



## Election '92

# Incumbent survives close race

by Brian Madigan

The school board election will result in some change in the make-up of the school board. Verne Brakke and Richard Howard won the two seats that were up for election, and both want to continue the high quality of education in Pierre Public Schools.

Six year board member Dianna Knox lost her bid for a third term on the school board and will be replaced by Howard in July.

Brakke, the incumbent school board president, wants to continue the work the board is doing in expanding communications between the staff, the public, and the school board. Brakke also wants to continue the expansion of technology in the schools with modernization of the media centers and individualizing computer utilization for different classes.

"I'm proud of Riggs students," Brakke said.

Howard, a graduate of the first class of the new Riggs High School building in 1959, is a newcomer to politics despite being a political appointee for Governors Janklow and

**"I didn't pay much attention to the election, but I was surprised Knox got beat."**

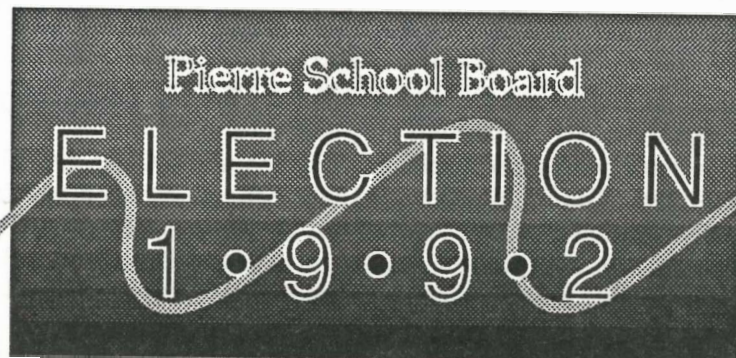
**- Jessica Evenstad  
Senior**

Mickelson. In his campaign Howard said that he wanted to reduce costs in administration areas in order to free up money for classroom expenses.

"However, I have no specific blueprint for the cuts," Howard said.

Knox said she was proud of her involvement on the school board and hopes she will continue her involvement in Pierre public education in the future.

"We need to promote good feeling in the schools, and then we'll succeed," said Knox.



## Knox loses seat

by Brian Madigan

The election for Pierre School Board on April 14 was decided by a margin of less than a hundred votes.

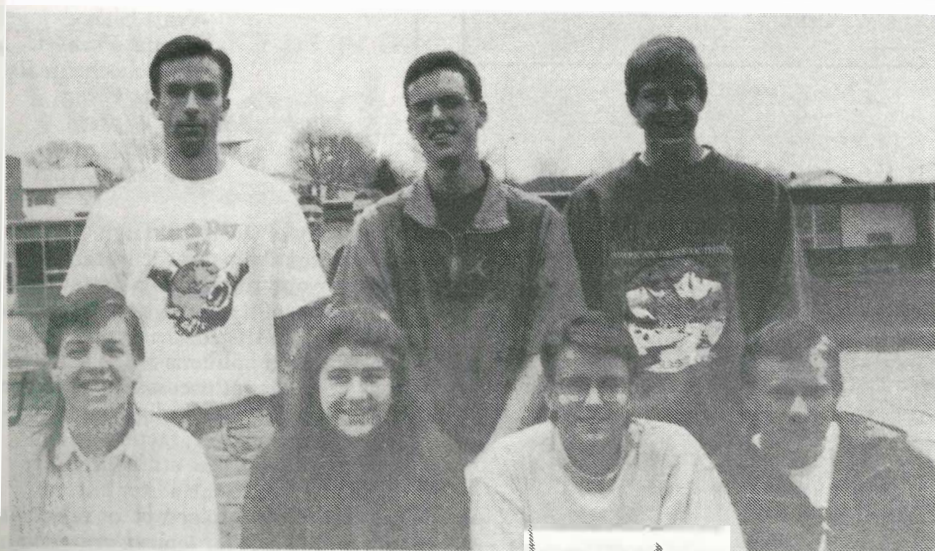
Three candidates ran for two school board spots. Verne Brakke, the incumbent board chairman, received the most votes with 1,778. Dick Howard, a political novice, came in second to receive a school board seat with 1,714 votes. Six year board veteran Dianna Knox finished third with 1,662.

