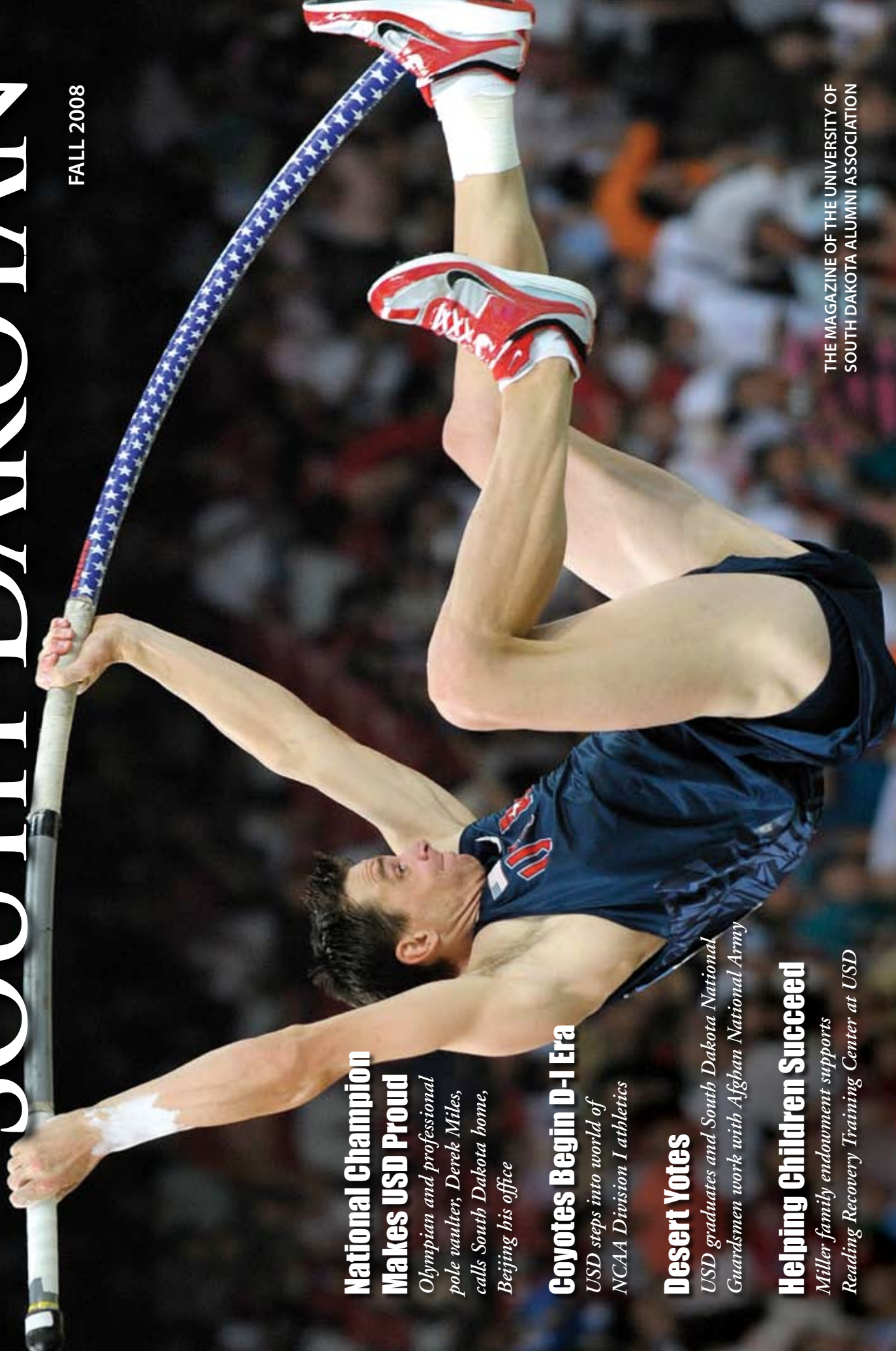


THE SOUTH DAKOTAN

FALL 2008



National Champion Makes USD Proud

Olympian and professional pole vaulter, Derek Miles, calls South Dakota home, Beijing his office

Coyotes Begin D-I Era

USD steps into world of NCAA Division I athletics

Desert Yotes

USD graduates and South Dakota National Guardsmen work with Afghan National Army

Helping Children Succeed

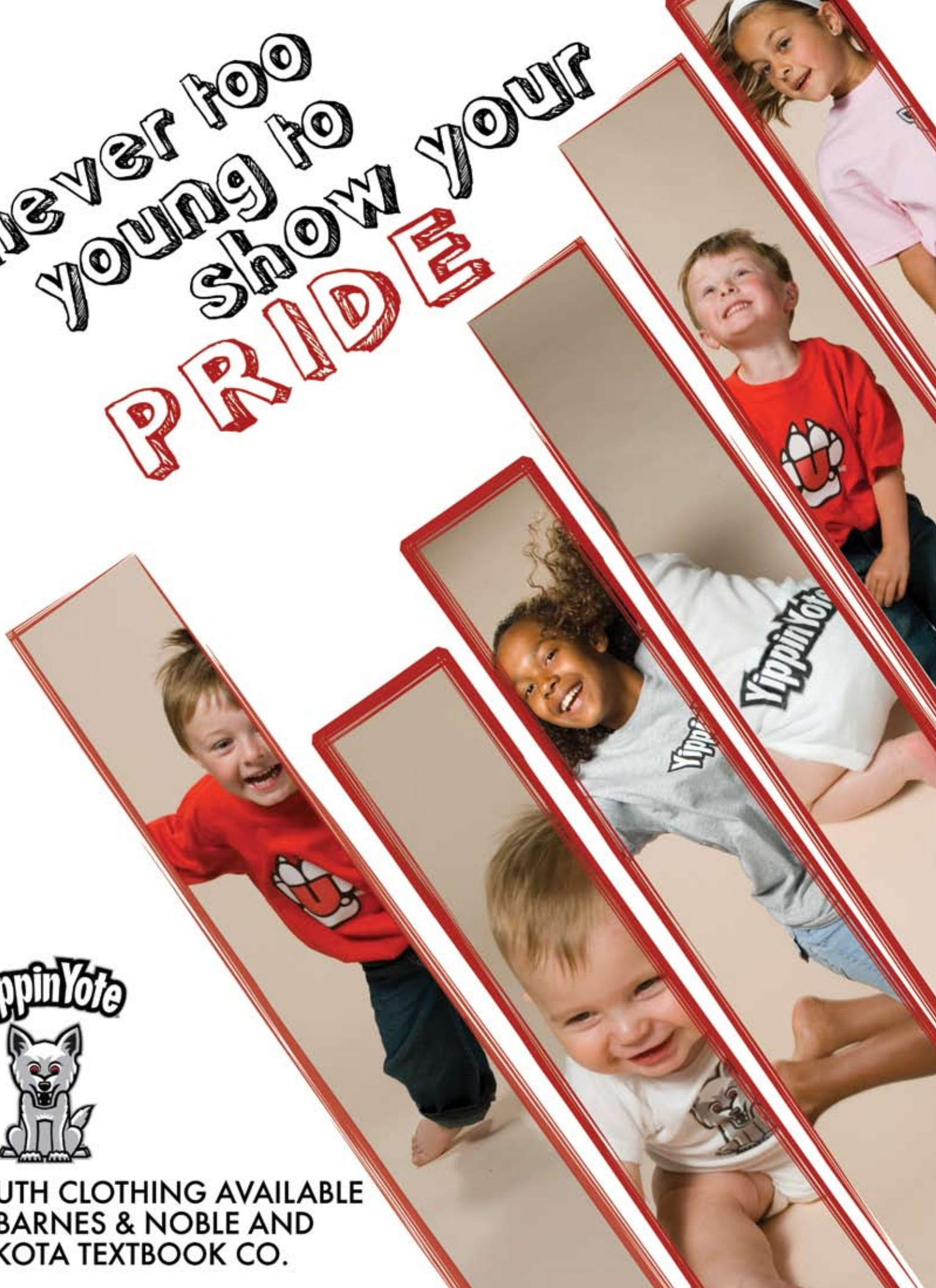
Miller family endowment supports Reading Recovery Training Center at USD

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Never too young to show your PRIDE



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THE SOUTH DAKOTAN MAGAZINE
Vol. 3 No.2, Fall 2008

For alumni and friends of
The University of South Dakota

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THE SOUTH DAKOTAN

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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NEW U FACES

Chuck Staben, Ph.D., joined USD in March as the new provost and vice president for academic affairs after spending the past 19 years in Lexington working for the University of Kentucky.



While there, Staben served as biology department chair and acting vice president for research in addition to his duties as professor of biology. Prior to Kentucky, Staben was at Stanford for three years and with Chiron Biotechnology for two. He hails from Waukegan, Ill., where he graduated high school before getting his bachelor's degree in biochemistry from the University of Illinois. Staben received his Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of California, Berkeley.

Although his primary focus is on administration, Staben is hosting a seminar on his scientific work and also plans to teach in the IDEA program in the spring. As a professor, he received

a National Science Foundation curriculum development grant and was selected as College of Arts and Sciences, Distinguished Teacher 1997-2000, the most prestigious award offered by the college at the University of Kentucky.

"USD is an excellent university that wants to improve," Staben said. "We must continue to offer our students an extraordinary education, but I would like to see us graduating them at a higher rate. I want to see the entering class graduate at a 52 percent rate. That's five percent higher than the most recent graduating class."

Other new faces at The U include:

Rick Melmer, Ed.D., dean of the School of Education — Melmer, a South Dakota native, is the former secretary for the Department of Education in South Dakota where he served for five years. Melmer took over as dean in November, replacing Linda Reetz, Ed.D., who served as interim dean for two years.

Brian Kaatz, Pharm.D., dean of the School of Health Sciences — Kaatz, the former dean of the College of Pharmacy at South Dakota State University, brings 30 years of health care experience to the table.

Anne Cooper Moore, Ph.D., dean of libraries — Moore, former associate director for User Services at W.E.B. Du Bois Library at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, began at I.D. Weeks and Lommen Health Sciences Libraries in September.

Erin Contreras, interim diversity officer — Contreras joined USD in 2004 and is currently on the staff of the Academic Advising Center where she has a special focus on the academic success of Native American students. The University is in the process of initiating a national search for a permanent Chief Diversity Officer.

BROKAW SPEAKS ON ELECTION



Tom Brokaw, moderator of NBC's "Meet the Press," distinguished journalist and alumnus, was on hand at the Al Neuharth Media Center, Tuesday, Oct. 28, to deliver an address entitled, "Campaigns, Citizens, Challenges."

Brokaw, a 1964 graduate and native of Yankton, S.D., shared stories with the packed house about his encounters with political leaders, his view of the upcoming election and the challenges facing our country and its new leader.

"It seems to me that we are now at a passage in American life in which we ought to use this election and the days that follow, and the four years ahead for whoever's the president, as a time for a continuing national dialogue," Brokaw said. "What we ought to do is lower the temperature of the ideological food fights that

have defined too much of the last 40 years and see if we can't return to a time in America when there was civility in the political dialogue. A time when people were determined when they walked into a room not to have a great polarization, but instead a kind of coming together.

"One of the hopes that I have is that however this election turns out, there will be a shedding of that polarization and we'll decide what's worth keeping and what we should leave behind."

In the midst of his address, the lights cut out, leaving Brokaw and the audience in total darkness. Then, that iconic voice cut through the silence, "President Abbott, do you think we could arrange for the University to pay its utility bills next time? I know you're always trying to get alumni donations but this is outrageous."

The Bulletin Board...A look at what's happening on campus

The Vermillion Villian (sic) and the Student Musicians Council posted a flier promoting a "Punk, Folk, Indie, Classical" show with bands *A Collective of Dirt*, *The Hail Seizures*, *Black Dragon* and *Chin up*. Meriwether for \$4 at the Washington Street Arts Center in Vermillion.

A Facebook event entitled "Facing the Facebook & Office Etiquette Faux Pas" was posted by the Career Development Center. "Curious how graduate programs and employers are accessing your Facebook information? Wondering how to succeed in your roles as a student employee? Attend this session for information on office and e-mail etiquette."

A brand new wedding dress, size 14, was posted as being on sale for \$264. The dress was described as being "white with small straps, beadwork on the bodice and on the matching shawl."

The Safe Rides Program posted a flier offering free shuttle service for students on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. "If you would like a ride in town during these times call 624-RIDE to arrange a pickup and drop-off."

