Recall

From Page 1A

threw the flag on an offensive play. When Nelson checked on the call, he had to inform Janklow that the supposed infraction applied to the National Football League and didn't exist in South Dakota high school football.

Nelson literally made the call, turning to the press box and announcing a holding penalty on the offense.

"I figured, the kid had been holding all night anyway, so we'll call it on this play," Nelson said with a laugh. "Afterwards, Janklow asked, 'Why did you do that?' I told him, with (all the media) on the sidelines covering him, I wasn't about to pick up his flag and wave off his call.

Janklow loved boating and jet skiing, calling himself "the world's greatest fat man water skier," Nelson joked.

Janklow owned his own plane and was part-owner of a hot air balloon, Nelson said. Janklow was inducted into the South Dakota Motorcycle Hall of Fame and invited then-governors Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin and Ed Schaefer of North Dakota for a motorcycle ride at the Sturgis rally.

Janklow became the third-longest serving governor in the nation's history, Nelson said.

"I believe that history will treat Bill Janklow very favorably because of his many successes," Nelson said. "You may not have always agreed with him, but you have to look at what he accomplished. I was glad to be part of it. It was gratifying."

RANDY HAMMER

Randy Hammer, on-air personality for Yankton-Vermillion radio station KVHT, recalled meeting Janklow in the Yankton studio about 10 years ago.

"I don't know why (Janklow) was in the studio, but we were just talking. He mentioned that he was doing some DJ work for dances," Hammer said. "He did a lot of DJ work for charity and used to play '50s dance music. We laughed about our experiences as DJs. It was a very friendly, very jovial time."

SISTER PENNY BINGHAM

Sister Penny Bingham, prioress at Sacred Heart Monastery, recalled how then-Gov. Janklow came to the aid of the Benedictine Sisters when a 1997 fire engulfed the monastery.

Janklow was speaking in Yankton that night. Upon learning of the fire, that claimed the life of one nun, he ordered the conversion of the Human Services Center (HSC) administrative building into a shelter for the displaced nuns.

"I remember just how very touching it was for our Sisters to know they had a place they could all be together through his kind offer," Sister Penny said.

"Our whole life is based on community, living together as we see God. Being together is a very important part of our life."

In return, the nuns supported

allowed its citizens to know Janklow personally, Hunhoff said. Several times I heard him say

that South Dakota is like one big city, and South Dakotans like one big family," Hunhoff said. "He impacted many people's lives in profound ways, and now all those citizens are feeling the loss. There won't ever be another Bill Janklow."

MATT MICHELS

Lt. Gov. Matt Michels of Yankton recalled joining the law practice of Yankton attorney Don Bierle. While adversaries in court, Bierle and Janklow were good friends and Michels became part of that friendship.

"We were involved in a couple of cases where we were on opposite sides (against Janklow). I really enjoyed it. It was hard fought, and this was a very smart man," Michels said.

"I remember driving around Yankton with Bill and Don, and they were reminiscing. That really made me feel privileged to know two guys like that.'

Michels was elected to the Legislature and took office in 1999. He quickly rose to a leadership position and worked with then-Gov. Janklow on a number of issues.

"I just remember late nights discussing and arguing certain policy issues (with Janklow) and just appreciating his style," Michels said. "He said the world was run by those who showed up, and he was (always) encouraging people to run for office.'

Janklow was compassionate and

this affected his brain," Michels said. "We are all really blessed that he was still lucid until he went to the hospital."

MARY PAT BIERLE

Mary Pat Bierle, a University of South Dakota (USD) professor and Don Bierle's daughter, had left South Dakota before Janklow entered politics.

"But he and my father Don were very close. I think sometimes they just called each other so they could have the pleasure of arguing!

"Don was a loyal Janklow friend and supporter until his death in 2001," Mary Pat Bierle said. "When Bill ran against Jim Abdnor for the Senate in 1986, Dad stuck with Jansticker on the tail end of Dad's Cadillac that said 'Bill's Back.'

In recent years, Mary Pat Bierle returned to South Dakota and team taught a USD course last spring with Janklow and former Janklow aide Marshall Damgaard.

"There were 20 undergraduate political science majors in the class, many, but not all, from South Dakota. The governor totally captivated them," Bierle said. "The class explored a series of case studies in recent South Dakota politics and government. For the students to have access to the 'major player' in those case studies was an extraordinary opportunity.'

Janklow spent hours with stu-

ical memorabilia in his Sioux Falls office, Bierle said.

"At the end of the semester, they presented a series of public policy problems and proposed solutions for the governor's scrutiny and com-ment," she said. "He shared enormous political wisdom from his decades of personal experience. He was so energetic and so generous with his time. The students — to a person - fell in love with him."

Now, with his passing, Bierle cherishes those moments even more.

"In the end, I finally got my chance to get better acquainted with this South Dakotan who really was larger than life. Little did we know then that the time was running short," she said.

possesses "a phenomenal mind," dents individually, in small classklow even though he and Jim had Michels said. room groups, taking them to dinner been staunch Republican allies for "The cruel part of his disease, and giving them tours of all the polityears. I can still see the bumper TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE HUGE DISCOUNTS THROUGHOUT THE STORE! Bonded Leather **2pc Sectional** SZIVE ^{\$}450 that's 39% off!

Janklow during his terminal illness, Sister Penny said.

"This fall, a number of Sisters had written cards to him and his family, to let them know that we were praying for him," she said.

JIM ABBOTT

University of South Dakota President Jim Abbott said he was friends with Janklow before running against him as the Democratic lieutenant governor candidate in the 1994 race.

Abbott was traveling Thursday but offered a message expressing his gratitude for Janklow role's in making Abbott's presidency possible.

"When I decided to apply for the presidency of USD, I sought his support," Abbott said. "While the Board of Regents appoints university presidents, I would not have gotten the position without his efforts on my behalf.

BERNIE HUNHOFF

District 18 Rep. Bernie Hunhoff (D-Yankton) has known Janklow in two roles, as minority leader in the Legislature and as a Democratic gubernatorial nominee against Janklow.

"I was in the Legislature in the late 1990s when he was in his third term (as governor), and I can attest to the fact that South Dakota will probably never see another leader like him," Hunhoff said. "He never played it safe. He took on issues and ideas that most politicians wouldn't have touched. Sometimes he won and sometimes he lost, but he didn't duck any fights."

Janklow brought a number of diverse traits to politics, Hunhoff said.

"He was an interesting cross between a tough Flandreau street kid and a polished (University of South Dakota) lawyer," Hunhoff said. "He obviously had his scrappy side and a rough-and-ready personality. You could love him and hate him, all on the same day. But there was also a soft side and anyone who was around him for very long soon recognized that he cared about people and about our state very deeply."

Now, the state joins in grieving for its late former governor and congressman, Hunhoff said.

"The sad news of Gov. Janklow's death arrived in the capitol late in the morning," the legislator said. "You could see the sorrow on people's faces throughout the day - especially the lawmakers and government staffers, lobbyists and others who knew him during his 16 years as governor."

South Dakota's small population



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