

## 2022 Spring Newsletter

# Creation of All-State tipped off a new Era

By Greg Hansen

**A** problem existed in South Dakota high school basketball that needed to be corrected.

At the end of a season there was no system in place to recognize and honor 'all' of the state's best players.

There were all-tourney teams, but they only included players fortunate enough to participate in the state tournaments. What about the outstanding players whose teams, for a variety of reasons, didn't have the opportunity to play in a state tournament?

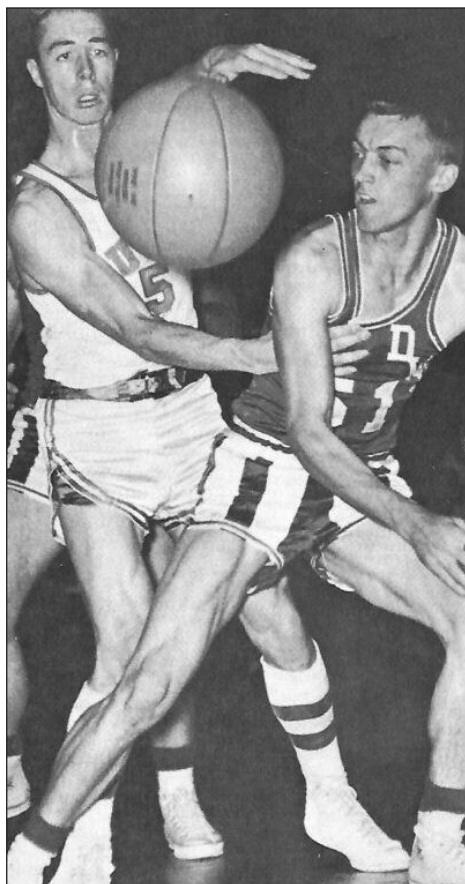
The South Dakota Sports-writers Association recognized the iniquity in that situation and set out to do something about it.

People like Don Bierle of the Yankton Press & Dakotan, Larry Desautels of the Aberdeen American News and Craig Stolze of the Sioux Falls Argus Leaders were sportswriting pioneers in the state.

They and their colleagues in the SDSA made the decision in 1955 that South Dakota needed all-state teams to ensure fairness for all worthy players, regardless of participation in state tournaments.

Ballots were sent to the 32 district championship coaches in Class B and to all coaches in Class A. They were asked to list the very best players they had seen. Members of the sportswriters group then chose the all-state teams after reviewing the coaches' recommendations.

The first official all-state team in South Dakota history was revealed in newspapers on April 6, 1955. It featured the finest players in Class B. Ten were named to the all-state



HC Photo

Hayti product Garney Henley (left) of Huron College battles Dakota Wesleyan's John Pierson for control of the loose basketball.

tourney while five didn't.

Hayti star Garney Henley was a 5-foot-11 athletic marvel destined for multi-sport stardom at Huron College and a career for Hamilton in the Canadian Football League. Henley received the most votes in balloting. One coach simply wrote that Henley was, "The best in the state."

Henley had played in the state tournament as had fellow first team all-state members Gib Burnette of champion White River, Marvin Speck of Gann Valley, LaRue Martin of Selby and Don Walder of Hayti.

Making the first team without appearing in the 1955 tourney were Harley Zephier of Dupree, Frank Brost of Murdo, Harry Marske of Andover, Marv Rasmussen of Claremont and Merlyn Smith of Avon.

Next up was the Class A all-state team which was announced on April 8, 1955. Parkston placed two players, Arlo Mogck and Jim Adkins, on the first team as did Aberdeen with Don Peterson and Ron Holgate.

They were joined by Jim Johnson of champion Sioux Falls Washington, John Bertolero of Lead, Ron McGurk of Sisseton, Irv Majeske of Webster, Wes Heminger of Flandreau and Joel Falk of Vermillion.

Among the Class A all-staters, Mogck received the most votes from the coaches. The 5-8 guard went on to a superlative career at Southern State.

The all-state teams of 1955 were met with enthusiasm by fans across the state. A new South Dakota basketball tradition was here to stay.

