:** Scott Bosanko, Aberdeen '77
Chris Divich, Doland '52
Carol Freeman-Galbraith, Canova '79
Clyde Hagen, Webster '66
Garney Henley, Hayti '55
Kent Hyde, Onida '54
Jerry Lund, Belle Fourche '57
Amy Mickelson, Brookings '86
Mike Miller, Mitchell '98
Chad Nelson, Yankton '74
Renee Ruesink, Castlewood '84
Jim Schlekeway, Britton '64
Wayne Stone, Mitchell '41
Wendy Swanhorst, Cresbard '78

Hall of Fame Members



- Marty Waukazoo, Rapid City '67
Chuck Welke Jr., Warner '94
- 2014:** Rich Andrzejewski, Arlington '69
Dick Authier, Woonsocket '67
G.E. Buening, Parkston '66
Bart Friedrich, Mitchell '85
DuWayne Groos, Sisseton '62
Steve Hammer, Pierpont '69
Julie Harmacek-Bridge, Avon '83
Luther Hippe, Washington '83
Kris Holwerda-Woerner, Brookings '81
Mandy Koupal, Wagner '99
Lien Marso, Harrold '51
Phil Miedema, Hitchcock '58
Colleen Moran, Stickney '79
Denver TenBroek, McIntosh '99
Mark Tetzlaff, Hamlin '81
Willie White, Pine Ridge '87
Lori Wohlleber-O'Farrell, Summit '86
- 2015:** Carla Allard-Watson, Bennett Co. '87
Amy Burnett, Huron '91
Lee Colburn, Brookings '69
Katie Dailey, Jefferson '81
Jim Dyer, Willow Lake '60
John Eidsness, Canton '66
Mike Freier, Tripp '67
Ray Hamann, Yankton '31
Chuck Iverson, Vermillion '69
Julie Jensen-Rozell, Langford '91
Jimmy Lovley, Elkton '20
Jim Mitchell, S.D. Deaf '54
Marv Rasmussen, Claremont '55
John Sivesind, Roosevelt '96
Jim Tays, Gettysburg '50
Vince Whipple, Rapid City '56
- 2016:** Amy Allard-Carmody, Jefferson '82
Elton Byre, Reliance '56
Conrad Collin, Huron '30
Roger Faber, Canistota '58
Dale Hall, Ravinia '54
Maury Haugland, Murdo '54
Fred Hecker, Washington '57
Steve Jansa, O'Gorman '64
Matt Jones, Alpena '01
Bob Marske, Andover '44
Chris Miller, Stickney '71
Scott Morgan, Mitchell '89
Josh Mueller, West Central '01
Melissa Olson-Guebert, Lincoln '83
Wayne Rasmussen, Howard '60
- Holly Sivesind-Borchers, Roosevelt '93
Rudy Soderquist, Rapid City '37
Lolly Steele, Pine Ridge '84
Harley Zephier, Dupree '55
- 2017:** Joe Ashley, Pierre '79
Ron Bertsch, St. Lawrence '61
SuAnne Big Crow, Pine Ridge '92
Jerry Buri, Hazel '60
Kriss Edwards, Watertown '77
Gary Evjen, Washington '68
Terry Jordre, Corona '57
John Lillibridge, Burke '58
Guy Mackner, Sisseton '65
Donna Muir, Cheyenne-EB '78
Ann Pancoast, Washington '81
Jim Schmidt, Dell Rapids St. Mary '41
Mike Sisk, Miller '57
- 2018:** Dick Baun, Mobridge '44
John Bertolero, Lead '56
Howie Bich, Yale '58
Frank Brost, Murdo '55
John Diefendorf, Irene '46
Chad Greenway, Mt. Vernon '01
Cary Hornaman, Roncalli '75
Mandy Kappel, Roosevelt '00
Lisa Kurtenbach-Glanzer, Brookings '85
Dona Ray-Reed, Yankton '78
Jared Reiner, Tripp-Delmont '00
Harvey Schaefer, Hayti '54
Louis Tyon, Pine Ridge '63
- 2019:** Scott Beckstrand, Lincoln '89
Mike Begeman, Parker '75
Lefty Engebretson, Webster '46
Dave Fischer, Wall '61
Rollie Furois, Deadwood '40
Freddie Knife, Cheyenne '59
Megan Mahoney, Sturgis '01
Alan Nissen, Miller '68
Henry Park, Chester '45
Doug Peterson, Watertown '60
Jodi Pipes-Altenburg, Armour '88
Shannon Schlagel-Huber, Clark '01
Cregg Skarin, Hitchcock '70
Lindsay Thomas, Roosevelt '02
Sox Walseth, Pierre '44
- 2020:** Janel Birrenkott, Lemmon '82
Jerry Even, Dell Rapids St. Mary '64
Jayne Even-Gust, O'Gorman '96
Austin Hansen, Brandon Valley '98
Joe Krabbenhoft, Roosevelt '05
Sarah Mannes-Homstad, Yankton '88
Arlo Mogck, Parkston '55
Sam Perrin, Huron '27
Bob Pidde, Freeman '75
Dave Thomas, Onida '69
Loren Thornton, Harrisburg '36
Stanton Uhler, Kadoka '51
Dennis Womeldorf, Wessington Springs '66
- 2021:** No inductees due to pandemic

