



WESLEYAN
TODAY WINTER 2015-16



Partnerships:

**putting
the pieces
together**

You are invited to the dedication of the

DWU/Avera Sports and Wellness Complex

Feb. 4, 2016

10 a.m. Dedication Ceremony
10:45 a.m. Building Tours

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Blue & White Days

Sept. 16-17, 2016

- Legacy Banquet
- Parade
- Football Game
- Alumni Reunions
(Classes Ending in 1 and 6)



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Wesleyan Today is distributed to alumni, parents and friends of Dakota Wesleyan University.

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COVERSTORY

During a time when some campuses are struggling, Dakota Wesleyan has seen nothing but growth – enrollment, facilities and programs. This success is largely due to the support DWU receives from friends, alumni and valuable partnerships. Read more about how DWU is partnering with others to keep its campus growing and programs vibrant. See page 15.



Administration: Amy Novak, president; Theresa Kriese, executive vice president; Rocky Von Eye, provost; Kitty Allen, vice president of institutional advancement; Lori Essig, vice president of marketing and communications.

Wesleyan Today is designed to communicate news about all facets of the university to its constituents. Send class notes and address changes to: Institutional Advancement, Dakota Wesleyan University, 1200 W. University Ave., Mitchell, SD 57301-4398, call (605) 995-2603 or email alumni@dwu.edu.

DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY'S strategic planning process

During the past year, we embarked on a new strategic planning process at Dakota Wesleyan University. Our plan is anchored in the mission of DWU and guided by a vision to become a leader in offering innovative learning experiences, bold leadership opportunities, intentional faith development, and a genuine commitment to service for successful careers and meaningful lives.

The plan has been shaped by the input of our faculty and staff, our alumni, key community stakeholders, regional business leaders and our students. The plan is framed around five strategic themes that are supported by objectives and measured by key performance indicators.

- **STRATEGIC GROWTH** – We have developed a plan to implement new strategies to enhance enrollment, including targeting specific programs for growth.
- **VISIBILITY** – We will enhance marketing efforts to increase community and regional visibility of DWU.
- **LEARNING EXPERIENCE** – We will refine the general education experience for all students, and create programs and student support leading to a distinct Wesleyan learning experience that strongly prepares students with the relevant skills essential to achieve their professional and personal goals.
- **INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS** – We will work with businesses, organizations, the church and our alumni to collaborate in supporting and expanding curricular and cocurricular programs, internships, and career opportunities for students that lead to increased university resources and graduate employability.
- **SUSTAINABLE FOUNDATION** – Our goal is to increase mission-central resources through fundraising based on proven financial models.



The plan has been developed to be interconnected and interdependent. The goals work collectively, not in isolation. This intentional design ensures the synergistic and cross-functional approach necessary for successful implementation. Input and collaboration were hallmarks of the strategic planning process and will continue to be a primary focus during implementation.

I'm pleased that we have already accomplished some of our objectives. In fact, in this edition of Wesleyan Today, you will find several examples of how innovative partnerships are making a significant difference at DWU.

In future editions of this magazine, as well as through other publications and our website, I am eager to continue to share with you the stories of our successes.

As always, thank you for your support of Dakota Wesleyan University!

Dr. Amy Novak
President
Email: Amy.Novak@dwu.edu



Snapshots

BLUE & WHITE DAYS 2015



Trae Bergh, of Crooks, and **Kelsey Newman**, of Columbus, Neb., were crowned homecoming king and queen.



The annual burning of the "W" took place outside the Christen Family Athletic Center, this year with a special moment of silence in remembrance of **Beau Keeter**, a freshman who passed away this semester.



Hanging out at the alumni tent are **Wendy Lamont '73**, of Sioux Falls, and **Gail Hoe Heimbeck '73**, of Guernsey, Wyo.



Brittany Ochs, a sophomore from Keenesburg, Colo., carries a **George McGovern '46** "campaign poster" in the Blue & White Days parade this homecoming – the theme was the '70s, and the McGovern Center and the Universities Fighting World Hunger club posed as McGovern, Richard Nixon and Eleanor McGovern. (photo by Alisha Vincent)



DWU students cheer on the Tigers during the Blue & White Days Homecoming game versus Hastings College. The Tigers won 36-14.

A New Image.

In August, Dakota Wesleyan University rolled out a fresh look with new institutional and athletics logos.

“When we made the decision to move forward on a new logo for Dakota Wesleyan, we wanted it to stand on its own and represent all that we are – an institution dedicated to learning, leadership, faith and service,” said Dr. Amy Novak, president. “The larger ‘W’ emphasizes our Wesleyan heritage and an orange ribbon wrapped around the ‘U’ represents the cross and flame, honoring the institution’s 130-year affiliation with the United Methodist Church. It’s also indicative of a scroll or diploma, evoking the dynamic character of the learning process.”



DAKOTA WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY



Now you can wear your DWU loyalty on your license plates.

This year, South Dakotans will be issued new license plates when they renew their vehicle registration. At no additional fee, you can request organizational plates rather than the county designated plates. With the organizational plates, you can place the authorized Dakota Wesleyan logo on your license plates with these simple steps.

1. At renewal time simply ask your county office for organizational plates.
2. Contact DWU to purchase emblems with the DWU logo for \$20 per set: dwubookstore@dwu.edu or 605-995-2805.
3. Attach the emblems to the plates and show your Tiger pride!

Institutional Logo

Dakota Wesleyan University’s new logo infuses the past, the present and the future in its design.

- The prominent, centered “W” focuses on John Wesley’s commitment, as passed from Methodist generation to generation, that brought together the Dakota Territory, represented by the integrated “D,” with the founding of the university, represented in the similarly integrated “U.”
- The three serifs of the “W” signify three of the university’s four core values: learning, leadership and service.
- A scroll, a traditional symbol for academic learning, bisects the stem of the “U” creating a cross, the sign of our hope and redemption in Jesus Christ, and representing our fourth core value: faith. The unrolling scroll, evoking the dynamic character of learning and the obligation to share knowledge, confirms our United Methodist belief that as educated citizens we must use our knowledge to improve our communities, workplaces and world.
- Finally, the scroll is trimmed with lighter orange ends, symbolic of the flame of the Holy Spirit and reminiscent of the Cross and Flame, a universally recognized symbol of United Methodism.



Members of the DWU brand ambassador team hand out new Tiger T-shirts to the campus community.

Athletics Logo

The athletics department logo, which incorporates a new official tiger, was designed to use fonts that are complementary to the institutional imagery.



“We are one school, one brand, but you will see a different version of ‘DWU’ when used with the new tiger,” said Lori Essig, vice president of marketing and communications. “The tiger is fresher, a little fiercer, and we now have two options – a profile tiger face, or the full body. The decision to refresh and revamp the athletics logo was overdue for athletics. We were struggling with the use of multiple versions of the old athletics logo and we, as an institution, thought we deserved better for our teams.”

To purchase Dakota Wesleyan gear featuring the new logos, either stop at the DWU Campus Bookstore within the McGovern Library on campus or shop at www.DWUTigerApparel.com.

Herges writes children's poem to help explain Alzheimer's Disease

By Mari Olson

Alzheimer's Disease indiscriminately affects millions of Americans – stealing their memories, changing their behavior and making families strangers to one another.

This is a difficult enough concept for adults to comprehend, but how do you explain it to children?

KYLE HERGES, assistant communications professor and head of the digital media and design department at Dakota Wesleyan University, has written a children's book to help facilitate those difficult conversations. "The Memory Thief" is for sale now at the DWU Campus Bookstore, on Amazon and through Herges' website. Part of the proceeds from the book will be donated to the Alzheimer's Association, which gave the book its approval and permission to use its site's statistics.

Herges watched two generations of his family battle the disease; his grandfather died of Alzheimer's when Herges was in college and his mother, Peg, is currently diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's.

He watched his steadfast grandfather become almost a stranger to him while his mother was helpless to stop the disease; now it is his mother who is becoming the stranger while he gropes for the words to explain it to his own children. The book came about as a way of coping, as well as a way to begin a tough conversation with his three small children.

"It's my way of being able to talk about this with my kids," he said. "I want them to ask me questions so I can answer them honestly ... to spawn conversations."

The book explains what is happening from the perspective of someone with Alzheimer's. Each page is illustrated with word-images like butterflies, a cross and clouds. Coming from a graphic design background, he approached the process of explaining to his own children how grandma is feeling using these visuals, accompanied by a poem easy enough for a child to read.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, more than 5 million Americans – 16,000 of whom are South Dakotans – are diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease.

In Herges' case, he realizes that his situation with his mother is the same situation his mother was in with her own father — watching this person they love struggle with their own minds – trying to find the words, trying to place the faces.

"This is the way I feel, but I know this is the way my mom felt when her dad was going through it, too. The way I wrote it in the book and poem is exactly how it happened. I know she knows what she wants to say, but she can't find the words."

"The Memory Thief," in its own way, allows her to explain and to say goodbye.

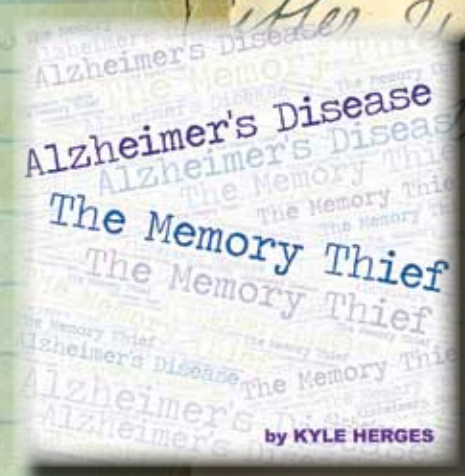
WHERE TO FIND IT:

- DWU Campus Bookstore
- Amazon
- Herges' website:
memorythiefbook.com/#order

Follow "The Memory Thief" on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/thememorythief.



KYLE HERGES:
kyherges@dwu.edu



A Winter Wonderland

Snow fell several times before break at Dakota Wesleyan and painted the campus white, leaving a winter wonderland behind.





DATELINES

August: Kyle Hobbs, head strength and conditioning coach, receives the Presidential Award for Outstanding Service for 2014-15.

Aug. 23: The annual Freshman Food Drive brings in 4,000 pounds of food, donated to the Mitchell Area Food Pantry.

Sept. 25: Distinguished Alumni Awards are awarded to Don Hafner '65 from the College of Leadership and Public Service; to Dorothy Alexander Collins '36 from the College of Arts and Humanities; and to Don Thayer '67 from the Donna Starr Christen College of Healthcare, Fitness and Sciences.

Oct. 12: Dr. Joel Allen, assistant professor of religion, is the speaker for this year's Sister Ruth Agnes Ahlers Lecture Series at Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, Iowa. His talk explored the manners in which the Jewish rabbis of the ancient world interpreted their sacred texts, and how such methods influenced both Jesus and Paul in early Christian tradition.

October: The DWU Theatre Club hosts a haunted house for two weekends, raising about \$5,000 for the department.

October: DWU senior Matt Hockert, of Reiles Acres, N.D., wins third place and a \$150 award in the statewide Student Idea Competition held at the 2015 Innovation Expo in Sioux Falls.

October: Dr. W. Jesse Weins '03, associate professor of criminal justice, is named to the Fulbright Specialist Roster by the Institute of International Education's Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

Nov. 3: Eric Giblin '99, who co-owns and runs three Subway franchises in Mitchell, as well as franchises in Parkston and Chamberlain, is the speaker for the Kelley Center of Entrepreneurship's Coffee Series.