### In this Issue:

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first team and 10 more to the second team. Another 60 were given honorable mention status.

Equitable consideration was given to those who played in the state tournament and those who did not. Five members of the all-state first team saw action in the

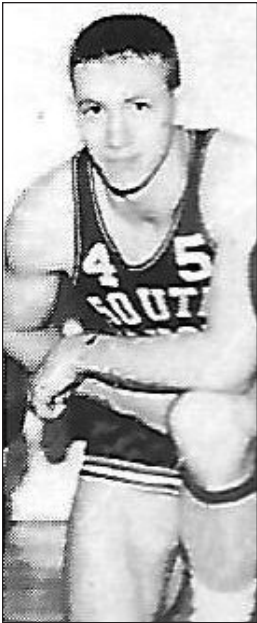
# Elite Defenders prove that Defense Wins

By Bob Swanhorst


**E**very basketball coach will sooner or later realize that it is defense that plays a major role in a team's success. Coaches develop team defensive schemes and practice them repeatedly. But if a coach can find that one defensive stopper to neutralize the opponent's main man, he has a difference maker in winning and losing night in and night out. The scorer will get the bold print headline and the stopper will get a sentence in the last paragraph of the article, but it's the defensive stopper who can really make a big difference.

There are and have been many good defensive players across the state, so the following is only a partial list of some of the best to play high school and collegiate basketball in South Dakota and the surrounding area. Please keep in mind that it is almost impossible to recall all the great defensive players and by no means should anyone consider the players mentioned as the best of the best, but they certainly are among them.


Defensive players must be competitors first and are referred to by various names, but "stopper", "defensive ace", "human eraser", "denier" and "fireman" are common. The tactics and strengths of defensive players vary as well. Some like to play the perimeter scorers and beat you with their footwork and never let you get that first step. Some like to get you with quick hands and disrupt all passes and dribbling. Others just plain get in your face and body up and rely on their strength. Some simply would deny you routes and never permit you to catch a pass from the person with the ball. In the lane defense could involve body angles and subtle holding



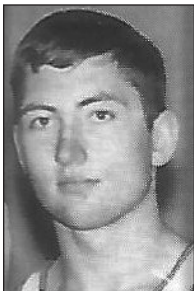
**Maury Haugland**



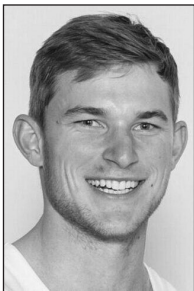
**Marv Rasmussen**



**Wayne Thue**



**Denny Womeldorf**



**Dylan LeBrun**

## Some Defensive Aces

Maury Haugland, 6-2, Center .....	Murdo 1954
Marv Rasmussen, 6-3, Forward .....	Claremont 1955
Wayne Thue, 6-0, Forward .....	Hayti 1960
Denny Womeldorf, 6-2, Guard .....	Wessington Springs 1966
Dylan LeBrun, 6-6, Guard .....	Flandreau 2018

onto the offensive player by never using the palm of his hand but the back of his hand to hold or guide the opponent which makes it much more difficult for an official to notice. Some had outstanding jumping ability and would erase any driver's run to the rim. The most exciting was that quick jumper who could time the shot and swat it away even though in most cases it still went back to the offensive team. The really good "eraser" developed the skill of blocking the shot toward a teammate rather than the big swat that slammed out-of-bounds. And, to be realistic, a little sarcastic and nasty chatter could be a mental weapon too.

**Maury Haugland:** A 1954 Murdo High School graduate, Maury chose to further his education and play for Coach Dwane Clodfelter and the USD Coyotes. Maury developed early and became a high school and later collegiate stopper. The popular March of Dimes doubleheaders in the '50s featured Ravinia and Murdo at the Corn Palace back in December of 1953. Dale Hall, a prolific scorer, was leading Ravinia with around 20 points at halftime. Lowell Bell, Murdo's coach, assigned Maury to guard Hall during the second half. He came through and Murdo won the game. In a February 1954 game against Parkston their big scorer was Jim Adkins. Again, Maury came through

# Elite Defenders prove that Defense Wins

and Murdo upended Parkston. Parkston ended the season as the Class "A" Tournament runner-up.

