

2022 Fall Newsletter

The High School Basketball Coaches of S.D.

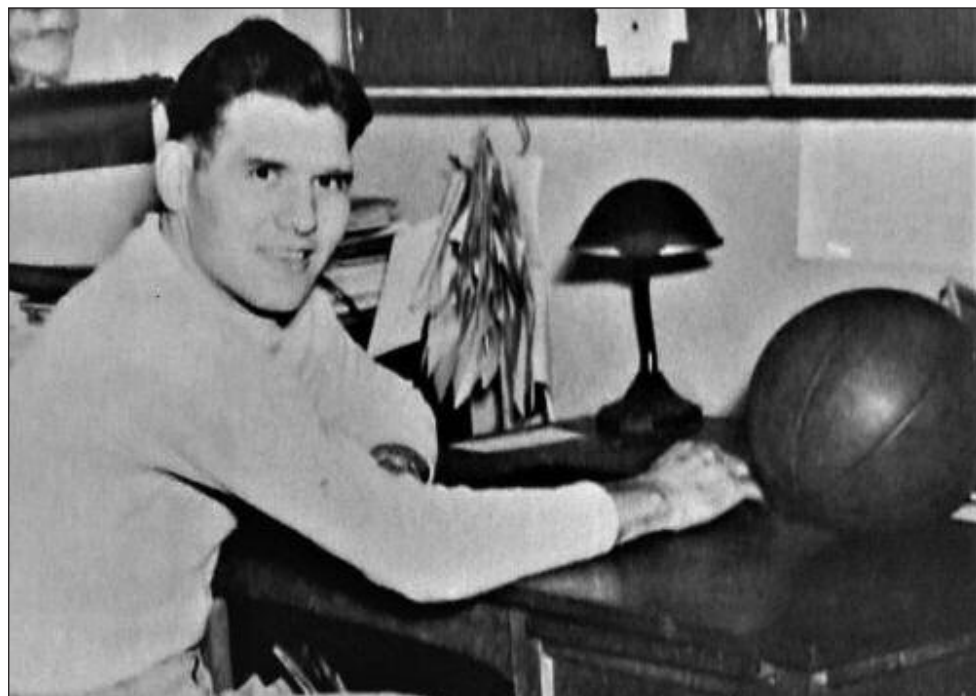
By Bob Swanhorst

When South Dakota held its first boys high school basketball tournament in 1912 the long list of who would coach the teams had its beginning. It has been growing ever since. High school girls enjoyed playing basketball but team support and sponsorship was sporadic and inconsistent. It took federal action and the passing of Title IX to permanently establish it as a sport across the nation. In 1975 the Federal Branch of government through the Department of Education issued the law. It basically said every educational institution that received federal financial assistance must file a document saying that they will uphold equal gender representation in sports.

Of course the boys enjoyed sports and had coaching for 63 years between 1912 and 1975. Having some 300 high schools meant there was a whole lot of demands for coaching during those years. With few other sports, if any, and a long winter season, basketball coaches played a prominent role in the school system and very likely in the community as well.

When South Dakota staged tournaments with a single winner all across the state it became quite apparent that the competition and notoriety of success made that high school basketball coach a hot commodity. The state was years away from the football playoffs and wrestling did not take hold until the late 1950s. The selection and hiring of a basketball coach, in most cases, fell on the school board and the superintendent. How each school prioritized a coach's value to the students and school district was and is open to a wide range of opinions.

A priority list surely will include winning and losing, how does the



WHS Photo
 George Houk sits at his Webster High School desk in 1948. He coached the Bearcats to Class B state championships in 1946, 1947 and 1948. Webster was 180-20 during Houk's career.

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coach project an image as a role model, what values are best projected by the coach, is there an obvious understanding and empathy towards teenagers, and is the coach certified and capable in teaching a given subject area.

Hundreds of coaches have emerged over the years in South Dakota high schools. It is not practical and nearly impossible for any single article to list all the outstanding coaches over the years. There are many that stand out and have met the test of time. Let's

highlight a coach who has met much of what is considered to be positive standards for the coaching profession.

George Houk was born in 1919 and attended Oldham High School. He lettered in all sports, but basketball was a favorite. He then attended Sioux Falls College (today's University of Sioux Falls) and lettered four years in basketball. He was an outstanding player while at Sioux Falls and in one of the last meetings between Sioux Falls and Augustana, before the modern era, he had scored 16 points to lead the scoring. Upon graduation in 1939 with a major in business administration and physical education, he began his post graduate year as a sales trainee at Morrell's in Sioux Falls. After a year he decided to try teaching and coaching.