Nov. 10-12: Dr. Amy Novak, DWU president, is a panelist for the Women in Leadership Institute in Greenville, N.C.

Nov. 18: Dr. Jason Murray, vice president of education and the director of the Indian University of North America® with the Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation, presents "Understanding Dakota: Highlighting the Complex and Layered Intersections of Higher Education and Poverty."

Dec. 8: Steve Pluta, South Dakota's director of Homeland Security, speaks on campus for a special presentation open to the public, organized by Dr. W. Jesse Weins '03.

Dec. 9: Dr. Bethany Melroe Lehrman, assistant professor of chemistry, and René Cardona, talent adviser and assistant baseball coach, are the winners of the fall Professional Excellence Awards.

www.dwu.edu/news

COLLEGE BRIEFS

Record enrollment announced this fall

DWU is experiencing record enrollment again this year. Enrollment for the 2015 fall semester topped last year's record by 20 students with a fall enrollment of 895. This year's freshman class is significantly larger than last year with 178 students; the 2014 count was 148.

DWU recognized by U.S. News & World Report

Dakota Wesleyan University is ranked among America's best regional colleges for the Midwest, according to U.S. News & World Report "Best Colleges 2016." DWU is ranked among regional colleges in the Midwest, which includes 12 states.

The annual "America's Best Colleges" study by U.S. News & World Report is a culmination of data taken from regional colleges, high school counselors and various sources to create a comprehensive look at what colleges offer and how they assist students on their road to success. Everything from class size to financial assistance to how competitive admission processes are, are taken into account.

Duffey wins Washington Prize for poetry, publishes new book

When mechanics fail, poetry finds a way – this was the approach of Dr. Barbara Duffey in her soon-to-be published work, "Simple Machines."

Duffey is an assistant professor of English at Dakota Wesleyan University. "Simple Machines" recently won the Washington Prize from the D.C.-based literary nonprofit The Word Works. The award includes publication and a \$1,500 cash prize. Duffey's compilation of poems will be released in late March 2016. This book is a revised version of Duffey's dissertation which explores mechanical metaphors for the human body.

Duffey also has released a new work of poetry, "I Might Be Mistaken," which is available on Amazon, as well as at the DWU Campus Bookstore. Duffey's book is also available for order through www.barbaraduffey.com and www.wordpoetrybooks.com.

Johnson named to South Dakota Advisory Panel for Children with Disabilities

Donna Johnson, an assistant professor at Dakota Wesleyan University in the department of special and elementary education, was appointed to serve on the South Dakota Advisory Panel for Children with Disabilities.

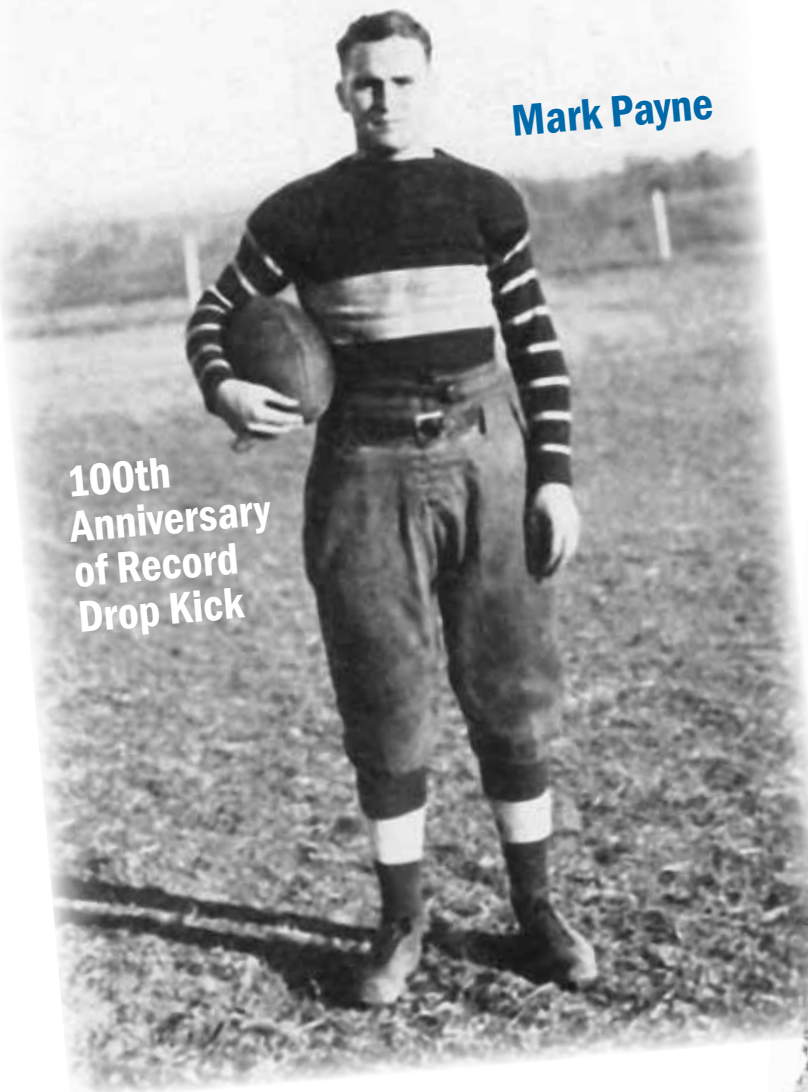
DWU's online nursing program ranked as one of best by AffordableCollegesOnline.org

AffordableCollegesOnline.org (AC Online), a leading resource for online learning and college affordability information, has named the Arlene Gates Department of Nursing at Dakota Wesleyan University as having one of the Best Online Nursing Programs in 2015-16.

Dakota Wesleyan's nursing program is ranked No. 14 out of 54. Nursing has become such a popular degree that it is now the nation's largest healthcare profession, with more than 3.1 million registered nurses nationwide.

'Walt Before Mickey' Premiere

Armando Gutierrez (shown here) and **Arthur L. Bernstein**, the creators of the new biopic "Walt Before Mickey," gave a special talk on campus the morning of their movie's Midwest premiere on Aug. 28. The movie premiered at Luxury 5 Cinema in Mitchell with both men in attendance. Gutierrez acted in and produced the movie, while Bernstein produced, acted in, and wrote the screenplay based on the book. The special event was organized by theatre owner **Jeff Logan ex'75**.



Mark Payne

100th Anniversary of Record Drop Kick

Mark Payne's World's Record Drop Kick
 "Dakota Wesleyan University Memory Book: 1885-2010,"
 by James D. McLaird '62, HD'05

Dakota Wesleyan University had an outstanding football season in 1915, defeating teams from Madison, Aberdeen, Spearfish, Sioux Falls and Huron, as well as highly touted Morningside College. Its only losses were to Vermillion and Brookings. However, in later years, what was most remembered was Mark Payne's drop kick in the second game of the season (Oct. 9, 1915).

Mark, a 160-pound halfback from Lake Andes, had shown speed and strength in his first year at Wesleyan. However, it was Mark's punting that was most impressive. His high spirals sailed, giving the ends time to get under them.

By 1915, Mark was becoming well known for his long drop kicks. In the game against Northern Normal and Industrial School of Aberdeen, Wesleyan led 17-0 at halftime, thanks to a field goal by Mark and two touchdowns by his teammates. Toward the end of the second half, Mark kicked once again, this time for 63 yards. That was one yard longer than the 1898 record set by Pat O'Dea of the University of Wisconsin. It is likely to stand permanently in the record books since the drop kick has been abandoned. Mark later recalled that when he kicked he didn't know there was a Pat O'Dea and did not realize that his name "now would take his place in the record books."

Over the years, stories about Mark's memorable kick improved with each telling, or, in his words, "the distance seems to get longer with each passing year." In one published account, the score was tied 14-14 and the clock was winding down. Then Mark sent the ball sailing 63 yards, and Wesleyan won the game.

Mark later became an executive in the purchasing department of the American Petroleum Company in Los Angeles. He returned to Wesleyan several times, and in 1945 was the featured speaker at the Blue & White Days banquet.

A JOURNEY COMPLETE: DWU'S TRIP TO AFRICA

Dakota Wesleyan sent 13 people, including five community members, to Uganda, Africa, in July for a service-learning trip. They participated in community events, established a community resource center, performed free healthcare screenings, organized a 5k run, donated 15 goats and two cows through the McGovern Center's Livestock for Life program, facilitated trainings for business, showed local women how to create soap and turn their product into a business opportunity, and so much more.

MAKING SOAP FROM SCRATCH: DWU students and volunteers for Esperance Education Institute (EEI – a nonprofit co-founded by **Dr. Alisha Vincent**, director of the DWU McGovern Center) made good on a semester-long project meant to provide the resources and expertise to start a women's cooperative in Uganda. During spring semester, DWU students **Hannah Ford '15**, of Vermillion, and junior **Kayla Vanden Hoek**, of Corsica, with the help of sophomore **Ariana Arampatzis**, of Aberdeen, and DWU faculty, experimented in the lab to create wood ash soap so that Arampatzis could teach the process during her trip to Africa. Vanden Hoek had been to Uganda and Rwanda with Vincent the year before and saw firsthand the need for accessible and cost-efficient soap. After much trial and error, the project was successful and soap was made.

Derik Fossum '12 '13, DWU's head track and field coach, and senior **Michael Claar**, of Fort Collins, Colo., also taught fundamental business classes with iPads that the women will use to track their business. The project, called P31, was named after Proverbs 31, a passage that celebrates the power of women and their ability to be providers, care for their communities and bring honor to their households.

"The McGovern Center's Livestock for Life project distributed 15 goats and two cows to people in rural Uganda," Vincent said. "The team also set up a training program with a local ag expert for the members of this cooperative so that they have the proper care, maintenance and nutrition for care and reproduction. Thanks to the donors and UFWH/Third Freedom students for raising funds for these projects throughout the year. The level of gratitude for these gifts is hard to describe. So appreciated. It's part of the culture to physically hand these gifts over. What joy!"

TO DONATE TO LIVESTOCK FOR LIFE:
www.dwu.edu/livestockforlife

McGOVERN FORUM



The McGovern Civic Engagement Forum took place on Sept. 29 on campus and brought two speakers to discuss the questions, "Should Religion Play a Role in 21st Century Politics?" The DWU and Mitchell community attended the discussion with the **Rev. Barry Lynn**, executive director for Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, and **Rena Lindevaldsen**, interim dean and professor and associate director of the Liberty Center for Law and Policy, Liberty University.

McGOVERN HUNGER SUMMIT



Members of the Universities Fighting World Hunger DWU chapter – Third Freedom – helped organize the McGovern Hunger Summit on Nov. 12, and also moderated one of the breakout sessions. From left to right are DWU students **Morgan Straub**, of Deadwood; **Paige Hendricks**, of Rapid City; **Ariana Arampatzis**, of Aberdeen; **Amy Zeller**, of Elk Point; **Cassidy Hendricks**, of Buffalo, Minn.; and **Cici Schneider**, of Sioux Falls; and **DiMera Dvorak**, of Lake Andes. Students from South Dakota State University also participated. The summit brought keynote speaker **Matt Gassen**, the executive director of Feeding South Dakota, and speaker **Bob Reiners**, an agriculture program specialist with the South Dakota Department of Agriculture. **Cathy Brechtelsbauer**, of Sioux Falls, was awarded the McGovern South Dakota Hunger Ambassador Award for her work as a longtime volunteer for Bread for the World.

