OBITUARIES

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Math success adds up for 2010 Goldwater Scholar Doug Dailey

What happens when you combehind all these comes from his bine inspirational faculty with a genuine excitement and curiosity student's love of math? For Doug Dailey, a student at The University of South Dakota, it all adds up to a 2010 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship.

Dailey, a 2007 graduate of Elk Point-Jefferson High School, is one of only a handful of mathematics majors to receive the Goldwater Scholarship this spring. In fact, Dailey became USD's 11th winner of the prestigious scholarship but his road to academic success wasn't always paved with math, especially when he came to campus as a fresh-

long.

Competitive

both helpful and humble."

"I knew that the Business School was one of the best around," said Dailey, the son of Michael and Cathy Dailey of more excited about it." Jefferson. "But, as a freshman, I found that business wasn't for me.

In the back of his mind, though, was math. His high school mathematics teacher, Rita Ahmann, served as an inspiration when it came to numbers and calculations

"She really inspired me to said, 'late March' but I kept checkstudy math." he said with a smile. "It was something I could do well and it seemed like a natural fit." But it wasn't just help at the

ment of mathematical sciences at

USD, as both helpful and energiz-

ing when it comes to studying and

researching math.

ing my e-mail every day," he said with a shrug. "Then I got an e-mail from (USD) Provost (Chuck) Staben at home on March 31 saying 'Congratulations on receiving high school level that fueled Dailey's passion for math. He the Goldwater Scholarship,' so we credits Catalin Georgescu, an got to share it with each other. assistant professor in the depart-That was pretty special."

Scholarship with her.

Pay Special is how Dailey describes the math department at USD. Calling it one of the "treasures of campus," he wants to use "Probably the driving force his experiences at USD as well as

"The Goldwater (Web) site

funding from the Goldwater to be college professor and а researcher to "influence stufor everything that is new," dents" in the same way profes-Georgescu pointed out. "He has a sors at USD influenced him. perfect GPA, but he also found

time to be part of the Math Team "Doug is a model student in that he is an initiator and looks for Mathematical Association of for opportunities," said Dan Van America contest in the fall and to Peursem, associate professor and do research with me all year chair of the department of mathematical sciences at USD. "He does Susan Hackemer, Nationally not wait for them to come knock-Scholarships ing on his door. He is the type of Coordinator, said students are student that is continuously strivoften "in awe of Dailey's mathematical abilities, yet he remains ing to do his best and get the most of his education."

Education is obviously impor-"It strengthened my resolve to tant to Dailey, who is taking 16 study math," Dailey described the credits this semester. Since his experience of working with Georgescu. "At the time I was freshman year on campus, Dailey has been a member of the Student excited about doing math Technology Fellowship program research, but he got me even assisting faculty in the Beacom School of Business in the use of Excitement was also a new technology for instruction. He is addition to his personal life. In July 2009, Dailey married his high also a member of the Math Club and German Club He's also school sweetheart, Genevieve, assisted with research in the who is also a student at USD. He was more than happy to share the physics department and he recently presented math research, "Dynamics of a Cubic good news of his Goldwater recently

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Map" at USD's IdeaFest. But Dailey has also found time to stay busy outside the classroom. In addition to being a husband, he is also a member of the USD Concert Choir and last year he was part of the Chamber Singers.

"The Goldwater has opened some doors," admitted Dailey, who will graduate next May. "My goal is to pursue a Ph.D. in math and, hopefully, be a college professor someday." "Undergraduates with plans

for graduate school strive to become competitive for graduate fellowships and assistantships to pay for their advanced degrees," Hackemer added. "Earning a Goldwater Scholarship as an undergraduate will most certainly improve Doug's already good chances of securing funding for his PhD.' Recipients of the Goldwater

Scholarship receive up to \$7,500 per year to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board. This year, 278 scholarships were awarded on the basis of academic merit.

Dorene K. Merrigan

Dorene K. Merrigan passed away April 18, 2010 in Brownsville, TX after a lengthy illness. She was surrounded by her husband, daughters and two sisters-inlaw at her death. She is preceded in death by her son, Tregg Jon Merrigan; and her parents, Herb and Ina Jor-

gensen. She is survived by her husband, Sterling F. Merrigan; two daughters, Tonya Merrigan of Olathe, KS and Tvffani Richards of Shawnee, KS; a son-in-law, Edward Bruce Richards; two grandsons, Edward Reed Richards and Jack Tregg Richards; a brother, Douglas Jorgensen of Sioux Falls: and one sister. Roene Bartlett of Omaha, NE.

She was born Feb 4, 1945 in Vermillion. She graduated from Vermillion High School in 1963. She married Sterling Merrigan on March 30,

1964 at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Vermillion. They lived in Sheldon, IA for a short time before moving to Sioux City, IA, where they raised their children and spent the rest of their working days. Dorene worked at the Marina Inn in South Sioux City, NE and was the manager coowner of United Escrow Inc. in Sioux City until her retirement. She and Sterling spent their retirement winters in south Texas and summers in the Midwest. Her pride and joy were her two grandsons, Reed and Jack. She was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother.

A funeral mass is scheduled for 10 a.m., May 15, 2010 at Nativity Catholic Church, Sioux City, IA. Burial will follow in Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to any local hospice organization or long term care facility.

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