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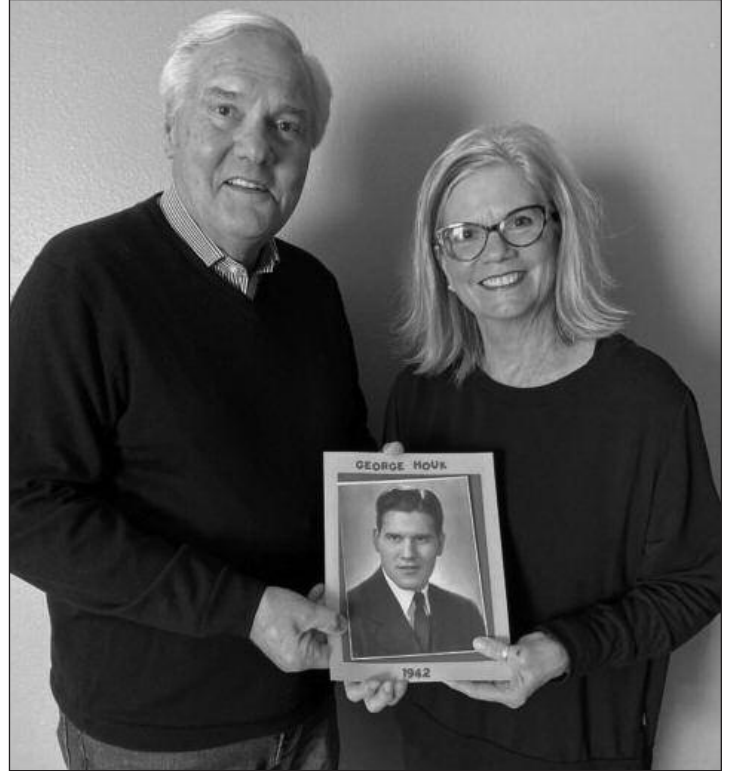
The High School Basketball Coaches of S.D.

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George secured a contract and arrived in Webster for the 1942-43 school year. He met and married Marion Deeble, a Webster native and a graduate of the University of Minnesota. The family grew over the years with children George Jr., Michael, and Barb. He coached all sports, but also laid the ground work for a basketball program that established South Dakota "firsts" in several areas that remain to this day. In the two class era Webster was and still is the only school to win three consecutive boys state titles in 1946, '47, '48. They also just missed a fourth when Bob Aga of Madison hit a shot in the last seconds that gave his team a 30-28 victory over Webster in the championship game of 1945. Coach Houk would depart coaching in 1949 having coached an even 200 games while winning 180 and losing just 20 for a 90% winning pace.

Coach Houk's coaching style was what anyone raising young boys would hopefully envision. And yes, tough love was a big part of his coaching. Team meetings and traveling involves set times. Once while the team bus was leaving the parking lot Rodney Soyland, an outstanding player and athlete, arrived a hair late. The bus did not stop for Rodney as meeting times were meant to be respected by everyone. Curfew was also meant to be respected. One of Houk's centers was seen in front of a friend's (girl) house after curfew and a confrontation occurred. The player, Jim Dedrickson, asked what should I do? Go home was the response. Jim began to get in his car but the message was to walk and Coach Houk drove along side of Jim all the way to his house.

He believed that the real coaching should be done during the week and game time was for the players to perform and not the coach. His bench decorum never reflected many of today's antics. There was never any cursing or verbal abuse but fundamentals and conditioning were always a priority. Six players went on to become all-tournament players: Lefty Engebritson,



*SDBBHOF Photo
Sioux Falls residents Dr. Michael Houk and Barb (Houk) Brinker hold a photo of their late father, legendary Webster coach George Houk.*

Laurence Bedessem, Jim Delaney, Harvey Hanson (twice), Allen Paulson, and Rodney Soyland. Reserve all-tournament players were Gene Alwin and Ed Majeske. In later years during reunions and events they and their teammates all thanked Coach Houk for his discipline and guidance on how to become a better person and citizen.

