

Irene-Wakonda Royalty



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Irene-Wakonda School District announced the candidates for 2014 homecoming king and queen. Coronation will be held on Monday, Sept. 22 at 7 p.m. with the burning of the I/W to follow. Royalty are: Back row: Jack Johnson, Levi Zavala, Jesse Gustad, Skyler Heirigs. Front: Stacie Taggart, Lauren Sokolowski, Taylor Lyso, Amy Morman.

For 24th Straight Year, USD One Of 'America's Best'

VERMILLION — The University of South Dakota has been named one of America's best "National Universities," according to rankings released by U.S. News and World Report.

This is the 24th straight year that USD is featured in the magazine's annual college guidebook, "America's Best Colleges 2015." USD is among the top 168 institutions ranked in the National Universities category — the highest ranking of any South Dakota institution and up more than 20 places from 2014. Schools in the National Universities classification offer a full range of undergraduate majors, master's and doctoral programs as well as place a strong emphasis on research.

"It's a significant honor to be included in these rankings 24 consecutive years as it speaks volumes about our programs and people that make the University of South Dakota one of America's

best national universities," said James W. Abbott, USD President.

The National Universities rankings include 280 institutions (173 public, 100 private and seven for-profits), based on categories developed by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. USD is ranked alongside West Virginia University, the University of North Dakota, University of Hawaii-Manoa, and ahead of the University of Maine, Ball State University, the University of Houston, Western Michigan University and the University of New Mexico. These universities are defined by the Carnegie Foundation as having high levels of campus research activity along with other criteria that include undergraduate academic reputation, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance and alumni giving.

Hudson Class Of '69 Holds 40th Reunion

HUDSON — On Sept. 5, 2014, in Hudson, at the Buckaroo Bar and Restaurant (Waddy's), the Hudson Class of 1969 gathered for a class reunion, the first one in 40 years.

In 1974, the class had a five year reunion in Hudson, but after that, life took its various courses for the class, and members did not gather until this year, 2014. In some cases members of the class had not seen one another in 45 and 50 years. Members of 1969 wore name badges with pictures so the members could identify one another at the 45 year reunion.

DINNER ON SEPTEMBER 5

On Friday evening, September 5, the Class of 1969 gathered at Waddy's for socializing and dinner. The restaurant was decorated with a six foot banner that welcomed the class of 1969, black and gold balloons, memory books, a book of family information, pictures, and autobiographies of the classmates, display cases filled with class memorabilia, a memory tree with displays for two deceased classmates (Tim Steinfeldt 2007 and Gary Smith 2010), school jackets and many more items that helped set the tone for the class gathering. Gold and black pens engraved with the words, "Class of 1969", watercolor greeting cards, framed certificates of attendance, gold tee shirts (with a black Hudson Trojan and black lettering read, "Hudson High School, Class of 1969!"), M&M's, mints, and nuts were all prepared for the guests.

When it was time for the gathering at Waddy's, faces entered the door with caution. Then with vague recognition, one of classmates shouted, "Well, Rick Treiber! It has been fifty years!" As classmates arrived, hands were out stretched for a greeting, and they were soon pushed away. One of the classmates said, "This was a time for hugs and welcome homes, not hand shakes." Classmates smiled and proceeded to have a "Hug-in".

MIGHTY MEMBERS OF '69

The gathering was a time for introductions, reflection, and renewal. Classmates met spouses of other classmates. Spouses met spouses. The Class of '69 met Paula Swanson (Gary's daughter), her husband, and son. They represented Gary Smith, one of the deceased classmates. By the end of the night, all barriers were down. The more the classmates talked about past life stories, current life, and family, the more the old classmates seemed to become young again. We were home and united. Maturity, life experiences, and insight had made the class view life differently from when we were teenagers. Yes, our classmates were the Mighty Members of '69, the M&M's, the varied, diversified, talented class of 1969. We were a reflection of the time in which we were raised, a time of Woodstock, a time of man taking his first steps on the Moon!

