

## 2210 W. Pentagon Place • Sioux Falls, SD 57107 (605) 467-3010 • www.sdbbhof.com



### **2023 Spring Newsletter**

# Trip to 'B' had Forestburg aglow in 1958

#### By LaMoine Torgerson

t was March 1st, 1958, and a very cold wintery night. We were going up against the Chamberlain Cubs for the Region 6 basketball championship and a berth in the State Class B Tournament in Aberdeen. Despite the weather the World's Only Corn Palace in Mitchell was packed with fans.

Our Forestburg Buccaneers had earned their way to the region finals by easily beating Woonsocket in the district finals and then overpowering Ethan in the first game of the region.

The Buccaneer players and fans were on Cloud 9 as Forestburg had never made it to the State 'B.' It was a dream of every high school basketball player to one day have the opportunity to play in the state tournament.

We knew we had a big challenge ahead of us going up against Chamberlain. It was sort of like the David vs. Goliath Myth. Chamberlain was a town of over 2,000 people with 200-plus kids in high school while Forestburg had a population of 124 (which maybe included a couple dogs and a few cats) and only 39 kids in high school.

Both teams were rated high in the media poll with Chamberlain expected to win. We were coached by the legendary Q.C. Miles, who had just previously in 1955 led Gann Valley to its first state tournament.

The game turned into a defensive battle but we were quite determined to overcome the Curtis Wait and John Sorenson led Chamberlain Cubs and we came out the winner by beating them 42 to 34.



FHS Photo

Forestburg High School's starting five packed their gear into the trunk of Coach Q.C. Miles' car in 1958 for the trip to Aberdeen and the school's first State Class B Tournament. From left were Ron Brakke, Miles, Dick Goudy, Fred Zoss, Dick Baysinger and LaMoine Torgerson.

### In this Issue:

Epic Showdown3
Upset in '494-5
Triple OT Drama7

We were headed to the State 'B' and our players and fans were ecstatic. We were going to state for the first time in school history.

Most of us did not even know how to get to Aberdeen as the farthest we had been from Forestburg was the 25 miles to either Huron or Mitchell.

The Chamberlain fans were devastated and thought they had

gotten upset (We didn't). They had tickets purchased and rooms reserved assuming the small town of Forestburg would not be a challenge.

One of the Chamberlain cheerleaders later in life became a nurse in Mitchell and has become good friends with my wife and I. She jokingly (I think) said she never has liked me because her father would not let her go to the tourney since Chamberlain had gotten beat by Forestburg and she said I was responsible.

With our 10 players and Coach Miles we travelled to Aberdeen in two cars with each player toting a small "duffel" bag containing one uniform, Converse tennis shoes Continued on Page 2





# Trip to 'B' had Forestburg aglow in 1958

Continued from Page 1 and a jock strap. We checked into the Alonzo Ward Hotel which alone was an awesome eye opening experience for 10 small town kids.

We had the misfortune of drawing Freddie Knife and the Cheyenne Indians for our first game in the tournament at the Civic Arena. We had lost to Cheyenne earlier in the year by five points. In a close game throughout we again were defeated by five points.

In our second game in the tournament we lost another close game to a very good Clark team. We did come back to beat Deadwood 63-58 for seventh place. That settled our season record at 24-6.

Canistota won the tournament. The Hawks defeated Corona 49-47 in overtime in the championship game.

Dick Baysinger and myself were honored to make the alltournament team for Forestburg which was quite unusual to have two players from a seventh place team on this elite squad.

The trip home on Sunday was without much fanfare as compared to now days. There was no caravan of cars to meet us nor a police or fire truck to escort us

### A Look Back at what Life was like in '58

As the Forestburg Buccaneers were making their first trip to the state tourney this was happening in 1958:

- South Dakota government was directed by Gov. Joe Foss. The state's U.S. senators were Karl Mundt and Francis Case.
- In a U.S. Agriculture Department report, the average net yearly income earned by South Dakota farmers was \$3,214.
- For the price of \$1,985 a new Chevy sedan could be purchased at the Jay-Shon Chevrolet Dealership in Sioux Falls.
- Westerns dominated TV ratings. "Gunsmoke" starring James Arness was the year's highest rated show. "Wagon Train" was second.
- President Dwight Eisenhower informed the nation that Vice President Richard Nixon had the authority to decide when to become acting president if Eisenhower's poor health worsened.
- The New York Yankees beat the Milwaukee Braves in the World Series. Bob Turley, winning Game 7 pitcher, was voted MVP.
- Billboard's top song of the year was "At The Hop" by Danny & The Juniors. It topped the charts for seven straight weeks.
- College basketball's leading scorers were all-time greats Oscar Robertson, 35.1 points per game for Cincinnati; Elgin Baylor, 32.5 for Seattle; and Wilt Chamberlain, 30.1 for Kansas.

as our town did not have those services.