Howard will take Knox's spot on the school board this July to start his three year term.

The total turn-out for the election was 5,154 voters. That total is considerably higher than last year's total of 3,001 votes in the school board election. The narrowness of the election was emphasized by the fact that if three votes per precinct had changed hands, the outcome of the race could have been altered.

## OM results

# Thinkers advance to world



Intellectually astute...Riggs students (front row) Eric Manus, Jenny Gors, Andy Durbin, (back row) Kyle Richards, Erin Harmon, and John Jordre advance to world competition. (Photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

by Matthew Foster

Two Riggs Odyssey of the Mind teams have qualified for world-class competition.

One team, Alice in Omerland, is comprised of seniors Bob Stiles, Eric Manus, Kyle Richards, Jenny Gors and Kristin Job. The objective of the problem is to create an environment in Omerland, a spin-off of the Lewis Carroll tale.

In the modern OM version, Gors plays Alice, Richards plays "the eccentric character," Manus plays a telephone and Job plays a flower. Manus and Job's inanimate characters come to life during the course of the act. Stiles is responsible for the required humorous invention--a "foofer," a modified air gun that is

used to "foof," or tempt people.

Stiles uses the gun to tempt Alice into taking drugs. Alice heroically says no.

The other team going to world competition is for the Atlas problem. That team is made up of sophomores Erin Harmon, John Jordre, Jaime Clair, Cory Noordemeer and Andy Durbin.

They have built a structure that supports weights as well as developed a skit based around Atlas, the mythological man who was believed to hold up the world. As weights are added to the structure, "weights" in the form of problems are added to Atlas' shoulders. When the structure breaks, so does the world.



Comment

Editorial:  
New board cuts loose

Coinciding with an ever growing trend of saving money at the expense of students' futures, newly elected Richard "Dick" Howard was recently voted in to the school board, replacing Dianna Knox.

Howard's stance of saving money by shifting it from the administration to the classroom will decrease the caliber of education in Pierre. A solid administration is pertinent to the quality of education the community desires.

If the voters decide elections purely on the grounds of saving money, they are going to short-change future generations.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to senior Ryan Johnson for his accomplishments during regular season basketball play and beyond.

Johnson has been named to the All-ESD team and Class AA All-State Basketball First Team. Along with these honors, Johnson was named the Class AA Most Valuable Player of the Three Class Shoot-Out.

Johnson is a hustler on the court and has excellent work ethics in class. He broke his pain barrier and went beyond to reach a new level of perfection.

It is refreshing to know that school board cuts didn't hinder his performance.

Scrooge for School Board!



Poll:  
Students unsatisfied with school senate, board

by Matthew Foster

In a recently-conducted Governor survey, an overwhelming majority of 80 percent of the 96 respondents, representing approximately 20 percent of the student body, said their student senate wasn't doing its job well.

"The student senate is a disorganized half-hearted group of individuals who are only serving (when they show up) to have something to put on their college resumes," responded one student.

The only student to comment in favor of the current status of the student senate said, "I feel the student senate is doing a very fine job. Keep up the good work!"

One senior said that the administration was to blame for the senate's ineffectiveness.

"The administration in this school allows them no freedom to do what the students want (the senate) to do. I think this school is a joke. I am glad I'm a senior and am out of here after this year," the student wrote.

A question about the recent

school board elections was also asked. 60 percent of the respondents were unhappy with the results, while 38 percent were pleased. The other 2 percent had no opinion.

"I'm very glad (Diana) Knox is out of there," one junior said. "She had some really screwed up ideas and she spent way too much money on jobs that aren't really needed."

One student questioned Richard Howard's motives for entering the race for school board.

"Howard was only in it so his son

See 'New blood' page 3

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How do you feel about the school board election?