The Gayville Hall in Gayville, S.D., posted a flier for the concert "A Celebration of Waylon, Willie and the Boys starring John and Susan McNeill, Nick Schwebach & Owen DeJong." Tickets were \$15 for reserved seating and \$12.50 at the door.



Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medicine and Science Building



Theodore R. and Karen K. Muenster University Center



New Business Building

New Buildings, Renovations Change Face of The U

The campus of The University of South Dakota is taking on a new look as many changes are being made through construction, renovation and building enhancement projects that will upgrade The U's academic, residential and student service spaces.

More than 300 people gathered for the official dedication of the Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medicine and Science Building on Sept. 5. A distinguished list of guest speakers attended the event, including United States Senator Tim Johnson.

The \$37 million dollar project, completed after four years of construction, was one of the largest public construction projects in state history. Money for the project was provided by Higher Education Facilities Funds (\$12.5 million), Campaign South Dakota (\$12.5 million), federal appropriations (\$10.2 million) and the South Dakota State Legislature (\$1.8 million).

The Lee Med Building features state-of-the-art faculty research laboratories, classrooms and offices. The facility houses the Division of Basic Biomedical Sciences, Medical Student Affairs, Division of Health Sciences Dean, and Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy departments.

"It is an exciting time to be a part of The University of South Dakota campus with our large amount of construction going on," said Cathy Wagner, director of planning and construction.

"This is the most construction we've ever had going on at USD in any one single period of time. When our current students look back as alumni they will be able to say they were a part of it."

One of the many projects on campus is the University's new student center, the Theodore R. and Karen K. Muenster University Center, currently under construction and nearing

completion. The 70,000 square foot facility will include conference-style facilities, an outdoor entertainment area, a second floor outdoor terrace for informal gatherings and small social events, an outdoor dining terrace on the main floor, enhanced food service and a multipurpose room that will seat up to 500 people as well as a conference room and office for the Student Government Association. Total cost is estimated at more than \$19 million raised through student fees and private donations.

The Beacom School of Business will have a new home when construction is completed in 2009. The new building will provide more than 69,000 square feet of state-of-the-art classrooms, conference rooms and faculty offices. The \$19.5 million in funds for the project were raised through private donations and the Higher Education Facilities Fund.

Slagle Auditorium will undergo construction to renovate the auditorium into the new USD Performing Arts Center. Legislature has authorized \$8.5 million for the project, \$4.6 million from the Higher Education Facilities Fund, which will give the auditorium a capacity of more than 1,500. Other improvements include an upgrade to the heating and cooling of the facility, work on the staircase at the north entrance and restoration of the Skinner Opus 548 organ.

Funds for the renovation and modernization of USD's science facilities were approved in 2008. Almost \$16 million in renovations are planned for Pardee Laboratory, Churchill-Haines and the Akeley Lawrence Science Center by the end of 2010.

Nikki's Fund Promotes Prevention

The University of South Dakota's Student Counseling Center, Sanford Vermillion and Nikki's Fund teamed together to help increase suicide awareness during National Suicide Prevention Week, Sept. 7-13.

Nikki's Fund, an organization that supports suicide prevention programs and medication needs for USD students, sponsored a 5K Run/Walk for Suicide Awareness at Prentis Park in Vermillion. The second annual Run/Walk drew 53 people. Nikki's Fund was founded in memory of Nicole Vallie Harris, the daughter of Janine Harris, who committed suicide June 15, 2005. Janine is the manager of the Al Neuharth Media Center.

"Suicide claims the lives of 30,000 people each year," said Matt Stricherz, director of the USD Student Counseling Center. "That's a staggering number, especially because it can be prevented.

"It's very important that our students know that through Nikki's Fund and the Student Counseling Center, USD is



committed to suicide prevention and raising awareness in order to let students know that help is here for them."

Other events during the week included a forum at the Neuharth Media Center where Elizabeth Boyd, Ph.D., an associate professor of clinical psychology, provided the keynote address, informational booths and a Lakota Perspectives in Mental Health and Suicide Prevention seminar.



Captain Frank McCormick

Hardwood Schedule Revives Gridiron Series

When the USD men's basketball schedule was released for their initial NCAA Division I season, few people knew that a game with the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame would revive a series from 90 years prior.

The Coyotes, under the guidance of head coach Dave Boots in his 21st season at the helm, travel to South Bend to face the Fighting Irish on Dec. 2, after a two-week span of road games and a clash with the Bearcats of Cincinnati.

Yet to be dubbed the Fighting Irish at the time, the Catholics of Notre Dame played USD in a series of football games during the 1913-1917 seasons. The Coyotes scored first, but not often, in the series as they tacked on a touchdown in the first meeting, but failed to score in the next five games before the matchup was eventually dropped. The tightest game of the series was a 0-6 loss in 1915.

That 1915 game featured USD fullback and captain, Frank McCormick. A member of the South Dakota Sports Hall of Fame, McCormick went on to become the first South Dakotan to play professional football. He was a member of the Akron Indians from 1920-21.

Also involved in the contests were legendary names of Notre Dame like Knute Rockne, Gus Dorais and George Gipp. Rockne sat out the first game due to injury and was later added as an assistant coach. Dorais was Notre Dame's first All-American and George Gipp was considered one of the most versatile football players of all time; lining up at quarterback, halfback and punter. Gipp was also the subject of Rockne's famous "Win one for the Gipper" speech.

World events like the United States entering World War I and the influenza pandemic halted the 1918 game between the two schools. A game was scheduled for 1919, but never occurred.

Journeys Shared at Red Road

Personal journeys of healing, forgiveness, justice and entrepreneurship were shared at the Red Road Gathering, Sept. 18-20, at the Clay County 4-H building in Vermillion.

Topics from driving under the influence to underage drinking and suicide were addressed throughout the gathering as Native Americans came together to participate in panels, discussions and audiences for numerous speakers.

"We get students at the Red Road Gathering who will become interested in the University's programs once we get them here," said Gene Thin Elk, co-founder of Red Road Approach and director of Native American Student Services at The University of South Dakota. "The Alcohol and Drug Studies and counseling programs benefit from the exposure the Red Road Gathering gives the University."

The Red Road Gathering included a daily prayer walk, a roll call and tribute to Veterans; the drum groups Wapkpa Community Oyate Singers, Wakiyan Maza Singers and the Keshena, Wis., Drum Group.



"The Red Road keeps bringing me back so I can help myself and then help the people when I get home. This helps me get centered again, and then I go back to my work and home refreshed."

—Wakiyan Peta (left)

"I feel like my batteries have been charged. I feel like all year long I drain my batteries slowly and coming here rejuvenates me."

—Delwin Bowker (right)



"The purpose for all of us who have gone through some sort of a healing is to be able to take that and pass it on to younger generations. This way they have an insight on how they can reach a level of serenity, peace of mind or sense of belonging."

—Rick Thomas, co-founder of Red Road Approach (right)

"A lot of things accumulate through life; you don't fix it when it happens. Here, with the teachings and stories, we look more at ourselves. There's always going to be that ongoing healing that helps us become a better person. The Red Road's a safe place to say what you need to say and let the healing begin for everybody."

—Jim Brown (left)



Professor Puts Discovery to Rest

In 1996, while excavating for Ice Age animal fossils in On Your Knees Cave on Prince of Wales Island, Alaska, Timothy Heaton, Ph.D., unearthed the remains of a human skull.

The discovery turned out to be the oldest genetic sample ever recovered in the Americas and, more importantly, supported the scientific theory that humans first arrived in North America around 15,000 years ago. After more than a decade of scientific evaluation by archeologists, the remains were recently returned to the local Native American tribes for reburial.

Heaton, chair and professor of the department of Earth Sciences, was invited to be a part of the reburial ceremony. He was one of many speakers during the two-day celebration and accepted an award on behalf of USD from the U.S. Department of Agriculture designed to recognize the cooperation between

scientists and Native Americans. The ceremony, hosted by the Klawock Cooperative Association and the Craig Community Association, celebrated the life and homecoming of Shuka Kaa, Tinglit for "Man Ahead of Us." Tinglit is the indigenous people of northwest America. Heaton also helped the tribes bury their 10,000-year-old ancestor.

"We originally envisioned the reburial as a quiet ceremony, but it became quite the opposite," said Heaton, who has been the principal investigator for paleontological research at On Your Knees Cave since 1994. "It was very enjoyable: two days of talks, discussions, native music and dance, and an endless feast of salmon and halibut."

Heaton and his discovery have been featured in many publications including *National Geographic*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *Smithsonian* and *Discover*.



One Stop Move-In Shop



A new route to the residence halls provided a smoother transition for incoming students at the beginning of the fall 2008 semester when Move-In Day took place at the DakotaDome.

Nearly 1,600 students and their families arrived at the Dome for the new drive-thru check-in that started at 8 a.m. From there volunteers gave students their residence hall room key, an information packet about The U and important instructions on driving to their residence hall for unloading.

When families arrived at their residence hall, members of the Greek community were available to help unload and carry items to rooms.

"The check-in staff was very friendly, knowledgeable and helpful," said one parent in e-mail comments following Move-In Day. "It was so nice to have help carrying in stuff for my daughter. I wish they would have had that when I attended USD. It made it easier to focus on my child and help her adjust to being there."

For the most part, parent's comments about the day were positive. Several expressed relief that their worst fears weren't realized.

"I was expecting the worst, but found it to be a very good experience," commented one parent. "I was impressed by the amount of help available to get our belongings from the car to the curb to the room. I was expecting to climb up and down steps all day, but in one trip everything was delivered to the room."

Throughout the day, incoming vehicles were directed to the Dome by signs along the Highway 50 Bypass. This route eliminated the congestion that would have been caused by using Cherry Street, which is still under construction.



Check-in times, maps and informational packets were sent to students prior to Move-In Day. Each residence hall was color-coded and students were instructed to follow their color through the check-in line and to the residence hall. Color-coded signs and balloons guided visitors to their final destinations.

Jeff Baylor, the new associate vice president of enrollment and student services at The University of South Dakota, was the mastermind behind the new process that looked to alleviate some of the stress from what traditionally is a very hectic day for both students and parents. Having implemented this process at other institutions, Baylor thought that the new check-in was a big success.

"We were very happy with how things went," Baylor said. "For our first time trying it here, and with limited time for preparation, I think it was a success. We learned some things to change for next year, and we hope to continue improving the process."

USD RESEARCHERS Create Kevlar Coating

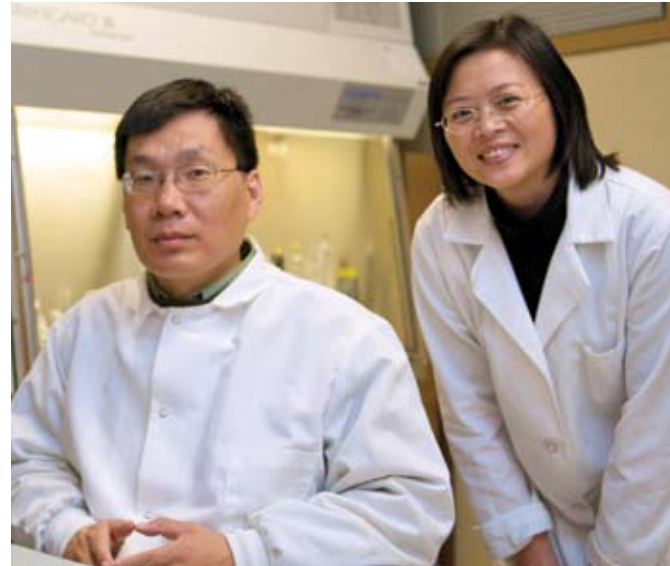
A pair of researchers with the Biomedical Engineering Program discovered a new way for Kevlar to protect soldiers, police officers and firefighters other than stopping bullets.

Associate Professor Yuyu Sun, Ph.D., and Jie Luo, a biomedical engineering research associate, developed a process to create antimicrobial clothing. Their findings include using acyclic N-Halamine, a potent germ-fighting substance, to prevent the growth of microbes such as bacteria, fungi or viruses.

Sun and Luo exposed Kevlar samples coated with N-Halamine and uncoated Kevlar samples to *E. coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Candida tropicalis*, M2 virus and *Bacillus subtilis* spores (to mimic anthrax). Over a short period of time, large amounts of microorganisms were attached to the untreated samples, but the coated samples showed little to no evidence of the infected agents.

"If a person is in a situation where there are hazardous materials, they don't want a false sense of security," Sun said. "The acyclic N-Halamine coating is long-lasting, can be easily re-applied and doesn't alter the fabric's comfort or strength."