During the 1956-57 season Coach Jim Iverson's SDSU Jackrabbits and Coach Dwane Clodfelter's USD Coyotes tied for the North Central title with records of 11-1. That forced a play-off and the Huron Arena, capacity of 6,500, was chosen as the site for one of the most memorable and exciting collegiate games ever played in South Dakota. Jim Sutton, who averaged 19 points per game for the Jackrabbits that season, had seven field goals at halftime. Maury, coming off the bench late, held Sutton down to one field goal the second half and the Coyotes went on to win 78-70. Craig Stolze, writing for the Argus Leader, referred to Maury as "fireman" Maury Haugland. Although Jim Truelson, Coyote center, got the bold lettered headline scoring 29 points, Stolze gave three paragraphs to Maury for, "being a defensive whiz throughout."

Incidentally, the Huron Arena sold out their reserved seats in three hours. The Huron Chamber of Commerce, through Senator Carroll Fullerton, even invited and roped off 100 seats for the legislators in Pierre. Closed Circuit TV came into

play. Two Brookings theaters sold another 1,200 tickets and 2,000 more went to the old Barn to watch the game. It has always been a standard joke that you can't find a basketball fan from that era that will admit he/she didn't see the game in person or on Closed Circuit TV.

**Marv Rasmussen:** A 1955 graduate of Claremont High School, Marv played for the legendary football and basketball Coach Bill Welsh and chose Northern State University and Coach Bob Wachs for his college career. Wachs was reported to have said if Rasmussen learns to play defense he will be a great player. Since Marv averaged around 30 points per game his senior year at Claremont, Wachs was probably sending a message. It was well received. Marv was soon drawing the opponent's best offensive player and the old SDIC had plenty of those best players. Gayle Hoover, perhaps the best scorer ever at USF and even in the SDIC, was a prime target as was Elton Byre from DWU and many others. Marv developed those cat-like moves and was a tenacious stopper. His switch from an offensive to a defensive ace from Claremont to Northern worked well as Northern was 86-14 during Rasmussen's four years.

**Wayne Thue:** A 1960 graduate of Hayti High School, Thue became a Dakota Wesleyan Tiger. One can't talk defense during Coach Gordie Fosness's reign at Dakota Wesleyan without the name of Wayne Thue coming up. Thue, recruited by Coach Jim Borsheim, began his collegiate playing days at DWU, but it was interrupted by the passing of his father. After a year Thue re-enrolled and the new coach was Gordie Fosness. It became obvious to Thue that DWU had some really good offensive players and his strong suit would be as a stopper. He soon regained his position as a starter. Gary Nygaard, a big scorer at Northern, was a target for Thue. The legendary Mel Klein of Northern will attest to the fact that playing Wesleyan meant Thue would be on you closer than a noon shadow. Others that had to face Thue were Doug Matthaides from South Dakota School of Mines, Charley Tyler at Huron College and Larry Ortman at Southern. Being a premier "denier" must have worked well. Thue was a three-time all-SDIC and two-time all-NAIA District 12 player for DWU.

**Denny Womeldorf:** A 1966 Wessington Springs High School graduate, Womeldorf chose SDSU

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# Elite Defenders prove that Defense Wins

*Continued from Page 3*

for his collegiate career. He was soon regarded as one of the most ferocious defensive players in the North Central Conference. His own teammates related that he seemed to emanate a fear while on the court because somebody that day would be his opponent during one on one drills. His quick hands and constant harassment was not popular among NCC foes in games or with his teammates during practice drills. The fans, however, loved his style and play. Play by play announcer the late Norm Hilson took a fancy toward him and gave him the nickname “The Worm”. He scored over 1,000 points at SDSU and in his senior year averaged 19.1 points and was the North Central Conference MVP. He played on three championship teams and SDSU was 60-17 during his three years as a starter. His college coach, Jim Marking, knew his true value was as a “stopper”. After his sophomore season Coach Marking is quoted as saying Womeldorf “forced at least 225 turnovers by opposing guards.”