"I was disappointed that Mrs. Knox didn't make it, but hopefully the people who voted for Howard and Brakke knew what they were doing."

Wyatt O'Day  
Senior



"Mrs. Knox was doing a fine job as it was, and she should have been re-elected"

Lyndee Clemetson  
Junior



"I think that although she (Knox) lost, Howard will bring new ideas and solutions to our problems."

Brook Lee  
Sophomore

Photos by Stacie Suedkamp

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## Interest

### Spring play premiere

# 'Fame' to open Monday

by Molly Robertson

**'Y'**ou want fame? Well, fame costs. And right here is where you start paying."

Riggs' spring play, "Fame", opens Monday, April 27. Set at the School of Performing Arts in New York, the play is the story of the students there including the following: Montgomery, (Tim Maher), who had a drug problem in his earlier life; Doris, (Mandy Johnson), who struggles to get out from under her mother's constant protection; Ralph,

(Tim Schmidt), who wants to be his hero Freddie Prince; Bruno, (Tavis Weidenbach), a talented musician who isn't very social, and Leroy, (Kyle Richards), a boy who wants to dance but "isn't into school."

"Fame" is directed by Hyrma Zakahi and Nancy Baker. Student directors are Sara Harens, Bridget O'Connell, and Molly Robertson.

Choreographers for the dance scenes are Holly Anderson, Gretchen Forney, Nicole Konechne, Mandy Johnson, and Kristin Smith.

Members of the pit band are Eric Manus, Trent Miller, Andrea Viken, Tavis Weidenbach, and John Wellhouse.

Performances will be April 27,

28 and 30 in the theater at 7:30 PM. The cost is \$1.50 for students and \$2.50 for adults. Activity tickets will be honored.

### Don't believe what you've heard:

## 8th semester vital

by Tim Maher

**W**ith the end of their high school careers looming in the near future, many senior students hurt themselves by believing a false rumor.

Seniors put faith in a falsehood which says that eighth semester grades don't affect graduation.

According to Guidance Counselor Mavis Booze, "The rumor that eighth quarter grades don't go on seniors' final transcripts seems to have started about three years ago. It seems to get spread around every year."

At the end of the academic school year, the guidance office compiles the final semester grades and figures them into the seniors' final transcripts.

These transcripts are sent to the university, college, or other institution that individual students selected in the final senior survey.

"Colleges and universities usually

accept students prior to graduation, but they still are waiting for the final transcript," Booze said. "They want to see how these individuals finish."

Booze believes that while some students do slip, others do better in the final days of school and raise their grade point average.

"Some students actually improve in their fourth quarter and raise their g.p.a. and gain college admission," Booze said.

At the end of the third quarter during the senior year, all of the seniors' grades are used to determine who graduates with honors and high honors.

At the end of the year the final transcript is made and g.p.a. and class rank are set for good.

"Some students don't realize this, but these transcripts follow you for ever," Booze said. "That's why we keep them in a fire-proof safe. They are very important."

*Continued from page two...*

## 'We need new blood'

could play basketball," the student wrote. Howard has denied all such charges, dismissing them as rumors.

So far as the administration, teachers and overall quality of education of the Pierre public school system goes, only 18 percent of those students polled rated the scholastic caliber as "above average." 40 percent rated the school system as "average" and 42 percent gave the district a "below average" rating.

Many students suggested hiring

younger teachers for the district.

"Most of the teachers in this school have been here too long," one student wrote. "We need new blood."

One senior said, "The junior high school is totally falling to pieces."

"Our school does have quality overall," another student wrote, "but the other schools are passing us up. We need to start getting more computers in Riggs and start working on them. We should get even more advanced than we are now."

### News briefs

## Students learn government works

by Jen Hauschild

**E**ighteen Pierre Junior and Senior High student recently took part in the YMCA sponsored Youth in Government on April 3 and 4 in Bismarck, North Dakota.

"Basically it's a mock legislative session where students get a chance to practice their parliamentary procedure, to up make bills and try to get them passed into "law", and to learn how to work effectively with others in a structured setting," said sophomore Cammy Clark. "We chose our parties before we left and Brian Madigan and Tim Maher were asked to be the head of their

respective parties: conservative and liberal."