Although the three-year project, which is being funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (part



— Associate Professor Yuyu Sun, Ph.D., (left) and Jie Luo, biomedical engineering research associate

of the Center for Disease Control), is receiving industry attention for its application to Kevlar, the benefits of this antimicrobial protection goes beyond protecting military and emergency personnel. Other possible uses for the acyclic N-Halamine include medical facilities, the hospitality industry as well as the packing industry. Sun and Luo are in the process of developing antimicrobial dental tubing using a very similar chemistry.

The pair's findings have been featured in the American Chemical Society's bi-weekly scientific journal *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research*.

Students Leave Their Mark at Med School

Dr. Robert Talley, professor of internal medicine, saw a rare opportunity while looking at the room that was going to become the new simulation lab for USD's School of Medicine.

"It was actually an unfinished basement," Talley said. "It was very grim-looking. There was this 12 by 20 foot wall that didn't have any paint, just dry wall. I thought it would be a nice place for a mural."

Talley sent out an e-mail to his students asking if anyone would be interested in painting the wall. Melanie Ottenbacher, currently a third-year medical student, and fourth-year student Jamie Flohr responded. The two painted the entire wall with pictures depicting doctors, patients and internal organs.

"I wanted to stay out of it," Talley said. "I told them to do what they thought was appropriate without any oversight from



me. I was able to watch the creation take place in front of my eyes. I wasn't sure what I expected, but am really surprised. It's quite nice and everybody feels like it was really well done and looks great."

Ottenbacher was recently offered work by an electronic medical record company based on her paintings in the simulation lab.



— (L to R) John J. Hall, President James W. Abbott and William L. Donaldson

"To be acknowledged by the University is probably one of the best things in my life..."

—John J. Hall

ALUMNI Awarded for Life Achievements

Two distinguished alumni were honored with Achievement Awards, for having made significant contributions to the life of the community in which they live and for having contributed to USD, during an All-Alumni banquet held as part of Dakota Days.

William "Bill" L. Donaldson, B.A. '58, was honored for Outstanding Contribution to His Community. Currently residing in Omaha, Neb., with his wife, Beverly (B.A. '58), Donaldson retired from the *Omaha World-Herald* after 37 years of service. He is a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and has presided over the USD Foundation Board of Trustees, served as vice chair of the Allen H. Neuharth Fund for Excellence and, in 1989, was named a "Distinguished Alumni" of the Beacom School of Business.

Donaldson began his career in Sioux Falls working for the *Argus Leader* after graduating from USD. He served as advertising director for two years before moving on to Omaha. While at the *World-Herald*, Donaldson served as advertising sales representative, director of circulations, vice president of sales, and senior vice president and general manager. After retirement, he served on the paper's board of directors for seven years.

"It's a great feeling," Donaldson said on receiving the award. "I'm in debt to USD for all the great things in my life that happened after I graduated from here. We continue to come back year after year and are so pleased to see how it's grown."

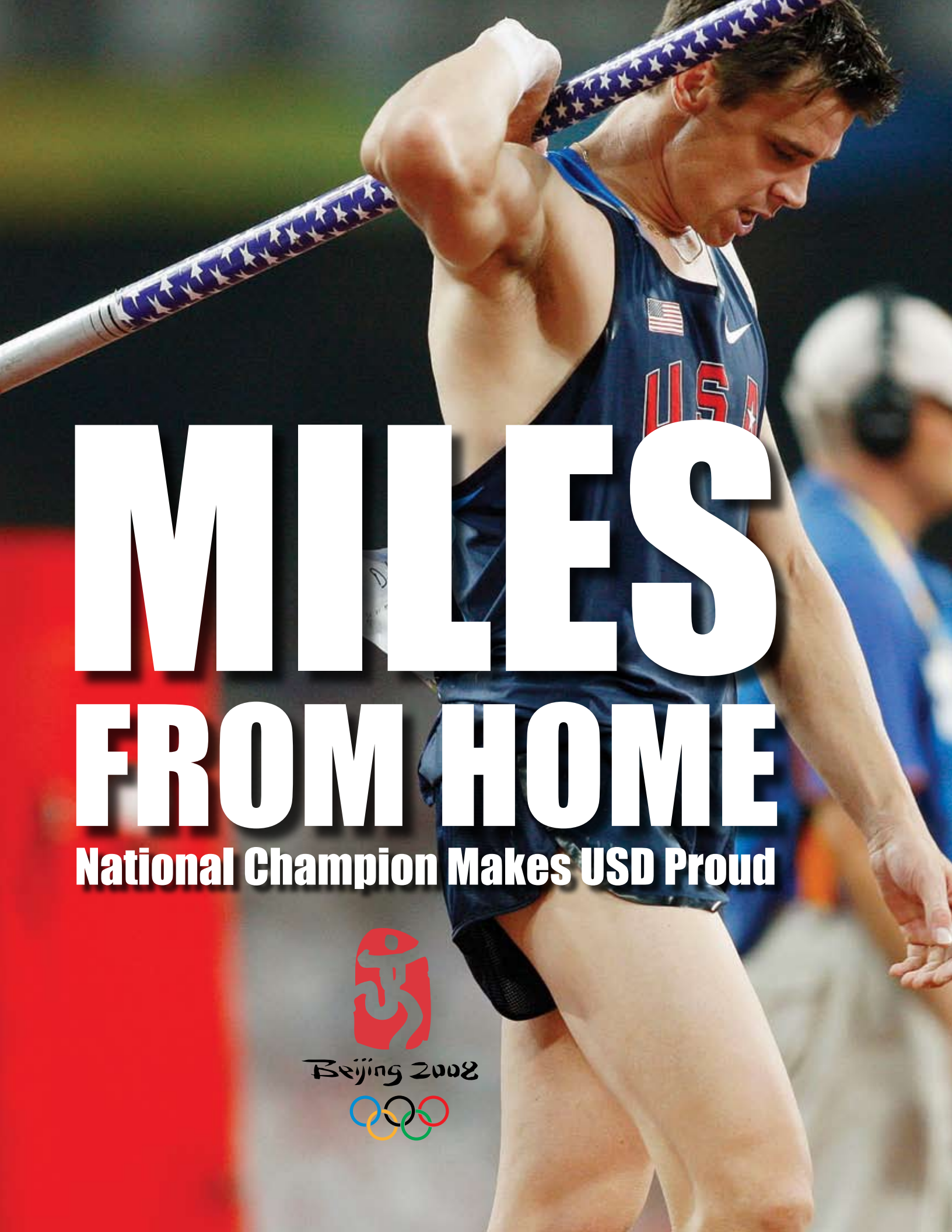
John J. Hall, B.A. '59, was awarded for Outstanding Success in a Profession or Career. Also a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, Hall has been a member of the USD Foundation's

Board of Trustees and is a past recipient of the School of Business Alumnus of the Year Award. John and his wife, Patricia (B.A. '60), reside in McLean, Va.

Hall entered the United States Army in 1959 having received his commission as a 2nd Lt. as a Distinguished Military Graduate of USD's ROTC program. In addition to serving with distinction in the Adjutant General's Office in the Pentagon for 30 months, Hall was a special courier for the Department of Defense to Europe and other areas of high military sensitivity. In 1961, he was awarded the Department of Defense Support Achievement Award. While serving in the Army, Hall attended graduate school at the University of Maryland and earned his M.B.A. with an emphasis in real estate.

In 1964, following his honorable discharge from the Army, Hall founded International Realty as well as International Investments, Inc., in the surrounding Washington, D.C., area. Hall's real estate and business enterprises expanded into Missouri and Minnesota where he was involved in the development of a national bank in suburban Minneapolis and construction of two multi-tenant office buildings in Eden Prairie, Minn.

"To be acknowledged by the University is probably one of the best things in my life," Hall said. "It's the people that bring me back. You can have all the money in the world, but the friends I have here are worth more than anything. To be honored and acknowledged by my peers in South Dakota is more important to me than being honored in Washington, D.C., or anywhere else."



MILES FROM HOME

National Champion Makes USD Proud



When talking about the Olympic Games in Beijing, University of South Dakota alumnus Derek Miles says his biggest fear is that in 10 years he'll look at his USA jersey and feel something's missing.

He fears that the constant thought of the Olympic medal missing from his wall will have him waking up on the wrong side of the bed every morning, that the only remnant from his finest season as a professional pole vaulter will be the memory of finishing fourth on the only day when being fourth in the world could be considered a disappointment.

Then, almost as fast as they entered his mind, he dismisses the fears and smiles, "It's just pole vaulting. The thought will always be there, but it won't have me waking up cranky every morning as a result."

It's that sort of attitude that has allowed Miles to compete at a high level this season, winning nine meets, including the National Championship at the Olympic Trials in July. He has also placed runner-up and third four times each. But, Miles knows that for many people, it's his single fourth-place finish of the year that will stand out.

"It is what it is," Miles said. "I can't let it get me down. People's perceptions of the sport all come down to the Olympics, but there's more to my life than that. My new goal is to walk away with a medal from the World Championships in Berlin next summer."

"I got the chance to do something I never dreamed I would be doing. Sure, an Olympic medal would mean a lot to me. But, at the same time, if you would have told me when I came to USD that I could someday finish fourth in the Olympic Games, I would have taken that."

"It's not home." When a 5-9, 140-pound Derek Miles walked on to the USD campus his freshman year, being an Olympic athlete was the last thing on his mind. A self-described "late bloomer," he started hitting the weights

that first year. He also began to pick up little things like form and proper running style from USD coaches. Thanks to people like Coyote track coach Lucky Huber and a late growth spurt, Miles improved his jumps every year and in 1996 won the North Central Conference pole vault title. He went on to finish fifth at the NCAA Division II indoor meet later that season.

"I came in really awkward my freshman year," Miles, who earned his B.S. in 1996, and his M.A. in 1998, recalled. "Lucky took a hold of the reigns then and he's still steering the boat now. As far as what I am doing on a day-to-day basis, there's nobody else I would entrust with my training than Lucky."

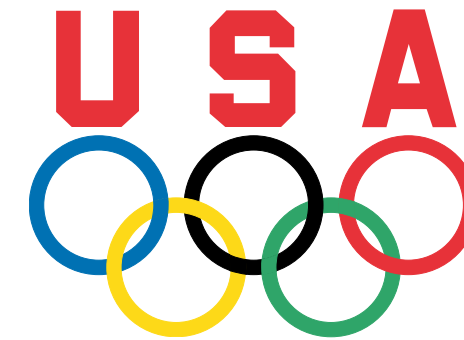
Although the grass may be greener, and the sun a lot brighter year-round in Miles' home state of California, he credits a perfect working relationship with Huber as a great reason to hang his hat in Tea,

S.D. Miles has also spent time living in Arkansas working with Earl Bell on the technical aspects of vaulting, but as he progresses in age, he believes the physical training he gets with Huber is going to be what keeps him in the sport.

"I know a lot of coaches around the world and I would put Lucky at the top of the people I would choose to work with," Miles said. "For me, I've seen what's out there and I know what I have here. There just isn't a better fit for me than Lucky."

Miles and his wife, Tori (Devericks), reside in Tea where Tori teaches sixth grade. An accomplished Coyote track athlete in her own right, Tori is a '99 USD graduate and decorated NCC hurdler.

"We really enjoy living in South Dakota," Miles added. "It's just a good fit. I spend a lot of time on the road during the season and it's nice for Tori to be near family. We could be living out in California where I would be running on a track every day in the sun, but I don't have the things that I need there. It's not home."





“The best season I’ve ever had.”

“It’s unfortunate that people perceive being fourth in the world as a negative,” said Huber upon returning from Beijing with Miles. Huber, a USD alumnus and 12-time North Central Conference Coach of the Year, has headed up the women’s track and field program for 14 years and has worked with Miles for nearly as long. “That isn’t something to be disappointed in. That’s something that we at USD are very proud of.”

Far from a negative experience, reaching the Olympic Games for the second time is just one of many bright spots in a fascinating career for Miles. He was a four-time All-American for the Coyotes and has been active in professional pole vaulting since 2000, collecting many titles along the way.

He first added “Olympic athlete” to his resume in 2004 at the games in Athens, finishing seventh with a jump of 18-10.25. He just missed an opportunity in 2000 to compete in Sydney by losing a jump-off at the Olympic Trials to break a three-way tie for third.

At 35, Miles has continued to get better with age and is currently moving up the world rankings. At the end of September he was ranked fourth, just behind fellow American vaulter Brad Walker and two spots ahead of Ukrainian jumper Denys Yurchenko, the man who edged him out in Beijing.