Muscle, Blood and Bone

Kelly spends summer internship studying forensic anthropology

Everyone is made up of the same basic things – muscle, blood and bone – and it's hard to believe that a thousand years from now our stories might be retained in a dime-sized fragment of one of those things.

Senior **EMMA KELLY**, of Mitchell, wants to spend the rest of her life discovering those stories. A biology major with a minor in forensic science and investigation, she spent four weeks this past summer in Romania, analyzing and categorizing skeletons pulled from the Bögöz dig site.

This osteology workshop – the study of bones – took place in Odorheiu Secuiesc, the second largest city in Harghita County in Transylvania, Romania. Dr. Tim Mullican, a biology professor at DWU, brought the ArchaeoTek workshop to Kelly's attention as an internship possibility.

Kelly had to come up with the travel funds and workshop cost herself, but her four weeks there was an invaluable internship opportunity, she said. In addition, she received the Hughes Grant-in-Aid for Summer Experiences, which provides an award of up to \$2,000 to a biology or mathematics major to pursue

summer field and/or research experiences that are not available at Dakota Wesleyan.

"My parents were supportive – worried – but supportive," she said. "My grandma bought me a map ... and I got this Romanian phrase book, and it was actually useless because I got over there and I'm flipping through and they're like, 'Actually, we speak Hungarian here.'"

The language barrier aside, she didn't have much trouble becoming acclimated to the area, the people and the work – after the first week, at least.

"The first week was an intense, massive crash course in everything skeletal," Kelly said. "We walked in the first day and (the director) said, 'I've got a test for you to take.' Sheets were on the table and each had a dime-sized piece of bone on it, (and he said), 'Your job is to name what bone it is and what side it is from,' and everyone's like, 'What!?' I mean, I looked at them and I said, 'I can't do that!'"

"But by the end of the week, I could do it."

A typical day included arriving at the school that they used as a lab, listening to a lecture about what that day's activities would be, and then analyzing and categorizing the skeletal remains brought in from the Bögöz dig site. Then they would prepare for the next morning by cleaning new sets brought in that day.

Twice a week they would take a bone quiz.

"I got better every time. I was really proud of myself."

At the end of the four-week course, she and a designated partner gave a presentation. They chose a cultural question surrounding the mystery of a 19th-

century skeleton, its skull crowned with a patina stain by something copper placed on its head leaving a mark over time. This is common for females buried with headdresses.

"So (the skeleton) was marked as a woman, but when we did the analysis of the skeleton, it was male, clearly male, very strong male markings, so we thought, 'Wow, this is really weird,' and we were really interested in that and very curious because they didn't bury men with headdresses," she said. "We investigated that ... best we can do is speculate, so we thought maybe he was a higher-up individual in the church and given special burial rites."

The experience made Kelly even more excited about pursuing her career in forensic anthropology, but it also taught her patience. She said that before, she was constantly looking at her life like she was on a schedule, needing to reach each goal as fast as possible, but this work is about taking one's time.

"It mellowed me a little," she said. "I'm more OK with not getting to my goal right away ... I'm not so set that I have to do this before a certain age because it does take a long time."

Traveling out of the country is also always an eye-opener, full of new adventures and different obstacles. Aside from getting used to the language, she and the other students – there were about 20 in all, and most were Americans – took time to experience the city, take field trips, and after her internship, Kelly spent a week touring Budapest, mostly on her own.

"The trip helped me identify things I could use to my advantage ... I'm a stubborn person, and I think that can hinder me and it can also help me, so I think it's about identifying what



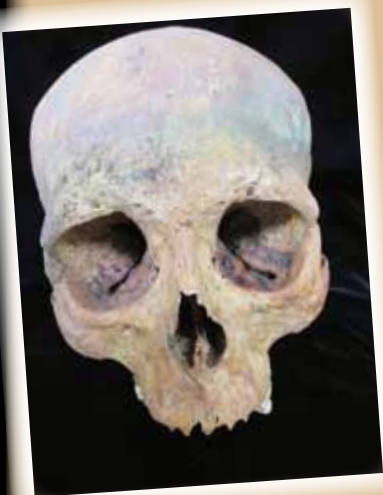
traits in yourself are useful in certain situations and being able to use them to your advantage," she said. "So I think it helped me become better at adapting and figuring out how to function in the world where you didn't have any fallback like your family or somebody to call."

Her hope, following graduation in May, is to enter graduate school for forensic anthropology in either New York or Texas.

"They have a good body farm in Texas," she said. "A body farm is a plot of land where they put bodies in different scenarios to decompose, and they have people come and study how bodies decompose in different conditions, like underwater versus dry land."

People can choose to have their bodies donated to various kinds of science projects after they die, something she plans to do, herself, in order to further research.

By Mari Olson



campuscameraclicks

a look at the DWU Campus Community



Senior **Jordan Buchholz**, of South Shore, was one of many DWU students who volunteered to fill Operation Christmas Child boxes following weekly worship one day. Students packed 65 boxes that day, as well as 65 previously, all sent off for donation.



Seniors in the athletic training program gave demonstrations to visiting high school students during the Professional Health Visit Day on campus.



Jenna Callies Miller '15 returned to the stage this fall as Patsy Cline in the DWU production of "Always ... Patsy Cline." (Photo by Dan Miller)



DWU nursing students helped residents at Wesley Acres decorate holiday cookies in December. (Photo by Megen Hullinger)



Once again, the third annual Dakota Wesleyan Thanksgiving dinner was a success.

HIS KEY TO SUCCESS

JEFF JERVIK '84

has never
stopped
learning

By Mari Olson



wt feature

Jeff Jervik's success in four major franchises is the stuff dreams are made of – though his journey story is something a little more akin to a tutorial on how to make the most of any opportunity.

Jervik returned to Dakota Wesleyan to give the Opperman Lecture, "My Journey from Dakota Wesleyan University to Corporate America," which described his choices and careers that began with basically not knowing what he wanted to do with his life, finding his passion for learning at Dakota Wesleyan, and then accepting every new challenge laid out before him.

Jervik grew up in Mitchell and attended college at both Black Hills State University and the University of South Dakota before realizing he wasn't quite ready for college, so he came home to work in a bar and liquor store while figuring out his next move.

"I had a friend from junior high who was teaching in Mitchell, and I saw what he was doing and that he really enjoyed what he was doing, and so I thought maybe that's something I'd really like to do," Jervik said.

He enrolled at DWU and met Dr. Theresa Bross, a faculty member in the education department.

"There was kind of a spark that we had," he said. "She really became a mentor and helped me on my path. She thought I'd make a great elementary education teacher.

"It was the first time in school that I ever excelled because I was really enjoying what I was doing. I was driven, and for the first time school became a priority and was important to me."

He graduated from DWU in 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in education. At the time, jobs in the area were scarce and paid very little, so he decided to put his previous experience to work and seriously considered opening up his own bar and restaurant. A friend convinced him to work for a restaurant and gain practical experience first.

Jervik began in the management program for Pizza Hut, at the time a subsidiary of PepsiCo, and worked his way up to restaurant manager in Madison, S.D. Still thinking that Pizza Hut was a temporary gig, his entire life changed over the course of a noon-hour with a van-load of out-of-towners.

"They stayed through the whole lunch and everyone else kind of cleared out and ... one of the gentlemen motions for me to come out and talk to him, and he introduces himself as the CEO of Pizza Hut," Jervik said.

The CEO had brought his entire senior management team, including the chief operating officer.

"He told me that they'd been traveling all around the country going to different locations, and this was the best experience by far. The food was great, the service was fantastic ... and (by the end of the day) they asked me if I'd be interested in moving to their headquarters to run their flagship restaurant."

Jervik worked for PepsiCo for 14 years, where he held several positions culminating with his title as national vice president of operations for Pizza Hut Inc. He said that what made him successful was his willingness to listen and to learn from the people around him.

"I let (the people around me) teach me. I was teaching them how to really drive and get a product out in the marketplace ... but they were teaching me," he said. "I've been a very good student throughout my career. As you learn, you pass along your experience, and it becomes one great circle."

In a way, he said, he has been teaching since he left Dakota Wesleyan. When PepsiCo decided to spin off its restaurant chains, Jervik decided to switch gears and go back to the beginning – he was a substitute teacher for six months before another opportunity presented itself.

He was approached by a man who wanted to open Papa John's franchises in Hawaii, which happens to be Jervik's wife's home state. Jervik's family made the move, and he opened 17 new Papa John's stores. He also began a program with local schools to promote better school attendance.

Jervik's reputation with PepsiCo was as the "turn-around guy." When there was a "problem division," he was brought in. He said this could be a source of great fear, or he could look at it as a learning experience – he chose the latter.

"You always go into these and you think, 'Wow, what if I fail?'" he said. "So I think what I have learned is it's not just hard work, but it's also taking each one of these experiences and what you can learn from it and not really worrying about failing, (but) spending more time focusing on what can I learn from this experience? What can I take away from this experience? What can I apply from this experience to the next role that I have?"

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts Inc. hired him for these qualities, and he served as executive vice president of operations before becoming president and chief executive officer of WellBiz Brands Inc. – one of the largest and fastest growing health and wellness companies in the United States.

His ability and willingness to learn every facet of a business, and even start from scratch when needed, brought him to the attention of others, but the opportunities really came along because a kid who wasn't that great at school never gave up learning.



wt feature

Partnerships:

putting the pieces together

By Mari Olson



Partnerships and Outreach

Without a doubt, Dakota Wesleyan would not be what it is today without the partnerships it has formed over the years – with generous alumni, progressive organizations and innovative businesses.

These partnerships have allowed the university to grow its programs and enrollment, as well as its campus.

Most recently, DWU has expanded its outreach to rural healthcare and campus ministry, as well as built the new DWU/ Avera Sports and Wellness Complex,

which opened in January.

“This is an exciting time for education – if you are willing to look beyond the traditional and embrace the reality that our world requires symbiotic relationships in order to succeed,” said President Amy Novak. “Dakota Wesleyan is entering a phase in its growth that is allowing it to take programs further into the field in ways we could not have done years ago, and to grow our campus to record enrollment with two beautiful new

facilities built in the last four years.

“Growth like this doesn’t just happen – our alumni, our supporters, our community – they are just as responsible for every brick, for every graduate. Dakota Wesleyan has never been stronger, and that is because those who work here are not alone in seeing the worth in growing this university and in fostering its values.”



Rural Development Through Healthcare

With the expected need for nurses in rural areas set to rise over the next decade, Dakota Wesleyan is taking proactive measures to meet the workforce demand.

DWU received a \$750,000 grant for a rural healthcare initiative through the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation this fall – a grant that will enable DWU’s Arlene Gates Department of Nursing to focus on building a stronger nursing workforce for rural communities.

Dakota Wesleyan has four main goals for the Rural Nursing Initiative:

1. Develop a certified nursing assistant (CNA) training camp with rural specialization to increase the healthcare labor force of rural South Dakota.
2. Increase the number of LPN to baccalaureate-prepared registered nurses in rural/frontier communities in South Dakota.
3. Increase the number of baccalaureate degree-licensed registered nurses in rural/frontier communities in South Dakota.
4. Increase the access to resources on issues in rural healthcare.

DWU recently hired Stacey Patzlaff, rural health initiative coordinator, to expand community partnerships and oversee the program. Also new to campus is CNA program coordinator Melissa McMillen.