Everyone just seemed to blend back into their normal routines. Several players and some fans gathered at the local pool hall on Sunday afternoon to visit and reminisce about our historic weekend.

Needless to say it was an experience this 17-year-old small town kid will never forget! WE GOT TO PLAY IN THE STATE 'B.'

(LaMoine Torgerson graduated from Forestburg in 1959 as one of the leading scorers in South Dakota prep history with 2,381 points.)

## **Board of Directors**

Bob Swanhorst,
President
Mike Begeman,
Vice President
LaMoine Torgerson,
Treasurer
Wayne Thue,
Secretary

Lee Stoddard
Jesse Mendoza
Elton Byre
Tyrone Albers
Chad Bergan
Rob Van Laecken
Lynn Frederick
Bill Marquardt
Matt Ditmanson

Ralph Lindner Jim Drake Matt Martin

**Director of Media** Greg Hansen

 $\star$   $\star$   $\star$ 

**Executive Assistant**Mary Pennington

### To Contact Us

Executive Director
Dave Wagner
SDBBHOF
2210 W. Pentagon Place
Sioux Falls, SD 57107
(605) 467-3010
dlwagner@tnics.com





# Showdown aided Girls Basketball Trajectory

By Greg Hansen

Basketball fans across South Dakota anxiously awaited the result of a girls game played on the night of Nov. 7, 1980.

Two dynamic undefeated powers clashed in the gym of the old Washington High School in Sioux Falls. It was a marquee small town vs. big town showdown that had captured the attention of the entire state.

The Warriors, coached by the late Joe Lockwood, were 12-0 and the dominant force in Class A. Jefferson was the unquestioned elite of Class B. The Hawkettes were 16-0 under the late Fred Tibbetts.

When the final horn sounded Washington had prevailed 88-78. Ended was the state record 67-game winning streak of the Hawkettes.

The publicity and anticipation prior to tipoff, matched by the skill set displayed on the court, helped create a deeper and more widespread appreciation of girls basketball.

JoElle Byre was then a 5-foot-11 junior all-state center who turned in an explosive 40-point performance for the Warriors. She is now JoElle Benson.

"We knew going in that it was a big game," remembers Benson. "Two good teams with good players. People took notice. That game kind of helped girls basketball get to the next level."

The sport was in its early stages in South Dakota at that time. The first state tournaments had been held only five years earlier.

Benson set a sizzling pace from the field, going 17 of 22, as both teams shot exceptionally well. The Warriors made 57 percent of their attempts and Jefferson connected on 58 percent.

Mutual respect between state-championship caliber teams was an element of the game.

"The players on both teams knew each other from being together in summer basketball camps. So there was some history between us," says Benson.

"We were familiar with Coach Tibbetts from summer camps, too. He was someone who always promoted girls basketball."

The atmosphere was electric. Doors were closed well before the varsity tipoff when security determined the overflow crowd already on hand was all the gym could hold.

"We didn't really feel the pressure, though," says Benson. "We didn't realize it at the time but Coach Lockwood tried to take the pressure on himself and keep it off us. He just wanted us to go out and play hard and have fun."

A major factor in the final outcome was Washington's work on the backboards. Benson pulled down 18



JoElle (Byre) Benson

rebounds to power the Warriors to a decisive 53-25 advantage off the glass.

Senior guard Ann Pancoast scored 26 points to join Benson in double figures for Washington. Carla Kittler had 23, Amy Allard 22, Ellen Bernard 16 and Katie Dailey 10 for the Hawkettes.

"Both teams had a lot of different players who made important contributions during the game," says Benson.

A month later Washington won the State Class A Tournament to finish 23-0 while Jefferson earned its third consecutive state championship in Class B.

Four players in Washington's win over Jefferson were destined for

eventual induction into the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame: Benson and Pancoast of the Warriors and Allard and Dailey of the Hawkettes.

Each of those standouts had outstanding college careers. Benson starred at South Dakota State, Pancoast and Dailey at the University of South Dakota, and Allard at Creighton.

Forty-three years after it was played, the Washington vs. Jefferson game still stands as testimony to the quality of early girls basketball in South Dakota.

### The Box Score

Sioux Falls Washington 88, Jefferson 78

**Jefferson (16-1) --** Ellen Bernard 8 0-0 16; Amy Allard 9 4-9 22; Jolie Corder 1 0-3 2; Carla Kittler 11 1-2 23; Katie Dailey 5 0-1 10; Mary Bernard 2 1-2 5; Laurie Ryan 0 0-0 0. Totals: 36 6-17 78

**Washington (13-0) --** JoElle Byre 17 6-13 40; Lisa Sorenson 4 0-0 8; Patti Clausen 0 1-4 1; Ann Pancoast 12 2-3 26; Chris Ensberg 2 3-4 7; Lori Tweedt 0 1-2 1; Karla Modica 1 1-4 3; Kari Soyland 1 0-0 2. Totals: 37 14-30 88

Class B No. 1 Jefferson 18 34 58 78 Class A No. 1 Washington 23 43 64 88

Fouls: Jefferson 15, Washington 22. Fouled out: Corder.





