

## Athletics

### Mrs. Karla (Rick) Deuter (1978)

**Karla Rick** is a 1978 graduate of Beresford High School. Karla was an athletic trailblazer for the Watchdogs. She was an outstanding girls' basketball player that led the Beresford Watchdogs to a 3rd place finish at the 1977 State "B" Tourney in Huron, South Dakota. It was only the third year that BHS had a girls' basketball team. Mr. Ed Evenson coached the Watchdogs.

Girls' basketball became an official sport at BHS during her sophomore year (75-76). That year, Karla helped lead her team to a 9-6 record, winning the District Tourney and placing 4th at Regions. Karla was the team's high scorer with 237 points. She was selected to the Big 8 All-Conference Team and named to the Class "B" All-State Third Team.

During her junior year (76-77), Karla helped lead her Watchdog Basketball Team to a 17-6 record. She led her team by scoring 371 points. The Watchdogs were District Champions for the second straight year and placed 3rd in the Region. Karla was selected to the Big 8 All-Conference Team for a second consecutive year and named to the Class "B" All-State 3rd Team.

During her senior year (77-78), Karla helped lead her Watchdog Basketball Team to a 20-5 record. Once again, she led her team in scoring with 397 points. The Watchdogs were District Champions for the third straight year and won the Region for the first time. In the Region, they had an exciting one-point win over Irene, avenging a previous loss during the season, and then had a three-point win over a highly ranked team from Freeman Public. At the State "B" Tourney in Huron, the Watchdogs beat Ipswich in the first round (36-29), then lost to Clear Lake (37-51), and then beat New Underwood (43-33) to finish third at State. Karla was selected to the Big 8 All-Conference Team for the third straight year and named to the Class "B" All-State 2nd Team.

Karla ranks 7th on the Watchdogs Girls' Basketball Career Scoring at 1005 points, which includes three years of stats as BHS did not have basketball as a girls' sport during her freshman year, nor did they have the three-point line during her career as a Watchdog. She ranks 5th in Most Points Scored in a Season at 397 in 1977. More so, Karla ranks 3rd in Career Rebounds at 737.



Karla also participated on the Watchdog's track and field team and band. During Karla's career, she earned the following accolades:

- 1976 Yankton Press and Dakota All-Area 2<sup>nd</sup> team,
- 1977 Yankton Press and Dakota All-Area 1<sup>st</sup> team,
- 1977 All-Tournament Team
- 1977 YMCA Basketball Clinic Special Award for Excellence Achievement and Fine Sportsmanship
- Sioux Falls Argus Leader "Ace of the Week" for the weeks of October 31, 1977, and November 21, 1977.

After high school graduation, Karla went to South Dakota State University, where she double majored in Microbiology and Medical Technology (laboratory science). After playing basketball her freshmen year for the Jackrabbits, she opted to run track her sophomore and junior years. During Karla's junior year, she was elected co-captain of the track team. Karla decided not to participate in track her senior year, mainly due to stubborn Achilles tendonitis.

Karla is the daughter of Skip and Kathy Rick. She is married to Tim Deuter, and the couple has three children, Jill (husband, Mike), Bennett, and Claire.

Karla's laboratory science degrees led her to work in hospital and clinical settings. She finished her career teaching at Western Dakota Tech in Rapid City. One of Karla's best experiences was being selected for the Rotary Foundations Group Study Exchange Program while working at Rapid City Regional Hospital. Karla spent two months, with three other women in India and Nepal, on a cultural and vocational exchange. It was an experience of a lifetime that culminated in her meeting Mother Teresa.