“Usually vaulters hit their stride around their mid-20s. It’s not very often that you see 21-year-olds vaulting 19 feet,” Miles said. “There are a few late bloomers, like myself, who come around in their late 20s and stay healthy through their early to mid-30s. (American pole vaulter Jeff) Hartwig just made the Olympic team at 40.”

According to Miles, the politics of the sport made it difficult for him to break into pole vaulting. He needed to

make certain teams, jump certain heights and earn certain rankings in order to get his foot in the door. When that door opened, he had to maintain. He first cleared 19 feet in 2001. It took him between 2001 and 2003 to really make his name in the sport. Now a member of the Nike club, Miles has posted a best of 19-2.25 this season.

“This is the best season I’ve ever had,” Miles said. “At 35, post surgery, I think that’s pretty good.”

Miles missed the entire 2006 season with a stress fracture in his tibia that required surgery, leaving him with an intramedullary rod in his right leg. Missing the indoor season in 2007, he came back better than ever in the summer, finishing first four times and fourth at the U.S. Outdoor Championships.

“It just didn’t fit.”

The 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing was host to 11,028 athletes from 204 countries competing in 302 events, claiming 958 medals, breaking 132 Olympic and 43 world records in 28 different sports. Miles was one of the 564 American athletes in competition, 315 of them came back with a medal around their neck. Twenty-five of them felt the sting of the near-miss.

For Miles it was an uncharacteristic day. He had battled through illness earlier in the games, stemming from what he thinks was food poisoning, but was feeling normal through prelims and the finals. In a sport where everything is about rhythm, timing and feel, even the smallest things can throw off your performance.

“I was fighting everything that day,” Miles recalled. “Nothing seemed to feel right. I wasn’t overly nervous. Sometimes it’s like trying to jam a circular peg through a square hole. It just didn’t fit.”

“I got the chance to do something I never dreamed I would be doing.”

“I’m not concerned about finishing fourth. What really disappointed me was that I didn’t jump what I had been all year long. Had I just had a normal meet, it would have been a different situation.”

Past Olympic experience came into play during the finals. Four years prior in Athens, he jumped 18-10 and took three jumps to do it, placing him seventh. With eight competitors moving to the heights of 18-10 and 19 feet in the Beijing finals, Miles decided to play on that experience and not waste his energy on 18-10 and passed to 19 feet.

“I figured I was in the same boat as I was in 2004,” Miles recalled. “If I were to jump 18-10 with the others, only a couple guys were going to make it. I knew I could jump 19 feet, and I didn’t want to be in the same position as I was before. So I passed it.”

Miles didn’t know it at the time, but Yurchenko hurt himself clearing 18-8 and passed 18-10 to move to 19 feet. Had he known Yurchenko’s condition, making a jump at 18-10 would have secured him the bronze medal.

“I didn’t pay enough attention to him to see that he was hurt. Had I known that I would have taken a shot at 18-10,”

Miles said. “You always second guess yourself, always wonder what you should have done. You say ‘yeah I should have stayed on the smaller pole,’ or ‘I should have jumped at 18-10’ and ‘I should have done this or that.’ It seems like such an easy solution or conclusion to come to. It’s the Olympic Games; you don’t expect it to be that easy. If somebody were to put me back in that same situation, I probably would do the same thing.”

And a few weeks later, jumping at a meet in Germany, he applied the same strategy as he did in the Olympics. This time he came out on top.

“I did the exact same thing as I did in Beijing and it worked because I was clicking that day,” Miles said. “I don’t think it’s the decision I made (in Beijing), it just came back to the vaulting. It was the right decision if I was vaulting the way I was capable of vaulting. Unfortunately, those two things didn’t add up.”

“It’s frustrating not having it the one day when you need it. It’s part of athletics; it’s a part of life. You figure that out as you go. I realized that absolutely nothing I do right now is going to change what’s happened. So what’s the point of banging my head against the wall?”

While lying on the mat after his final jump in Beijing, looking up through the opening of the 'Bird's Nest,' it didn't take Miles long to realize what it all meant.

"I laid there for a moment. My first thought was 'I can't believe I didn't make that bar' and then as I walked away from the pit, 'I'm pretty sure I just finished fourth.'"

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"Did you win a medal?"

Miles knows it's the nature of the sport—you can be the best in the world for four years, but the world outside the sport will judge you on a single performance. He points to Liu Xiang, the Chinese hurdler, who ran a world record in the 110-meter hurdles at the World Championships last season. Xiang battled an injured hamstring at the Olympic Games in Beijing and had to pull out of the event.

"The pressure was insane for him," Miles said.

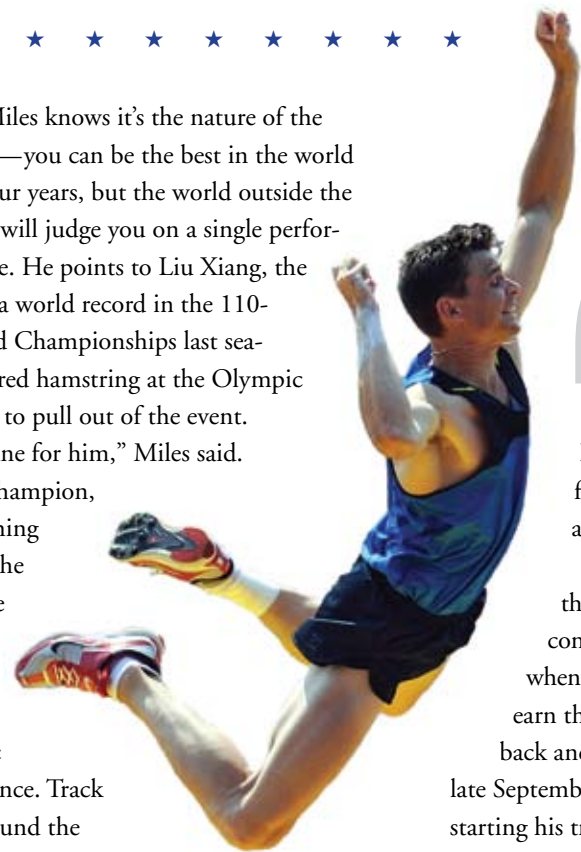
"He came in the World Champion, but that didn't mean anything because he didn't do it at the Olympics. It was crazy. He was getting death threats."

Those pressures from the world audience are what give the Olympic Games the added significance. Track and field athletes from around the globe compete every summer when the World Championships roll around, just without the intense scrutiny of the media or the bright spotlight of the Olympics. It's the same difficult selection process, the same athletes from the same countries, the very same competitions, but with entirely different pressures.

"The significance of it weighs far more heavily on you during an Olympic year because everyone around you judges your success in the sport based on whether or not you're in the Olympics," Miles said. "It's unfortunate that it would be more significant to most people that you were in the Olympics than to tell them you were a World Champion."

"What do you do for a living?" It's a question Miles has dealt with numerous times. After telling them he's a professional pole vaulter, it's almost always followed by, "Have you been to the Olympics?" And then, "Did you win a medal?"

It's not the average person on an airplane by which Miles measures his success in this sport. It's his fellow competitors, coaches and true track and field fans that know what it takes in the sport to get by. He has performed well enough throughout his career to have earned a contract with Nike. His name is big



enough for his agent to get appearance fees and he competes in the highest-paying events a pole vaulter can. Even though it took him several years to get to this level, Miles knows how easily it could all go away.

"You constantly have to prove yourself in this sport," Miles said. "If you have one bad year you're in trouble. It takes a long time to build your name so people will want you in their meet. If you're not jumping well they'll pass you up for someone who is. They don't need a Derek Miles; they need a Derek Miles who is jumping 19 feet."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"Never say never."

Miles begins his competitive season indoors around mid-January. The indoor season lasts until late March and then the outdoor season begins in late April, usually at the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa. The idea during the first half of the outdoor season is to get as prepared as you can for the U.S. Championships in late June.

Depending on your performance there, the rest of the season will be set with the big meets coming from July through September. This is the time when track and field athletes need to build their rankings, earn their money and gain the prestige they need to come back and compete another year. After the season ends in late September, Miles usually takes a couple weeks off before starting his training again for the following year.

Miles looks forward to that time he gets to coach the Coyote athletes while training at the DakotaDome. He enjoys coaching as much as the time he has spent as an academic advisor. He advised USD students from 1998–2001 and was associate director of the advising department at Arkansas State University when he lived there while working with Bell on his vaulting technique.

"Coaching and being part of the athletic program here at USD are starting to become more important to me than pole vaulting is," Miles noted. "At some point you figure out you can't pole vault the rest of your life. I really enjoy coaching and I love being a part of USD."

He admits both coaching and advising are areas of comfort for him and avenues he may pursue when his vaulting career comes to an end. When that will be is still up in the air.

"I'd say there's a 90 percent chance I won't be at the next Olympics," Miles said. "I don't know if I can ever say there is absolutely no chance for me to make it, but there are a lot of 'what-ifs' in there. For me to be able to do this at that level when I'm 39...but Hartwig was 40 this year...never say never I guess."

DESERT YOTES

USD alumni work with Afghan National Army



First Lieutenant David Larson along with 4th Kandak Recon Commander Fiaz Mohammed (Right) on a Humanitarian Aid drop up the Nabrin Valley to help distribute food and clothing to the village elders in preparation for the upcoming winter.

Working hard to establish and maintain a solid national security force in the hills of Northern Afghanistan with their unit of the South Dakota National Guard, a trio of USD graduates has found that their day-to-day reality doesn't exactly mesh with the images we see on our televisions at night.



Captain Justin Bitz visits an orphanage in Meymaneh, Faryab Province, Afghanistan, to distribute balls, school supplies and various other items to the children.



Staff Sergeant Adam Herrmann poses for a picture in his tank while on patrol in Northern Afghanistan.



Staff Sergeant Adam Herrmann explains proper firing technique to a member of the Afghan National Police.

"I want people to know that we are doing really good things over here, despite what you hear on the news," said Staff Sergeant Adam Herrmann, '05 B.S. "What you don't see very often on T.V. are the types of missions we're on. There's a lot of positive interaction between us and the people, and the majority of them really appreciate us being here."

Herrmann, along with fellow USD alumni First Lieutenant David Larson ('02 B.B.A.) and Captain Justin Bitz ('06 B.B.A., '07 M.B.A.), are among 15 guard members from South Dakota that are operating in Northern Afghanistan serving as combat advisors to the Afghan National Army as well as the Afghan National Police and Afghan National Border Police in a unit dubbed "Coyote 1." The USD graduates have been living, eating and fighting right alongside Afghan forces as they attempt to help them in establishing a solid post-United States occupational national security force.

"The most surprising thing I've found on this mission is the level of loyalty we have received from our Afghan counterparts," commented Bitz. "We were able to build a rapport and relationship with them fairly quickly."

According to the three USD grads, their mission has been a positive one, an opportunity to lend a helping hand to one of the poorest countries in the world. Decades behind the rest of the world in technology, Afghanistan is a glimpse into life centuries before the invention of electricity or the internet, where the only thing a lot of people have are the clothes on their back and family. It's a place where the primary mode of transportation is still a donkey and villages sit in valleys disconnected from the rest of the world.

"It's a humbling experience," said Bitz. "It makes me appreciate my family and the things I have more than the things I don't. When I get home I want to reread the Bible, because I actually know what it was like in those times now."

The unit spends a lot of their time mentoring company commanders, advising them on logistics operations, mission planning, special forces, even how to deal with personnel and administration.

"Everything is done with paper and pencil," Herrmann said. "Trying to help them keep track of their people has been difficult without the use of computers. I've been making suggestions and recommendations to them on things like dealing with soldiers

"I want people to know that we are doing really good things over here..."

on leave, rewarding them for a job well done and things of that nature. They don't have to take my suggestions, but nine times out of 10 they are grateful for the advice."

Herrmann said a lot of his time is spent going to different police districts and mentoring the Afghan National Police. He acknowledges the fact that some of the people in the country are unhappy with the presence of the United States, but the majority is glad to see him when he comes around.

"When I interact with these people, they are some of the strongest and most grateful people I've ever met," Herrmann points out. "They appreciate everything they have and everything we are doing for them. That's gratifying for me as a soldier."

One of the biggest challenges for the soldiers when coming to Afghanistan was becoming acclimated to the heat. Ranging from 90 to 125 degrees through the summer, the men have to battle the temperature in full gear, including Kevlar vests, and uniforms covering all of their arms and legs. The winters in Afghanistan are

comparable to those in South Dakota, with last year being one of the worst on record and accounting for many deaths of Afghani people.