One underlying and consistent philosophy of Coach Houk regarded an understanding of luck. When

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The High School Basketball Coaches of S.D.

basketball can often lead to winning or losing by a so-called lucky shot made or missed, Houk had none of it. An individual or team creates an environment that leads to that lucky shot or other circumstance in life. In 1945 Aga beat Webster with a last second shot because someone didn't block out or someone got outhustled. In the 1946 state tournament Lefty Engebretson beat Platte and Jim Iverson with a half-court shot with a disputed one second on the clock simultaneously going off with the ball leaving Lefty's hands. A great athlete was allowed to catch a pass from a teammate and score the winning basket.

After leaving coaching Houk operated the John Deere Dealership in Webster, and later served as sales manager for Investors Diversified Services in Watertown. His career continued as director of development at Augustana College.

He continued working even while in semi-retirement in Arizona until his passing in February of 2002. His wife, Marion, died in 2004. That 90% winning percentage also still stands today above anyone else who has at least coached 150 high school games. He was inducted into the South Dakota Sports Hall of Fame in 1987. It was the pinnacle of success for a South Dakota high school coach.

High school girls coaches have picked up the slack since 1975. Dawn Seiler at Aberdeen has coached for 37 years and has a 629-244 record. Right behind her is Rob Van Laecken at Parkston with a 595-244 record in 37 years. When Fred Tibbetts finished his career at Sioux Falls Roosevelt he had won .844% of his games and a 550-101 record. The ultimate representative in rising in the coaching level has to be Becky Hammon from Rapid City Stevens High School. Her career

includes NBA and WNBA coaching positions and recently her team, the Las Vegas Aces, won the WNBA championship to become that city's first major sports title winner.

The high school boys coaches have had some impressive careers too. Larry Luitjens at De Smet and Custer has won seven state titles and a 748-305 record in 47 years of coaching. Gayle Hoover at Parker has won .726% of his games in 37 years of coaching and has a record of 577-217. At least 60 boys coaches have won over three hundred games since 1912 in South Dakota. Aiding in the transition of young girls and boys into adulthood can be a challenge. The greatest satisfaction in life can be in helping others and that is what coaches have discovered as goals for and in their own lives.

(Thanks to Dr. Michael Houk and Barb (Houk) Brinker for their contributions to this story.)

50 Years ago Huron's towering Tigers ruled Class A

Envision a team with a front line that features a 7-footer at center flanked by forwards who stand 6-8 and 6-4. Size like that would be impressive today on a college team such as those in power conferences like the Big Ten or Atlantic Coast.

But it was a South Dakota high school team, 50 years ago, that put that unit on the court. Huron won the Class A state championship in 1973 behind 7-foot Brian Shanks, 6-8 Jim Stephens and 6-4 Harold Hill.

Bob Judson was coach. His Tigers encountered some obstacles in the regular season. But when the postseason arrived Huron was locked in.

The state tournament was held at the Sioux Falls Arena. A popular pre-tourney pick was Yankton,

which had won the Eastern South Dakota Conference with a 13-1 record in the league.

Somewhat under the radar was fellow ESD member Huron. But big performances by Hill and Shanks in the opening two games drove Huron to the threshold of a title.

In the quarterfinals Hill went for 24 points and Rick Long made three late free throws as the Tigers beat Rapid City Stevens 64-59. Shanks scored 25 points and blocked six shots in the semifinals as previously unbeaten Sioux Falls Washington fell 57-52.

The hero in the championship game was Stephens. Huron and Yankton were locked in a tie with :09 left when the Tigers got the ball to Stephens. He delivered the game winning basket.

With the 50-48 victory Huron finished 16-8, misleading based on how well the Tigers performed in the postseason. It was Huron's first state title since 1958.

Shanks was a junior who was chosen to the all-state first team. Hill was a second team selection. Hill and Stephens were seniors. The following season both made contributions on the collegiate level, Hill at Huron College and Stephens at South Dakota Mines.

Finishing his prep career in 1974, Shanks was again all-state first team. He set a Huron single-game record of 42 points and led ESD scoring with 25.5 points per game. Shanks began his college career at South Dakota State. He later transferred to Northern State and played for the Wolves.

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 often at www.sdbbhof.com.

Bobcat Strong: There are currently 185 members in the SDBBHOF. Which school is represented by the greatest number of players in the Hall of Fame? Brookings. Seven former Bobcats have been inducted. Schools with six members each are Sioux Falls Washington, Sisseton and Yankton. All inductees are listed on page 8.

