

■ BROKAW

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among my friends, some of whom I'd not heard from in 50 years," he said.

Also in 2014, Brokaw received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Not surprisingly for someone who has covered virtually every major newsmaker, Brokaw received support from Presidents Barack Obama, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton; former First Lady Nancy Reagan and Cardinal Dolan of New York.

In addition, Brokaw got support from celebrities including recently retired CBS "Late Show" host David Letterman, "Daily Show" host Jon Stewart and retired National Basketball Association star turned sports commentator Charles Barkley.

However, Brokaw showed reluctance at first in announcing his cancer diagnosis — including during a November 2013 appearance on Stewart's show to promote a documentary on John F. Kennedy.

Brokaw was undergoing chemotherapy at the time but hadn't gone public.

"I didn't want to be all over the Internet — 'Tom Brokaw, cancer victim,'" he explained.

The news of Brokaw's cancer broke in Feb-

ruary 2014. Stewart responded with an email telling Brokaw,

Brokaw received a bit of therapeutic relief when he cursed — at least privately — New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady.

"During my worst days (of treatment), I'd pass a big Tom Brady poster at a bus stop, Tom looking healthy, handsome and not a care in the world," Brokaw said. "I'd pause and offer a not very complimentary suggestion. As a New York Giants fan, it energized me."

The two men would later come face to face, allowing Brokaw to share the story with the object of his scorn.

"He loved it and laughed aloud," Brokaw said. "I was so impressed, I bet the Patriots in the Super Bowl."

Brokaw uses his memoir to also share information about cancer and the U.S. health care system. While he enjoyed access to the best medical resources, he also ran into some of the

same frustrations and situations faced by the everyday person.

In his book, he shares those lessons with his readers.

"Both patients and their caregivers need to

work harder at communicating in a common language," he said. "Patients should be encouraged to ask tough questions, and physicians should encourage those questions while preparing patients for the tough days ahead."

Brokaw has confronted his mortality during his journey, even reading obituaries in a different way. He has pledged "to remain unbroken," following the words of the late World War II prisoner of war Louis Zamperini.

Despite the many challenges facing him, Brokaw maintains an extremely busy schedule. He recently worked on projects in New York and then planned to spend time on his Montana ranch.

He also spends time reworking his bucket list and planning what he yet needs to accomplish in life. In his book, he lists pursuits such as learning to sail solo, learning to play chess, getting a short story published, fishing more river and saltwater flats and spending more time with his wife by the sea.

Brokaw updated those goals for the *Press & Dakota*.

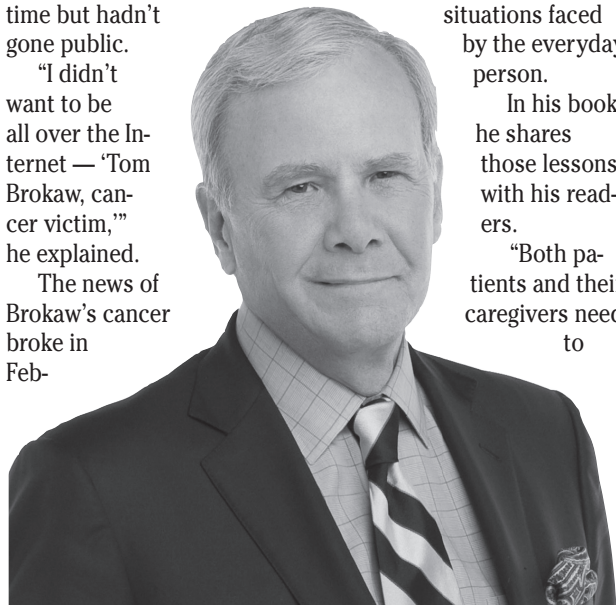
"I'm going to spend more time with my grandkids, in a trout stream, in a South Dakota pheasant habitat and much more time writing," he said.

However, that list is subject to change depending what lies down the road, Brokaw said.

"My whole life has been a bucket list, so I've learned to take it as it comes," he said.

"A Lucky Life Interrupted: A Memoir of Hope," is published by Random House.

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"I didn't want to be all over the Internet — 'Tom Brokaw, cancer victim.'"

PHOTO: VIRGINIA SHERWOOD

Research to Enhance Milk Production

BROOKINGS, S.D. - The Dairy Science Department at South Dakota State University will be presenting breakthrough research on a new mechanism for enhancing milk production in lactating dairy cows at the upcoming Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) of the American Dairy Science Association and American Society of Animal Science (ADSA/ASAS) during the week of July 12 to 16, 2015, in Orlando, Fla.

SDSU Dairy Science Graduate Student, Kayla Hultquist and her advisor, David Casper, Assistant Professor of Dairy Science, will be presenting the results of her master's research study (view the results here) which demonstrates that feeding a ruminally degradable synthetic amino acid to late lactation Holstein dairy cows resulted in similar increases in milk production as when cows were receiving recombinant bovine somatotropin (rBST), also known as growth hormone.

"Milk production was significantly increased with rBST or when feeding a synthetic amino acid at two inclusion rates compared to lactating dairy cows not receiving either rBST or amino acid," explained Hultquist.

Casper added, "This new mechanism/model explains why changes in ration formulation on commercial dairy operations can often times result in quite variable responses - increase, no change, or decrease - in milk production when rations are balanced for rumen bypass amino acids," he said.

The research showed that changes in ration formulation to accomplish methionine and lysine balancing can affect the supply of a key rumen degradable amino acid that can affect the endocrine status of the lactating dairy cow. ■iGrow

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