To read bios go to www.sdbbhof.com

Leadership advances the Mission of HOF

By Greg Hansen

There is a responsibility attached to leadership which requires a clear vision of not only the present but also of the future.

Bob Swanhorst has been a model of that concept as he directs the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame as its president.

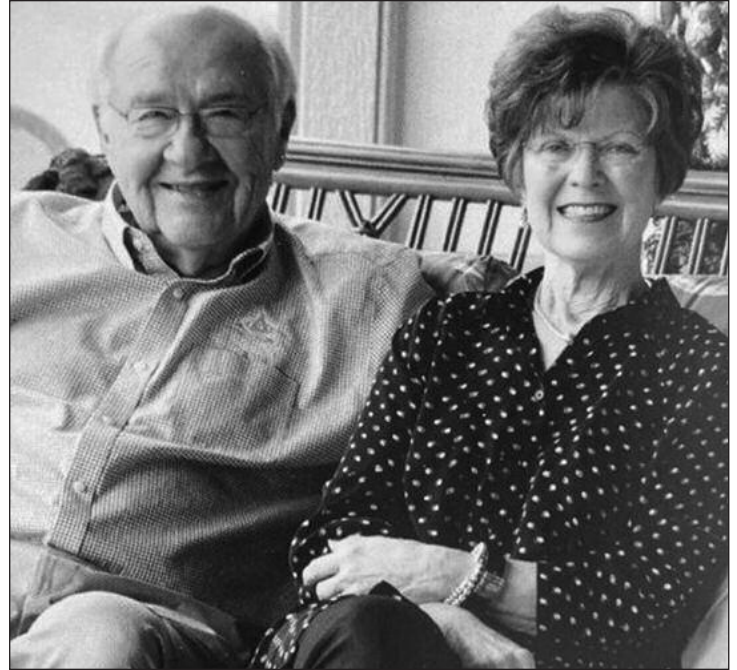
During the 2021 banquet on Aug. 28, the organization's Board of Directors made a surprise presentation to Swanhorst and his wife Trish. The following message was etched on the plaque given to the Swanhorsts:

'Bob Swanhorst served as president of the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame during its crucial formative years. His vision and leadership were cornerstones of the Hall of Fame's growth and prosperity. A grateful Board of Directors extends its eternal gratitude to Bob and Trish for their tireless dedication and many contributions to the Hall of Fame'

The Hall of Fame, from a humble 2009 beginning, has evolved into a haven for those who love basketball. People across the country look to the Hall of Fame as a means to connect to the history of the game in South Dakota. Our website is a destination for countless followers while our newsletters are mailed to subscribers in 42 states.

Swanhorst not only coordinates day-to-day operation, he and Trish devote considerable time and energy to fulfilling important behind-the-scenes tasks that are an essential part of the success of the Hall of Fame.

Bob and Trish met while Bob was starring in basketball at Augustana University and Trish was a



*Submitted Photo
The plaque presented to Bob and Trish Swanhorst is on display in the main Hall of Fame area at the Sanford Pentagon in Sioux Falls.*

senior at Washington High School. Bob's commitment to the sport was developed at Cresbard, where he was raised and led the Comets to the Class B state championship in 1957.

During tours of the Hall of Fame visitors observe a variety of displays crafted by the Swanhorsts that illustrate how basketball has enriched South Dakota. The influence of the Swanhorsts is evident throughout the Hall of Fame area at the Sanford Pentagon. Because of that, and for many other reasons, the Hall of Fame extends its gratitude to Bob and Trish Swanhorst.