Stacey Patzlaff



Melissa McMillen



Dana Misiaszek and Ashleigh Nolz Arens, both of Mitchell, perform a simulation in the Arlene Gates Department of Nursing on campus. (Photo by The Daily Republic)

“We are developing educational and simulation modules for rural clinical experiences for baccalaureate degree-seeking nursing students. The modules will be available for use by educators and rural community partners,” said Diane Sandhoff, nursing administrative chairwoman at DWU. “The Dakota Wesleyan baccalaureate nursing degree curriculum will also integrate rural health experiences.”

DWU has established eight partnerships with rural communities, which include hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities.

Another aspect of DWU’s approach to rural health is a mentorship program.

“Through this grant, certified nursing assistants will be mentored and supported by the CNA program coordinator and the community partners,” Sandhoff said.

With an aging population, including current

healthcare workers, and the limitations that rural communities face in recruitment and training, Sandhoff predicts a great shortage in rural healthcare workers within the next 15 years.

“This grant provides financial support to become part of the solution to a current need – which is the shortage of healthcare workers needed to care for members of our rural communities,” Sandhoff said.

This grant opportunity also provides valuable experience to student nurses, she added.

“An additional benefit of the grant is that it assists DWU nursing faculty in providing unique rural clinical experiences for nursing students in rural healthcare facilities within the region,” Sandhoff said. “The hands-on experience will provide nursing students an opportunity to see the innovative and creative ways rural facilities provide safe and effective care for patients.”



Growing Healthy Partnerships

One of Dakota Wesleyan’s oldest partnerships is with local healthcare providers – from the early days of the nursing program at the Methodist Hospital to now partnering with Avera Queen of Peace.

“Avera Queen of Peace and Dakota Wesleyan University have a long history of collaboration and partnership that benefits both organizations and makes us stronger together than we are individually,” said Tom Clark, regional president and CEO of Avera Queen of Peace. “We depend on DWU to produce well-trained health professionals to serve with us in our healing ministry.”

In addition to using Avera Queen of Peace Hospital and Avera Brady Health and Rehab as clinical locations for DWU nursing students, 70 percent of its nurses are DWU graduates. DWU alumni are also employed at Avera facilities in

Parkston, Wessington Springs and other area facilities.

AQP is a tremendous partner for DWU. Its financial support of the athletic training graduate assistant program and its endowment of scholarships for nursing students greatly benefit the student experience. Additionally, Avera has generously funded the campus strength and conditioning coach, Kyle Hobbs, and is partnering with the university to provide a team physician who provides primary care and orthopedic sports medicine support.

Avera also provides corporate support for athletic programs at the college, donated to the Glenda K. Corrigan Healthcare, Fitness and Sciences Center, and to the DWU/Avera Sports and Wellness Complex.

“In healthcare, wellness and population health

management are becoming a key focus for Avera Queen of Peace,” Clark said. “Our partnership with DWU with our \$2.5 million donation for the new DWU/Avera Sports and Wellness Complex is just the latest example of how working together we can achieve great things. The university and community gain a beautiful and functional athletic and wellness facility, and Avera Queen of Peace has a new tool to use as we grow our programming and focus on managing the health of the community and keeping people well, rather than treating them when they are sick.

“Partnering with Dakota Wesleyan University is easy. We have aligned values as organizations, a shared vision of what is possible when we work together, and a vested interest in the success of every student who attends DWU.”



Partnerships in Wellness



The DWU/Avera Sports and Wellness Complex opened in early January, and memberships are now available to the new Donna and Paul Christen Community Health and Fitness Center, located within the complex.

To manage this new wellness facility, DWU is partnering with GreatLIFE Malaska Golf & Fitness Club. GreatLIFE, which has facilities throughout South Dakota and Minnesota, will handle the staffing for personal training services, marketing and membership sales. All Dakota Wesleyan students, staff and faculty will have free membership.

“We are excited by this new partnership with GreatLIFE and the level of excellence they will bring to our wellness facility,” Novak said. “Partnerships are exactly how this new wellness complex came to fruition, and it is how we will ensure its success.”

GreatLIFE will lease the wellness space from the university and community members will have the opportunity to purchase a variety of different membership levels.

“We are excited and honored to be partnering with such a quality program as DWU in providing world-class fitness equipment, programs, personal training and golf, with Wild Oak Golf Course, in fulfilling our GreatLIFE mission to enrich the lives of families and individuals through golf, fitness and healthy lifestyles,” said Tom Walsh Sr., GreatLIFE’s chairman/CEO.



Connecting Through Campus Ministry

Campus Ministry at Dakota Wesleyan is strong and at enviable numbers, according to campus pastor Eric Van Meter.

Dakota Wesleyan has 22 students on the Campus Ministry Council, 58 students on the roster to take part in weekly worship, and 75 students

involved in campus ministry programs such as Life Group, Bible studies, chapel and Worship Under the Stars. In addition, about 125 people attend Thursday campus worship services; others also take part in or volunteer to help with Sunday Fusion services, the United Methodist church on campus.

“This is just an amazing example of involvement on a campus,” Van Meter said. “People have asked me what plans I have to grow campus ministry at DWU, and I tell them that on a campus our size to have this many people actively involved – not just checking a box on an activity sheet, but involved – is enviable for other campuses. The program was built up to this amazing thing, and my goal is to keep it this way.”

DWU has hosted Youth Nights twice a year for years – bringing speakers, comedians and bands to campus and inviting youth from all over South Dakota to attend with their church youth leaders. The events bring, on average, 300 people to the Sherman Center to worship.

In addition to the youth nights, Campus Ministry has decided to take its engagement off campus and reach out to youth at their own churches and youth groups.

This fall, the Campus Ministry Team has visited the Huron First United Methodist Church, a conference-wide youth gathering at Aberdeen First

United Methodist Church and have two to three more church visits planned for next semester.

“What we started this year is going to local churches and visiting with their youth groups to make more personal connections with them,” Van Meter said. “We visit the Wednesday night youth programs, sometimes we give a program, sometimes just provide the music – it gives us a chance to get more personal with area youth in churches – it’s something we think we need to start doing better.”

“The youth love having the college students come in because that’s attainable to them; they think, ‘I could be that someday.’ They love seeing the college students because it gives them something to look up to, and the college kids love doing it because it gives them a chance to give back, measure how far they’ve come and reach out, develop those relationships with kids who might be freshmen on campus next year.”

The new outreach program is too new to gauge, but Van Meter says the seeds are planted.

“This gives (our Campus Ministry Team) something to strive for,” he said. “Opens up opportunities for conversation. It’s like the parable of the sower – you give and trust that the return will be there.”



The Rev. Eric Van Meter



Partnerships into the Future

The ability to provide so many services and opportunities for students is the key reason for forming working relationships with outside entities and organizations.

“DWU’s partnerships have provided our students with internships, church outreach, amazing

experiential learning opportunities, and in the past few years, two brand new facilities that serve our campus community’s science, healthcare, wellness and athletic needs,” Novak said. “These partnerships are the backbone to DWU’s success in a financial climate not entirely friendly to higher

education, and they give our students experiences they would not otherwise have.

“Dakota Wesleyan is valued by its community, and in turn, we plan to go on serving Mitchell, and the state of South Dakota and beyond, for another 130 years.”



Racewalking the Walk

Court-Menendez set to leave unique legacy at DWU

wt feature

By Nick McCutcheon
Sports Information Director

The track and field career of **NICOLE COURT-MENENDEZ** has not been a sprint or a marathon, but instead a not-so-leisurely walk that has taken her from Maine to Oregon, with many stops in between. The Dakota Wesleyan University track star has built a legacy of excellence as a Tiger and has found a home on the DWU campus the last four years.

While in middle school, Court-Menendez was simply looking for another event to compete in. That is where she found the rather unknown discipline of the racewalk. The Lewiston, Maine, native grew up around the sport, with her parents, Tom Menendez and Carolyn Court, both coaching track. When she decided to get involved in racewalk, Court-Menendez's father was training another girl at the time, so Nicole tagged along for the ride.

In one of her first races, Court-Menendez raced with an Olympian in the field. The race was a one-mile indoor race

and was eight laps around the track.

"I think I was on my third lap, and she had already lapped me," Court-Menendez laughed. "I think I got lapped three or four times that race, and I was kind of embarrassed. But I thought that she is an Olympian and is a lot further along than me."

Despite getting passed by Olympians on the track, the names that lead the sport have reached out to Court-Menendez to offer encouragement and advice, even going so far as writing recommendation letters for her. Court-Menendez describes the competitors of racewalk as a family.

"It is a different feel going to the meets because there are not that many of us around," Court-Menendez said. "You kind of get to know all of the racewalk community over time."

What is Racewalk?

Court-Menendez responds with "I run track" nowadays when asked what she does, so not to have to explain racewalk to people over and over.

"It's something that people don't see, and they typically respond with 'You do what?'," Court-Menendez said. "It's kind of speed-walking with rules."

According to Court-Menendez, there are two rules that define racewalk: 1. The competitor must keep one foot on the ground at all times.



2. The foot that is on the ground must have a straight knee, the result of which is the hip movement that is synonymous with the event.

She said that people think that since she racewalks that she must be moving slow, but she admitted that she knows competitors who can racewalk faster than she can run. Her explanation has evolved from simply describing the sport to visual demonstration. Court-Menendez has shown off her talent in the DWU library for students and in an airport for strangers while waiting for a flight.

"It's not harder than running, but it is a different set of muscles," Court-Menendez described. "You are not just going for a leisurely stroll."

Racing with the Best

The shining moment for Court-Menendez in her career came when she was able to go to Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore., to compete in the USATF Junior Championships. Eugene is known as TrackTown, U.S.A., making the event unique for the athletes in terms of atmosphere. At the junior event, Court-Menendez was able to compete with the senior athletes, with several Olympians among them.

"Competing in Eugene is a dream come true for any die-hard track athlete," Court-Menendez said. "The athletes I watch on TV are all there. It was amazing to be able to interact with the athletes that you admire in your sport."

Court-Menendez competed in the

USATF Junior Nationals, an event restricted to athletes under 20 years of age, five times, and twice in Eugene. As a freshman at DWU, she finished seventh in the 10k racewalk.

Coming to DWU

The decision to adopt the racewalk event as her specialty has taken her all over the country for competitions in high school and as a Tiger. Court-Menendez now enters her final season as a member of the DWU track team, as she looks to add more hardware to her already impressive resume, which includes four NAIA All-American honors.

"Obviously, we are incredibly proud of Nicole's accomplishments," DWU second-year head coach Derik Fossum '12, '13 said. "She is just a fantastic representative of our program and our school, so anytime she is getting recognized on a national level, it is great for us. She recognizes how much it means to our school and takes a lot of pride in representing us well."

There is a simple reason that Court-Menendez found her way to DWU; the school is everything she wanted. Racewalkers have fewer choices for competing at the college level, limiting her options coming out of high school.

"I wanted a small school, and (Pat) Belling (former DWU track and field coach) was the only coach who was going to let me run and racewalk," Court-Menendez said. "I also wanted to major in athletic training. Finding all three of those things together was pretty difficult."

When Court-Menendez arrived on campus, she admittedly thought she would have no difficulty reaching national success. She was right, as Court-Menendez raced to NAIA All-American finishes in her freshman indoor and

outdoor seasons. At the time, Court-Menendez said she thought she would simply continue to make the podium, but was reminded shortly after her first trip to the awards stand that the first one is the easiest and it only gets harder from there. She admitted to not taking the advice seriously when Belling told her that each one would be harder.