Backboard Ace: The women's single season rebounding record at Purdue of the Big Ten Conference is 341 by Sam Ostarello in 2013. Her high single game was 19. The 6-2 forward totaled 901 rebounds, 873 points and 130 blocked shots during her Boilermakers career. Ostarello was Class A all-state for Stanley County in 2008 and 2009.

Straight Shooter: The SDGA men's senior match play tourney was won by Brad Buche in July at Hillcrest Golf & Country Club in Yankton. Buche was a basketball standout at Mitchell who scored 1,550 career points at Black Hills State from 1980-83. The Yellow Jacket career leader with 2,180 points is SDBBHOF member Kim Templeton of Miller.



Sanford Photo

Hoop Background: A distinguished member of the University of South Dakota School of Law faculty from 1984-2019, Frank Pommersheim was a basketball letterman at Colgate University (N.Y.) in 1963, 1964 and 1965. Colgate is a member of the Patriot League.

Lasting Tribute: On Aug. 13 the Fellowship of Christian Athletes office building in Sioux Falls was re-dedicated in memory of the late Gordon Fosness. A Presho native and star player and coach at Dakota Wesleyan, he was a longtime state director of the FCA.

Lone Star: A former Sioux Falls O'Gorman player, Nate Vogel, is coach of the Texas A&M International women's team in the Lone Star Conference. His Dustdevils were 18-11 last season. A&M International is an NCAA Division II school located in Laredo, Texas.

Popular Voice: Tom Nieman, a longtime Midco Sports broadcaster, led Huron to a 17-7 record as a senior guard in 1986. That season he was a finalist for South Dakota Mr. Basketball.

Badger Leader: In seven seasons spent as an assistant coach Joe Krabbenhoft helped Wisconsin achieve an overall record of 151-83. The SDBBHOF member who prepped at Sioux Falls Roosevelt was promoted to Badgers associate head coach on June 13.

Delivering Data: Please stop by the Hall of Fame kiosk the next time you visit the Pentagon in Sioux Falls. It is conveniently mounted on a wall near the northwest entry door. The touchscreen kiosk is available to the public and offers a wealth of data about the Hall of Fame and South Dakota basketball history.
Photo on back page

A Lesson about the Importance of the Game

By Greg Hansen

Among the more influential figures in early South Dakota basketball history was Lemuel “Lemme” Herting.

By the mid-1930s he had already led Salem High School to third place in the National Interscholastic Tournament, starred at South Dakota State, coached at Bryant and Milbank, and returned to his collegiate alma mater to coach the Jackrabbits.

Herting had moved west and was coach at South Dakota Mines when the *Rapid City Journal* interviewed him for a story the newspaper published in January of 1939.

Considering the proud tradition of Mines basketball -- and the many successes of the Hardrockers in the South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference, the Dakota Athletic Conference, and now the Rocky Mountain Conference -- it is hard to imagine the dilemma of 1939.

The *Journal* story explained how Herting was reluctantly planning to approach Mines president Joseph Connolly and the school’s athletic committee. His intent was to discuss the possibility of discontinuing basketball as an intercollegiate sport at Mines.

Herting cited an overall lack of involvement. He said it was common for only four or five players to report for practice and that on some days there were just two or three.

Basketball was extremely important to Herting. He was a Salem mainstay as the Cubs achieved a 41-1 record in 1926 and made a strong statement about the quality of play in South Dakota during the National Interscholastic Tournament in Chicago.

Herting then in 1928-30 became the first player in South Dakota State history to be named to the all-North Central Conference team three years.

So in those trying days in 1939 he was determined to defend the sport he loved.

Herting told the *Journal* that he believed athletics could and should be a vital part of a well-rounded educational experience. He said, “It is my idea that there are some things of importance in a school besides just studies.”

Football was also meaningful to Herting. He had earned three letters at South Dakota State while playing end. And just three months before he spoke to the *Journal* about the Mines basketball situation, Herting had coached the Hardrockers to the 1938 football championship in the SDIC.

Mines weathered the storm, of course, and built its basketball program into one respected throughout the region.

Through the years the Hardrockers have excelled, often

featuring former South Dakota prep standouts such as Jim Lanphere (Rapid City), Bruce Bad Moccasin (Pierre), Jim Konst (Huron), Doug Schlepp (Java), John Magbuhat (Douglas), Steve Wilcox (Lead), Derek Knapp (Rapid City Central) and current junior guard Alejandro Rama (Red Cloud).