**Dylan LeBrun:** A 2018 graduate of Flandreau High School, Dylan chose Augustana University and Coach Tom Billeter for his college basketball career. His high school coach, Brendan Sheppard, had a good one in Dylan. He was not only a four-year starter but was one of a few South Dakota high school players to score over 2,000 points as he ended his career at 2,097. At

6-6 and 195 he was agile, an outstanding leaper and true competitor. His athletic tools and mental approach were very much apparent. It was evident that defense could well be his long suit. By his senior year, 2021-22, he was one of the best defenders in the NSIC and proved it game after game. Those players with 18 to 21 point scoring averages were his steady diet. Anthony Roberts (St. Cloud), Matt Cartwright (USF), Drew Blair (UMD) and Joe Smoldt (Upper Iowa) found that it was very tough to get to their scoring average against Dylan. Dylan could guard the perimeter as well as the lane and he had that quick jump to guard the rim as well. He was a definite “stopper”. Coach Billeter also found out that as long as Dylan’s man was in the game he wanted to stay on the floor with him. Again, it must have worked as Dylan was chosen NSIC Defensive Player of the Year. Augie ended as the overall team (two divisions in the NSIC) champion at 17-2 and played in the regional championship game, finishing the season at 26-4.

Time and space don’t allow specifics on all the great defenders, but here are some more that many South Dakota coaches and fans can readily recall:

**John and Mel Thomas, Jeff and Bob Wilber, Rick Nissen, Cregg Skarin, Jordan Dalton, Randy Leslie, Steve Krier, Garney Henley, Casey Schilling, Steve Hammer and John Ritterbusch.**

## Continue the journey with Fall Newsletter

We thank you, our readers, for joining us on the journey our newsletters take into the basketball history of our state.

The 2022 Fall Newsletter of the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame will be published in November. Among stories will be a look at what was surely one of the most physically dominant teams to ever step onto a high school court in the state.

It was a team that did not need to only rely on uncommon size and strength. It also possessed the ability to win by utilizing skill and finesse. But despite that talent it was a team that had to overcome obstacles on its path to glory.

Another story in what will be the

17th edition of the newsletter will relive a game in South Dakota in which four players combined to put on a dazzling scoring exhibition like none seen in the state either before or since.

Also featured will be a look back at a two-title town where there was ample cause for a once in a lifetime celebration.

These stories and others will be included in the newsletter to be published near Thanksgiving.

We strive to ensure that our newsletters reflect the diverse nature of our state. We have produced stories about players, coaches and teams from South Dakota’s largest cities as well as from some of its smallest towns.

Fifty-one different communities from across the state have been featured in our first 16 editions. Other stories have focused on historical aspects of the evolution of basketball in South Dakota.

Some of the state’s greatest teams and players have been profiled. And we have also written about some of the lesser known, but no less interesting, teams and players that time has largely forgotten.

It has been our pleasure to tell all of their stories. And we look forward to sharing more in the future.

Visit our website at [www.sdbbhof.com](http://www.sdbbhof.com) to read all back editions.

## 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](http://www.sdbbhof.com).

**Class of 2022:** Members of the Class of 2022 will be announced by the Hall of Fame later in May. They will be inducted during the organization's 12th annual banquet on Aug. 27 at the Ramkota Hotel in Sioux Falls. The inaugural Hall of Fame class was inducted March 27, 2010. Membership in the Hall of Fame now numbers 171.

**First Triples:** Who was the first player from each in-state school to be chosen all-North Central Conference three years? South Dakota State's first was Lemme Herting of Salem (1928-30). The first at the University of South Dakota was Steve Adkins of Parkston (1930-32). Augustana's first was Robert Harum of Sioux Falls (1947-49).

**20-Win Sisters:** Amy Williams coached the Nebraska Cornhusker women to a 24-9 record this season. Her sister, Emilee Thiesse, guided Minnesota State's Mavericks to a mark of 21-7. Both prepped at Spearfish. Their father, Tim Gusso, was a standout guard for Florence and Black Hills State. He coached at Madison and Spearfish.



*Sanford Photo*

**Film Tribute:** A documentary film on the life of SDBBHOF member SuAnne Big Crow premiered at the Santa Barbara (Calif.) Film Festival in March. The late Big Crow led Pine Ridge to the Class A title in 1989 and is remembered for her ability, leadership and character.