Another concern for the soldiers upon arrival was the level of sanitation. Garbage everywhere, children going to the bathroom in the middle of busy intersections and watching people prepare your food after performing numerous other tasks without washing was a little unnerving at first, but something they all had to get used to.

"When I got here it didn't take me long to realize what a third world country was like," said Herrmann. "I've been driving in cities here the size of downtown Minneapolis and have watched kids use the bathroom on the side of the road. Those things were really shocking, but as time went by I've gotten used to it."

Bitz points to the progress being made in Afghanistan and the efforts that have taken place as extreme positives during his time in Afghanistan.

"...they are some of the strongest and most grateful people I've ever met."

"We, as Americans, like our instant gratification. These guys aren't going to change overnight," Bitz said. "We are making progress. I had the chance to visit Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin. The United States still had tanks there in 1993. We've only been here seven years, I think people forget what it takes to accomplish what we are trying to accomplish. The Afghan forces are really growing by leaps and bounds."

Although the United States way of doing things is probably more educated and tested, the soldiers say that the U.S. way is not always the best way for the Afghan forces. Although at times they know they can do better, allowing them to come up with and execute their own plan will benefit them in the long run and the ultimate goal is to put them in the position to take care of themselves.

The typical sleeping conditions for the USD grads are inside B-Huts — a six-person insulated bay sectioned off by wood panels. While in the field, sometimes for a week at a time, the soldiers will sleep on cots under the stars or in a variety of other locations. It's not often that the soldiers get a chance to eat at a table or sit on furniture when out in the field. Often times they find themselves sitting on carpet or a sheet on the ground for their meals.

When out on patrol, one of the biggest areas of concern for soldiers are IEDs (Improvised Explosive Device) which the insurgents hide in numerous areas like intersections and under rocks. "We're constantly looking everywhere while out driving," Herrmann said. "They like to use cell phones to set off the IEDs, but we have technology to counter that. That's the scariest part of being here, realizing you could die at any moment. I have to live with that, but am going to do my very best to prevent it."

So far, the soldiers have been lucky and have engaged in minimal gun battle, but are in constant knowledge that the enemy is out there. Complacency on a mission is dangerous, and the soldiers know that something could happen at any moment.

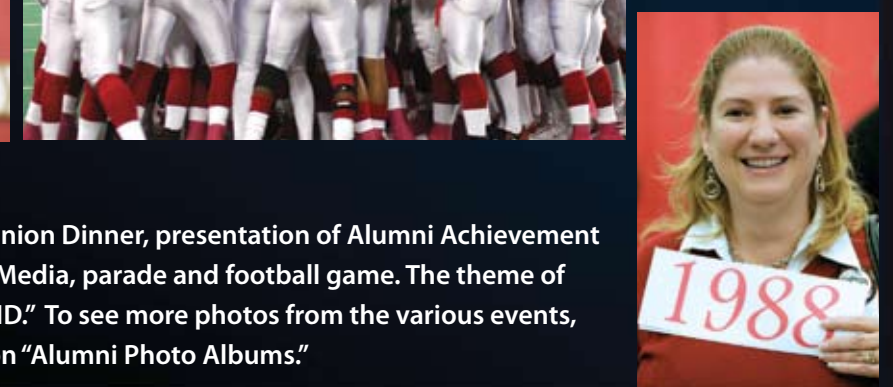
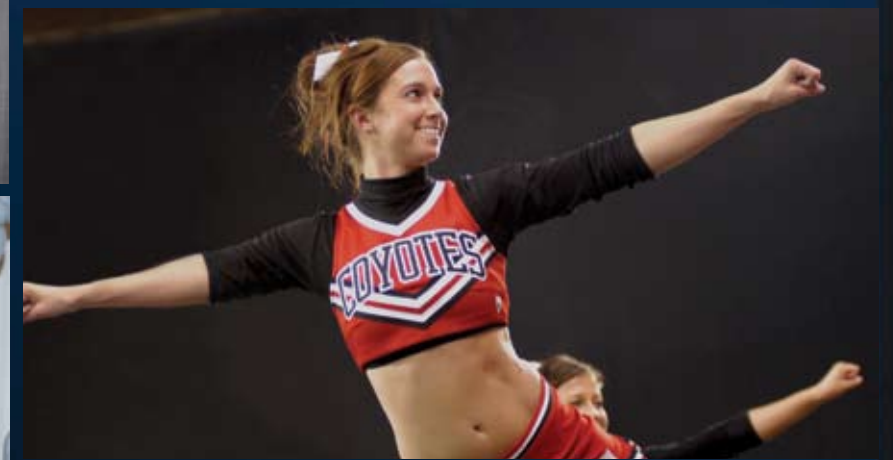
"We make sure that we are constantly paying attention and are aware of our surroundings," Larson said. "We just want to bring everybody home safe and leave the Afghan forces with the ability to function and take care of things without us."

For more photos of the USD graduates serving in Afghanistan, please go to www.usd.edu/alumni and click on "Alumni Photo Albums."



DAKOTA DAYS 2008

Alumni and students alike joined in the weekend celebration at Dakota Days 2008, Oct. 10-12.



Annual activities included the All-Alumni Reunion Dinner, presentation of Alumni Achievement Awards, Al Neuharth Award for Excellence in Media, parade and football game. The theme of reality television carried the tagline "USD in HD." To see more photos from the various events, please go to www.usd.edu/alumni and click on "Alumni Photo Albums."

BID and JONI MILLER Helping Children Succeed



“A child with trouble reading is handicapped—they are missing part of their soul. The greatest way to develop self-esteem in a child is to teach them to read well. If they can conquer that, they can conquer anything.”

Those words were spoken by Robert “Bid” Miller at the Sept. 9 celebration of an endowment gift from him and his wife, Jonette, of Sioux Falls, S.D. Their endowment with The University of South Dakota Foundation supports the Reading Recovery Training Center at USD and will make sure South Dakota first-grade students have help overcoming reading difficulties.

The Reading Recovery Training Center at USD, now in its 11th year, is one of 22 training centers in North America, according to Reading Recovery Trainer Garreth Zalud, Ph.D. The endowment provided for the remodeling and furnishing of a reception room for Reading Recovery and will provide annual scholarships to Reading Recovery Teachers and Teacher-Leaders. In recognition of the Miller’s generosity, Room 123 in the Delzell Education Center was named in honor of Jonette “Joni,”

a former elementary school teacher. Debra Boerner, a Reading Recovery Teacher-Leader from Winner, S.D., was presented the first scholarship from the endowment.

The goal of Reading Recovery is to dramatically reduce the number of first-grade students who have extreme difficulty learning to read and write, and to reduce the cost of these learners to educational systems. Reading Recovery is a short-term intervention of one-on-one tutoring for low-achieving first-graders and supplements the classroom experience.

The Miller Room includes a reception area, a desk and an activity station for children. Prior to the Miller’s gift, children in the Reading Recovery program often had to wait in the hallway before meeting with a Reading Recovery Teacher or Teacher-Leader.

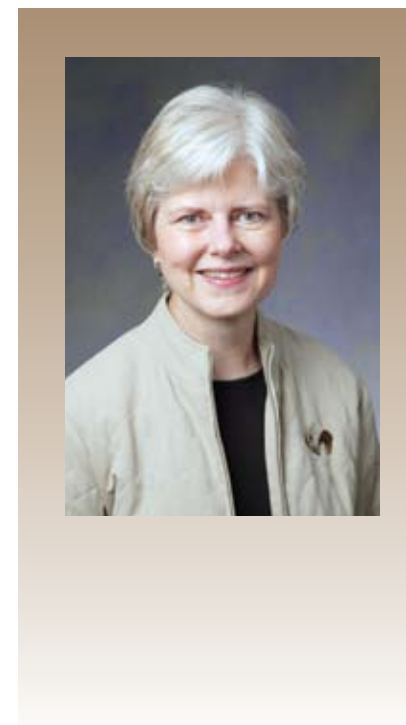
“It didn’t seem like a safe or a comfortable place to wait,” said Linda Reetz, Ed.D., interim dean of the School of Education, “That was the brainchild of this room. The more welcoming our facility is to children, the better.”



BUILDING A HEALTHY FUTURE — Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medicine and Science Building

Addressing the standing-room-only crowd at the dedication of the Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medicine and Science Building, USD President James W. Abbott said to donors, “Future patients in South Dakota and elsewhere send you a big thank you.”

The dedication, held Sept. 5, 2008, in the Maybee Atrium of the new building, was a day of thankfulness to all who made the building possible, including the three large corporate donors: Avera Health, Regional Health and Sanford Health. Funding for the \$37 million project included \$12.5 million in private gifts to the USD Foundation. Alumni are encouraged to stop in and see the 156,000 square foot building—one of the largest construction projects in South Dakota’s history.



GIFTS TO USD— An Investment in the Future

By Director of Planned Giving, Susan Tuve

In 1933, my grandfather, a farmer in western Minnesota during the height of the Great Depression, wrote a check in support of a college in Minnesota. My grandmother voiced her concerns that the family could not afford to give up that money. My grandfather responded by saying the gift was an investment in the future, and that they couldn’t afford not to make the gift.

Today, we again face uncertain economic times. Every day, as I see students on the USD campus and hear about the exciting things they are learning and doing—from research to international studies to winning national competitions, I am reminded that the real hope for our future lies in outstanding educational opportunities. By making a gift to The University of South Dakota Foundation, you are showing your belief that no matter how hard the times, you have hope in the future of our students and The University of South Dakota.

Like my grandfather’s gift in 1933, a donation to the USD Foundation is an investment in the future.

IRA Rollover Provision is Back

As part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, signed on Oct. 3, alumni and friends of The University of South Dakota once again have a way to make tax-free gifts with an IRA. The provisions of the IRA rollover gift were originally included in the Pension Protection Act of 2006. The new act revises the dates so that it applies to gifts made in 2008 and 2009, retroactive to Jan. 1, 2008.



Key provisions include:

- Donors must be age 70½ or above on the day the gift is made.
- Charitable gifts must be made directly from an IRA or a Rollover IRA.
- An individual can give a maximum of \$100,000 in 2008 and an additional \$100,000 in 2009. A spouse can give an equal amount from his/her IRA.
- Individuals can make as many gifts in any amount to as many charities as desired as long as the total does not exceed

\$100,000 for 2008 and an additional \$100,000 in 2009.

- The gift may go to one or more public charities.
- Donors who have reached age 70½ and are required to make minimum required distributions can direct the entire amount to charity in satisfaction of their minimum required distribution.

Please contact Susan Tuve, director of planned giving at the USD Foundation, with questions at 800-521-3575 or susan.tuve@usdfoundation.org.

Making Dental Care Possible

The tragic story of Deamante Driver, a 12-year-old boy from Maryland who died of a toothache in 2007, serves as a harsh reminder of the importance of dental care. Driver had a tooth abscess so severe that bacteria spread to his brain, eventually killing him. A simple tooth extraction might have saved him, if his family had the \$80 to cover the cost. While this case is extreme, the tragedy illustrates the importance of making affordable dental care available to everyone.

The University of South Dakota Dental Hygiene program and the Falls Community Dental Clinic have partnered to help ensure dental care is available to those in need in the Sioux Falls, S.D., area. The USD Dental Clinic opened in January 2008 in the former Coliseum, which has been renovated to house Siouxland Health and Human Services.

As part of their clinical rotation, dental hygiene students from The U train in the Sioux Falls clinic, focusing on patients with access issues, especially those eligible for federal assistance. Dental hygiene students rotate weekly through the clinic, assisting dentists and learning about procedures while providing services such as teeth cleanings, x-rays, sealants, fluoride and other



— Scott Jones, CEO of Delta Dental

oral health care procedures. Students are supervised by faculty members who are licensed dental hygienists and dentists.

Major funding for this clinic was provided by the Delta Dental Philanthropic Fund, through the USD Foundation. Scott Jones, CEO and president of Delta Dental of South Dakota, started his career with the company upon graduating from USD in 1975 with a business management degree. Seeing the need for better oral health care in South Dakota, Delta Dental created the Philanthropic Fund in 1997. The fund has also provided scholarships for USD dental hygiene students and helped with operating costs for the department in the past.

“Clinical experiences are vital to the education of our students,” said Ann Brunick, chairperson of the department of dental hygiene. “The opportunity to serve the Sioux Falls community and educate our students with the latest technology and equipment has been made possible with this new clinic. Delta Dental has been generous in its support of our program throughout the years and we will continue to work together to provide dental care to the citizens of South Dakota.”

Giving Back to Your University

Alumni of The University of South Dakota have shown their generosity by giving back to the University, making scholarships and new buildings possible and supporting the research and teaching by outstanding faculty. Because most alumni would like to support their respective school, college or department within the University, the USD Foundation is focusing its efforts on raising money for each school or college.