"After we arrived in Bismarck, we were put into committees and we decided on the platform we would present. Then freshmen and sophomores were put in the House and juniors and seniors were put in the Senate," said Clark.

Youth in Government is alternated between Pierre and Bismarck and the "sessions" are held in each state's capitol building.

"Everything is just like it is in real legislative sessions. There's a governor, senators, and representatives. I really had fun and I'm looking forward to next year's session in Pierre," said Clark.

## Riggs bands score 'superior' at festival

by Cally Winters

**T**he Riggs High band and chorus rocked the house at Large Group Festival in Moberg on April 10.

The concert band and the stage band, both under the direction of Larry Johnson, received a superior rating of 1. Jen Hauschild, junior, said, "I feel the band deserved a 1 because we worked really hard and have improved greatly over the two months of practice."

Chorus director Will Hanson said, "The swing choirs were fun." "Tim's Tunes" swing choir received a superior rating of 1 for their choreographed songs of Johnny B.

Goode, "Hernando's Hideaway," and a medley of "Scarborough Fair" and "The Sound of Silence."

"Eric and the Monotones" swing choir received a superior rating of 1 minus with choreographed songs of "We Are One," "Soon It's Gonna Rain," and "America Sings."

The girls choir and the boys choir both received superior 1 ratings while the select mixed choir got the best rating of the whole contest with a 1 plus with songs of "Ave Maria," "River in Judea," "Zum Gali (Dance The Hora)," and "Ubi Caritas."

"The Boys choir and select mixed had the best performance of any I had," Hanson said.

## Seniors in for fun

**S**enior parents are currently planning for the annual Parent-Senior party to be held Saturday, May 23, in the gym.

Activities will begin at 8 p.m. and continue until midnight. The evening will include food, games, and entertainment via "fun" booths, skits, and music for dancing.



## Feature

# Students occupy time

## Exercise provides recreation

by Jacinta Wang

**R**iggs students, although they have little free time, often spend that time in exercising.

In many various team sports and solitary activities, exercise can be a constructive way to spend time.

Exercise has been proven to relieve stress and improve overall health. Students usually find that improving their outer looks are enough incentive to work out, in addition to the clear benefit that sports provide recreation for many people.

"In what little free time I have, I play basketball with friends at my house almost every night," sophomore Ryan Knox said.

Kristin Job, senior, said, "I used to go to aerobics when I had spare

**"You get to be with your friends when you take part in athletics. Competitiveness teaches you something about life." - Paul Weeldryer, senior**

time. During the summer, I swim on the swim team."

Individual activities seem to be more prevalent than team sports. Junior Jana Schimkat said that she lifts weights and goes walking on her own. Another junior, Colin Ogan, said he likes to also lift weights as well as jump rope and, during the warmer months, water-ski.

Some of the school's top athletes exercise during their free time besides participating in their chosen school-sponsored activities. Track star and basketball player Kara Oehlerking, junior, said that she runs and swims at the YMCA.

"It seems all I do is lift weights during gymnastics season," said gymnast Kelly Meagher. "Other than that, I really don't do anything. Me--exercise?!"

However, the best reason to exercise is to recuperate from an injury. Junior Andrea Viken said that she started exercising after she got her cast off.

"I started aquajogging after that," she said. "I'd like to start waterskiing again as soon as it is physically possible --my foot hurts."

Exercise, for all of its benefits, just isn't a priority in many students' lives, however. When they do have free time, there are more entertaining things to do that get into shape.

"The only thing I really do is bicycle every once in a while," said junior Lindsay Stephens. "Sometimes, I'll get really ambitious and run up the stairs, but that's kind of rare."

## Shop-aholics suffer surplus syndrome

by Matthew Foster

**T**he queen mother of South Dakota malls, the Empire in Sioux Falls, has a motto: "Power shop!" Five Riggs students have taken that quite literally.