**G Leaguer:** Rookie forward Deng Geu saw action in 33 games this season for the Texas Legends of the NBA G League. The 6-foot-8 Geu prepped at Sioux Falls Washington and played college basketball for North Dakota State and North Texas.

**Ice Olympian:** Brock Faber was a defenseman on the U.S. hockey team in the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. He is from Maple Grove, Minn., and a sophomore at Minnesota. He is a grandson of SDBBHOF member Roger Faber, former Canistota star.

**Madison Scorer:** After 36 years Dakota State has a new women's career scoring record. Madison High graduate Jessi Giles, a DSU senior guard, finished with 1,955 points. The old record of 1,637 was set in 1986 by Julie Fiegen of Dell Rapids St. Mary.

**Mound Veteran:** Brett Anderson pitched for Milwaukee in 2021, his 13th season in the majors. Parents are Frank and Sandra (Sorenson) Anderson. His mother played basketball at Sioux Falls Washington. His father is pitching coach at Tennessee.

**Moving On:** If you are moving, and wish to continue receiving the Hall of Fame's free newsletter, be sure to notify us. Click on Viewpoint on our website and provide your name and new address. We will then update your information on our mailing list.

# S.D. values helped Black to Michigan HOF

By Greg Hansen

**T**he lure of home convinced Dick Black to leave Kansas State University and return to South Dakota to complete his collegiate basketball career.

Born in 1930 on a Lyman County farm not far from the banks of the Missouri River, Black showed athletic promise at an early age. He starred as a freshman en route to becoming a four-year standout at Reliance High School.

Black's all-around play for the Longhorns captured the attention of Kansas State coach Jack Gardner.

After averaged 25 points per game as a Reliance senior in 1949, a total especially impressive because of the low-scoring era, Black was faced with a daunting decision in regards to his future: Should he stay close to home and play at a school in South Dakota? Or should he leave the state and accept a major-college scholarship?

At that time Kansas State was building momentum that would soon make it a national power. Black considered his options and decided to join the Wildcats.

In the 1950 season, when Black was a freshman, Kansas State was Big Seven Conference tri-champion with Kansas and Nebraska. The following year the Wildcats, led by guard Jim Iverson of Platte, lost to Kentucky 68-58 in the 1951 NCAA Tournament title game.

By then Black had come home and was playing for the Coyotes of the University of South Dakota.

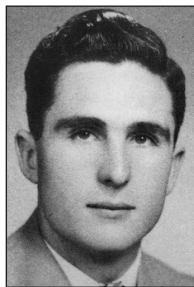
"I was a little homesick while I was at Kansas State," he remembers. "And there was a girlfriend back home."

That girlfriend was Chamberlain High School cheerleader Gloria Beaudin. The couple was married



*RHS Photo*

*Dick Black takes the ball to the basket for Reliance High School in 1949. At 5-foot-11 he played all positions for Reliance depending on the Longhorns' needs in a particular game.*



**Dick Black**

on Sept. 1, 1951, and today they live in Mancelona, Mich. Black is now 91 years old and he looks back with fondness on his formative years in South Dakota.

"Those were good days. The people in Reliance were good people," he says. "There

was a great support system there. Growing up we learned important values.

"When I was in grade school the coach of the high school team was Hank Sattler. I played for him when I was a freshman before he left coaching. He had a big influence on my life."

There were only 11 students in Black's graduating class. But despite the lack of numbers in such

***"I learned a lot of basketball from Tex Winter. The things I learned at Kansas State helped me a great deal later on when I became a coach."***

***- Reliance graduate Dick Black***



# S.D. values helped Black to Michigan HOF

a small school, Reliance earned the respect of its basketball opponents.

Black was 5-foot-11 and a prolific scorer for the Longhorns. In his senior season he netted a career-high 44 points in a victory over Fort Thompson.

"We had some good teams at Reliance," says Black. "But when we had good teams so did White River. They were always a little better."