Four years ago, the Foundation’s annual giving program, under the direction of Erin Allen, took over the School of Medicine’s annual giving program and three years ago added the School of Law. The growth in these annual giving programs has been substantial. Beginning this fall, Allen began managing the annual giving programs for all of the schools and colleges at USD.

“The main goal is to get more alumni to make gifts to USD,” explained Allen. “We have found that more

alumni want to give back to a specific college or program and our goal is to make it easier for them to give directly to the specific area they are connected to.”

While raising money for each school and college within the University, the annual giving program will continue its fundraising efforts on other important projects, such as the Partnership and USD Scholars Funds. The Partnership Fund supports various University priorities, including recruitment of great students and providing the opportunities for undergraduate research. The USD Scholars Fund supports a variety of scholarship programs—giving more students the opportunity for a USD education.

When you receive a call or letter from your school or college, please consider making a gift. No matter what amount you give, you can impact the life of a student and make a difference at your alma mater.

USD FOUNDATION PHONECENTER CALLING COYOTES

GAVIN FAWBUSH

MAJOR: Business Management

HOMETOWN: Madison, S.D.

Most interesting thing you’ve learned as a student caller: I’ve found that no matter what their background or where an alum lives, our connection to USD gives us something to talk about and that we’re both part of someplace special.

What you like best about working in the USD PhoneCenter: The feeling I get when someone makes a big pledge and I know how much it will help a student.

MELISSA NEWBORG

MAJOR: Elementary Education & Spanish

HOMETOWN: Alford, Iowa

Most interesting thing you’ve learned as a student caller: I’ve enjoyed being updated on all the new construction and renovation projects that have been going on at USD.

Most memorable call: I spoke with an alum who was a member of the women’s basketball team and had a great conversation with her. We were able to talk about the great things going on with USD’s move to Division I.

NICK LARSEN

MAJOR: Criminal Justice

HOMETOWN: Sioux City, Iowa

Most interesting thing you’ve learned as a student caller: I’ve learned that even though someone graduated from USD a long time ago, college life is something we can both relate to and talk about.

Most memorable call: I was so surprised to call an elementary school teacher I once had, who I hadn’t spoken to in almost 10 years. The best part was that she remembered me and we had a great conversation.

What’s the best thing about working at the USD Foundation PhoneCenter: I love talking to alumni and learning what the University was like when they attended, especially if it was 10, 20, 30 or more years ago. I also get to update them on the exciting changes on campus.

CAITLIN HANNASEH

MAJOR: Undecided

HOMETOWN: Colman, S.D.

Most interesting thing you’ve learned as a student caller: That everyone I talk to loves The U. Even if someone isn’t able to give right now, many of the alums just enjoy talking about their experiences at USD and ask me questions about things on campus.

Most memorable call: I was talking to a woman who had so many great things to tell me about her years at USD. I think she could have talked for two hours straight!





COYOTES BEGIN D-I ERA

The Coyote athletic program officially began its reclassification into the world of NCAA Division I this August when the football team opened its season against St. Ambrose at the DakotaDome, handing the Fighting Bees a 52–0 loss and foreshadowing the great things to come for USD athletics.

The reclassification will continue until the 2012–13 season when the Coyotes become a full member of NCAA Division I, earning eligibility for postseason competition in all sports. Until that time, USD must follow the timeline set forth by the NCAA and meet their specific objectives.

This season the Coyotes are not eligible for NCAA postseason competition in all sports. They are not included as a “counter” on other teams’ schedules, are not an RPI (Rating Percentage Index) institution and are not required to meet minimum scheduling standards. The Coyotes will continue to be ineligible for NCAA postseason play in 2009–10, but will have to meet minimum scheduling requirements and count as a D-I game on opponents’ schedules. At this time they will also become an RPI institution.

The RPI was created by the NCAA in 1981 to supplement the selection of at-large teams and the seeding of all teams for the NCAA basketball tournament. The RPI is derived from three component factors: D-I winning percentage (25%), schedule strength (50%) and opponent’s schedule strength (25%). Games with non-Division I opponents are not used in calculating the RPI.

The men’s and women’s Outdoor Track & Field teams will be the first eligible at USD for NCAA Championships during the 2010–11 season. USD chose to move these programs through a two-year multi-division reclassification process. The NCAA allows for one men’s and one women’s team to do so. The rest of USD sports’ teams become eligible for NCAA postseason competition in 2012–13.

In addition, the USD Athletics Department will have to annually submit a strategic plan, putting forth the philosophies and directives of the reclassification process, and an annual report to the NCAA. Campus and athletic administrators must attend yearly NCAA conventions and compliance seminars and complete a compliance rules review in 2009–10. In the final two years of reclassification, USD must complete the NCAA D-I Athletics Certification process. This acts as the final review to determine approval for active D-I status.

“I would be confident in putting us through the certification process right now,” said Jill Theeler, assistant athletic director and senior woman administrator. “We aren’t perfect. We do have things we want to improve, but we are ready to be a D-I institution.”

Although these are the standards set forth by the NCAA to gain D-I status, there are a lot of areas USD must continue to build and improve upon to be ready for the challenge ahead.

An area of focus for the athletic department is increasing the number of donors for Coyote athletics from 500 to 2,500 in the next 10 years. It’s estimated that it will take an additional \$2 million annually to provide the scholarship, staffing and operations costs needed for the transition.

“We’ll elevate our standards to that of other D-I schools,” said Joel Nielsen, director of athletics. “To be competitive we’re going to need to increase our staff, budget and scholarships, and improve our facilities.”

One hundred and sixty-seven scholarships a year will be needed for Coyote athletes within the 17 sports competing at the D-I



level. An increase of 62 scholarships from before the move, USD will need \$2.5 million for scholarships annually by the end of the transition period. Although USD expects to see a rise in ticket sales and corporate sponsorships, the cost associated with running a D-I program requires an increase in fundraising.

“Our goal is to have our scholarship budget completely paid for by donations,” said David Herbster, associate athletic director for development. “We’ve begun the Great Expectations Campaign and reorganized the annual giving to the Howling Pack with a goal of raising \$10 million by the end of the transition.”

A Great Expectations scholarship is valued at \$12,500 a year for five years. That includes tuition, fees, room and board, and



Most important in the transition is the performance of Coyote athletes in the classroom. The Academic Progress Rate (APR) is a calculation used by the NCAA based on eligibility, retention and graduation of each scholarship student-athlete. USD, and other NCAA D-I institutions, must maintain an APR of 925 or face penalties and loss of scholarships. A 925 APR is equivalent to a graduation success rate of approximately 60 percent.

“We are now under Division I progress-toward-degree requirements, which are different than they were at Division II,” Theeler said. “We are on board with that and our academic advising staff is doing an excellent job with our student-athletes.”

“We’ll elevate our standards to that of other D-I schools. To be competitive we’re going to need to increase our staff, budget and scholarships, and improve our facilities.” —Joel Nielsen

books. Through Great Expectations, donors have the ability to pledge money for scholarships as well as name and designate them for certain sports if they choose.

Things as small as editing equipment to as large as facility upgrades will become more important as USD moves into full D-I competition. Increased NCAA standards require more time and, ultimately, money. Another increase will be the cost associated with recruiting D-I athletes.

“We will definitely be expanding our recruiting areas,” Herbster said. “We will also see an increased cost of marketing to expand our reach and generate exposure. Going forward, we will have to start looking at new facilities as well.”

The combined use of the DakotaDome for football, volleyball, basketball and track will continue to strain the facility as the D-I upgrade continues. A new wellness/recreation center to better serve the entire campus is on the drawing board. Further, without separate facilities, the athletics department will miss out on the opportunity to generate additional income by bringing in basketball teams for early season tournaments because the Dome is being used for football. A loss to the program is also a financial loss to the Vermillion community as well.

USD must also continue to comply with Title IX, having an equal number of participation opportunities for men and women compared to campus enrollment, within a five percent differential. In addition, USD must show a balance of scholarship spending and recruiting budget spending between men’s and women’s sports.

Men’s and women’s basketball, women’s tennis and volleyball are under different scholarship regulations than in the past. In the case of basketball, teams are allotted a certain number of “head count” scholarship spots – 13 for men, 15 for women. In D-II, these scholarships could be distributed among many participants by granting partial scholarships. Now, any amount of aid given will count towards the team’s “head count” scholarship total.

“We are closely watched and monitored by the NCAA,” Theeler said. “Our coaches will continue to take the annual NCAA recruiting exam, and we will expand our NCAA rules education efforts to make sure our athletic department and University staff, as well as our external stakeholders, are aware of Division I rules and regulations.

“We are structured really well and are making a smooth transition. I anticipate that it will be an exciting, challenging and productive reclassification process for USD athletics.”



Coyote Hall Inducts Seven



(L to R) Beanie Cooper, Bill Moats, Barry Blue, Paul Lewis, John Thomson and John Hemenway are the members of the 2008 class of inductees to the Coyote Sports Hall of Fame. (not pictured, Marni Downing)

"This is an exceptional group of individuals with strong ties to the University. We are proud to honor their achievements both at USD and in their lives after leaving campus."

—Joel Nielsen

Beanie Cooper, former athletic director and head football coach, was inducted into the Coyote Sports Hall of Fame along with six other student-athletes and special contributors to USD.

Cooper, a nationally renowned public speaker from Sioux City, Iowa, coached the Coyotes from 1975–78, leading that '78 team to a North Central Conference title. They started that season 1-3 before a remarkable turnaround had them finish the season winning six of their last seven, and going undefeated in conference play. Cooper's sons, Tim (wide receiver) and Pat (linebacker), were members of that team.

Prior to coming to USD, Cooper played for legendary coach George Allen at Morningside College. He later coached Sioux City Heelan High School where he was named District Coach of the Year six times. Cooper went on to become athletic director at Indiana State University following his tenure with the Coyotes. He is a member of the Iowa Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Football stars Barry Blue and Bill Moats, basketball standout John Hemenway and swimmer Marni Downing joined Cooper as inductees to the Coyote Sports Hall of Fame.

Blue, '74 B.S.Ed., starred for the Coyotes from 1970-74, and was one of the greatest kickers in school history. Blue was a member of three NCC championship teams and set the school record for 106 points, which has since been broken. He now ranks 12th on the all-time scoring chart and, with 11, set a record for extra

points attempted and made in a game. Blue is vice president at Pacesetter Corporation in Omaha, Neb.

Moats was a member of Cooper's 1978 NCC championship team, leading the Coyote defense from the cornerback position. Moats was named NCC MVP for defensive backs while earning All-NCC honors, was selected first-team Associated Press Little All-American, first-team Kodak Coaches All-American, and was selected to the Ray Scott's Computer All-American Team as a punter. Moats left USD with 10 school records and still ranks third in school history with 15 interceptions. He holds the all-time record for average yards per punt with 42.2 and placed first nationally his senior year in punting. He was drafted in the 12th round by the Green Bay Packers and had tryouts with the San Francisco 49ers and New England Patriots. Moats works at an orthopedic and sports clinic in Boise, Idaho.

Hemenway, '96 B.S.Ed. and '98 M.A., was a three-year starter and two-time co-captain for the USD basketball team from 1992–96. As a standout point guard, Hemenway earned All-North Central Region honors and was a CodiDa second-team Academic All-American in 1996. The Coyotes won two NCC titles and appeared in the Elite Eight twice in Hemenway's reign, finishing with an 89-25 mark during his tenure. He sits fourth all-time in assists at USD with 486, and his 197 in the 1994–95 season ranks fourth for a single season. Hemenway recently completed his third season as head men's coach at Dakota Wesleyan in Mitchell.

Downing, '96 B.S.Ed., was a four-time All-American swimmer during her stellar career with the Coyotes. She picked up three NCC titles from 1990-94 and ranks on USD's all-time list in the 200 fly, 100 fly, 200 breaststroke and 1,650 freestyle. Downing lives in Arkansas City, Kan., where she is a special education teacher.



One of the most decorated Coyote football players in school history, inductee Bill Moats talks during the Hall of Fame ceremony.

Sioux Falls residents Paul Lewis and John Thomson were inducted into the Hall as well for their contributions to Coyote athletics throughout the years.

Lewis, '73 B.S. and '76 J.D., was an associate at Davenport, Evans, Hurwitz & Smith where he helped draft documents for the DakotaDome Development Corporation. From 1978–1984 he was a professional bridge player and since has served as vice-chairman/chairman of the First State Bank of Armour and has been president of PAL, Inc., a property management and development company. He served as chair-elect of the USD Foundation, is a member of

Beta Theta Pi fraternity, has been a USD Foundation trustee since the 1980s, served as chair of the USD Investment Committee and is currently a member of the USD Foundation's Executive Committee.