# Remembering High School Basketball Upsets

#### By Bob Swanhorst

ily was a small town in Day County located south and west of Webster. As with so many small towns across South Dakota at the turn of the century prompted railroads promoted numerous towns to spring up along the way. A homesteader, Ross Parks, settled in Day County along with his sister, Lily. Parks had a post office already set up by 1883. That site was chosen by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company as a depot. Ross, serving as the area's postmaster, named the site Lily after his sister and a town was born. Soon, a spur railway from Bristol crossed the Chicago and Milwaukee at Lily and train traffic became an effective means of moving goods and people in the northeast area of South Dakota.

By 1905 six country schools in the vicinity were consolidated, and Lily was the home for the new school which had its first graduating class in 1915. The town's future looked up and a full time depot agent, Henry Grimes, was also employed around that time. A daughter, Margaret, from the Grimes family graduated in 1939 as part of Lily's largest class ever at 12. The story of Grimes and Lily basketball began at this point.

After graduation Margaret Grimes spent some time in New York and met a young man named William Tidmarsh. The meeting led a romance and William proposed marriage. Margaret had one huge condition; that being they must live in Lily. Since William was in a position to teach and coach the condition was easily met. What was probably not widely known at the time was the fact that William had a strong



LHS Photo

The 1949 Lily High School Wildcats, the champions of District 3, were, from left, sitting, Gaius Ausland, Wesley Knebel, Buzz Blair, Jerry Lynch and Clifford Clausen. Standing, Coach William Tidmarsh, Dick Schiley, Howard Frye, Ted Anderson, Jon Roseth and Gene Nygaard.

background in basketball.

Several trends seemed to be setting in with regards to the future of Lily. First the school numbers peaked after 1939. The numbers were never robust as there were only 301 students that graduated between the first class in 1915 and its closing in 1956. Second the basketball program at Lily had become an impressive factor in area basketball circles. This, in spite of the fact that the big neighbor to the north, Webster, was the dominant team in all of Class B circles. Third the days of the railroad were also diminishing, and Lily's population was not growing.

High school basketball in the northeast corner of the state was thriving by the 1948-49 season as never before. First Lily had to win their district tourney knowing that teams like Webster and Sisseton would probably be waiting in the regional. Webster was a three time defending state champion and favored again for a fourth

championship. Sisseton was always a very good team as well. Lily had a 13-1 record going into the district tourney. Their lone loss had been to Henry during the regular season. Twelve teams competed in District 3 and Lily came out winning the championship game over Vienna 35-34. They next entered the Region 1 Tourney, held at the Civic Arena in Aberdeen, facing the state's most dominant team, Webster. With only fourteen boys in high school they needed all hands on deck.

William Tidmarsh's starting five included two freshmen, Clifford (Sonny) Clausen Jr. and Jerry Lynch; one junior, Wesley Knebel; and two seniors, Buzz Blair and Gaius Ausland. The reserves were Dick Schiley, Howard Frye, Ted Anderson, Jon Roseth, and Gene Nygaard. Jim Anderson, originally from Lily and a Bristol graduate, gave this account:

"The Lily Wildcats were an underdog in every sense of





# Remembering High School Basketball Upsets

the word as they took the floor that afternoon. The Wildcats let the Bearcats know they had come to play as they jumped off to a 10-2 lead in the first quarter before Webster rallied to tie the game at 12-12. The lead seesawed back and forth and at the end of the third quarter, Webster led 25-22. Lilv regained the lead when it counted and as the game drew to a close, led 31-28. Webster managed one more bucket but the final score showed Lily 31 and Webster 30. One of the biggest upsets in local sports history had taken place." (1)

Lily failed to make the state tourney as they fell to Sisseton 52-40 in the regional championship game. The Tidmarsh team had not

### Your most memorable Upset? Let us Know

One doesn't have to watch basketball very long before that dreaded or welcomed upset will occur. South Dakota has had its share, and every fan has their own favorite or most unfavorable upset. The accompanying story relates a major upset from 1949 and hopefully you, our readers, will have one, too. You are invited to share your most memorable upset. Go to our www.sdbbhof.com website and click on Viewpoint. List your name and email address. Then tell us the involved teams, the year the game was played, and why it was considered an upset. Then hit Submit. We hope to hear from you.

only accomplished one of South Dakota's most unlikely upsets, but went on to lay the foundation for eight more outstanding years. The last three years they compiled a 68 won and 14 loss record. They also won district titles in 1950 and 1952.