We grew up together in the area of Hudson, South Dakota where we established a personal



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Former Hudson High School teacher and Superintendent David Gellerman and wife Marlene of Yankton, as well as the members of the Class of 1969 on the float during the Alcester-Hudson homecoming parade.

foundation. We were Hudsonites. Then we went on our own paths to figure out who we were. We all had good times and bad times; we each grew in different ways from our own life experiences.

ONE THING HOLDS TRUE

The Class of 1969 knew that this September 5th evening reunion, after 40 years apart, proved that one thing still holds true: With the passing of our lives, we somehow are drawn back to the paths of our roots, our beginning, to find that in all of the searching and all of the experiences, we just want to be accepted, to count, to make a difference.

We looked at one another and at our entire class to find that we understood more about life than when we were younger. We saw that we all had turned out all right! We Did It! We counted. We were accepted, and WE were the DIFFERENCE! We all had fun and realized how great our class really was! Cheers to the Class of 1969!

SEPTEMBER 6 - THE ALL SCHOOL REUNION

Some of the events held on September 6 during the All School Reunion were: Visiting the Library to view historical literature and memorabilia; attending the car show; watching or participating in the Hudson Parade, gathering for an old fashioned hot dog feed; eating cold, refreshing ice cream at the Ice Cream Social; meeting for coffee and cookies at Waddy's; attending the Social Hour at the Hudson Community Center; and reuniting at the All School Reunion Banquet.

HOMECOMING PARADE

The Class of 1969 float was introduced in the parade with Dee Johnson Ford and Cathy Martz Smit walking in front of the float, each holding a side of a six foot banner with a Hudson Trojan and the words, "Class of 1969, Hudson High School". On both sides of the float were also two black and white fiberboard signs (about 3 or 4 feet wide) imprinted with the same information that was written on the class banner. On the flatbed trailer,

class members waived two black and white checkered "Winner" flags and two gold flags waived in the wind at the end of the trailer. Classmates threw bubble gum and various types of candy to the children and adults who lined the parade route.

MR. DAVID GELLERMAN

The most important feature of the float was teacher and Superintendent Mr. David Gellerman and his wife Marlene of Yankton, South Dakota who rode front and center on the float. Mr. Gellerman, graduate of Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD, taught and administered in Hudson for 17 years. After leaving Hudson, he went to Gregory, for 17 more years as a teacher and administrator. Mr. Gellerman had a positive influence on the community of Hudson and touched so many students' lives. He helped form our foundation to get us started in life. Mr. Gellerman and Marlene also attended the Alumni Banquet as guests of the Class of '69. (Side note: Mr. Gellerman and Marlene also attended church at Hudson Lutheran Church on Sunday, September 7.)

CLASS INTRODUCTIONS AT THE ALL SCHOOL ALUMNI BANQUET

At one of the biggest All School Alumni Banquets held in Hudson, Steve Brown, President of the Hudson Alumni Association and Master of Ceremonies, introduced all the classes. Each class gave a class report and some introduced their classmates.

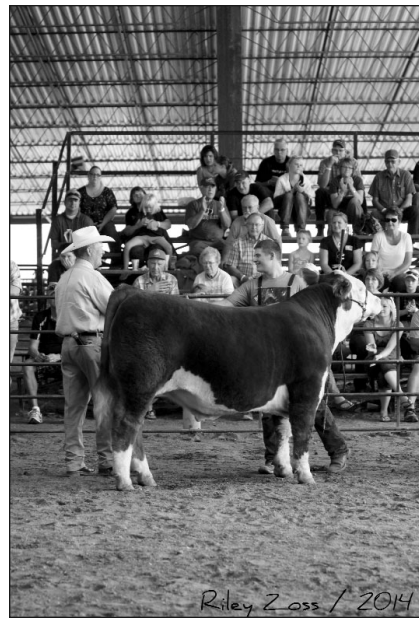
Rhonda Anderson started the Class Introductions for the Class of 1969. She introduced four teachers who taught us along the way: Neil Jacobson of Hudson (band), Mrs. Clarice Fodness Nystrup of Akron, IA (fifth grade), Mrs. Helma Ryken of Canton, (West Branch teacher), and Mr. David Gellerman of Yankton, (Superintendent and teacher). Mr. Gellerman spoke about his time in Hudson and thanked the community for 17 great years. Rhonda Anderson informed the Alumni that the Class of '69 was meeting for the first time in 40 years. For some, it was 50 years. Rhonda also reported that our