Reliance was coached by Dale McKenzie in 1949 and was the undefeated champion of the Medicine Creek Conference. District 28 was held at Kennebec. The Longhorns entered the tournament with confidence.

But in the semifinals White River stopped Reliance 51-38. The Tigers, with guard Dave Strain, later a coaching legend at Rapid City Central, went on to finish fifth in the State Class B Tournament.

Black's teammates at Reliance included some outstanding players like Ben Husman, Richard Schoessler and Eddie Byre.

In the years after Black's graduation his career served as an example for younger players at Reliance. Longhorn all-time greats who followed Black were Byre's brother Elton (Class of '56), Larry King ('60) and Black's nephew Randy Fletcher ('65).

Baseball was also important to Black. During his college years he spent two summers playing for the Chamberlain Chiefs in the Basin League. He saw action in the outfield as well as at first base and third base.

Freshmen were not eligible for varsity basketball competition when Black arrived in Manhattan, Kan., in the fall of 1949. So he played on the Wildcats freshman team. His coach was Tex Winter, destined to be part of multiple NBA championships as an assistant to Phil Jackson with the Chicago Bulls and later the Los Angeles Lakers.

"I learned a lot of basketball from Tex Winter," says Black. "The things I learned at Kansas State helped me a great deal later on when I became a coach. We worked hard on fundamentals and player development."

After one semester on the Kansas State campus Black transferred to USD where he played for coaches George DeKlotz and Rube Hoy. He graduated in 1953 and accepted a faculty position at Java High School in the northern part of the state.

Black had been involved in the ROTC program at USD. After a year at Java he entered the U.S. Army. During his military service he befriended a fellow lieutenant who was a Michigan native and had attended Lakeview High School in the Detroit suburb



*Black Family Photo*

*Lakeview High School in Michigan showed its appreciation to Dick Black by naming its sports facility in his honor. He spent 37 years at LHS and is pictured at the Richard D. Black Athletic Complex.*

of St. Clair Shores.

"When I was leaving the Army he told me Lakeview was looking for a coach. He encouraged me to apply," says Black. "That's how I ended up in Michigan."

Black became an institution at Lakeview, spending 37 years at the school before retiring in 1993. He was basketball coach of the Huskies for 27 of those years.

During that time Black's teams compiled an overall record of 386-184 and won 11 conference championships. Black was inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame in 1985.

Also the longtime Lakeview athletic director, Black's service was permanently immortalized when the school named its sports facility the Richard D. Black Athletic Complex.

The journey has been eventful since those early days at Reliance. Through all the years Black has steadfastly relied upon the values he acquired while growing up in that small town in central South Dakota.

- 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](http://www.sdbbhof.com)



# Canton product answered Call of the North

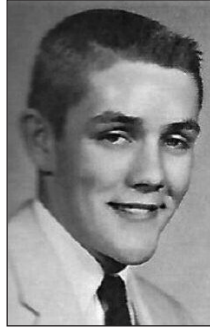
Gary Howard was a student of the game when he played basketball at Canton High School and the University of South Dakota.

After his collegiate career was completed Howard became a coach. His success in the profession came as no surprise to those who knew him. What was unexpected, however, was Howard's eventual coaching destination.

Growing up in Canton, Howard played as a sophomore and junior for Coach Burdell Coplan in both football and basketball. Coplan later stepped away from his basketball role but went on to lead C-Hawks football for 35 years, achieving a 228-82-9 record from 1955-89.

Howard spent his 1958 senior season in Minnesota. He made a distinct impression in the one year he lived in Brooten, before his family returned to South Dakota with a move to Mitchell. Howard was a standout in football and basketball for the Buccaneers and was Brooten's homecoming king.

While at USD the 6-foot Howard



**Gary Howard**

was recognized as a versatile guard with a smooth shooting stroke. At one stage of his senior season in 1962 he ranked among national leaders in free throw accuracy when he had made 31 of 34 attempts for 91 percent.

The Coyotes of Coach Dwane Clodfelter had a starting unit that included Howard and South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame members Roger Faber of Canistota and Jim Dyer of Willow Lake.

After graduation Howard coached at Centerville, about 20 miles from the USD campus in Vermillion. But it wasn't long until his career took him considerably farther north.

