



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of the Glacial Lakes Region



Big Times The Mentor Connection

March 2008

Match of the Month

Big Brother Joel Willette and Little Brother Michel

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 ★*****

Joel and Michel have been matched for a year since their meeting in March of 2007. The two of them get together 2-4 times each month when their schedules allow to do a variety of different activities. Some of their favorite activities together are four-wheeling and eating pizza. Joel really enjoys playing racquetball and has gotten Michel involved in the sport as well. The best thing that has happened to the two of them over the past year is the development of their friendship. Their relationship has really grown as they have discovered their common interests; they are both avid outdoorsmen and love to watch sports. Joel and Michel hope to more hunting and fishing and throw a baseball around when the weather turns nice again. They also have been working on manly social skills and even have a rule for each other that whoever gets to the door first needs to hold it for the other. Joel is also a supporter of Michel's involvement in the musical drum group "Sheltered Reality".

"My favorite activity with Joel is playing racquetball. We have also gone hunting for pheasants, drove the 4 wheeler, and have moved rocks. We have a lot in common and have a lot of fun when we are together. Joel is awesome and I wouldn't change Bigs for anything."—Little Brother Michel

Waiting List:

Little Sisters—6

Little Brothers—9

Young Moms—9

Help match those waiting today!

"I was inspired to get involved by a business partner who has been in the Big Brothers program for some 29 years! What is amazing is if you ask him how old he is; he will tell you he is in his very late 30's. The other reason is that I do not have children of my own so this allows me to still be a kid at heart. What has been rewarding is to see Michel continue to grow and seeing him turning into a nice young man."

—Big Brother Joel

*Match-of-the-Month is chosen by BBBS staff and is based upon the friendship that has formed and the impacts made on a child or new mom. Feel free to contact your Case Specialist and tell us why your match should be considered for next month's Match-of-the-Month.

Good-bye from Misty

As I leave my position, I would like to thank all of you involved in the BBBS program for your dedication and commitment to change. You all have the caring heart it takes to make a difference in the world. Please continue following your giving heart and doing what so many of you do such an amazing job at—befriending others and allowing them to be their very best! Seeing the many different approaches and all the phenomenal stories shared from the matches has been forever imprinted on my heart. You are all such amazing people with talents and skills that seem to know no bounds. Please never take for granted what you have been given and remember to use these talents to their fullest potential each and every day. It has truly been my pleasure working with you and getting to know each of you during my involvement in the program. I wish you all the very best!

[You may only be one person to the world, but you may also be the world to one person.](#)

Quote of the Month "I value the friend who for me finds time on his calendar, but I cherish the friend who for me does not consult his calendar."

—Robert Brault

March Calendar

- March 7-9—**Watertown Home Show**, Codington County Extension Complex
- March 10-14 — **NO SCHOOL** Spring Break
- March 18—**Make It-Take It Night (BBBS event)**, Boys & Girls Club 5:30pm
- March 18—**"Friends of the Library"** - Wearing of the Green, Library 7:00pm
- March 21-23—**Spring Fling Racquetball Tournament**, Rec Center
- March 21 — **NO SCHOOL** Good Friday
- March 23—**Easter**
- March 28—**Dakota Chamber Orchestra**, WEC 7:30pm
- March 29—**Friends of Acoustic Blues present Poker Alice**, WEC 7:30
- March 29-30—**Curt Carter Memorial Gun Show**, Cod. County Extension

Watertown Athletic Passes

6 Watertown Athletic Activity cards are available in the BBBS office for the use of matches going to games together.

Please call or stop in to check one out from the BBBS office. Take advantage of these from the WHS as they are good all year and you can use them at any time by just signing one out from the office.