class had gathered for socializing and dinner the night before at Waddy's. She thanked the community for providing a foundation that allowed our class to grow and take root in new places in our various life journeys. We were the M&M's Mighty Members of '69. Classmates stood, introduced themselves, introduced their mates, and told where they lived. Then Charles Smith talked about our two deceased classmates, Tim Steinfeldt and Gary Smith. Chuck added that he was the only '69 graduate who had decided to reside in Hudson. Some of our classmates were unable to attend the reunion; others could not be contacted, but all classmates were with the class in spirit at the reunion.

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1969 (IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER)

- Glenda (Lyren) Thompson of Madison
- Cathy (Martz) Smit of Hurley
- Tom Fisk of Pflugerville, TX
- Darwin VerMulin of Leavenworth, KS
- Terri (Cole) of Ludwig of Red Wing, MN
- Ginger (Horst) Larsen of Cedar Rapids, IA
- Richard A. Treiber of Iowan City, IA
- Deloris (Johnson) Ford of Sioux City, IA
- Peggy (Boyer) Thiele of Schuyler, NE
- Carol (Koopsmma) McGaffee of Sioux Falls,
- Rhonda R. Anderson of Sioux Falls
- Darold DenBoer of Corsica
- Charles Smith of Hudson
- Dave Scholten of Prague, OK
- Pamella (Miller) VanOverschelde of Mitchell,
- Mary (DeVos) DeVries of Walker, MN
- Vicki (Smith) Strawn of Mechanicsburg, PA
- Glenda (Janssen) Olinger of Lennox
- Glen Janssen of Beresford
- Cheryl (DeVries) Graves of Salix, IA
- Roberta Johnson of Spearfish
- Henry McKee of Yankton
- Timothy Steinfeldt (Deceased 2007) of Wisconsin.
- Gary Smith (Deceased 2010) of Hudson
- Paula (Smith) Swanson-Gary's Daughter & Family of Mitchell
- Mr. David Gellerman (Superintendent and teacher) & wife Marlene of Yankton
- Mr. Neil Jacobson - Band Teacher of Hudson
- Mrs. (Fodness) Nystrup - Elementary Teacher of Akron, IA
- Mrs. Helma Ryken- West Branch Country School - Elementary Teacher of Canton
- Mr. & Mrs. Earl Nebelsick - Math Teacher & Coach of Mitchell

GUESTS OF THE CLASS OF 1969



SUBMITTED PHOTO

South Dakota 4-H'ers celebrate 2014 project year during the South Dakota State Fair. Pictured here: Justin Ringkob of Marshall County.

4-H'ers Celebrate 2014 Project Year At The South Dakota State Fair

BROOKINGS — More than 3,100 4-H'ers entered just under 10,000 entries during the 2014 South Dakota State Fair held in Huron Aug. 28-Sept. 1.

"State Fair is their opportunity to showcase what they've been working on all year long - this is THE big event for 4-H," said Audrey Rider, SDSU Extension State 4-H Events Field Specialist.

She explains that for South Dakota's almost 9,000 4-H members, the S.D. State Fair is a celebration of the 2014 project year and also marks the beginning of the 2015 project year. "The fair provides a great opportunity for 4-H'ers to watch their peers from counties across our state compete and gives them ideas for projects they may want to work on in 2015," Rider said.

This fair was also one of anticipation, explained Peter Nielson, SDSU Extension 4-H Youth Development Program Director. 4-H'ers, volunteers and SDSU Extension staff have been working to raise \$4 million for the construction of the new 44,000-square-foot Nordby Exhibit Hall for 4-H, Youth and Community, replacing Clover Hall which was torn down in 2013 due to structural issues.