The lack of numbers experienced by Mines in 1939 was not entirely unique during that era. Other teams probably dealt with similar issues. Dedicated coaches like Herting were instrumental in overcoming that crisis and creating the momentum that has allowed basketball to become the popular, positive force it is today.

Herting went on to coach at Worthington State Junior College (Minn.). He was a retired U.S. Army officer at the time of his death in Los Angeles on Aug. 16, 1958.

Relive a Town’s joy on reaching the “B” for the first time in Spring Newsletter

During the two class era the State Class B Tournament was a coveted destination that all small schools strived to reach. But the journey was daunting. In 1949, for example, there were 267 teams in Class B. Only eight can eventually arrive at the state tournament.

The odds were long. But that contributed to the excitement and anticipation. And when a school succeeded in reaching the “B” it was reason for the entire town to celebrate.

The South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame will publish its 2023 Spring Newsletter in May. A featured story will look back to the 1950s and reflect on how one very small town rejoiced when its team qualified for the state tournament for the first time in school history.

Another story will examine a single game, which perhaps more than any other, helped girls basketball gain the widespread interest and acclaim that it deserved.

In a previous newsletter the Hall of Fame asked its readers to tell us about the best passers they have seen. We received a number of responses. Mentioned players came from several decades and from schools large and small. Read about them in the upcoming 2023 Spring Newsletter.

You are now reading the 17th edition of our newsletter. Visit our website at www.sdbbhof.com to access all previous editions.

Howard: Basketball Capital of S.D. in '56

By Justice Forster

Howard has seen its share of basketball success in its history, with two Class B championship victories for the boys team (including a 28-0 record in 1964) as well as a championship victory and another appearance for the girls team. But those stats don't tell the whole story. In 1956, Howard made history with not one, but two state basketball championships, one for the Tigers and another for the St. Agatha Agates.

During a powerful 1956 season for St. Agatha under coach E.J. Simpson, they repeated as "Little 4" champions, defeating Salem St. Mary 67-42 and Dell Rapids St. Mary 63-41, followed by tourney wins against Marshall and St. Adrian. The Catholic state championship undoubtedly favored the Agates, who swooped to a 78-63 victory over Salem St. Mary for a 28-2 documented record.

For the Howard Tigers and coach Ron Freemole, the regular season went particularly well against its Miner County Little Hickory Conference rivals, downing Canova 69-55, Carthage 69-49, Fedora 79-52 and Winfred 75-56. Overall, the



HHS Photo

Howard 1956, from left, standing, Dave Cowden, Lewayne Erickson, Maynard Stock, Ward Stenslokken, Ron Truman, Bruce Gillam, Vic Graham, Ronnie Merriman, Ron Mette, Danny Hylland, Jim Gudahl, Dick Truman. Kneeling, coach Ron Freemole. The Tigers were 31-4.

team finished the regular season with a 21-3 record. Advancing to the Little Hickory Tournament, Howard finished with a 3-1 record, losing only to Canova (65-66) and advancing to the district tournament, where it won closely contested matches against Ramona 61-58 and Winfred 65-63.

After two more victories in the regional tournament and an accompanying advance to the State B Tournament, Howard defeated

De Smet in the quarterfinals 62-55, followed by a semifinal victory over Menno 79-61, propelling them to the championship against the Cresbard Comets. In that game, a 67-60 win handed the Tigers a 31-4 record and their first championship.

They also set two records (and contributed to two more) over the course of the three-day tournament. The 208 points scored in the three tournament games by the Tigers set

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Foursome combined for 150 in epic Shootout

Four players, all former South Dakota high school stars, combined to score an incredible 150 points in a single game at the Corn Palace on Jan. 13, 1968.

That night Black Hills State battled Dakota Wesleyan in a South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference matchup that produced a scoring spree unlike any before in state history.

Wesleyan senior Tom Billars filled the marquee role in the classic shootout. The 6-foot-5

forward from Stickney erupted for 53 points. That was a single-game collegiate state record at the time.

Black Hills freshman Marty Waukazoo nearly kept pace. The 6-3 product of Rapid City notched 43 points to lead the Yellow Jackets.

Without the benefit of any 3-point goals, which did not exist at the time, Billars and Waukazoo scorched the nets with 96 points between them.