Get involved: Nominate a worthy player

Throughout the existence of basketball in South Dakota, nearly every community in the state has produced special players whose ability and accomplishments transcend normal metrics.

The South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame strives to honor the best to have ever played in our state. But before a candidate can be considered for induction into the Hall of Fame he or she must first be nominated.

SDBBHOF bylaws require there to be an official nomination form on file before a former player's credentials can be evaluated. To learn more about the nomination process, and to download an official nomination form, go to our website.

A player must be out of high school at least 15 years before becoming eligible.

Preps battled Pointers to help Red Cross

There was a time, beginning in 1954, when every year in late March some of South Dakota's best high school basketball players would gather in Springfield to help raise money for charity.

Floyd Mitchell was coach at Southern State Teachers College. He was instrumental in operating an all-star game known as the Red Cross Benefit.

After the prep state tournaments were completed, and when Mitchell and his Pointers had finished their collegiate season, Southern State took the court one last time to face a group of the finest high school seniors from southeastern South Dakota.

The seventh annual benefit was held on March 25, 1960. The game was moved to Scotland because of the construction underway on the Pointers' home court in Springfield.



*SSTC Photo
Floyd Mitchell coached Southern from 1955 to 1970. He was a native of Highmore.*

Twenty-two preps dressed for the all-stars, who were coached by Harley Hanson and Merlin Gramm. Hanson had just guided Irene to fourth place in the State Class B Tournament. Gramm one year later would win the 1961 "B" championship with Bridgewater.

In the all-stars starting lineup were Vernal Anderson of Irene, Jim

Burns of Beresford, Jack LeClair of Bridgewater, Dave Semmler of Parkston and Gary Snow of Canistota.

Southern obviously held an advantage in experience. That showed as the Pointers, led by 6-foot-4 senior Jerry Wingen of Canova, burst to a 20-4 lead. After that the teams played on even terms.

Wingen scored 20 points as Southern won 78-57, extending its record in the series to 7-0. Gary Merkwan, a sophomore from Avon, added 19 points. Leading the all-stars was Mike Nelson of Lennox with 15.

Each year the benefit drew good crowds and raised considerable money as Southern loyalists were joined by fans from the various towns represented by the all-star players.

S.D. born Scorer was best U.S. has seen

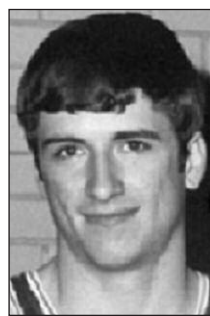
How can the merits of the most prolific scorers best be judged?

Some feel the obvious method is by the total number of points produced in a career.

But if a truer measure is points 'averaged' per game during a career - as many believe - then the greatest scorer in the history of high school basketball in the United States was born in South Dakota on July 24, 1953.

The National High School Sports Record Book is a product of the National Federation of State High School Associations. It chronicles national records in a variety of sports.

According to that publication, Steve Blehm ranks No. 1 in career scoring average in U.S. prep history. Blehm appeared in 94 games in four seasons. He totaled 3,859 points. That is an average of 41.1



Steve Blehm

points per game. No prep player in America has ever averaged more during a career.

Blehm was born at Miller, the son of Milton and Irene Blehm. As a child he lost his hearing as a result of a since banned medicine that was prescribed for an ear infection.

That contributed to Blehm's family making several moves seeking educational opportunities for him. Time was spent in Cheyenne, Wyo.; Denver; Flint, Mich.; and Bismarck, N.D.

35.8 points per game as a freshman. During his career Blehm's high single game was 85 points and his top single-season average was 47.3.

After graduating in 1973 he spent a semester at Minot State University (N.D.) before transferring to Gallaudet University, a college for the hearing impaired in Washington, D.C.

The 5-foot-11 guard was MVP of the Bison two seasons. In a 1989 ratings, which was done 11 years after his graduation, Blehm was named one of the 13 greatest players in Gallaudet history.

Blehm would visit the family farm near Miller as often as possible after leaving South Dakota. He was a recreational coordinator at the Virginia School for the Deaf and then worked more than 30 years for the U.S. Postal Service. Blehm, 68, lives in Staunton, Va.