Brandon University is located in Brandon, Manitoba, Canada.

Howard was hired to lead the Bobcats basketball program in 1968. He was soon recognized as one of the country's brightest young coaches.

Howard's success during six seasons at Brandon drew the attention of the University of Calgary, a larger school with an enrollment of about 30,000 students in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

After he moved to Calgary in 1974, Howard and his Dinos were a force in the Canada West Conference. Howard guided the Dinos for 20 seasons and was named Coach of the Year in the Canada West in 1976, 1982, 1984, 1989 and 1992.

Howard's final season was 1995. Perhaps his best team at Calgary was in 1976 when the Dinos went 30-5 overall.

In retirement Howard has lived in Oliver, British Columbia, Canada. The endowed Gary Howard Scholarship continues to benefit the Calgary basketball program that he led for two decades.

# Help us identify state's Passing Legends

There are certain common characteristics which usually define the most efficient passers.

- They have a high basketball IQ. They understand where their teammates are at all times, and when it is most advantageous to deliver the ball to them.

- They have good court vision and are creative. They have a knack for making the type of pass their opponents do not expect, which often results in an easy basket for a teammate.

- They are unselfish. Their own number in the points column of a

boxscore means less to them than bringing out the best in others.

Points and rebounds were tabulated years before schools began recording assists. So the work of some of the state's finest passers was done in eras before an assist count could be attached to their names.

Throughout history the ranks of premier passers has not been the exclusive domain of ball-handling guards. Some of the cleverest passers have been versatile forwards and centers.

Who is the best passer you

have ever seen in our state? The South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame wants to know your opinion.

Go to our website at [www.sdbbhof.com](http://www.sdbbhof.com) and click on Viewpoint. List your name and email address. Then in the provided box tell us a bit about your memories of the best high school passer you have seen.

Your name will not be published, but we may use your comments in an upcoming story about South Dakota's greatest passers.

# In Solemn Remembrance and Tribute

**Earl Nebelsick**, 88, of Mitchell died Nov. 7, 2021. He graduated from Farmer, played basketball at Dakota Wesleyan and was a veteran of the U.S. Army. A teacher, coach and administrator, he served schools at Fulton; Emery; Hudson; Moorcroft, Wyo.; and Howard.

**Dick Gowen**, 86, of Rapid City died Nov. 12, 2021. A native of New Brunswick, N.J., he graduated from Rutgers. As president of Dakota State then South Dakota Mines, he oversaw their athletic departments.

**Baltus Fritzemeier**, 99, of Sioux Falls died Dec. 9, 2021. The Mt. Vernon native and DWU graduate played in the 1940 State Class B Tourney and served in the Army. He coached Sioux Falls Washington to the Class A title in 1971. He also coached at Ethan and Wagner.

**Randy Hinds**, 66, of Aberdeen died Dec. 17, 2021. An all-stater while playing at Aberdeen Roncalli, he was a graduate of the University of South Dakota. He was a longtime businessman in Aberdeen.

**Duane Rykhus**, 86, of Brookings died Dec. 25, 2021. He helped Brookings to the Class A state title in 1952 and was a standout athlete at South Dakota State. He coached at Balaton, Minn., and Brookings.

**Cliff Trump**, 84, of Goodyear, Ariz., died Jan. 6, 2022. As president he oversaw the construction of the Young Center that houses Black Hills State basketball. He was a graduate of Nebraska-Kearney.

**Terry Pexa**, 84, of Sioux Falls died Jan. 12, 2022. After graduating from Agar he continued his outstanding basketball career at Northern State. He coached at Cheyenne-Eagle Butte and was a Sioux Falls businessman.

**Dick Sabers**, 83, of Sioux Falls died Jan. 12, 2022. A longtime member of the South Dakota Supreme Court, he was a graduate of St. John's (Minn.) and an Army veteran. As a Salem St. Mary senior he led the outstanding 1956 Falcons in assists.

**Jack Richardson**, 92, of Coloma, Mich., died Jan. 16, 2022. The product of Parker was a basketball, football and track athlete at SDSU. He served in the Army and coached at Milbank, Yankton and Southern State.