Two of the accomplished players from the 1948-49 team went on to play at NSTC (today's Northern State University) during the Clark Swisher/Bob Wachs era. Buzz Blair coached at Conde and Doland while Wesley Knebel had a career in insurance. The story of the Lily upset has been written about by the late John Egan and recalled over the years by countless others. The memories of that game will assuredly remain well beyond the times.

(1) Jim Anderson

## Hammon, Lovley represent S.D. in National Halls

It has been an eventful year for Rapid City Stevens product Becky Hammon.

She guided the Las Vegas Aces to the WNBA championship last September and was named the league's Coach of the Year.

USA Today in March designated Hammon as one of the newspaper's Women of the Year. Then in April it was announced that Hammon has been elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Hammon will become the only South Dakotan inducted as an individual in the Naismith Hall of Fame which is located in Springfield, Mass. Induction ceremonies will in August.

The All-American Red Heads, a



**Becky Hammon** 

women's team formed in 1936 in Missouri that toured the country until 1986, was inducted as a team in 2012.

Many players saw action for the Red Heads at different stages

of the team's existence. Prominent among them was the late Allegra Winter of Parkston.

Hammon was Miss Basketball in South Dakota in 1994. She totaled 1,417 points at Stevens and then became a three year All-American at Colorado State. During her 16-year professional career Hammon was a six-time WNBA all-star.

The late Jimmy Lovley, like Hammon a member of the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame, is the state's only representative in the Helms Foundation Basketball Hall of Fame.

Lovley was inducted in 1957. He was a prep star at Elkton, graduating in 1920, and had a stalwart college career at Creighton.

South Dakota had a single class state tournament when Elkton won titles in 1919 and 1920.

Lovley then was an All-American at Creighton in 1923 and 1924.

During his Creighton career Lovley led the Bluejays to a combined overall record of 63-18.





## = 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.

**Skyscraper Trio:** A story in the sports pages of statewide newspapers on April 5, 1961, used the word "skyscrapers" to describe the three tallest Class A all-state players of the past three seasons. They were 6-7 Tom McGrann of Watertown in 1959, 6-9 Stan Payton of Rapid City in 1960 and 6-6 Tom Malchow of Aberdeen in 1961.

Coaching Stops: Becky Geyer was an all-stater as a prep at De Smet during the 1982 season and has served her high school alma mater as athletic director and as a coach. She has also coached women's basketball on the collegiate level at Trinity (Texas), Central Florida, Jacksonville State (Ala.) and the U.S. Naval Academy.

Glass Dominator: Webster was champion of the State Class A Tournament in 1966 behind the play of SDBBHOF member Clyde Hagen. The Bearcats topped Canton 56-47 in the tourney semifinals behind Hagen's 30 points. He also grabbed 21 rebounds while the entire C-Hawks team had 19. Webster then beat Aberdeen in the finals 51-38.



Sanford Photo

**Shocker Factor:** Wichita State 6-9 senior Isaiah Poor Bear-Chandler grew up on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota before moving to attend high school at Omaha Central. He played in 97 career games for the Shockers, who were 17-15 this season.

Worthy Interim: Frank Bohall of Wessington Springs was a four-year Northern State starter in an unusual way. He played in 1953 and 1954, then spent three years in the Army as an MP in Germany. He returned to Northern for the 1958 and 1959 seasons.

Freshman Phenom: Only a freshman, Maddyn Greenway surpassed 2,000 career points this season for Providence Academy in Plymouth, Minn. The daughter of SDBBHOF member Chad Greenway has played on the varsity for the Lions since the seventh grade.

Milbank Roots: A former Milbank Bulldog basketball player, Tom Patterson, who graduated in 1998, was a founder in 2008 of the Tommy John Company, a nationally known clothing line.

Legendary Pair: The careers of two of the most successful high school coaches in state boys and girls basketball history, Larry Luitjens and Fred Tibbetts, are featured in the South Dakota Public Broadcasting online digital sports series "South Dakota Almanac."

Passing Stars: The SDBBHOF asked its readers to tell us about the most creative passers they have seen. Responses continue to come in. So we will delay creating a story on the topic until our 2023 Fall Newsletter. Go to www.sdbbhof.com, click on Viewpoint and let us know which player you remember best for great passing ability.





# Title run in '66 featured Triple OT Drama

A capacity crowd at the Sioux Falls Arena on the afternoon of March 10, 1966, witnessed a rare triple overtime classic that ranks as one of the most unforgettable games in the history of state basketball tournaments.

Squaring off in the Class B quarterfinals were two outstanding teams, Parkston and Frederick, each led by a talented all-state center. One of those teams went on to win the tournament and the other claimed the consolation championship.

The *Argus Leader* published a project in 1992 that focused on the greatest games ever played in South Dakota. Readers were asked to submit their nominations.

Many fans from across the state responded. Games they mentioned went as far back as a low-scoring 1926 matchup in which Aberdeen outlasted Huron by the score of 5-2.