Sturgis title helped propel Hardy to Fame

Carroll Hardy was well known for many outstanding athletic accomplishments. A multi-sport star at the University of Colorado, he had a stellar rookie season in the NFL and played baseball in the major leagues for eight years. Later he was an executive with the Denver Broncos.

Seventy years ago Hardy was in the South Dakota basketball spotlight when he and Bruce Lushbough led Sturgis to the championship of the 1951 State Class A Tournament. The Scoopers were coached by Buell Woodlee, a Black Hills State graduate who headed the Sturgis program for 15 seasons.

Sturgis won the state tournament in 1947, defeating Sioux Falls Washington in the finals. The Scoopers advanced to the championship game again in 1948 but lost in overtime to Mitchell.

In the 1951 state tournament Sturgis survived its first two games by a combined margin of four points, edging Eastern South Dakota Conference teams Yankton 53-51 and Brookings 37-35. The title game on March 17 at the Aberdeen Civic Arena matched Black Hills Conference champion Sturgis against ESD power Washington.

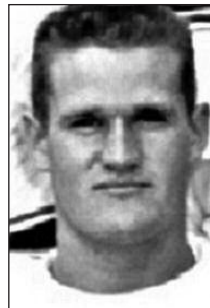
Lushbough scored 21 points and Hardy 12 to pace the Scoopers as they held on to win 55-47. Lushbough and Hardy were named to the all-tourney team. Ken Noel led the Warriors with 12 points.

After facing off in the finals, Lushbough and Noel went on to become University of South Dakota teammates. Hardy was off to Boulder where he starred in football, baseball and track for Colorado.

Hardy was a running back for the Buffaloes who also punted and



Photo courtesy U of Colorado
In the Boston Red Sox dugout, Sturgis native Carroll Hardy (right) shared a moment with his teammate and friend, National Baseball Hall of Fame immortal Ted Williams.



Carroll Hardy

saw duty on defense. As a senior he led Colorado in interceptions. On his best offensive day Hardy rushed for 238 yards against Kansas State.

Drafted by San Francisco in 1955, Hardy, who was 6-foot and 185 pounds, spent one season in the NFL primarily as a receiver. His speed was an asset. In college he clocked 9.8 seconds in the 100-yard dash.

Among highlights during Hardy's time with the 49ers was teaming with quarterback Y.A. Tittle on a 78-yard touchdown pass.

Hardy then turned his full attention to baseball, a sport in which he had thrived at Colorado. He had hit .447 as a senior for the

Buffaloes and finished with a school record .392 career batting average.

In 433 games as an outfielder in the big leagues, Hardy spent time with Cleveland, Boston, Houston and Minnesota. He had a .225 career average and was recognized for the unique distinction of having pinch hit for baseball luminaries Roger Maris, Ted Williams and Carl Yastrzemski.

Hardy then spent 24 years in the Denver front office. He held various positions including director of player personnel. Hardy had a major role in assembling the renowned "Orange Crush" defense.

That unit featured lineman Lyle Alzado, drafted out of Yankton College in 1971. Relying heavily upon its defense, Denver reached the Super Bowl after the 1977 season where the Broncos fell to Dallas 27-10.

One of South Dakota's true legends, Hardy died Aug. 9, 2020, in Highlands Ranch, Colo. He was 87.

In Solemn Remembrance and Tribute

Jimmie Daniels, 84, of Brooklyn, N.Y., died June 22, 2020. Jimmie and his brother Cliff came from Brooklyn and led the University of South Dakota to the 1958 NCAA College Division title. He scored 40 points in the finals as the Coyotes beat St. Michael's (Vt.) 75-53.

Cliff Daniels, 86, of Brooklyn, N.Y., died Nov. 8, 2020. Cliff and his brother Jimmie were both all-North Central Conference for USD two years. Cliff was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and longtime attorney.

Les Hansen, 79, of Alexandria, Minn., died March 27, 2021. The Tyler, Minn., product helped South Dakota State to third place in the 1961 NCAA College Division Tourney. He coached at Armour; Canistota; Primghar, Iowa; and Rock Valley, Iowa.

Bob Rumrill, 84, of Gilcrest, Colo., died April 24, 2021. A star multi-sport athlete at Madison and General Beadle State, he coached at Rutland, McLaughlin and Sisseton as well as in Minnesota and Colorado.

Lloyd Dobratz, 96, of Mesa, Ariz., died May 6, 2021. He starred as Redfield won the Class B state championship in 1942. The U.S. Army veteran was a graduate of Augustana and coached Sioux Falls Washington to the Class A title in 1965.

