

Albert J. Krohn

Albert Krohn is well known as the winningest coach in the South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD) sports history (1924–1947). He graduated from the Nebraska School for the Deaf and attended Gallaudet College (University).



After a one-year stint at college, Krohn came to SDSD in 1924 to teach printing and coach basketball. He coached some of the finest sports teams in the history of the school. His basketball accomplishments were numerous. In 1935–36 his team had a respectable record of 17 wins and six losses and won second place in the Midwest Schools for the Deaf basketball tournament (the first basketball tournament for deaf schools in United States history). His 1942 basketball team won the district championship for the first time in school history. His 1945 SDSD team captured the Minnehaha County, the Little Sioux Conference and the district basketball crowns.

Krohn was a dedicated servant in the deaf community of Sioux Falls. He was one of the founders of the “Chat and Nibble Club” in 1943, which was changed to the Sioux Falls Club for the Deaf in 1960 and later renamed the Sioux Falls Association of the Deaf. He served as secretary for the South Dakota Association of the Deaf in 1930, and its vice president in 1939.

Krohn left SDSD in 1947 after 23 years of impeccable service, and he worked as a printer for the *Argus Leader* (the Sioux Falls daily newspaper) until his retirement. He and his family moved to California afterwards.

SDSD celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1980 and named the boys’ dormitory Krohn Hall in his honor. Presently, Krohn Hall is the site of CSD’s USA Relay Telecommunications center and the school has a new dormitory for girls and boys at Krohn-Hommel Hall.