Thomson, '50 B.S., and his family have been long-time boosters of Coyote athletics and the University in general. After serving with the U.S. Air Force in Europe from 1952–54, he worked for First Midwest Bank, where he currently serves as chairman of the board. A member of Beta Theta Pi, Thomson served as president of the USD Alumni Association, was on the USD Foundation Executive Committee and is past president of the USD Bankers Education Corporation. He and his wife, Nane, established the Thomson-McConnell Scholarship Fund at the Beacom School of Business.

The new Hall of Fame members were inducted on Sept. 20 at the Al Neuharth Media Center and were honored at halftime of the Coyotes' home football game with Culver-Stockton.

"This is an exceptional group of individuals with strong ties to the University," said USD Director of Athletics Joel Nielsen. "We are proud to honor their achievements both at USD and in their lives after leaving campus."

Become a Howling Pack Member



At The University of South Dakota, strong academics and highly competitive athletics have become the standard. As with most universities though, athletics provides the window through which the whole institution is often viewed. With the move to NCAA Division I athletics, that window is becoming a lot bigger.

As USD proceeds through this transition, the University is asking all alumni to show your Coyote pride and support by becoming a member of the Howling Pack. A membership brings numerous benefits, but the greatest is the knowledge that you have helped support the outstanding student-athletes at your University.

Various membership levels include premium-seating season ticket opportunities, tailgating options, a designated hospitality area and parking. To find out more about how to become a member, go to www.howlingpack.com or call 1-800-521-3575.

Yote Notes

John Gillis, Mass Communicator

John C. Gillis, '77 B.S., '85 M.A., assistant director of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) in Indianapolis, Ind., recently added co-editor of the new *High School Today* publication to his resume.

The new publication replaces *NFHS News* and will expand on its former distribution to strictly athletic directors and NFHS member state associations to include superintendents, principals and school board members throughout the country. This will increase its circulation from 12,000 to 70,000 nationwide, reaching nearly every high school in the U.S.

In addition to taking on this ambitious publication, distributed eight times a year, Gillis also edits the *NFHS Officials' Quarterly*, the *National High School Sports Record Book*, the *NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Book*, the *NFHS Handbook* and the *NFHS Court and Field Diagram Guide*, and is assistant editor of the *NFHS Coaches' Quarterly*. He also administers the sport of ice hockey and the NFHS' video production program.

In 1998, Gillis received the Outstanding Alumni Graduate Degree Award from the Department of Mass Communication (now Department of Contemporary Media and Journalism). In 2001, he was the featured alumnus of the year in the Department of Contemporary Media and Journalism's annual



alumni publication, *The CMJ*. Gillis was also named to the Cambridge "Who's Who Executive and Professional Registry" in 2007.

Gillis and his family have had a school-record five generations graduate from USD. Although he is 775 miles away, Gillis always makes it back for the D-Days celebration and for some basketball games in January.

"It's difficult to get back to USD as often as I would like," Gillis said. "Those trips are always among the highlights of any given year for me and it's always great to be back on campus."

1940s

Col. George "Bud" Day '49 L.L.B., was one of two recipients of a lifetime achievement award presented by the Air Force Association at the 2008 National Aerospace Awards at the Air & Space Conference. Col. Day and his wife, Doris, reside in Shalimar, Fla.

1950s

James M. Peterson '51 L.L.B., was honored for 50 years of service to the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. Jim resides in Vermillion, S.D.

Dr. Richard W. Forman '52 B.S.Ed., '55 M.A., retired after 55 years of teaching mathematics at Augustana College. Richard and his wife, **Duaine (Erickson)** '50 B.A., reside in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Rev. Webster Two Hawk '52 B.S.B.A., '98 L.L.D., has been honored for his service as an Episcopal priest for 50 years in a proclamation

by Gov. Mike Rounds. Webster and his wife, Marge, reside in Pierre, S.D.

Rev. Jerald "Jerry" R. Barnhart '55 B.A., is founder-producer of "VET'S Visits on TV" Inc., a half-hour series seen in 19 states from Montana to Maine, now in its 11th year. Jerry and his wife, June, reside in Rochester, Minn.

Robert R. Gehler '58 B.S., '60 L.L.B., was officially honored by the Colorado Bar Association for his 40 years as the longest-tenured City Attorney in the State of Colorado. Robert and his wife, Terri, reside in Aurora, Colo.

Dr. Alan K. Brevik '59 BA, '61 B.S.M.D., has retired after serving the South Dakota Human Services Center as a psychiatric physician since 1988. He and his wife, **Marcia (Willey)** '84 M.A., '99 J.D., reside in Yankton, S.D.

Mary (Rueb) Conner '59 ATTD, received an award as the longest active court appointed special advocate (C.A.S.A.) in the State of Alabama. Mary resides in Huntsville, Ala.

1960s

Patrick L. Lalley '60 B.A., '88 B.S., has been named managing editor of the Argus Leader Media company. Patrick and his wife, **Janet (Kittams)** '88 B.S., reside in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Dr. Lynn R. Frary '61 B.A., '62 B.S.M.D., was named WSAUA Distinguished Member for 2008. He and his wife, Patricia, reside in Burien, Wash.

Larry L. Mitchell '61 B.F.A., was honored with the Jerry Wicker Service Award at the Northwest Iowa Honor Band concert. Larry and his wife, **Beth (Haan)** '63 B.F.A., reside in Vermillion, S.D.

John G. Nickum '61 M.A., was inducted into the National Fish Culture Hall of Fame in Spearfish, S.D. John and his wife, Mary, reside in Fountain Hills, Ariz.

Dr. Daniel S. Duick '63 B.A., '65 B.S.M.D., was elected president of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists. Dr. Duick resides in Phoenix, Ariz.

Yote Notes

Kent E. Edson '64 B.S.B.A., recently retired as chief financial officer of Dacotah Banks Inc. in Aberdeen, S.D. Kent and his wife, Susan, reside in Aberdeen, S.D.

Dr. E. John English '64 B.A., '65 B.S.M.D., has retired after 34 years as a family physician with the Apple Valley Medical Clinic. He resides in Apple Valley, Minn.

Suzanne (Vander Pol) Cusick '66 B.F.A., '68 M.M., is superintendent of the Longview School District. Suzanne and her husband, **Tim Cusick** '67 B.A., reside in Portland, Ore.

Justice Richard W. Sabers '66 J.D., is the 2008 recipient of the Marshall M. McKusick Award. Justice Sabers resides in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Alan L. Cross '67 B.A., '70 J.D., '71 M.B.A., is the CFO for Wind Energy America. Alan resides in Plymouth, Minn.

James F. Smith '67 B.F.A., received a distinguished service award from Phi Beta Mu. James resides in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Thomas G. Fritz '68 B.A., '76 M.A., '71 J.D., has been recognized as a "Super Lawyer" in the area of Civil Litigation Defense in the August edition of Super Lawyers Magazine. He and his wife **Pamela (Walsh)** '72 B.A., reside in Rapid City, S.D.

Dr. James O. Hansen '68 Ed.D., was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame. He and his wife, Dora, reside in Pierre, S.D.

1970s

Dee D. Clements '70 B.F.A., a sculptor, had his site-specific sculpture "Fortitude" dedicated in Santa Fe Springs, Calif., in May. He and his wife, **Julia (Lang)** '69 B.S.E.D., reside in Loveland, Colo.

Shirley (Neugebauer) Luebke '71 B.F.A., '76 M.M., was named the 2008 Iowa Fine Arts Administrator of the Year. Shirley resides in Sioux City, Iowa.

Gregory J. Von Wald '71 B.A., is president of Mitchell Technical Institute. He and his wife, **Nancy (Flemmer)** '70 A.A., reside in Mitchell, S.D.

Barbara (Thirstrup) Zar '71 B.A., '75 M.A., has been promoted Director of Federal Governmental Affairs for Black Hills Corporation. Barbara and her husband, Dr. David Zar, reside in Rapid City, S.D.

Margaret "Peggy" Brady '72 M.A., retired from the Sioux City Community School District after a 44-year teaching career. She resides in Sioux City, Iowa.

Patricia (Freitag) Ericsson '72 B.S.Ed., has been named director of the Digital Technology and Culture Program at Washington State University. Patricia resides in Pullman, Wash.

Dennis L. Haarsager '72 B.S., '75 M.A., was named Interim Chief Executive Officer of National Public Radio. Dennis resides in Washington, D.C.

Bruce Nolop '72 B.A., was named CFO for E*Trade Financial Corporation. He and his wife, Susan, reside in New York City.

Karen A. Paschal '72 B.A., was elected to the Nominating Committee of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). She resides in Omaha, Neb.

Helen (Falor) Beneke '73 M.A., was the recipient of the "Educator of the Year" award presented by the Iowa Learning Disabilities Association. Helen and her husband, Donald, reside in Pocahontas, Iowa.

Charles "Chuck" Iverson '73 B.S.Ed., '87 M.A., was named athletic director for Mount Marty College. Chuck and his wife, **Karla (Miller)** '79 B.S.B.A., reside in Yankton, S.D.

Dr. Robert R. Seidel '73 B.S., '77 B.S.M.D.-4, '77 M.D., was named South Dakota Family Doctor of the Year. He works at the Sanford Clinic and resides in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Norman B. Stratton '73 B.S.B.A., retired after 29 years with MidAmerican Energy Company. Norm resides in Urbandale, Iowa.

Anthony S. Cleberg '74 B.S.B.A., has been named executive vice president and CFO for Black Hills Corporation. He and his wife, Brenda reside in Monument, Colo.

Dr. Michael L. Olson '74 B.S.M.D., was selected as the 'Best Family Physician (2007-2008)' by *The Sioux Falls Business Journal*. Dr. Olson and his wife **Deborah (Housa)** '83 J.D., reside in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Mark W. Barnett '76 B.S., '78 J.D., was chosen as the South Dakota Prosecutor of the Year for 2007. Mark and his wife, Deborah (Swisher) '77 B.A., '78 M.A., reside in Pierre, S.D.

Donna (Bielski) Kabrud '76 B.S.M.T., is program manager for the Clinical Call Center at Sanford USD Medical Center. Donna resides in Sioux Falls, S.D.

James W. Schnaidt '76 B.S., was honored for his 40 years of service with the John Campanius Holm Award, the National Weather Service's second highest award for volunteer weather observers. Jim and his wife, Robin, reside in Menno, S.D.



Women's track and field coach **Lucky Huber**, '90 B.S.Ed., '92 M.A., has

been named the national Women's Outdoor Coach of the Year by the U.S. Track and Field/Cross Country Coaches Association for the second time in his career.

Huber, now in his 14th season at USD, was also named the North Central Conference Women's Outdoor Coach of the Year for the sixth time. Huber has tallied 12 NCC Coach of the Year honors while at the helm of the Coyotes.

Huber got the opportunity to attend the Summer Olympic Games in Beijing while working with Derek Miles, '96 B.A., '98 M.A., in the pole vault competition. Lucky and his wife Stacy (Kracht), '92 B.S.Ed., reside in Wakonda, S.D.

Jacqueline (Mueller) Swanson '76 B.S.Ed., was named the 2008 Teacher of the Year by the Rapid City Public School Foundation. Jackie resides in Rapid City, S.D.

Dan J. Cheever '77 B.S.B.A., has been named CFO for Marquette Financial Companies. Dan and his wife, **Janet (Olson)** '79 B.S.B.A., reside in Eden Prairie, Minn.

Peter E. Hathaway '77 M.A., is chair of the education department at Morningside College. Peter and his wife, **Ann (Bendinger)** '71 ATTD, reside in Sioux City, Iowa.

The Honorable Daryl L. Hecht '77 J.D., was guest speaker at the Marion R. Smyser Jurist-In-Residence Program at the USD School of Law. Justice Hecht resides in Sloan, Iowa.

Dr. Michael J. McTaggart '77 M.A., '91 Ed.D., retired from the Sioux City Community School District after 17 years of service. Dr. McTaggart resides in Sioux City, Iowa.

Cheryl R. Lien '95 A.A., of Rapid City, S.D., on February 28, 2008.

Eva Marie Bock '96 B.S., of Newcastle, Wyo., on September 11, 2008.

Paul R. Converse '98 J.D., of Kensington, Md., on March 24, 2008.