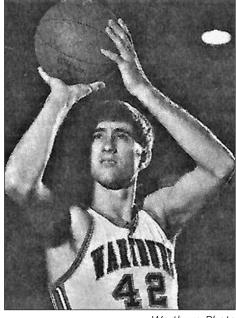
But the single game that drew the most responses from fans was Parkston vs. Frederick.

Parkston led 21-15 after one quarter. Frederick then dominated the next eight minutes, outscoring the Trojans by a 24-8 margin in the second period to open up a double-digit halftime lead at 39-29.

Frederick led by as many as 13 points at one stage of the second half. But the Trojans battled back.

With :32 left in regulation the Vikings still clung to a four-point lead. In that final half-minute two free throws apiece from Parkston players Allen Thury and Gerhardt (G.E.) Buenning gave the Trojans new life and sent the game into overtime tied at 58-58.

As the first overtime was drawing to a close it was Parkston which led by two points. Frederick center Lee Wilson was fouled with only :01 on the clock and he calmly sank two free throws to knot the score at 60-60.



Wartburg Photo Parkston product Gerhardt (G.E.) Buenning was an all-lowa Conference player three years for the Wartburg College Knights.

The second overtime ended 62-62.

In the third overtime Thury provided the final drama by converting two free throws with :15 left to give Parkston a thrilling 66-64 victory.

Buenning, a 6-foot-5 senior center, scored 34 points for the Trojans and Dan Heisinger added 17. Wilson, a 6-3 junior who would later become a star running back for Northern State University's football team, led Frederick with 28.

In the semifinal round Buenning came back with 25 points and Bruce Maxwell delivered 17 as the Trojans downed Bryant 57-42.

That game produced one of the most unusual moments in tourney history. During the third quarter a Bryant player became confused and shot at the wrong basket, scoring two points for Parkston.

Championship night sent the Trojans against Hayti. Terry Shelsta netted 28 points for the Redbirds of Coach John Bruce but Parkston prevailed 68-55 as tourney MVP Buenning notched 23 points.

Shelsta went on to an outstanding football career at Dakota Wesleyan University and then played several seasons in the offensive line for the Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League.

Parkston was coached by Ken Liveris and was ranked No. 2 in the regular season's final poll. The top rated team, Wessington Springs, had been upset by Woonsocket in District 23.

The Trojans finished 24-2 with Buenning averaging 22 points and 14 rebounds per game while shooting 60 percent from the field and 73 percent on free throws. Parkston's only losses came early in the season by two points against Menno and one point versus Scotland.

Buenning went on to become the leading scorer in the history of Wartburg College (lowa). He totaled 1,932 points for the Knights and was an NAIA All-American in 1969 and 1970. Buenning was inducted into the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame in 2014.

After its heartbreaking quarterfinal loss Frederick bounced back to claim the consolation trophy. The Vikings downed Scotland 63-45 and then in the fifth-place game beat Philip 50-43.

Frederick wound up with a 25-2 record as Wilson averaged 19 points and 17 rebounds per game. For the season he converted an incredible 68 percent of his attempts from the field.

Buenning led the tournament in scoring with 82 total points. Wilson and Terry Settje of Scotland were next with 70 each.

Earlier, in the District 22 finals at the Corn Palace, a 44-point effort from Buenning led Parkston past Alexandria.





## Senator Abourezk and Basketball at Wood HS

#### **By Bob Swanhorst**

Few South Dakotans connect Senator Jim Abourezk with high school basketball. In 1977 Abourezk, along with Senator George McGovern and at the urging by South Dakota State's SID Dave Martin, was largely responsible for sending a combination of SDSU and University of South Dakota players to Cuba on a goodwill tour. That appears to be the only time that basketball and Senator Abourezk were associated in a public account.

Several years ago the late Clarence DeWald, a rugged and outstanding basketball player from Hosmer, and I decided to visit Saana's 8th Street Gourmet in Sioux Falls. Saana was the wife of Senator Abourezk. Abourezk had a large "Regular's" table where he would entertain relatives and friends once every week and many times in between. We said hello and he invited us to sit down. He knew we had basketball backgrounds and he told us a basketball story from his days at Wood High School.

It seems the team from Wood, for various reasons, traveled only six players on extended mileage trips to away games. That meant if



Family Photo Senator Jim Abourezk was a graduate of South Dakota School of Mines and the University of South Dakota School of Law.

a regular fouled out, which rarely happened, there was only one sub available. Sure enough, on the occasion when it was Abourezk's turn to be the sixth man, early in the fourth quarter on a tight away game, a regular fouled out. Tension mounted as the 5-4 and stockybuilt Abourezk ran out on the floor.

Abourezk noticed an intense stare from the opposing coach as he stood ready for action. Slowly the coach walked over to the Wood coach and said something. Young Jim Abourezk quickly asked his coach, "What did he say?" He said: "Leave the other guy in."