In her freshman outdoor season, Court-Menendez finished ninth, one spot off the podium and from All-American status. The winner was disqualified, bumping Court-Menendez up to eighth. As a sophomore, she said she had a battle the whole way at the NAIA Championships, and everything fell into place for her to get eighth for her third All-American honor. Her second time on the outdoor track for the national meet was a blur as Court-Menendez admitted to not remembering the last two laps of her race, as a heat stroke set in and she said she woke up in a building somewhere sometime after finishing eighth.

Her junior season did not result in an All-American finish, as she placed ninth twice, despite setting personal marks by 30 seconds.

"I didn't believe him (Belling), but he was right," Court-Menendez said. "Every one gets harder."

The goal for her senior season is simple: get back on the podium. Starting with the winter semester at DWU, Court-Menendez and the rest of the student-athletes will have the use of the brand new 85,000-square foot DWU/Avera Sports and Wellness Complex, which includes a 200-meter indoor track.

Until very recently, Court-Menendez made use of a local indoor mall in Mitchell to train, where she said she has built quite a fan-base of local residents who see her practicing on a daily basis.

"The people who are there every day will cheer for me when I go by and know me by name now," Court-Menendez said with a laugh.

The future is still up in the air for Court-Menendez, who is looking to head to graduate school with a graduate assistant position for athletic training following her time at DWU. She said that competing post-college is an option, but it will require a step up in competition. The open division that Court-Menendez would compete in would require her to race in 20k events.

"She has put DWU on the map in the racewalking world and has been a consistent fixture at the national meet," Fossum said. "The most impressive part to me is that she did all of this while completing one of the toughest and most time-consuming degrees a person can pursue."



DWU COACH DERIK
FOSSUM
defossum@dwu.edu



SHORTS

Visit www.dwuathletics.com for sports updates.

Men's Basketball

The No. 9 Tigers head into the holiday break with a 10-4 overall and 5-2 record in the GPAC. Senior guard Trae Bergh finished with 38 points in the Tiger win over Doane College on Dec. 19. Bergh is averaging a team best 22.2 points per game. This season, Bergh became the all-time leader in career 3-pointers at DWU and currently has 268 makes in his four years. Bergh also has the single game for 3-pointers made with 12, breaking the record earlier this season against Nebraska Wesleyan University. Jade Miller scored his 1,000th point against Valley City State, becoming the 53rd player to reach the milestone in DWU men's history. Miller is averaging 20.1 points per game. Tate Martin leads the team with 80 assists on the season and is averaging 13.8 points per game.

Women's Basketball

The DWU women's basketball team is off to its best start since the 2003-04 season with a 12-1 overall and 6-1 record in the GPAC. Kristin Sabers is leading the way for the Tiger women, averaging 18.1 points per game. Sabers won back-to-back GPAC Player-of-the-Week honors with outstanding performances, including tying the DWU record for 3-pointers made in a game with eight. Erica Herrold has also been a dominant leader for DWU, averaging 16.1 points per contest. Ashley Bray and Amber Bray are averaging 10.5 and 10.2 points, respectively, while freshman Rylie Osthus has

stepped up in her first season with the Tigers, averaging 7.4 points. DWU had a statement win over No. 9 Concordia on Dec. 5, topping the Bulldogs 73-66. The Tigers are ranked No. 12 heading into 2016.

Cross Country

The Tiger men's cross country team finished the season in ninth place at the GPAC Championships, while the women finished 11th. Sophomore Jeremiah Panec was the top men's runner for the Tigers at the GPAC meet, with a 24th-place finish. For the Tiger women, senior Skylar Forgey led the way with a 51st-place finish. Juniors Michael Claar and Jessica Neises were named NAIA Scholar-Athletes following the season.

Football

The DWU football team had a tremendous season, finishing at No. 14 with an overall record of 9-2 and a GPAC record of 7-2. This was the second time in school history for a Tiger football team to reach nine wins. Senior Brady Bonte was named an AFCA All-American and earned All-GPAC First-Team Defense honors. Bonte closed his senior season with 80 tackles, including 20 tackles for a loss and 8.5 sacks. He added five forced fumbles, an interception and five pass breakups. Joining Bonte on the All-GPAC First Team were junior defensive end Brady Mudder, sophomore wide receiver Hayden Adams and senior offensive lineman Taylor Haley. Mudder finished

the season with a team-high 10.5 sacks and 20.5 tackles for a loss. Adams ended his season catching 14 touchdown passes, with a long of 82. Haley capped off his senior season as part of an offensive line that allowed DWU to rush for 2,285 yards this season. The 2015 senior class compiled 30 wins over four years, the most of any DWU class.

Men's Golf

The DWU men's golf team is tied for fourth in the GPAC standings after the completion of the first two conference qualifiers during the fall season. Junior Thomas Hogg is tied for third and is just three strokes behind the overall lead. The Tiger men's golf team often fielded two teams at events this fall. In their opening meet of the season, the Midland Invite, the top team for the Tigers finished in second and the B Team was just behind in third place.

Women's Golf

The Tiger women's golf team sits in a tie for second in the GPAC after the first two qualifiers. Senior Lauren Fitts continued her outstanding career for DWU and is at the top of the leaderboard by 11 strokes after the first two rounds of the conference championship. The Tiger women started strong, winning the first meet of the season at Midland. In the spring the DWU women's team looks to defend the conference title, as they have won the last seven. The Tigers host the fourth and final qualifier of the season at Wild Oak Golf Course in Mitchell.

Men's Soccer

The DWU men's soccer team had a strong end to their season, winning three of their last four games to reach the GPAC Tournament. The Tigers dropped their postseason opener to Midland, with a Warrior goal in the last three minutes to edge DWU 2-1. Overall, the men's soccer team finished 6-12-1. The DWU men's soccer team had five NAIA Scholar-Athletes: seniors Sterling Hubbard, Adam Jahnel, Travis Moodie, Tyson Moodie and Zach Schneider.

Women's Soccer

Tiger women's soccer fielded a

young team in 2015, including numerous freshman in vital roles. DWU finished the season with a 3-15 record. The Tigers picked up their lone GPAC win of the season with a double overtime victory over rival Mount Marty College on a goal from freshman Gemini Wesley. Junior Makenna Hancock and senior Lexi Wilde were named NAIA Scholar-Athletes. Sophomore goalkeeper Cici Schneider was named an All-GPAC Honorable Mention.

Volleyball

The Tiger volleyball team continues to make strides in the right direction under second-year head coach Lindsay Wilber. DWU finished the season with an 11-20 record, just missing the league tournament in an extremely tough GPAC. Junior Lauren Tadlock had a standout season and was named to the All-GPAC Second Team. Tadlock ended the season ranked second in the conference with 3.9 kills per set, just behind Northwestern's Karlie Schut at four kills per set. She finished the season with 436 total kills. Senior Libero Maggie Stehly and redshirt junior Sammy Fluck each earned All-GPAC Honorable Mention honors. Stehly reached a list of milestones this season, including climbing her way up to fourth on the DWU all-time digs list with 1,681 digs, adding 556 digs in 2015. Fluck finished third in the GPAC with 115 total blocks and ended her career with 619 kills. The Tiger volleyball team had two NAIA Scholar-Athletes, with redshirt junior Mallory Jark and junior Emily Pengilly each being honored.

Wrestling

The Tigers are still looking for their first dual victory on the season under first-year head coach Nick Hutcheson. Redshirt senior Trevor DeVestern continues his dominant college career with the Tigers. DeVestern has recently tied the DWU all-time wins mark with 105 wins with five victories and a fourth-place finish at the Luther Hill Invitational. DeVestern will have an opportunity to break the record held by Jordan Harer at the first dual after the holiday break in a home match against Morningside College.

BRADY BONTE



The Dakota Wesleyan University football senior class will leave the school as the winningest group in program history, led by the ever-dominant presence of **BRADY BONTE**. The standout linebacker was a force on the field for the DWU defense for the last four seasons and has been named an AFCA All-American for the first time in his career. Bonte was named to the second team and adds the honor to his Beyond Sports All-American Honorable Mention recognition from his sophomore season. The Garretson, S.D., native was the lone Tiger to make the All-American Team and first for DWU since wide receiver Anthony Muilenberg in 2013. The honor is the 29th in DWU history. Bonte wrapped up his senior season with 80 total tackles, 57 solo, which was second on the team. He added 8.5 sacks, 20 tackles for loss, five forced fumbles, one interception and five pass breakups. Bonte had double-digit tackles three times, including a season-high 14 in a win over Northwestern College, a game that he added two sacks, three tackles for loss and a forced fumble. Bonte finished his career with 347 total tackles, 23.5 sacks, 71 tackles for loss, nine forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries, three interceptions and 16 pass breakups. He added an interception return for a touchdown in 2013 and a fumble recovery for a score in 2012. The Tigers finished 9-2 overall in 2015 and 30-13 in Bonte's four years with the team.



class notes.

We welcome alumni news for the **Class Notes** section of *Wesleyan Today*.

Please note that we edit Class Notes for length, with priority given to news specifically about alumni of Dakota Wesleyan. Go to the "alumni and visitors" link at www.dwu.edu and click on "update alumni information" to tell us what's new with you.

1950s

Arlo C. English '54, of Casper, Wyo., owned Wyoming Sign Company for 40 years, until he sold it in 2012. Throughout his life, he has been a painter and sculptor. In honor of Father's Day, his daughter, Suzette English McIntyre, owner of Boardwalk Gallery in Windsor, Colo., featured a 60-year retrospect of his works. The event was featured on the front page of the Windsor newspaper, including mention of Arlo's time at DWU.

Richard Potter '56 is cancer-free as of October 2015. He and his wife, Susan, are proud great-grandparents of a 1-year-old.

Evelyn Bidleman Whitney '56 celebrated her 100th birthday on Aug. 7, 2015.

1960s

Jack Jones '61 and spouse, Shirley, will be celebrating their 58th wedding anniversary. They have four daughters, 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Wayne Girton '62 is retired and enjoying working part time with medical students at Des Moines University.

Gary ex'65 and **Donna May '70 Goldammer** live in north Texas near their granddaughters. They return to Sioux Falls often to visit their grandson and family.

Joseph Lecci '66, of Middle Island, N.Y., has served in pastoral ministry for 38 years and is a retired high school administrator. He continues to be involved in outreach as superintendent of Middle Island Caring for Kids Day Care and Learning Center and also executive director of Lifeline Mediation Center.

Class of 1965 Reunion

The Class of 1965 was one of the largest in Dakota Wesleyan history and has always had a large representation at past reunions. This year was no exception. The group celebrated their 50th class reunion with a dinner and entertainment at the Wild Oak Golf Course.



1965 CLASS REUNION – From left to right, back row: **Maggie Baird Fink '65**, of Sioux Falls; **Linda Jensen Shaw '65**, of Owatanna, Minn.; **Denna Cleland Massey '64**, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; **Joyce Ragels Darling '65**, of Deadwood; **Sharen Schilder Wahlfeld '65**, of Maumelle, Ark.; and **Karen Schilder Galloway '65**, of Dublin, Calif. Front row: **Nancy Fabis Elwell '65**, of Fountain Hills, Ariz.; **Pat Becker Twedt '65**, of Mitchell; **Lew Massey '68**, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; **Andrew Boyajian '65**, of Cranbury, N.J.; and **Ted Safranski '67**, of Mitchell.