Wesleyan won the game 126-105.

Impressive supporting roles were played that night by the Tigers' Randy Fletcher of Reliance and Black Hills' Norm Nowell of Custer.

Fletcher scored 25 points, giving he and Billars a combined 78 for Wesleyan. Nowell had 29 points, boosting the contribution of he and Waukazoo to a combined 72 for the Yellow Jackets.

By halftime Billars had already

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Howard: Basketball Capital of S.D. in '56

Continued from Page 6

a record, as well as the 67 points in their final win, which eclipsed the 56 scored by White River the year prior. The two other records set involved the total points scored in the championship game (127) and total points scored by all teams in the tournament (894).

The reception back home was ecstatic. According to a March 12th report in the *Argus-Leader*, 135 cars formed a caravan to greet the returning Tigers, meeting them to the west of Howard near Vilas and escorting them back to town with horns blaring. Upon arriving in town, the caravan stopped at the St. Agatha auditorium, where an estimated 900 fans gathered to attend a ceremony to celebrate both teams.

Rev. Henry Kolbeck of St. Agatha addressed the audience first, focusing on the sheer significance of what the teams had accomplished: "The thing that makes this so impressive is not just the fact that we have two state champions but that those two teams won 62 of the 68 games they have played this season."

Kolbeck also pointed out the



SAHS Photo

St. Agatha 1956, from left, front, Jim Lauer, Bill Wolf, Den Miller, Joe Shannon, Al Peschong, Mel Miller, Eugene Noonan. Back, manager Henry Mohr, Jim Burns, LeRoy Noonan, Paul McAdaragh, Ron Stratman, Orville Barringer, coach E.J. Simpson. The Agates were 28-2.

handicaps that were overcome by both teams, mentioning remarks from fans at the championship centered around the free throw ability of the teams and how they must have spent most of their time practicing. In reality, "not one minute was ever taken by either team during school hours to practice basketball," Kolbeck said, adding that "it's wonderful to win but it's better to win with honor."

The players were not the only

ones to take the spotlight. Following remarks from Howard Supt. Harris, Northern State athletic director Swisher, coaches, players, and several others, Sid Davison, editor of the *Miner County Pioneer*, declared the coaches "co-mayors" of Howard. That night, E. J. Simpson and Ron Freemole experienced not only the joy of winning state championships, they reigned as the co-mayors of the basketball capital of South Dakota.

Foursome combined for 150 in epic Shootout

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notched 33 points. He delivered 20 more in the second half for the Tigers. He also grabbed 23 rebounds.

Wesleyan went on to win the SDIC championship that season with an 11-1 record in the league. Overall the Tigers finished 20-5.

Billars had graduated from Stickney in 1964. He was a four-year starter for the Raiders and also saw some varsity action as an eighth-grader. He averaged 23

points per game as a senior and finished his prep career with 1,262 points. His high single game for Stickney was 41 points.

Waukazoo was a 1967 graduate of Rapid City. He averaged 23 points per game as a senior and that season he totaled 79 points in the State Class A Tournament. Waukazoo was named tourney MVP as the Cobblers finished second, losing to Milbank in the championship game. His high single game as a prep was 40 points.

Billars and Fletcher, who was a junior, both represented Wesleyan on the all-SDIC team at the end of the 1968 season. So did their sophomore teammate Lloyd Piggee. Joining the three Tigers on the first team were Jim Schlekeway, a Northern State senior, and South Dakota Mines sophomore Dave Jackson.

That marked the third appearance of Billars on the all-SDIC team. He concluded his Wesleyan career with 1,436 points.

Hall of Fame Members



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, Prescho '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

Renae 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

Marty Waukazoo, Rapid City '67

Chuck Welke Jr., Warner '94

2014: Rich Andrzejewski, Arlington '69

Dick Authier, Woonsocket '67

G.E. Buenning, 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 Sr., 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

2022: Jeff Booher, Brookings '88

Sherri Brende, Baltic '97

Laurie Bruns-Kruse, Lennox '87

Bernard Duffy, Fort Pierre '47

Delbert Gillam, Argonne '53

Gordie Groos, Sisseton '66

Dawn Hull-Zahn, Sisseton '92

Lisa Kannegieter-Bahe, Willow Lake '90

Matt Martin, Spearfish '04

Clyde Olsen, Plankinton '56

Tom Rops, Lennox '92

Milton Sorenson, Wakonda '53

Wayne Thue, Hayti '60

Harley Zephier Jr., Roncalli '75

To read bios go to www.sdbbhof.com

Hall of Fame inducts 14 in Class of 2022

The South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame welcomed 14 new members during its 12th annual banquet on Aug. 27.