Although his basketball aspirations were crushed on that cold night on the plains of the Rosebud, Senator Abourezk left his mark in the United States Congress. A USD Law School graduate, Abourezk served as a United States senator and United representative for one term each. He continuously took the side of underprivileged. Abourezk authored the 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act. which, although challenged, still stands today.

Several times over the years, I attended Senator Abourezk's speaking engagements. I made a point beforehand to remind him to tell his self-deprecating Wood basketball story. He would slyly nod and the audience always enjoyed it. Senator Jim Abourezk was born on the Rosebud on February 24, 1931, and passed away on February 24, 2023, at 92 years. Maybe that little basketball incident helped form his attitude in public life.

## Java, Lake Andes, Wagner girls cut down Nets in 1920s

Yearbooks from many high schools in South Dakota during the early stages of the 1900s contain photos of girls basketball teams.

The sport was obviously not as structured then as it is today. But there were some schools throughout the state that took the sport very seriously. Many were schools with small enrollments.

A state tournament to crown a single-class girls champion was held in South Dakota during three consecutive years in the mid-1920s.

The Java Panthers survived a scare from Rutland to win the title in 1924. That tournament was held at the Corn Palace in Mitchell.

A year later Lake Andes served as host of the state tournament. The home court treated the Eagles well

as Lake Andes emerged as champion.

The girls were back at the Corn Palace in 1926. This time the championship trophy was claimed by Wagner, a neighbor of Lake Andes in Charles Mix County.

A half-century later the first modern state tournaments were held in 1975 under a two-class system.

The Yankton Gazelles won the first Class A championship while Jefferson's Hawkettes earned the Class B title.

It was in 1985 that South Dakota made the switch to three classes. The first champions of the new era were Brookings in Class AA, Jefferson in Class A and Armour in Class B.

The switch from a fall to winter season for girls basketball was made in the 2002-03 school year.





## In Solemn Remembrance and Tribute

**Chris Anderson**, 77, of Spearfish died June 3, 2022. He received all-state recognition at Murdo and was a graduate of Black Hills State. He was superintendent at Lyman and Bennett County.

**Wayne McNaboe**, 77, of Williston, N.D., died Oct. 16, 2022. An all-state player at Iroquois, he graduated from Dakota State and was a teacher and counselor at Wessington; Poplar, Mont.; and Williston.

**Bob Salen**, 98, of Rapid City died Oct. 20, 2022. After graduating from Bedford, Iowa, his play helped Creighton win the Missouri Valley Conference title in 1943. He served in the Navv.

**John Odney**, 78, of Sioux Falls died Oct. 21, 2022. A fine player at Sioux Falls Washington and Augustana, where he played for his father Ole, he coached SFW for 13 seasons. He guided the Warriors to a Class A state title and 23-0 record in 1983.

**Pierre duCharme**, 79, of Dent, Minn., died Nov. 1, 2022. An all-around athlete at Barnesville, Minn., and North Dakota State, his basketball coaching positions included Aberdeen Central, Mayville State (N.D.) and Southwest State (Minn.).

**Larry Mechtenberg**, 79, of Slayton, Minn., died Nov. 8, 2022. He was an all-stater at Parkston who then played at Southern State. He coached at Tyler, Minn., and was a referee for 25 years.

**Lionel Bordeaux**, 82, of Mission died Nov. 16, 2022. The product of St. Francis Indian School, where he excelled at basketball, graduated from Black Hills and served as Sinte Gleska University president.

**Tom Orton**, 76, of Johns Creek, Ga., died Nov. 22, 2022. Following an all-state career at Madison, the SDBBHOF member attended Dakota State where he was a standout for the Trojans.

**Jimmy Plooster**, 30, of Sioux City, Iowa, died Nov. 27, 2022. A starter on White River's state title Class B basketball team in 2010, he was also all-conference in football for the Tigers.

**Jana Jones**, 63, of Philip died Jan. 1, 2023. She played at Wall and Black Hills, then became a pioneer among women basketball coaches in the state when she led boys teams at Midland and Philip.

**Glen Wessel**, 91, of Rapid City died Jan. 9, 2023. A native of Mobridge, he for many years was team pastor for Dakota Wesleyan basketball. He last served at First Wesleyan Church in Rapid City.

**Don Polovich**, 80, of Ruidoso, N.M., died Jan. 14, 2023. A gifted photographer for 36 years at the Rapid City Journal, he won many awards for his photos of basketball and other sports.

**Allen Kosters**, 77, of Sioux Falls died Jan. 19, 2023. He graduated from high school and college in Iowa, at Sioux Center and Northwestern. He was Sioux Falls Lincoln basketball coach from 1979-86.

**Bob Young**, 83, of Brandon died Jan. 25, 2023. A standout in basketball and football at Beresford, he played football at Sioux Falls College. He coached USF football for 22 seasons, going 172-69-3.