1965 CLASS REUNION – From left to right, back row: **Mary Ann Tschetter Gross '65**, of Bridgewater; **Alona Parkening Petersen '65**, of Pukwana; **Steve Schock '65**, of Oceanside, Calif.; **Karen Erickson Lantz '65**, of Rapid City; **Ruby Hofer '65**, of Bridgewater; **Peter Masella '65**, of Bronx, N.Y.; and **Carol Stoops Hildebrand '65**, of Eugene, Ore. Front row: **Esther Harris Ost '65**, of Sioux Falls; **Larry Herzog '64**, of Munnsville, N.Y.; **Penny Fritze-Tietz '65**, of Monticello, Minn.; **Veronica Scott Stoneall '65**, of Harrisburg; and **Jim Cochran '65**, of Brookings.

Karen Erickson Lantz '65 has served as the president of the United Methodist First Choice Credit Union for 28 years. She continues her ministry in Uganda, Africa, where this year she gave 40 dairy goats to widows and their families.

Margaret Trask Coviello Waddell '68 is retired and will be spending the winter in Arizona.

1970s

Greg Coyne ex'70 retired in 2004 from the state of California after 36 years as budgeting and accounting manager. He currently lives in Fair Oaks, Calif.

class notes.



1965 CLASS REUNION – From left to right, back row: **Gail Hladky Bride '65**, of Spring Hill, Fla.; **Donneen Dale McKay '65**, of Burnsville, Minn.; **Connie Whitney Howard '65**, of Rapid City; **Don Thayer '67**, of Brodhead, Wis.; **Judy DeWitt Thayer '65**, of Brodhead, Wis.; **Paul Wentworth '65**, of Loup City, Neb.; **Marcia Farley Wentworth '64**, of Loup City, Neb.; **Jack Erickson '65**, of Britton; **Georgiann Crum Crouse '64**, of Casper, Wyo.; **Roger Jespersen '65**, of Cape Girardeau, Mo.; **Kathleen Wagner Thelen '65**, of Reliance; **Ward Thelen '65**, of Reliance; **Ramona Tuttle Persan '65**, of East Marion, N.Y.; **Fred Persan '65**, of East Marion, N.Y.; and **Larry Hasz '65**, of Mitchell. Seated: **Stu Crouse '65**, of Casper, Wyo.



1965 CLASS REUNION – From left to right, back row: **Robert Ohlen '65**, of Boone, N.C.; **Bill Davis '65**, of Huron; and **Dick Gould '65**, of Mitchell. Middle row: **Lynna Iverson Kaloupek '65**, of McPherson, Kan.; **Marjorie Lytle Husman '65**, of Kimball; **Delores Price Gould '65**, of Mitchell; **John Butler '65**, of Cinnaminson, N.J.; **Sandy Ebel Butler '66**, of Cinnaminson, N.J.; **Jeanette and Myles Kennedy '66**, of Spearfish; and **Lee Woodward**, of Camarillo, Calif. Front row: **Evalyn Sougstad Beasley '65**, of Gainesville, Fla.; **Peggy Eastburn Rosenkranz '65**, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and **Joan Stratton-Crooke Woodward '65**, of Camarillo, Calif. Not pictured: **Mark West '66**, of Riverhead, N.Y.



1965 CLASS REUNION – From left to right: **Evalyn Sougstad Beasley '65**, of Gainesville, Fla.; **Dawna Estes Tsitrian '65**, of Rapid City; and **Joan Stratton-Crooke Woodward '65**, of Camarillo, Calif.

Jerry Anderson '71 retired in September from his career with the TSA at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

Rex Piercy '71 is retiring after 44 years in parish ministry. He and his partner will relocate to Madison, Wis., spending winters in Central America.

Karen Lambert '72 retired in June after 43 years of service at the South Dakota Human Services Center.

David Wilson ex'72 retired after 28 years with Kroger grocery stores. Previously, he was a teacher with Denver Public Schools.

DWU RETIREMENT

DEB HARRINGTON CAP '73

celebrated her retirement from DWU with a campus-wide gathering after 23 years of employment in the institutional advancement office. During her tenure she served four university presidents, receiving the Presidential Award for Outstanding Service in 1998 and the alumni award for Outstanding Service to Alma Mater in 2003. Deb's family was in attendance for her retirement party, including her daughters, both graduates of DWU.



1980s

Beth Fahey Kroger '84, '91 was honored with the Chancellor's Employee of the Year Award at the University of Colorado Boulder. She serves on the Dakota Wesleyan University Board of Trustees.

class notes.

1990s

David Aslesen '93 is now the lead pastor of First United Methodist Church of Park Ridge, Ill. He recently completed two years as the chairman of the Elgin District Committee on Ordained and Licensed Ministry within the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Heather Persan Soto '96 is a full-time English instructor at the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor in Belton, Texas, where she has been an adjunct for the last two years.

2000s

Brandon Vetter '03 and **Vicky Peterson Vetter '03** moved to Bismarck, N.D., in June 2014. Brandon was appointed as second pastor at Legacy United Methodist Church. Vicky is the communications director in the Legacy office.

2010s

Seth LaBounty '11 and **Valerie Hummel '14** were married on June 20, 2015. Seth graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary on May 23, 2015, and was commissioned as a provisional elder of the Dakotas Conference of the United Methodist Church in June. He has been appointed to serve Union Grove United Methodist Church in Union Grove, Wis.

Bishop William Muriuki '11 was elected bishop of the new Uganda Synod. He was inducted in January 2016.

Justin Mitchell '12 graduated from Cumberland School of Law, Samford University, in May 2015, and passed the Alabama Bar in September. He is now working for the Revill Law Firm doing civil litigation, which entails everything from car wrecks to constitutional and civil rights violations.

Jesse Bennett '13 and **Leah Miiller '13** were married on Aug. 15, 2015. Jesse is a medical device sales representative in Watertown for RSW Medical, and Leah is pursuing her master's degree for physician's assistant at Union College, Lincoln, Neb.

Late '60s-Early '70s Reunion

The classes of the late '60s and early '70s have made it an annual event to gather at the home of **Dave '70** and **Deanell Quiett '70 Backlund**, of Mitchell, during Blue & White Days. This year, the group celebrated with the reunion of Full House, a band comprised of DWU students that was popular during that era. The group was so well received that they are planning a return engagement during Blue & White Days 2016.



1970s REUNION – From left to right, back row: **Howard Grinager '70**, of Parker; **Deanell Quiett Backlund '70**, of Mitchell; **Jon Krealmeyer '70**, of Frisco, Colo.; **Craig Peterson ex'70**, of Long Beach, Calif.; **Dave Backlund '70**, of Mitchell; and **Karen Riley Sievers '70**, of Panora, Iowa. Middle row: **Dennis Carmichael ex'70**, of Brookings; **Karen Workman Carmichael ex'70**, of Brookings; **Dave Morse '70**, of San Dimas, Calif.; **Denny Lindamood ex'70, '90**, of Blaine, Minn.; **Rita Johnson '70**, of Webster; **Harold Reese '70**, of Las Vegas; **Dick Leir '71**, of Rapid City; **Jim Hoff '70**, of Lead; **Barry Muxen ex'71**, of Rapid City; and **Dave Roberts ex'70**, of Indianapolis. Front row: **Gary Longwell '70**, of Aurora, Colo.; **Candi Wiley Phelps ex'70**, of St. Paul, Minn.; **Jim Follett '70**, of Baldwin Park, Calif.; and **Erik Rasmussen '70**, of Woodbury, N.Y. Not pictured: **Bruce '71** and **Barb Wagner '71** Cutler, of Aberdeen; **Roy '70** and **Sheryl Wilcox '71** Gruenewald, of Mitchell; **Bruce '73** and **Gail Hoe '74** Heimbuck, of Guernsey, Wyo.; **Bev Freeman Morse '68**, of San Dimas, Calif.; **Barb Eagleton Murray '69**, of Fond du Lac, Wis.; **George '71** and **Debbie Sperlich '73** Ryks, of Ethan; **John Turpin ex'71**, of Jefferson, Iowa; **Donna Pierce Winter '72**, of Hilton Head Island, S.C.; and **Harry "Skip" Cook '71**, of New Lenox, Ill.

1970s REUNION – Hosts **Deanell Quiett Backlund '70** and **Dave Backlund '70**, of Mitchell.



class notes.



1970s REUNION – From left to right: members of Full House, **Harry “Skip” Cook ’71**, of New Lenox, Ill.; **Rita Johnson ’70**, of Webster; **Bruce Cutler ’71**, of Aberdeen; **Candi Wiley Phelps ex’70**, of St. Paul, Minn.; and **Gary Longwell ’70**, of Aurora, Colo.

1975 Class Reunion

Individuals from the Class of 1975 initiated a 40th Class Reunion and gathered for a weekend of reminiscing during Blue & White Days.



1975 CLASS REUNION – Members of the Class of 1975 gathered at the Scoreboard for a post-football game dinner. From left to right, back row: **Steve Haddorf ’75**, of Sioux Falls; **Kassie Myers ’75**, of Veneta, Ore.; **Dwight Rust ’75**, of Mitchell; **Jay Wano ’75**, of Latrobe, Pa.; **Brad Brodersen ’75**, of Vermillion; and **Britt Bruner ’75**, of Mitchell. Front row: **Linda Rae Jensen-Placek ’75**, of Pierre; **Marilyn Mueller Haddorf MH’75, ex’76**, of Sioux Falls; and **Nancy Olsen Burkey ex’73, MH’75**, of Lakewood, Calif. Others attending the weekend activities, but not pictured: **Sandy Logan Wano ’74**, of Latrobe, Pa.; **Carol Fleischauer Brodersen ’75**, of Vermillion; **Dave Dumin ’75**, of Langehom, Pa.; **Rachel Rambough Heckel ’76**, of Mitchell; **Barb Frager Yungbluth ’74**, of Mitchell; **Barb Berry Davis ’74**, of Mitchell; **Roxann Foster ’73**, of Sugarland, Texas; **Wendy Lamont ’73**, of Sioux Falls; and members of the 1975 DWU and Methodist School of Nursing classes.

Amanda Hart ’14 was hired as the director of basketball operations at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, in August, and she just completed her Master of Arts in educational policy and administration from DWU.

Nick Hutcheson ’14 is currently working toward a master’s in educational policy and administration at DWU and has taken the position of interim head wrestling coach.

SAMANTHA SANDAU ZIEGLER ’14

and her husband, Jordan, welcomed twin daughters, Brileigh Sue and Caleigh Ann, on May 25, 2015. Both girls were born at 23 weeks and though Caleigh entered heaven that night, her sister, Brileigh, was released from the NICU in Sioux Falls on Oct. 11, and is home with her family. “Brileigh has been doing wonderfully,” Samantha said. “She is an inspiration to many, and her story has spread to states outside of South Dakota. While we were in the hospital, DWU staff and faculty reached out to us and kept us in their hearts and minds. It’s an incredible feeling to know that a university can be that close-knit where professors can reach out to their alumni in prayer. Former campus pastor, **Brandon Vetter ’03**, also met us at the hospital the night of the girls’ births and baptized Caleigh. It’s overwhelming to have another family such as that.” Samantha is living in Tripp and working in Armour as an English teacher and head volleyball coach.

Friends

Bob Tatina, DWU biology professor from 1975 to 2007, recently had two articles published. The Natural Areas Journal published “Effects on Trillium recurvatum, a Michigan Threatened Species, of Applying Glyphosate to Control Vinca minor,” and Castanea, the Journal of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society, published “Changes in Fagus grandifolia and Acer saccharum Abundance in an Old-growth Beech-Maple Forest at Warren Woods State Park in Berrien County, Michigan.”

class notes.

Deaths

Dorothy Alexander Collins '36, of Columbiaville, Mich., died on Nov. 10, 2015.

Helen Gilmour Neville '37, of Huntsville, Ala., died on May 29, 2015.