Codington County Heritage Museum

Monday – Friday 1- 5 pm; Tel: 886-7335

Redlin Art Center

Mon – Fri, 8 am – 5 pm,
Sat 10 am – 4 pm, Sun 12 – 4 pm; Tel: 882-3877

Bramble Park Zoo

Animal encounters held on weekends.
Winter Hours 10 am to 4 pm; Tel: 882-5232

Watertown Regional Library

Mon—Thurs 9:30 am to 9:00pm, Fri 9:30 am to 6 pm
Sat 9:30am to 5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm; Tel: 882-6220

February Incentive Winners:

For checking in before the 15th, these individuals have won a free movie pass.

Tonia Vachal—MM
Sara Anderson—BS
Dan Brown—BB

Reminder :Please remember to check in with us each month to let us know how things are going. If you check in by the 15th of each month, you will be entered into a drawing for a prize.

_____detach and send_____

If you wish to make a donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters, please detach and send.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City

State

Zip

Donation directed to (check one):

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Mentoring Moms



Birthday Club

3/06—Crystal V. (YM)
3/07—Nicole R. (BS)
3/08—Kathy F. (BS)
3/10—Renee C. (MM)
3/12—Carissa S. (MM)
3/13—Sherri R. (MM)
3/16—Terry F. (BB)
3/19—Miranda E. (YM)
3/22—Erica R. (BS)
3/24—DJ P. (LB)
3/25—Amanda L. (YM)
3/30—April H. (YM)
3/30—Danielle P. (LS)



Happy March Birthdays!!

New Matches

Timothy Gossen (BB) & Dommonick (LB)
Bret Holien (BB) & Brandon (LB)

Match Anniversaries

Michelle Stark (BS) & Kamari (LS) - 1 year
Joel Willette (BB) & Michel (LB) - 1 year
Linda Beving (BS) & Shaylene (LS) - 1 year
Bud Webb (BB) & Daniel (LB) - 1 year

What If . . .

What if we don't have anything in common?

Many first-time mentors worry that differences in age, race, religion, education, or gender will be insurmountable barriers. Actually, most experienced mentors report that mentoring a young person from a different background broadened their own horizons and deepened their understanding of other people and cultures. So get curious. Ask lots of questions. Listen hard. Learn about the differences you have and the commonalities you share.

KEY:

CS= Case Specialist BB= Big Brother BC= Big Couple
BS= Big Sister LB= Little Brother LS= Little Sister
MM= Mentor Mom YM= Young Mom

Mentoring Moms News

Welcome Jenny!!

Hi everyone! My name is Jenny Stratton and I am the new Mentoring Moms Coordinator. Born and raised in Minnesota, I moved to Watertown three years ago. I completed my Bachelors Degree in Psychology from Mount Marty College. I'm a proud mother of an active two year old and I'm looking forward to coordinating the Mentoring Moms Program of Watertown. I can be reached by calling 605-886-1554 or email mentormomgl@bbbsse.org. Can't wait to meet you all!

CRIB HOURS

The CRIB is open every Tuesday from 1:30-3:30. There is a great selection of items. Winter items have been added for the season. Please stop in and check things out!

M.O.P.S.

Mothers of Preschoolers meets the needs of mothers with children ages birth through the end of kindergarten year.

March BBBS Activity

Join us for Make It-Take It Night. We will meet at the Boys and Girls Club in Watertown to make Easter crafts. This will be a great opportunity to meet the new BBBS staff, Kristi and Jenny. All Big Brothers Big Sisters & Mentoring Mom participants are welcome to attend. An adult must accompany a child (mentor or parent).

Bring your match and join in the fun!

When: Thursday, March 18th

Where: Boys and Girls Club

When: 5:30-7:00 pm

Please RSVP to kristi@bbbsse.org or 886-1554

Welcome Kristi!!

Hi! Let me introduce myself. I am Kristi Dobbs, the new Program Manager for Big Brothers Big Sisters in Watertown. Having worked in youth service-oriented fields for the past 28 years, I am excited to be part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program. I look forward to serving the volunteers and youth of the Glacial Lakes Region. Please feel free to contact me at 605-886-1554 or email me at kristi@bbbsse.org.

Big Brothers Big Sisters
of the Glacial Lakes Region

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