Members of the Class of 2022 were inducted at the Ramkota Hotel in Sioux Falls. A crowd of more than 400 attended the ceremony.

There are now 185 members in the Hall of Fame. The board of directors is currently in the process of selecting next year's class. They will be inducted at a banquet in August of 2023.

The Class of 2022:

Jeff Booher, Lincoln, Neb. (Brookings 1988): Brookings was 53-15 in Booher's three seasons and won the Class AA state title in 1987. He was Naismith Player of the Year in South Dakota as a senior.

Sherri Brende, Iowa City, Iowa (Baltic 1997): Miss Basketball and USA Today Player of the Year in South Dakota as a senior, Brende led Baltic to Class B state titles in 1995 and 1996. She had 1,886 career points.

Laurie Bruns-Kruse, Lennox (Lennox 1987): At the time of her graduation Kruse held Lennox career records in scoring with 1,073 points and in rebounding with 633 rebounds.

Bernard Duffy (Fort Pierre 1947): The late Duffy led Fort Pierre to a three-year record of 64-7 and the first two district titles in school history. The Buffaloes won District 16 in 1946 and 1947.

Delbert Gillam (Argonne 1953): The late Gillam averaged 26 points per game as a senior at Argonne. He set the state single game scoring record of 72 points in a game against Canova.

Gordie Groos, Sisseton (Sisseton 1966): Groos helped Sisseton to a 23-2 record as a junior. Then as a senior he averaged 20 points and 17 rebounds per game while shooting 59 percent from the field.



John Simko Photo

The Class of 2022 is pictured during the banquet held Aug. 27 in Sioux Falls. From left, front row, Eunice Gillam representing the late Delbert Gillam, Clyde Olsen, Tom Rops, Laurie Bruns-Kruse and Dawn Hull-Zahn. Back row, Sherri Brende, Gene Vognild representing the late Milton Sorenson, Lisa Kannegieter-Bahe, Gordie Groos, Matt Martin, Jeff Booher, Harley Zephier Jr., John Duffy representing the late Bernard Duffy and Wayne Thue.

Dawn Hull-Zahn, Sioux Falls (Sisseton 1992): A 1,267 point career scorer, Zahn led Sisseton to the Class A state title in 1990. She averaged 22 points per game as both a junior and senior.

Lisa Kannegieter-Bahe, Brookings (Willow Lake 1990): Bahe was Miss Basketball and Gatorade Player of the Year in South Dakota as a senior at Willow Lake, where she had 1,303 career points.

Matt Martin, Sioux Falls (Spearfish 2004): Martin was all-state three years and led Spearfish to the Class AA state title in 2002. He had 1,602 career points and was Gatorade Player of the Year in South Dakota in 2004.

Clyde Olsen, Plankinton (Plankinton 1956): Plankinton finished fourth in the Class B state tourney in 1956 as Olsen totaled 84 points, including a record 40 in the semifinal round.

Tom Rops, Luverne, Minn. (Lennox 1992): Rops and the Orioles

won the Class A state title in 1991 and finished unbeaten at 24-0. Custer topped Lennox in the title game in 1992 despite 30 points from Rops.

Milton Sorenson (Wakonda 1953): The late Sorenson joined the Wakonda varsity as an eighth-grader and went on to score 2,480 career points, one of the top totals in state history.

Wayne Thue, Hayti (Hayti 1960): Thue led Hayti to a No. 1 ranking in the Class B poll and a 28-2 record in 1960. A defensive stalwart, he helped the Redbirds go 47-6 in his final two seasons.

Harley Zephier Jr., Dupree (Roncalli 1975): Zephier made his third appearance on an all-state team in 1975 when Roncalli won the Class A state title. He averaged double figures in each of his four seasons, including 28 points per game as a junior at Northwestern.

• Read complete bios at www.sdbbhof.com

In Solemn Remembrance and Tribute

Willis Mehlhaff, 91, of Aberdeen died Nov. 17, 2021. He was all-tourney as Eureka finished second in the State Class B Tournament in both 1947 and 1948. Later he played at Northern State, served in the U.S. Army and was a banker in Eureka for 35 years.