Esther Knutson Buttrey '39, of Ames, Iowa, died on May 6, 2015.

Dan Hoyt '40, of Winona, Minn., died on Aug. 11, 2015.

Eula Gardner Henline MH'40, '64, of Bella Vista, Ark., died on May 30, 2015.

Evelyn Hutton Johnson '40, '67, of Rapid City, died on Aug. 29, 2015.

June Lundy Stehr '41, of St. Bonifacius, Minn., died on Oct. 11, 2015.

Craig Vinson ex'42, of Rock Rapids, Iowa, died on June 28, 2015. He is survived by his wife, **Betty Hays Vinson ex'42**.

Beula Brinker Olson C'42, of Niagara Falls, N.Y., died on May 14, 2015.

Eleanor Edge Yahne '42, of Louisville, Ky., died on Oct. 2, 2015.

Maxine Hossack Horman ex'44, of Dubuque, Iowa, died on July 24, 2015.

Fern Jorgensen Jones '45, of Mitchell, died on June 30, 2015.

Shirley Scott Cooper ex'49, of Wilmar, Minn., died on Oct. 10, 2015.

Nancy Putman Stark '50, of Ramsey, N.J., died on June 1, 2015.

Stan Stydnicki ex'50, of Baxter, Minn., died on Sept. 5, 2015.

Vern Ashley '54, of Pierre, died on Nov. 10, 2015.



1975 CLASS REUNION – Alumni from the mid-'70s gathered to watch the Blue & White Days homecoming parade. From left to right: **Sharon Placek Koch '76**, of Plankinton; **Judy Jensen Saylor ex'75**, of Wakonda; **Linda Rae Jensen-Placek '75**, of Pierre; **Steve Haddorf '75**, of Sioux Falls; **Marilyn Mueller Haddorf MH'75, ex'76**, of Sioux Falls; **Jim Jones '75**, of Plankinton; **Jay Wano '75**, of Latrobe, Pa.; **Kassie Myers '75**, of Veneta, Ore.; and **Vaughn Heckel '75**, of Spearfish.

All-Class Nursing Reunion

In May 1975, Dakota Wesleyan University celebrated the graduation of its first official class of nurses from the DWU nursing program. That day also celebrated the final graduating class from the Methodist School of Nursing, a program that had trained nurses since 1918. Graduates from both programs, as well as other nursing alumni, gathered for an all-class nursing reunion at the Glenda K. Corrigan Health Sciences Center during Blue & White Days. **Nelle Funk '40 MH'44** received special recognition for her service to the nursing profession, as well as for her years as a professor in the DWU nursing program.



1975 METHODIST SCHOOL OF NURSING REUNION – From left to right: **Nancy Olson Burkey ex'73, MH'75**, of Lakewood, Calif.; **Nancy McNary Gonsor MH'75, ex'76**, of Pierre; **Debora Untereiner Bormann MH'75, ex'76**, of Parkston; **Elaine Titze Pooley MH'75, ex'76**, of Mitchell; **Lynette Thompsen Steiner MH'75, ex'76**, of Holstein, Neb.; **Charlene Sedlacek Pietz MH'75, ex'76**, of Mitchell; **Pam Crisman Bastemeyer MH'75, ex'76**, of Wagner; and **Marilyn Mueller Haddorf MH'75, ex'76**, of Sioux Falls.



1975 DWU NURSING REUNION – From left to right, back row: **Vicki Fraser Triggs '75**, of Rapid City; **Genie Bishop Ellis '75**, of Black Hawk; **Diana Francis Dirksen '75**, of Twin Brooks; **Chris Vest Newell '75**, of Des Moines, Iowa; **Peg Johnson Doud '75**, of Rapid City; and **Deborah Reis Johnson '75**, of Sioux Falls. Front row: **Mary Bach Myers '75**, of Spearfish; **Connie Hogg Muldoon '75**, of Aberdeen; **Mary Ellen Jepsen '75**, of Mitchell; and **Lynne Graber Laird '75**, of Rapid City.



ALL-CLASS NURSING REUNION – From left to right, back row: **Bob Gillies '81**, of Sioux Falls; unidentified; **Dan Vendt '98**, of Mitchell; **Debora Untereiner Bormann MH'75, ex'76**, of Parkston; **Elaine Titze Pooley MH'75, ex'76**, of Mitchell; **Pam Crisman Bastemeyer MH'75, ex'76**, of Wagner; **Lynne Graber Laird '75**, of Rapid City; **Lynette Thompsen Steiner MH'75, ex'76**, of Holstein, Neb.; **Charlene Sedlacek Pietz MH'75, ex'76**, of Mitchell; and **Steph Pietz Van Wyhe '01**, of Sioux Falls. Middle row: **Audrey Ecklein Eich '99**, of Salem; **Carena Hostler Jarding '00**, of Alexandria; **Carri Jewett Kopfmann '01**, of Mitchell; **Connie Henson Fergen '00**, of Mitchell; **Jolae Matthews Semmler '85**, of Sioux Falls; **Carna Atherton-Pray '76**, of Groton; **Vicki Fraser Triggs '75**, of Rapid City; **Genie Bishop Ellis '75**, of Black Hawk; **Mary Bach Myers '75**, of Spearfish; **Diana Francis Dirksen '75**, of Twin Brooks; **Connie Hogg Muldoon '75**, of Aberdeen; **Chris Vest Newell '75**, of Des Moines, Iowa; **Mary Ellen Jepsen '75**, of Mitchell; **Peg Johnson Doud '75**, of Rapid City; **Dorothy Geidel Deinert '86**, of Mount Vernon; **Deborah Reis Johnson '75**, of Sioux Falls; **Alice Dobson Miner '85**, of Gregory; **Marcella Peterson Carothers '85**, of North Fort Myers, Fla.; **Nancy McNary Gonsor MH'75, ex'76**, of Pierre; **Marilyn Mueller Haddorff MH'75, ex'76**, of Sioux Falls; and **Kami Krogman Lindberg '01**, of Sioux Falls. Front row: **Peggy Austreim Clarke '76**, of Howard; **Allison Clarke Muilenburg '11**, of Sioux Falls; **Karol Fleischauer Brodersen '76**, of Vermillion; **Lianne Bierwagen Bjugstad '76**, of Lisbon, N.D.; **Nelle Williams Funk '40, MH'44**, of Mitchell; **Charlotte Beauvais LaPointe '77**, of Cody, Neb.; **Sue Gascoigne Neitzert '77**, of Aurora, Colo.; **Lou Ora Nelson Busk Houk MH '50, '51, HD '12**, of Mitchell; **Nancy Olson Burkey ex'73, MH'75**, of Lakewood, Calif.; **Darlene Oslund Halajian '78**, of Milbank; and **Wyonne Vander Tuin Kaemingk '76, '77**, of Mitchell.

DWU REMEMBERS

DON BOHNING '55, of Davie, Fla., died on Sept. 26, 2015. He is survived by his wife, **Gerry Morris Bohning '55**. Don began his career as a journalist for the Mitchell



Daily Republic, and began working for The Miami Herald in 1959. He was named the newspaper's Latin America editor in 1967, a position he held until his retirement in 2000. Over the course of 36 years as a foreign correspondent for The Miami Herald, he reported from every independent country in the Western Hemisphere. Included among his many awards were the Inter-American Press Association Tom Wallace Award of Excellence for Latin America reporting, Hal Boyle Overseas Press Club Award for best daily newspaper reporting of Grenada, the Pulitzer Prize with Latin America editors and reporters of The Miami Herald for national reporting of the Iran Contra story, and the James Nelson Goodsell Award for outstanding Latin America reporting. His book, "The Castro Obsession: U.S. Covert Operations Against Cuba 1959-1965," was published in 2006. Don and his wife, Gerry, received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the DWU College of Leadership and Public Service in 2011. In addition to Gerry, Don is survived by a son, Lee, and daughter, Lori.

Clara "Grace" Warner '58, of Sioux Falls, died on Nov. 11, 2015.

Dennis Eikenberry '62, of Eau Claire, Wis., died on Oct. 10, 2015.

Den Corrin '63, of Redding, Calif., died on June 13, 2015.

Robert Ohlen '65, of Boone, N.C., died on Nov. 25, 2015.

class notes.

Robert Power '67, of Bridgeport, Conn., died on Aug. 8, 2015.

Ronald Davenport ex'68, of Indianapolis, died on Aug. 28, 2015.

Juanita Tiede Lindemann '68, of Parkston, died on Sept. 28, 2015.

Ellen Lowe Christensen '69, of Golden, Colo., died on Aug. 15, 2015.

Pete Jones '69, of Mitchell, died on Oct. 19, 2015.

Preston Brown HD'74, of Rapid City, died on July 2, 2015.

Gayle Johnston '75, of Guthrie, Okla., died on Sept. 29, 2015.

Patricia Jarding Speelman '75, of Alexandria, died on Aug. 18, 2015.

Bonnie Birger ex'78, of Sioux Falls, died on May 15, 2015.

Jodi Leiferman Wingert ex'88, of Chamberlain, died on Oct. 29, 2015.

Lori Doyle Holmberg '95, of Mitchell, died on Oct. 11, 2015.

FRIENDS: **Zodie Kay**, of Lincoln, Neb., died on Oct. 8, 2015. She was the spouse of **Dr. Phil Kaye '42, HD '95**, former speech faculty and member of the DWU Board of Trustees.

FRIENDS: **The Rev. Richard Dale Pittenger, HD '71**, of Sioux Falls, former member of the DWU Board of Trustees, died on Nov. 2, 2015. He was the father of **the Rev. Rick Pittenger '80**.

DWU REMEMBERS

BEAU JAMES KEETER, 19, of St. Lawrence, son of Jim and Christine Carr Keeter, passed away on Sept. 23, 2015. He was a freshman majoring in athletic training. He was a member of the DWU men's basketball team and the varsity practice squad, and a member of Miller First United Methodist Church.



DWU REMEMBERS

PAMELA NIELSON BOLINE, associate professor of human services, died on Nov. 30, 2015, suddenly at her home in Mitchell. Funeral services were held on campus within the Sherman Center with president Amy Novak and campus pastor Eric Van Meter speaking. Pam touched many hearts, minds and lives throughout her 35 years teaching at Dakota Wesleyan, and she will be greatly missed. Please turn to pages 30-31 for a tribute to Pam.



Travel

The Rev. Mark and Lisa Johnsen, of Hot Springs, directors of Travel Ministry for Educational Opportunities, will lead a trip to England from July 12-20, 2016. During this Wesleyan Heritage Tour, travelers will journey through England and discover the roots of the early church and the ministry of John Wesley. Visits include London, Oxford, and the Old Rectory at Epworth, where John Wesley grew up. For more information, contact the Rev. Johnsen at pastormarkjohnsen@gmail.com or call 605-745-4891.

2016 Date Book

- **Feb. 21** – Winter Band and LyricWood Concert
- **Feb. 25-28** – "Women of Lockerbie," DWU Theatre Production
- **March 3** – Conference for Leadership, Innovation and Social Change
- **March 6** – Winter Choir and Bells Concert
- **March 19-27** – Spring Break
- **April 8-10** – "Godspell," DWU Musical Production
- **April 15-17** – "Godspell," DWU Musical Production
- **April 24** – The British Invasion: Music of the British Isles
- **April 29** – Honors and Convocation Banquet
- **April 30** – Athletic Awards Banquet
- **May 1** – Spring Ring Concert
- **May 3** – DWU Service Day
- **May 7** – Nursing Pinning Ceremony
- **May 8** – Baccalaureate and Commencement
- **Sept. 16-17** – Blue & White Days

www.dwu.edu/events

Do you know someone who would benefit from a Dakota Wesleyan education?