Bryan Brewer Jr., 52, of Pine Ridge died May 7, 2021. A key player as Pine Ridge won the Class A championship in 1987, he helped lead the Thorpes to a perfect 26-0 record.

Chuck Welke Sr., 67, of Warner died May 11, 2021. The former state senator was a product of Redfield and Northern State. He coached at Harold and Warner, winning over 400 games and leading Warner to Class B titles in 1993 and 1994.

Forrest Lothrop, 96, of Lennox died May 29, 2021. After helping Redfield win the Class B title in 1942, he served in the Army and graduated from SDSU. He coached at Beresford, Dickinson State (N.D.) and Sioux Falls Washington.

Jake Hammrich, 84, of Ipswich died June 3, 2021. He was a fine player at Ipswich, as were several of his brothers. He was a barber in Britton, Faulkton and Ipswich.

Deane Antoine, 86, of Madelia, Minn., died June 4, 2021. The graduate of Flandreau was a basketball and baseball standout at SDSU. He served schools at Egan; Rutland; Pipestone, Minn.; Baltic; Dell Rapids; and Madelia.

Lee Wilson, 72, of Aberdeen died June 8, 2021. He had 28 points as Frederick fell to champion Parkston 66-64 in three OT in a 1966 game among the most storied in "B" state tourney history. He went on to star in football at NSU.

James Hansen, 92, of Hopkins, Minn., died June 10, 2021. After graduating from Fort Pierre and USD, he covered basketball as a sports editor at the Aberdeen American News and Grand Forks (N.D.) Herald.

Harvey Hammrich, 86, of Watertown died June 14, 2021. All-tourney as Ipswich won the "B" in 1952, he was a multi-sport SDSU athlete. The Army veteran was longtime AD at Watertown.

Sean Piatkowski, 46, of Mesa, Ariz., died June 29, 2021. He was an all-state player at Rapid City Stevens and led the Class AA state tourney in scoring in 1993. He had six dunks in the tourney.

Pat Kane, 93, of Sioux Falls died July 14, 2021. A lifelong basketball enthusiast, the SDSU graduate and former state legislator played for the Agar Hi-Pointers, in the Army, at the YMCA and in the National Senior Games.

Dick Day, 93, of Sioux Falls died July 29, 2021. The graduate of Sioux City Central was an Army veteran who played basketball and football at USD. He coached at Mitchell and later was football coach at Sioux Falls Washington.

Tom Prendergast, 95, of Sisseton died July 31, 2021. A star athlete at Milbank and Huron College, he served in the Marine Corps and coached at Yale, S.D.; Lake Preston; Sioux Falls College; Grant Deuel; and Sisseton.

Dennis DeJong, 70, of Mitchell died Aug. 5, 2021. An all-state player, he helped Mitchell hand Rapid City Central its only loss in a 24-1 state title season in 1969. He played at Dakota Wesleyan.

Eric Roozen, 51, of Gayville died Aug. 21, 2021. He covered sports for several years for radio stations KMIT, WNAX and KVHT. The Gayville-Volin graduate played football at DWU.

Herm Venekamp, 87, of Fort Collins, Colo., died Aug. 23, 2021. Basketball and football coach at the State Training School, he eventually became superintendent of the facility at Plankinton. An outstanding athlete at Presho and DWU, he was an Army veteran.

Bob Bozied, 74, of Westminster, Colo., died Aug. 25, 2021. After a standout basketball and football career at Brookings, he played football and baseball at SDSU. He coached in the state at Pierre, DWU and Augustana.

Duane Donat, 76, of Aberdeen died Aug. 29, 2021. A respected official and longtime coach in the Aberdeen school system, he was an all-state player at Webster and graduate of USD.

Pat Lynch, 65, of Yankton died Sept. 11, 2021. He was an outstanding player on state-tourney basketball teams at Yankton. A football all-stater for the Bucks, he also played football for USD-Springfield.

Ted Bryant, 62, of Custer died Oct. 4, 2021. An all-state basketball player at Custer, he was a scholarship athlete at Dakota State and later returned to Custer where he was a coach and official.

Bob Brink, 84, of Richmond, Minn., died Oct. 9, 2021. The native of Platte played at Yankton College. He coached at Tyndall and Plankinton then for 43 years at Rocori in Cold Spring, Minn. His teams won 936 games.