"It makes me feel so much more--I don't know--feminine when I can go out and spend money!" said junior Emily Pitlick with a smile.

Pitlick and fellow juniors Mandy Johnson and Sandi Hanson, senior Tiffany Sonnenschein and sophomore Brooke Lee find that the reason they shop is because, quite frankly, they love clothes. And money.

"If you have money, why not spend it?" Lee remarked. Since President Bush has encouraged all consumers to do their bit to help local economies out of the recession, these "power shoppers" are comparable to economic Minutemen.

Although they frequent Pierre businesses such as Maurice's and Beverly's, the five said they love to go out-of-town to shop. Their Mecca is Sioux Falls, the city where Dayton's, Younker's, Express and Benetton are located. Other places mentioned are Rapid City, Minneapolis, MN and Bismarck, ND.

They also said that they go out of town at least once a month to shop;

Hanson said she goes on shopping sprees four or five times a month.

These trips are no small economic potatoes, either. Pitlick, for ex-

ample, said she spends anywhere from \$100 to \$300 per out-of-town trip. All five shoppers listed their parents as a source of income; three

listed jobs as an additional stockpile of shopping cash.

Because of this usually parental currency flow, sales, coupons and discounts are almost ignored.

"I definitely look for a good sale and if I have coupons, I try to make sure I use them," Sonnenschein said. "But if I like something and it isn't on sale, that usually doesn't stop me."

"If there's a sale and I like the item on sale, I buy it," Lee said. "But I don't intentionally look for sales."

As for shopping as a team sport, the overall response was that shopping alone was okay, but shopping with a friend, parent or sibling was better.

"I always shop with my mom and sister," said Johnson.

"I shop with one friend," Pitlick said. "If you have any more, you get too many opinions and it gets really annoying really quickly."

But what about that infamous sales clerk who won't bother to deign to your level to help you find that Holy Grail of a skirt? How do you deal with her?

"I ask, 'Do you work on commission?'" said Johnson, revealing how she handles the situation. "And if she says 'yes,' I say, 'Big mistake,' and just walk away."



Dream a little dream...senior Nicole Konechne window shops, considering possible purchases. (Photo by Stacie Suedkamp)



## Feature

# with leisure activities

## Student body bronzes for fun

by Jen Hauschild

**I**t's a phenomena that occurs every school year. The school becomes infested with dozens of bronzed guys and girls while it is blizzarding outside. Coincidence? Alien invasion? How about none of the above. It's all due to the invention of the tanning bed.

Many people, poised on the verge of King of Hearts and prom, feel they should be tan. Said one junior, "It looks better when you're tan and not white."

"I tan for King of Hearts and prom, but after that, I don't do it until next year," said junior Jessica Kelley.

"I started tanning for prom, but I basically like being tan," said junior Stephanie Ellwein.

Many style shops in the area, such as The Headquarters, Cut n'