"Folks are generous! Thanks to the donation of families, individuals and organizations, we have raised more than \$3.14 million," Nielson said.

With this kind of momentum, Nielson hopes that by 2015 4-H'ers will be enjoying the new complex at the fair. In the meantime, during the 2014 fair Nielson said everyone made the best of displaying static exhibits in a smaller space, the National Guard Armory Building. "We saw a lot of flexibility and adaptability. Everyone came together to make sure display areas looked good and celebrated the counties they represented," Nielson said.

Due to the space constraints, this meant each 4-H'er had to select only two static exhibits to showcase versus the traditional 10 exhibits. These exhibits were displayed in trade-show style booths decorated to celebrate each South Dakota County. To make the best of the temporary solution, a contest was set up. Based on utilization of space, posters and photos showing 4-Hers in action and a few other criteria, Yankton and Davison and Hanson Counties won the competition and will receive tin county welcome signs.

"The 4-H spirit of community was felt throughout the fair and the more than 400 volunteers who came out to help," Rider said.

To view photos and all results for static exhibits, livestock shows and other 4-H contests, visit iGrow.org.

S.D. Master Gardener Update Sept. 26

The South Dakota Master Gardener Update will be held Saturday, Sept. 26-27, at the NFAA Easton Yankton Archery Complex on East Highway 50 by Minerva's in Yankton. The public is invited to this events on Saturday, Sept. 27.

Concurrent presentations and local field trips will include topics on flowers, trees, landscaping, vegetables, and nature from more than a dozen presenters from South Dakota State University, South Dakota Extension, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and the region. Enjoy the day interacting with others interested in plants. To celebrate and honor this event, a tree planting demonstra-

tion and marker placement will occur Saturday, Sept. 27th, 3:30-4 p.m. behind the archery complex near the new concession/bathrooms. Dr. John Ball of South Dakota State University will lead the tree demonstration, and Yankton dignitaries will be present.

To register, see forms for Saturday, Sept. 27, at the 2014 Master Gardener Update at Missouri Valley Master Gardener website: <http://missourivalleymastergardener.webs.com/> or go to Yankton Extension Office for Master Gardener Update Registration forms at 901 Whiting Dr. (605) 665-3387. For questions, email Master Gardeners at missourivalleymg@yahoo.com/.

Students Learn About Sustainable Farming

VERMILLION — Ten students from the University of South Dakota recently traveled to Mission Hill to work with Hebda Family Produce, a community-supported farm that practices sustainable agriculture techniques. The students assisted in weeding gardens and conducting general farm maintenance while learning about the benefits of sustainable farming and community supported agriculture.

The service-learning project took place on Saturday, Sept. 13, through the Alternative Week of Off-campus Learning (AWOL) program. AWOL designs Alternative Weekend experiences to provide students with short-term service-learning opportunities that focus on important local and regional issues. Each month a different Alternative Weekend takes place, providing an outlet for students to ex-

plore social issues relevant to the region and build a closer connection with the local community.

Like other AWOL events, Alternative Weekends are entirely student-led and included Emily Chapa of Ellsworth, M.N.; Sarah Kuegle of Rapid City; Rachel Saltness of Rochester, M.N.; Lauren Fanta of Yankton; Hannah Mulder of Magnolia, M.N.; Morgan Piehl of Coal City, Illinois; Janelle Galpin of Vermillion; Allison Reuland of White Lake; Nathan Bedoya of Yorba Linda, Calif.; and Jacob Akerson of Sioux Falls. The site leader for the event was Emily Hattouni of Lakeville, M.N.

Hebda Family Produce began in 2002 when the family's eldest son entered vegetables grown from his backyard into the Bon Homme County Fair. Today, it is a full-scale, family-run business.



AM 1450

MORNING COFFEE

WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY

Friday, September 19

7:40 am Vermillion Chamber (Nathan Welch)

8:20 am United Way Campaign (Lauren Hanson)