Fast Break of Things to Know

HOF Overview: The South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame is located at the Sanford Pentagon pictured at right. Exhibits are on display in the main Hall of Fame area on the ground floor with additional items on the second floor. We are a non-profit organization and chartered as a 501(c)(3) in 2009. To learn more about the Hall of Fame please visit our website at www.sdbbhof.com.

Leading Cowgirl: SDBBHOF member Amy Burnett, a Huron graduate, has the two top scoring averages in Wyoming history – 22.7 points per game in 1995 and 21.0 in 1994. She totaled 1,782 points for the Cowgirls. Her coach at Wyoming was Clear Lake product Chad Lavin. As a Huron prep Burnett totaled 1,963 career points.

Bunt Brothers: In a remarkable showing of brotherly unity, a sharp shooting Aberdeen family - the Bunts - produced Northern State's three leading scorers in the 1928 season. Ted notched 144 points, Paul 123 and Don 94. The rest of the Wolves combined to score 182 points that season as Northern posted an 11-6 record.

Western Trek: Justin Hohn, a former Tea Area standout, is a 6-2 veteran point guard for California-Irvine. The Anteaters, 18-9 last season, have been Big West Conference champs five times in the last eight years. Hohn teamed with South Dakota State star Noah Freidel to lead Tea Area to the Class A championship in 2019.



Sanford Photo

Early Holiday: The North Central Conference Holiday Tournament was held at the Sioux Falls Arena from 1965-1989. But two earlier versions were also held, at Allee Gym in Sioux City, with South Dakota State winning in 1950 and North Dakota State in 1954.

Steady Hand: Roger Opp, a South Dakota Mines professor from 1966-2003, was official scorer and then clock operator for Hardrock basketball. In the 37 years he spent on the job Opp missed only one Mines home game. He died April 14, 2020.

Dual Threat: As an all-state basketball player, Karst Hunter averaged 28.7 points per game for Miller as a senior in 2019. Now he is starting quarterback for the Colorado Mesa football team, which plays in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

Husker Legend: Dave Hoppen is Nebraska's career scoring leader with 2,167 points. The 6-11 center played six seasons in the NBA. Hoppen was a 1982 graduate of Omaha Benson where his coach was Terry Shelsta, a South Dakota all-stater at Hayti in 1967.

New Panther: Brandon Valley product Austin Hansen, a SDBBHOF member and former South Dakota State star, is a new assistant basketball coach at Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He joined the Panthers of the Horizon League after previously coaching at Utah State.

15th Edition: You are reading our 15th biannual newsletter. Since the first edition in fall of 2014, our newsletters have provided a path to South Dakota basketball history. Back copies can be accessed at the SDBBHOF website. Go to Newsletter Archives.

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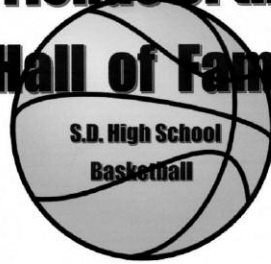
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The success and growth of the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame has been consistent and impressive. Much of the credit belongs directly to our many 'Friends' whose support has helped so much.

Financial gifts received by the Hall of Fame during the past year are listed on this page. Those contributions assist us in many ways as we strive to keep memories alive of the past.

Basketball has played such an important role in South Dakota and we hope to continue to tell the kind of stories that link today to yesteryear.

We thank our 'Friends' for your donations and for your belief in our desire to preserve South Dakota basketball history.

If you would like to help the Hall of Fame, please send your tax-deductible gift to SDBBHOF, 2210 W. Pentagon Place, Sioux Falls, SD 57107. Donors are listed in our newsletters, banquet booklet and website.

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Sanford Pentagon
2210 W. Pentagon Place
Sioux Falls, SD 57107



Remembering '62

A popular attraction at the Sanford Pentagon are thirteen 40 x 70 inch panels that display photos of all South Dakota state championship teams. Panels are spaced throughout the second floor corridor.

Hall of Fame member Louis Tyon and wife Catherine of Rapid City recently toured the SDBBHOF. The panel behind the Tyons has a photo at top left of the 1962 Pine Ridge Thorpes. They were led by Tyon and won the Class B title.

When visiting the Pentagon, the main Hall of Fame area is on the first floor but other interesting items are throughout the second floor and in Hall of Fame room 2110. (SDBBHOF Photo)