**Greg Dean**, 58, of Pierre died Jan. 19, 2022. A broadcaster who covered Pierre athletics for KCCR Radio, he was a native of Wessington Springs and a graduate of SDSU.

**Jack Early**, 96, of Louisville, Ky., died Jan. 22, 2022. An avid supporter of college basketball, he served as DWU president from 1958-69. He was a native of Corbin, Ky., and graduate of Union College (Ky.).

**John Lintz**, 74, of Rapid City died Jan. 25, 2022. All-state at Rapid City Central, he went on to play at USD. He appeared in 15 consecutive state amateur tournaments for Rapid City Macy's.

**Dean Vik**, 78, of Eagan, Minn., died Feb. 4, 2022. He grew up in Cottonwood, Minn., and graduated from Mankato State. The U.S. Marine Corps veteran was a sportswriter who became an editor, including at the Yankton Press & Dakotan.

**Dan Barker**, 88, of Madison died Feb. 6, 2022. An outstanding athlete at Thomas, he graduated from General Beadle State. He coached basketball at Madison and was the Bulldogs athletic director.

**Dellas Cole**, 61, of Brookings died Feb. 20, 2022. For many years he was the voice of Brookings Bobcats sports on Brookings Radio. He was a native of Platte and graduate of SDSU.

**John Bruce**, 79, of Green Valley, Ariz., died March 3, 2022. An outstanding athlete at Milbank, he graduated from SDSU and coached at Cottonwood, Minn. He later led successful programs at Hayti and then Britton, where his Braves won the Class B title in 1972.

**Ralph Bich**, 90, of Cavour died March 7, 2022. He was a graduate of Yale, S.D., where he was an athletic standout for the Trojans in an era before all-state teams. He was an Army veteran.

**Charles Feeney**, 94, of Eagle, Idaho, died March 19, 2022. At Pierre he was a fine all-around athlete. A state champion in the 100 and 220, he later was a sprinter for Indiana in the Big Ten Conference and served in the Army.

**Steve Donnelly**, 62, of Rapid City died March 31, 2022. A graduate of St. Martin's Academy, he spent 30 years in journalism as a member of the sports staff of the Rapid City Journal.

**Jim Hein**, 77, of Arlington died April 10, 2022. He was an all-state player for De Smet who led the Bulldogs to third place in 1962 in the first State Class B Tournament ever played at what was then the new Sioux Falls Arena. He was an Army veteran.

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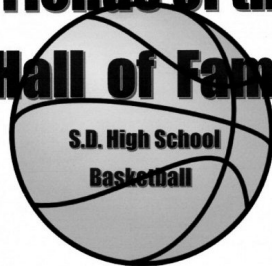
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## Friends of the Hall of Fame



### Inductees, Friends stand with HOF

The individuals, businesses and organizations recognized on this page are an integral part of the day-to-day operation of the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame.

Their generous financial gifts during the past year allows the Hall of Fame to continue to upgrade its presence at the Sanford Pentagon and to provide services such as this free newsletter. We thank each of our donors for your belief in our mission to preserve and honor our state's basketball heritage.

Fifty former greats who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame are included on this page. It is gratifying that they have chosen to demonstrate their support.

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.

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Welke; Harvey Hammrich; Gerald  
"Jerry" Jefferis; John Bruce

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Marv McCune; Bryan Brewer Jr.

#### IN RECOGNITION

Brent Kallestad in recognition of the  
1972 Miller Rustlers on the 50th  
anniversary of their magical season





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Sioux Falls, SD 57107



## Memory Lives On

This beautiful memory quilt, in honor of former Cheyenne Agency star Freddie Knife, was presented to the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame by Knife's nephew Ted Knife on behalf of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

The late Freddie Knife led the Braves to a 33-1 record and third place in the 1958 State Class B Tourney and to a 31-3 record and state title in 1959.

Considered one of South Dakota's greatest and most popular players, Knife was a uniquely skilled 6-foot-2 forward known for his ball handling and creative passing. He was inducted posthumously into the Hall of Fame in 2019. (SDBBHOF Photo)