Tim Mulhair, 67, of Yankton died April 23, 2022. An all-state player at Sioux Falls O'Gorman, he went on to score 1,420 career points at Northern. During his time in education he served at O'Gorman, Highmore, Todd County, Yankton and Mount Marty.

John Bertolero, 84, of Hamilton, Mont., died May 2, 2022. While at Lead he set a Black Hills Conference record with a 46-point game. The SDBBHOF member played at the University of Wyoming.

Carrol Allen, 87, of Grinnell, Kan., died May 3, 2022. The graduate of Lake Andes coached baseball and basketball and was a referee and umpire. He was among the state's longtime baseball greats.

Gale Lundberg, 82, of Clear Lake died May 5, 2022. He was a graduate of Revillo and General Beadle State. He coached at Waverly, Clear Lake and Deuel, guiding Clear Lake to the Class B girls state title in 1976.

Marc Rhoades, 82, of Luverne, Minn., died May 18, 2022. After playing basketball at Yankton he graduated from the University of South Dakota and served in the U.S. Navy. An orthopedic surgeon at Yankton and team doctor for YHS, he was a pioneer in the field of athletic training.

Jan Buri, 67, of Brandon died June 22, 2022. A fine player at South Dakota School for the Deaf, he transferred to Hamlin and helped the Chargers win the Class B state championship in 1974.

Dave Linggren, 78, of Watertown died July 15, 2022. He helped Watertown to the Class A state title in 1959 and played at Northern. He served the Watertown School District in various positions for many years.

Ken Beringer, 90, of Vermillion died July 20, 2022. The graduate of Tyndall and Southern State taught and coached at Winner, Salem, Lennox and Vermillion. He officiated basketball and football for 35 years.

Terry Cuny, 61, of Helena, Mont., died July 23, 2022. As an all-state point guard he led Rapid City Central to the 1980 Class A state championship.

Penny Hammrich, 58, of Philadelphia died Aug. 11, 2022. All-state at Watertown, she then played at South Dakota State. She was recently Dean of the Education Department at Drexel University (Pa.).

Larry Ingalls, 85, of Webster died Aug. 17, 2022. He was White River captain as the Tigers won the Class B basketball title in 1955. A record setting pole vaulter at SDSU, he went on to a long journalism career.

Angela Heinz, 24, of Rapid City died Aug. 20, 2022. A standout athlete at Ipswich, she played basketball and was a six-year performer in track. In college she was a sprinter for SDSU.

Joe Lamb, 90, of Onida died Aug. 21, 2022. An outstanding athlete at Onida, he was a longtime businessman and was patriarch of a family whose members represented Onida and Sully Buttes on numerous all-state basketball teams.

Dale Brooks, 81, of Sturgis died Aug. 25, 2022. After a fine career at Philip he played at Huron College and Black Hills State. He coached at Martin and then at Sturgis for 23 years.

Ron Kortemeyer, 69, of Rapid City died Sept. 10, 2022. He helped Lennox to second in the 1971 Class B Tournament. A football and track standout at SDSU, he was a longtime Good Samaritan Society executive.

Jim Sopoci, 89, of Mitchell died Sept. 13, 2022. He helped Tripp to the consolation title in the 1950 "B" tournament and then played at Southern. The Army veteran was a longtime Mitchell principal.

Randy DeWolf, 77, of Burke died Sept. 30, 2022. After excelling as an athlete at Highmore, he graduated from Southern. He coached several sports at Burke with his 1973 basketball team ranked No. 2 in Class B. He also was a respected official.

Bob Lager, 82, of Miller died Oct. 12, 2022. An outstanding basketball, football and track athlete at Fedora, he attended Dakota Wesleyan and was a banker in Miller for 40 years.

Mark Senftner, 60, of Onida died Oct. 15, 2022. The McLaughlin and Northern product was a successful football and basketball coach. He guided Sully Buttes to Class B girls state titles in 2007, 2008, 2016 and 2017 while winning more than 500 career games.

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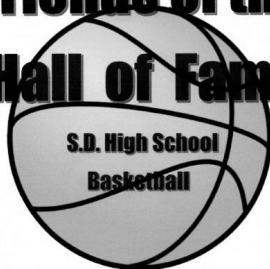
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