Contact the DWU Admissions team and schedule a **CAMPUS VISIT**.
605-995-2650 or admissions@dwu.edu

DISCOVER YOUR STRENGTH.

Distinguished Alumni Awards



Dakota Wesleyan University recognized three alumni with Distinguished Alumni Awards at the annual Legacy Banquet during Blue & White Days.

DON HAFNER, of Aurora, Colo., received the **Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Leadership and Public Service.**

Hafner, originally from Ethan, S.D., was a four-year basketball standout for DWU and played two years of Tiger football. He graduated in 1965 with a business degree and an emphasis in accounting. After graduation, he accepted a position working for Rollie Kelley, another DWU alumnus, at the Colorado Container Corporation, a manufacturer of corrugated paper boxes and products in Denver. He worked his way up to executive vice president before beginning a career in financial consulting.

In 1985, he became the owner and president of InterFinancial Services Inc. Five years later, he sold the firm and accepted the lead position of president at Omnivest Financial Services Inc. and then went on to serve as the Colorado State Director of the National Organization of Estate Planning for Persons with Disabilities. His experience in accounting, taxes, finance, investment counseling and business management led him to establish Settlement Partners LLC, a company providing settlement services to fill a niche in the marketplace of helping people with catastrophic injuries and special needs. He is the recipient of the Partner of the Year Award from the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association. In addition to his corporate office in Denver, Hafner has offices in two locations in Texas and conducts business nationwide. He does extensive pro bono services for families in need, including several families who were victims of 9/11. He is a founding member of the Society of Settlement Planners and a member of the National Structured Settlement Trade Association.

In addition to holding leadership positions in numerous organizations connected to his career, he served as a member of Civitan International, holding various positions, including Distinguished President, was a longtime volunteer with Special Olympics, served as head elder and head usher for many years and as Sunday school superintendent. He has also provided free tax preparation services to low- to moderate-income families and volunteered as an elementary basketball coach.

Hafner and his wife, Jill, have been married for 32 years. They have four children and two grandchildren.



DON THAYER, of Brodhead, Wis., received the **Distinguished Alumni Award from the Donna Starr Christen College of Healthcare, Fitness and Sciences.**

Thayer grew up on the family farm near White Lake, S.D. His desire to become a veterinarian was fueled by both his encouraging mother and the love of a Shetland pony named Danny, who broke his front leg when Thayer was in the third grade. After rushing the pony to the veterinarian, only to realize the doctor did not have either the proper tools or training to treat it, the pony had to be put down. That experience led Thayer to think, "There must be a better way for a more desirable outcome."

Thayer came to DWU in the fall of 1961 following his brother, Bill, already a student here. His twin sister, Donna, entered the Methodist Hospital nursing program. Thayer briefly considered engineering before focusing on the sciences with the goal of veterinary medicine. He was a student-athlete and played Tiger football. In Dr. Linn's biology class, he met the love of his life, Judy DeWitt. They married in August 1965 and had four children. Thayer took additional classes at both SDSU and Iowa State University, officially graduating from DWU in 1967.

He then attended Iowa State University School of Veterinary Medicine and graduated in 1970. Shortly after graduation, Thayer and a fellow vet school



classmate traveled to Wisconsin, and he decided to move there to begin his career. He joined a four-man mixed animal practice near Brodhead, Wis.

Yet, while Thayer was developing his practice, he had a personal desire to share his Christian faith through his veterinary work. He became connected to Christian Veterinary Mission, a sister organization of World Concern, and took the first of what would become 11 mission trips to Haiti, where he educated locals on animal care. Thayer's 38-year career included 17 mission trips to Haiti, India, Ecuador, Kenya, Romania and Nicaragua. On many of the mission adventures, his family members were able to accompany him.

Although officially retired from the clinic he helped build, Thayer now pours himself into his family, his church and many other Christian causes. His focus is to encourage others to a life of service in Christ.

He and Judy are especially grateful to Dakota Wesleyan for providing a firm foundation for their life of service.

DOROTHY ALEXANDER COLLINS, of Columbiaville, Mich., formerly of Redfield, S.D., received the **Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Arts and Humanities.**

From the time she was a little girl growing up in Redfield, Collins was surrounded by music and the arts. She began piano lessons in first grade, and as a teenager accompanied the church choir and all of the music ensembles at school. On Sunday mornings, the church choir rehearsed in her family's living room, and Collins dreamed of someday being an accompanist to a famous soloist.

She graduated from DWU in 1936 with majors in music and English and minors in math and history. The Great Depression meant that jobs were few, but she found jobs at Hazel, Roscoe and McIntosh, S.D. In 1941, she spread her independent wings, bought her own car and accepted a teaching position in Columbiaville, Mich. The superintendent was aghast that any mother would have allowed her daughter to travel so far alone.

In 1943, she enrolled in library classes at the University of Illinois and continued her teaching career. Just one year later, she met her future husband, Chet Collins. They married in August at the Methodist church in Redfield and raised two children together.

Collins resumed her teaching career in Columbiaville in 1956. During her tenure at Columbiaville, she taught chemistry, mathematics and English, and served as interim principal for one year, as well as supervising the library move to the new high school in 1969. By the late '70s, she was solely responsible for the elementary, middle school and high school libraries. In addition to her many responsibilities within the district, Collins was the yearbook adviser for almost 20 years, and in 1957, began making an official school district scrapbook for each year. For more than 50 years, Collins archived community events and information, which now serve as a historical documents for the school.

Collins retired from the Lakeville Community School District in 1981, but she remained actively involved with the music department, where she accompanied student musicians at competitions and played in the pit band for all of the musicals. She also initiated and organized a church library and provided private piano lessons for hundreds of students over the years. She shared her musical gifts and played the piano for the local Rotary Club long before women were allowed to join; however, when that statute was lifted, she was the first female welcomed into the local chapter.

In 1990, Collins was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Great Teachers Foundation and the Edgar A. Guest Masonic Award for Community Service in 1991. The Village of Columbiaville proclaimed it Collins Day in October 1997, and in 2007, she was presented with the Michigan Lily Festival Association Volunteer of the Year Award. Just this past year, the Valley Area Agency on Aging of Michigan recognized her as one of three centenarians, and her life was chronicled in a video by the agency. In 2012, the Lakeville Board of Education honored her by naming the library media center the Dorothy Collins Media Center.

Collins played the organ at the Columbiaville United Methodist Church for more than 60 years, and at 100 years of age, she continued to richly bless the congregation with her beautiful music every Sunday.

Collins died on Nov. 10, 2015. She was 100 years old.



FACEvalue

PAM NIELSON BOLINE (1956-2015)

EDITOR'S NOTE: It was our intention to feature Pam Boline in this edition of Wesleyan Today for Face Value – a spotlight section for students, staff, faculty and alumni. Pam knew she was to be featured, and after her untimely death, we decided that this space was still hers.

DWU REMEMBERS

Pamela Jeanne Nielson Boline died at her home in rural Mitchell on Nov. 30, 2015, at the age of 59. She was born in Redfield on Jan. 1, 1956, to Wallace and Betty Bross Nielson. She was a 1974 graduate of Redfield High School.

Pam attended the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice studies and sociology in December 1977, and achieving a Master of Arts degree in counseling, guidance and personnel services in July 1979. She married Kent Marshall Boline, of Parker, on June 27, 1981, in Mitchell. They made their home in rural Mitchell.

Pam's entire career was spent in the human services field. In her earlier career, she worked at the Abbott House and the Dakota Mental Health Center as a counselor. In 1980, she began teaching at Dakota Wesleyan University as a part-time faculty member, and she also served as a campus counselor. In 1991, she began teaching full time at DWU, and she had been an associate professor of human services and department chair since 1994. She had served as the Faculty Athletic Representative, an athletic compliance official position, since 1993.

In recognition of her tremendous teaching ability, Pam received many awards, including the Sears Roebuck Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership (1991); Outstanding Humanitarian Award from the Mitchell YWCA (1992); Citationist for the Governor's Volunteer of the Year (1992); DWU Presidential Award for Outstanding Service (1995); recognition for exemplary teaching by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church (1998); the DWU Clarke Award for Teaching Excellence (1998); the DWU Student Senate Outstanding Club Adviser award (2005-06); and she was inducted into the Alpha Delta Omega Human Service Honor Society at the National Organization for Human Service Education Conference (2001).

In addition to serving on multiple Dakota Wesleyan committees and task forces, Pam was committed to many human service organizations in the Mitchell community. She was a founding board member of the Mitchell Area Safehouse,

serving as the board president and on the Safehouse Foundation Board; a founding board member of South Dakota Court Appointed Special Advocates Association; she was the longest active member of the Davison County Child Protection Team, serving since 1983; founding member of the Mitchell Area Suicide Task Force; Mitchell Area Charitable Foundation Board; the Abbott House Board and Foundation Board; MTI Human Services Program Advisory Committee; Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota Board of Directors; Abbott House Board of Directors and Foundation Board; chaired the Davison County American Heart Association board; and she was a United Way volunteer and campaign presenter.

She served as a district, regional and state oral interpretation competition judge; was the review board chairperson and an event judge for the South Central Regional Science and Engineering Fair; and she was a Tannenbaum Festival volunteer.

Pam was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, where she served as a Sunday school teacher, and on the Mission Growth Committee, was Church Council president, and co-chair of the German-Norwegian Dinner.

Pam was a team player on campus at DWU, as well as in the Mitchell community. A DWU TeamMaker booster club member for many years, she was a surrogate mother to hundreds of students over the course of her time at DWU. Whether she was feeding student-athletes, welcoming students into her home, or hiring students to work at her farm so they could earn money in difficult financial times, she was always committed to students and supported their activities. She rarely missed a DWU student performance or competition, and you always knew to find her on the stage bleachers at the Corn Palace during basketball season. Her mission in life was to try and make everyone else's lives happier and brighter.

Pam was preceded in death by her husband, Kent.

Pam wished to begin a fund at DWU for emergency assistance for students in need. Contributions may be sent to Dakota Wesleyan University to establish this fund in her name.

QUOTES FROM FRIENDS

"Pam loved to cook for family, friends and her guys (the football players). She enjoyed going to athletic events. Something people didn't realize about Pam was that she loved sports; she loved all sports. She knew the rules of every different sport as well or better than any male – except hockey. And as much as she loved sports, she loved the arts, too, and enjoyed going to all the DWU musical concerts and plays.

"She was always willing to help anyone who needed a helping hand, whether that was a word, some food or some extra financial help. She always looked for the best in everyone. She was my best friend."

– **RANDY SPRUNG**

Associate Professor of Behavioral Sciences, DWU

"I call Pam the historian for Mitchell Area Safehouse. Whenever I needed support or encouragement, I just called Pam. She knew where it came from, the history behind things, amazing to work with."

– **GLADYS "GLAD" HALL '73**

Sioux Falls, former board member and director of the Mitchell Area Safehouse

"Pam Boline was nothing short of incredible. She was truly a God-send in times of trouble or crisis, and always had a listening ear or a small piece of advice. As a mentor and professor, Pam taught us to be strong and decisive, while still being soft and caring – 'Professionals in Training,' as she would say.

"Pam had a smile that could light up any room, and a story for every occasion. She will be missed."

– **ELISE WIBBEN '15**

Currently working for LifeQuest in Mitchell



FACE*value*
PAM NIELSON BOLINE



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