Patricia (McMahon) Kelley '98 B.A., of Vermillion, S.D., on March 5, 2008.

W. Mark Kincaid '99 M.A., of Sioux Falls, S.D., on July 27, 2008.

Jodi (Beringer) Larabee '99 B.S., of Pringle, S.D., Alpha Phi sorority, on March 16, 2008.

2000s

Steve L. Williams '00 M.S., of Sturgis, S.D., on April 3, 2008.

Joshua L. Fritz '03 B.S.B.A., of Aberdeen, S.D., on September 14, 2008.

Megan (Tolsma) O'Connor '03 B.S.Ed., of Worthing, S.D., on April 17, 2008.

Justin D. Bousema '06 B.S.Ed., of Hull, Iowa, on April 3, 2008.

Michael S. Carmody '06 ATTD, of Sioux Falls, S.D., Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, on January 24, 2008.

Joan (Flaherty) Kammerer '06 M.A., of Dakota Dunes, S.D., on June 25, 2008.



Becoming an active member of The University of South Dakota alumni community will soon be only a click away.

Next spring, The University of South Dakota will launch its new online alumni community on the Alumni Association Web site at www.usd.edu/alumni. By logging on, USD alumni will have access to a site customized exclusively for them. With features such as social networking, news updates, event registration and much more, getting involved with The U and connecting with classmates and friends has never been easier...or more fun.

Do you know an extraordinary student who would benefit from a USD education?

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Degree and major: _____

Student's name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

High School (if known): _____

Year of graduation (if known): _____

How do you know this student? _____

Mail to: Office of Admissions, The University of South Dakota, 414 East Clark Street, Vermillion, SD 57069.



ALUMNI BOOKS



Play, Projects, and Preschool Standards

Nurturing Children's Sense of Wonder and Joy in Learning

By Gera Jacobs, M.A. '91, Ed.D. '93, and Kathy Crowley, B.S. '97
Corwin Press, 2007
ISBN: 978-1-4129-2802-1
www.corwinpress.com

Gera Jacobs, M.A. '91, Ed.D. '93, and Kathy Crowley, B.S. '97, teamed together to pen the book *Play, Projects, and Preschool Standards*, which was the winner of two national book awards. The book won the 2007 Association of Education Publishers Distinguished Achievement Award and the 2008 Teachers' Choice Award sponsored by Learning Magazine.

In addition, Jacobs is one of two 2008 Champions for Children in the individual/professional category by South Dakota

Voices for Children. She led the taskforce charged with responsibility for establishing South Dakota Early Learning Guidelines for preschool children. She also developed and delivered training on those guidelines in collaboration with the state Division of Child Care Services.

Jacobs is a professor of early childhood education at USD while Crowley is a kindergarten teacher at St. Agnes School in Vermillion.

Answering the Call

With the 91st Infantry Division in the Italian Campaign during World War II

By Stephen L. Wilson, B.A. '70
Merriam Press, 2007
ISBN: 978-1-4303-2691-5
www.merriam-press.com

Answering the Call is the story of Allen Wilson and his World War II service where he spent 18 months in Algeria, Italy and Austria. Based primarily on letters Wilson wrote between 1943 and 1945, the book provides an in-depth, personal account of the challenges and triumphs that occurred when a young soldier "answered the call."

Forgotten Lives

African Americans in South Dakota

By Betti VanEpps-Taylor, M.A. '98
South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 2008
ISBN: 978-0-9777955-5-0
www.sdspress.com

Forgotten Lives provides insights into the lives and communities of the small but vital minority of African Americans in South Dakota during the last two centuries.

The Caucasian Dove

By Thomas German, '55 B.A., '58 B.S.M.D.
Infinity Publishing, 2007
ISBN: 0-7414-3903-4
www.infinitypublishing.com

The Caucasian Dove is the story of a German Panzer officer, engaged in the Wehrmacht's Caucasian thrust, who experiences an unexpected vision and earns a measure of salvation in the Stalingrad struggle and his subsequent Russian Gulag imprisonment.

Massacre at Pilgrims' Pass

By Tim Lister, '75 Ed.D.
Book Surge, 2007
ISBN: 978-1419668531
www.booksurge.com

Massacre at Pilgrims' Pass is set in 1866, when a Harvard-educated surgeon becomes lost in the Dakota Territory while on a quest to rescue his sister from Cheyenne warriors. The saga explores the culture clash of East and West, the complexity of relationships that transcends external appearance, language and social mores, as well as the myriad of emotions that afflict all human beings.

Wait a Minute

An "Unself" Self Help Handbook

By Harold E. Brady, Ed.D. '75
Pine Hill Press, 2007
ISBN: 978-1-57579-369-6
www.waitaminute-book.com

Wait a Minute is based on The Psalms written by Rev. Brady, a retired United Methodist Minister. The "Unself" Self Help Handbook attempts to describe how to live a life of peace, joy and love.

The Mystery of the Third Lucretia

By Susan Runholt, B.A. '70
Viking Children's Books, 2008
ISBN: 978-0-670-06252-2
www.susanrunholt.com

The Mystery of the Third Lucretia, a runner-up for the Debut Dagger Award by the Crime Writers Association of Great Britain, concerns the adventures of 14-year-old best friends Kari Sundgren and Lucas Stickney who get mixed up in a big international art crime.

Kinship and the Dark Side of Man

How Life Really Works and Where We Go Wrong

By Theodore J. Smith, B.S.M.D. '44, and Kim Smith, M.D.
Trafford Publishing, 2007
ISBN: 978-1-4120-7871-9
www.trafford.com

Kinship and the Dark Side of Man is a comprehensive discussion of how life works, the origin of emotion, and how to transform our emotional experience.

New Indians, Old Wars

By Elizabeth Cook-Lynn, M.A. '71
University of Illinois Press, 2007
ISBN: 978-0-252-03166-3
www.press.uillinois.edu

New Indians, Old Wars examines the perennial nature of the Indian-White conflict in America, the history of the west, and looks at literary studies written by and about the American Indian.

Wallace Stegner's Salt Lake City

By Robert C. Steensma, M.A. '55
University of Utah Press, 2007
ISBN: 978-0-87480-898-8
www.uofupress.com

Wallace Stegner's Salt Lake City is a book that will appeal to all who have been moved by Stegner's novels, nonfiction or his urgent appeals for conservation. Steensma meticulously searched through archival photographs, quotations from Stegner's writings and interpretive essays in order to recreate the Salt Lake City of the 1920s and 30s, the city of Stegner's youth and young adulthood, which he used as the settings for three of his novels.

Research and Creative Activities

By Laura J. Jenks, Ph.D.

I have three lingering memories from my freshman year in college: Vietnam War protests, sweatshirts banned from the dorm cafeteria and the mind-numbing, toe-curling, intestine-twisting agony of memorizing zoological taxonomy. I was a biology major at a state university in Illinois, marching through the standard first-year curriculum of botany and zoology. At 18 years of age I thought my career was over — I could not face one more phylum, genus or species.

But then came my sophomore year at the university...and genetics. In class, we mapped genes in fruit flies, and learned biochemical methods to measure eye pigments from different genes. I spent two semesters in the professor's lab, working with him on his research into mutations caused by radiation. From there I was swept into a summer undergraduate research experience at one top research university, and graduate school at another. Life was good.

Now you may be thinking that the moral of this story is the value of undergraduate research in retaining students and enriching their education. True, connecting undergrads with professors and other students doing research or artistry helps to create a sense of belonging to the scholarly community on campus. But that's not the moral of the story.

The message I hope to send you is that research and creative activities are essential for higher education; they produce the "high" in higher ed. Granted, not every faculty member in every department will have an externally sponsored research program or perform or exhibit in national venues. Rather, the overall expectation for the institution will be world class scholarship, emanating from the best use of its faculty in its tripartite mission of instruction, research and engagement.

USD's small size relative to other state flagship research universities means that it will continue to be known for its excellence in only a limited number of niche areas. Happily, these niche areas include interdisciplinary research and activities at the interface of several disciplines.

One example that springs quickly to mind is USD's significant expertise and accomplishments in Native American art and culture. USD is home to the largest collection of art from Native American artist and former USD faculty member Oscar Howe. Additionally, we have an astonishing collection of oral histories donated generously by both Indian and non-Indian people of the northern Great Plains.

USD computer scientists, along with the U.S. Geological Survey's EROS Center and the USD Department of Art, are partnering with tribal colleges to develop computer science expertise in Native American communities. The central importance of the environment in the northern Plains heritage is emphasized in USD's Missouri River Institute, a collaboration of geologists, biologists, chemists, sociologists and law faculty who explore the quality of the river environment and policies that affect the river's future.

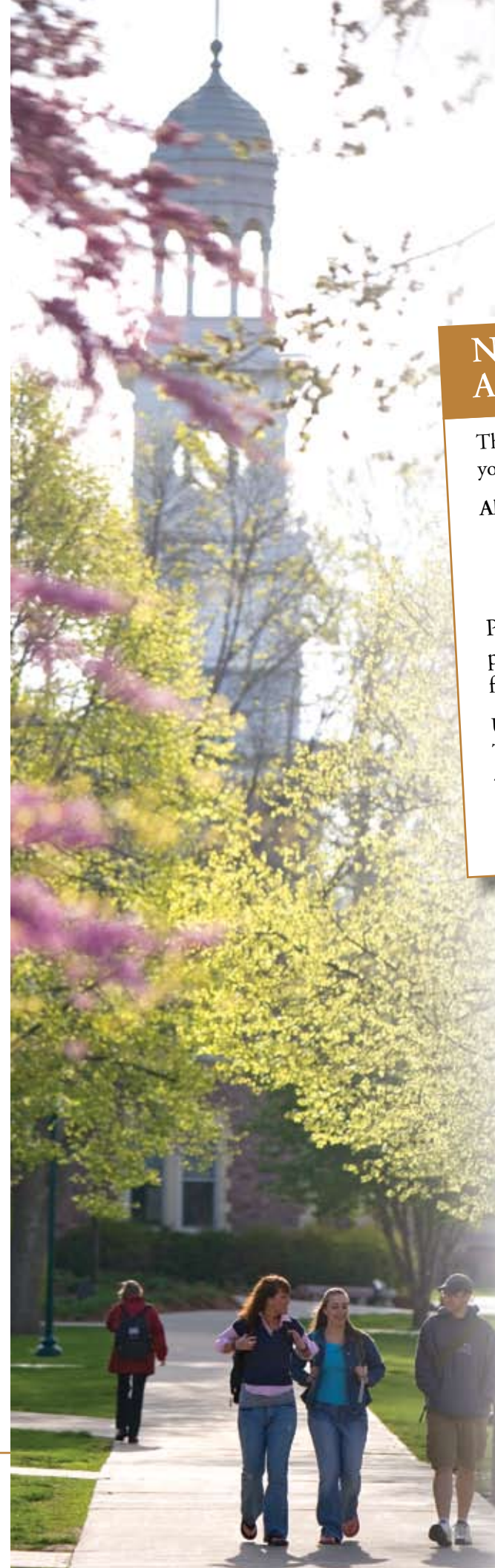
It is only in recent years, though, that The U has seen a rapid growth in its nationally competitive scientific research. External grants and contracts more than doubled between 2000 and 2005, and has remained near \$30 million annually even during the tough federal funding scene of the last few years. Important investments by the state in 2010 research centers and Ph.D. programs, and federal programs such as EPSCoR and IDeA, have catapulted USD into research competitiveness in neuroscience, protein quality, biomaterials, photovoltaics, evolutionary informatics, cardiovascular and infectious disease research. USD has been awarded two awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the neuroscience Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) in Vermillion, two awards for the cardiovascular COBRE in Sioux Falls, and two awards for a biomedical research network from NIH's BRIN/INBRE program.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) now funds USD's Northern Plains Undergraduate Research Center in chemistry, one of only three in the nation at the time it was first funded. The NSF also decided that the Homestake mine in Lead is the preferred site for a deep underground science and engineering lab. In response, our physics faculty and students positioned themselves for work on dark matter experiments with an internationally recognized team of scientists and engineers, and USD is now funded by NSF for research and development of dark matter sensors.

The efforts of University researchers and artists bring to our campus, state and region a myriad of benefits. Economic benefits are gained from the influx of grant dollars, commercialization of inventions and start-up of new companies. Quality of life is enriched by the beauty of artists and poets, the richness of literary works from scholars in humanities, and the thought-provoking insights of social scientists.

In conclusion, though, I have a confession; I exaggerated a little. The dorm sweatshirt rule was only for Sundays.

Laura J. Jenks, Ph.D., is the vice president of research at The University of South Dakota.



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