**Bob Pfeifer**, 92, of Sioux Falls died Feb. 24, 2023. The product of Sioux Falls Washington excelled in basketball. He was an Air Force veteran and a longtime businessman in Sioux Falls.

**Jack Billion**, 83, of Sioux Falls died Feb. 25, 2023. He was a graduate of Sioux Falls Cathedral and Loras College (Iowa). A veteran of the Air Force, he was a surgeon and former state legislator. A supporter of DWU, he often donated his services as a team doctor for the Tigers.

**David Paulson**, 86, of Park Rapids, Minn., died March 2, 2023. Hayti reached the "B" state tourney during each of his four years. He was the center as a 1955 senior on a team that took second.

**Leon Tobin**, 87, of Aberdeen died March 31, 2023. The longtime basketball official was a graduate of Waubay and Northern State. He spent 47 years in education, including as Warner superintendent, and was a former member of the SDBBHOF board of directors.

**Dave McCracken**, 82, of Rapid City died April 4, 2023. A graduate of Flandreau, he was all-North Central Conference three times at Augustana and was league MVP in 1963. He was a businessman in the Black Hills.

**Bob Schaefer**, 92, of Watertown died April 9, 2023. MVP of the Hamlin County Conference Tournament while at Hayti, he went on to play basketball and football at General Beadle State. He was an Army veteran.





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

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

Hall of Fame **Members** 



G.E. Buenning, Parkston '66 Bart Friedrick, 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 Evien, 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

Dona Ray-Reed, Yankton '78

Louis Tyon, Pine Ridge '63

Lefty Engebritson, Webster '46

Freddie Knife, Cheyenne '59

Megan Mahoney, Sturgis '01

Alan Nissen, Miller '68

Henry Park, Chester '45

Cregg Skarin, Hitchcock '70

Lindsay Thomas, Roosevelt '02

Sox Walseth, Pierre '44

Joe Krabbenhoft, Roosevelt '05

Arlo Mogck, Parkston '55

Sam Perrin, Huron '27

Dave Thomas, Onida '69

Stanton Uhlir, Kadoka '51

2021: No inductees due to pandemic

2022: Jeff Booher, Brookings '88

Bernard Duffy, Fort Pierre '47

Gordie Groos, Sisseton '66

Dawn Hull-Zahn, Sisseton '92

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

Cary Hornaman, Roncalli '75 Mandy Kappel, Roosevelt '00 Lisa Kurtenbach-Glanzer, Brookings '85 Jared Reiner, Tripp-Delmont '00 Harvey Schaefer, Hayti '54

2019: Scott Beckstrand, Lincoln '89

Mike Begeman, Parker '75

Dave Fischer, Wall '61

Rollie Furois, Deadwood '40

Doug Peterson, Watertown '60

Jodi Pipes-Altenburg, Armour '88

Shannon Schlagel-Huber, Clark '01

2020: Janel Birrenkott, Lemmon '82

Jerry Even, Dell Rapids St. Mary '64

Jayne Even-Gust, O'Gorman '96

Austin Hansen, Brandon Valley '98

Sarah Mannes-Homstad, Yankton '88

Bob Pidde, Freeman '75

Loren Thornton, Harrisburg '36

Dennis Womeldorf,

Wessington Springs '66

Sherri Brende, Baltic '97

Laurie Bruns-Kruse, Lennox '87

Delbert Gillam, Argonne '53

Lisa Kannegieter-Bahe, Willow Lake '90

To read bios go to www.sdbbhof.com







#### **CORPORATE PARTNERS**

Billion Automotive

Component Manufacturing/

Reaves Building Systems

CorTrust Bank - Sioux Falls

Dacotah Bank - Aberdeen

First Dakota National Bank - Sioux Falls

First Premier Bank - Sioux Falls

Martin & Associates LLC - Sioux Falls

Prostrollo Auto Mall - Madison:

South Dakota's Founding Sponsor of the

Basketball Hall of Fame

Sanford Health

Sanford Pentagon

Sisson Printing

#### **ENDOWMENT GIVING**

#### \$25,000 or More

Dean E. Lee Revocable Living Trust

#### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Dacotah Bank

Gonzenbach Family Fund

Boyd & Dody Hopkins

#### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Frank & Martha Brost

Dana Dvkhouse

Tom Orton

Sanford Health

**Bob & Trish Swanhorst** 

Leon & Virginia Tobin

#### \$2,500 - \$4,999

Jim Iverson

Dean & Rita Sorenson Charitable Fund

Barb Torgerson

#### \$1,000 - \$2,499

Elton & Jody Byre

Dyer Family Foundation

Gordon Fosness

John & Linda Lillibridge

Patrick Maroney

Doug Olson Memorial Fund

#### \$1 - \$999

Anonymous

Howard & Arlene Bich

Jeffrey Brecht

Linda Mickelson Graham

Estate of Dale Hall

Greg & Debra Hansen

Randy & Karen Jencks

Jay & Kathy Larsen

Tom & Becky Malchow

Alan & Roxanne Nissen

Harley & Marilyn Petersen

Dave & Linda Wagner

#### **BUSINESS DONORS**

Aberdeen Catholic School – Cavalry Club

American Legion Post 20 Fort Pierre

Baltic High School Booster Club

Bangs McCullen Law Firm - Rapid City

Bowes Construction - Brookings Brookings Engravings

Bultsma Insurance Agency - Plankinton

D & D Pork - Hayti

Deutsch Printing Inc - Sisseton Courier

Farmers & Merchants State Bank - Plankinton

G T Properties Inc - Sisseton

Hamlin Baseball Association



This is the 18th edition of the biannual newsletter published by the South Dakota High School Basketball Hall of Fame. It was sent to 1,400 people on our mailing list who reside in 43 different states. Many other Hall of Fame followers read the newsletter on our website.

The support of our 'Friends' makes the continued growth and expanded outreach of the Hall of Fame possible. We thank our donors for your generosity and your belief in our mission. Without your financial assistance we would not be able to provide many of our services, including our free newsletters.

To help please send your tax-deductible gift to: SDBBHOF, 2210 W. Pentagon Place, Sioux Falls. SD 57107.

Hamlin Booster Club

Hamlin County Farmers Coop

J and L Machine - Hayti

Jutting Grocery Inc. - Hayti

Knights of Columbus - St. John's - Fort Pierre

Kones Korner Inc. - Castlewood

Lakota Nation Invitational

Mueller Lumber Co - Mitchell

Olsen Auction Service - Plankinton

Plankinton Service Club

Reliabank - Hayti

Roadside Food & Fuel - Plankinton

Ron's Market - Plankinton

Sisseton School District

South Dakota Democratic Party

Spartan Athletics Booster Club - Spearfish

Stanley County Fort Pierre High School

All-School Reunion Committee

Team Insurance - Sisseton

Ymker Auction Service - Corsica

#### INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Lon Andersen

Rich & Mary Andrzejewski

Anonymous

Robert Bierman

Dick Black

Jim & Kathy Booher

Don Bradley

Frank & Martha Brost

Larry Brusse

Fran & Mary Lou Campbell

Trace, Kathy & Shanna Davids

Angie & Jay Derting

Chris & Sue Divich

Duane & Phyllis Divich

Dan & Karrie Duffy

Dolly Duffy & Dan Fangman

Kriss Edwards

Jerry & Judy Even

Gary Evjen

Dave & Pamela Fischer

Lynn & Mary Frederick

Mike Freier

Bruce Gillam

Eunice Hall Gillam

Family of Del Gillam (Siblings, Nieces, Nephews,

Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren)

Corv & Kim Grimsrud

Greg & Debra Hansen

Cary Hornaman

Robert & Colette Hull

Hustad-Perrin Charitable Family Fund

Jay & Joellen Johnson

Doug & Carol Jones

Tom & Linda Jones

George & Joan Kjellsen

Ralph Lindner

Jeff & Lisa Mammenga Lois Marshall

Dale & Joanne Melius

Chris & Janell Miller

Terry & Linda Nielsen Governor Kristi & Bryon Noem

Lori O'Farrell

Darrell & Judy Olson

Richard & Sandra Olson

John & Mary Pennington

Junior Pereboom

Jolene & Randy Pooley

Darrel Reinke

Marvie & Gary Robbins

Pete & Mina Schmid

Al Schoeneman

Calvin & Patricia Schubert

Donald & Harriet Scott

John Simko

Mike Sisk Cregg & Jolynn Skarin

Roger Smith

Bob & Trish Swanhorst

David & Hedi Swanhorst

Donna Swanhorst Jim & Susan Thorson

Wayne & Marilyn Thue

LaMoine & Barb Torgerson

Dave & Linda Wagner Bob & Carol Winter

Harley Zephier Jr.

#### IN MEMORIAM

Terry Gilbertson in memory of Bill Martens

Merle Heidenreich in memory of

Dave Linngren

Bettie Marso in memory of Lien Marso

Mike Sisk in memory of Don Jacobsen

Wayne & Marilyn Thue in memory of Jan Buri; Dave Linngren

#### IN RECOGNITION

Thomas Linngren in honor of the 1959 Watertown Arrows



# A Matter of Excellence





Each year the Hall of Fame recognizes a Team of Excellence. Honored at the 2022 banquet was Brookings of 1985. Present were, from left, front, Renae (Sallquist) Knopf, Beth (Lingren) Clark, Coach Jim Holwerda, Laura (Martin) Kelly, Amy Mickelson. Back, Paula (Kenefick) Pardy, Lisa (Rollag) Ostlie, Jennifer (Gee) Hall, Stacey (Grorud) McLey. The Bobcats were 23-0. (John Simko Photo)