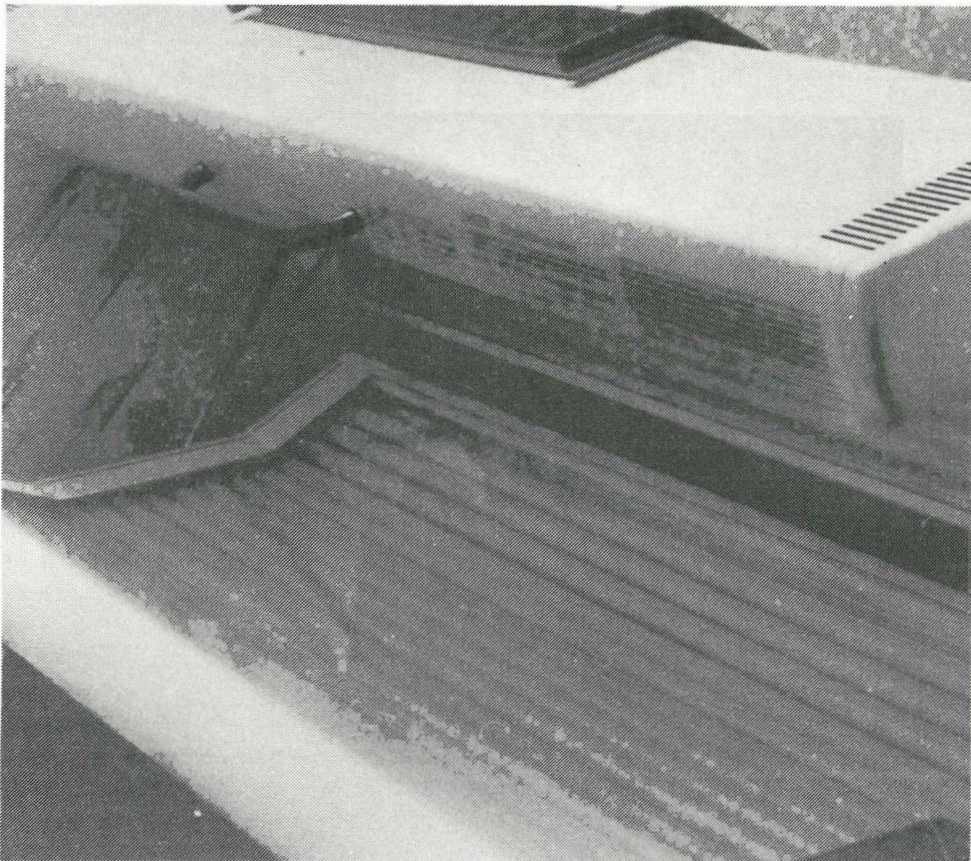
Loose, and A Cut Above, offer the use of tanning beds. The going fee is usually 30 sessions of unlimited tanning for \$30.

"I tan mostly in the winter time for about three months and 20 minute sessions," said junior Jeni Menier.

Since tanning has become so popular and wide spread, some may question the healthiness behind it. "I felt it could give me skin cancer, so I quit," said junior Sara Bruse.

Another junior, Cally Winters said, "I don't feel I'll get skin cancer because I don't tan 10 times a week for 30 minutes."

"I suppose I should be more concerned than I am, but I only tan for King of Hearts and prom. I guess if it hits me later on, then I'll regret it," said Ellwein.



Solar Power...a tanning bed lies dormant, awaiting tan seekers. (Photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

# Hackey Sack: Kicks are for kids

by Thomas Kamnikar

**Y**ou have all seen them--a group of people laughing while hitting something, some more laughter and then a collective groan when the thing hits the ground.

What are these people doing, you ask? These people are getting in on one of the latest crazes during lunch-- hackey-sacking.

Hackey-sack or "hack," as most of the people refer to it, is becoming one of the more favorite pastimes of Riggs High students.

"Hacking is hitting a little bag of beans with any part of your body except your hands. The object is to get a hack, which is when every one in the circle has hit it at least once without it touching the ground," said junior Tom Lemkuhl, an avid hacker.

Although it may seem like you have to be really good to enjoy it, that's not true.

"I'm really not good at all, but I still enjoy playing just because it's fun to watch and the other guys who are better usually make up for the weak guys," said Jim Patten, a junior who occasionally hacks.

But what all is required to take

part in this growing sport? "It doesn't take much at all--the only equipment you have is the hackey-sack. There is just a difference in types available.

First, there is the conventional hack, which is a small leather bag filled with beans, and then there is the "sepa," a little larger crocheted bag containing beans.

"I feel that the sepa is easier," said Aaron Chick, senior, and one of Riggs' best hackers.

Many people ask what starts a person hacking?

"I got started in the sixth grade. My older cousin bought me my first hackey sack, and I have been hacking it up since," said Aaron Chick.

"I got started in church camp," said Lehmkuhl. "A guy who looked like he shops a surplus store invited me to play, and since then I've been hooked."

But what makes hacking such an inviting sport?

"I like to control something; with the hack I have total control and I can do what I want with it," commented Chick.

"I hack because for one thing, it takes up time, the other reason is

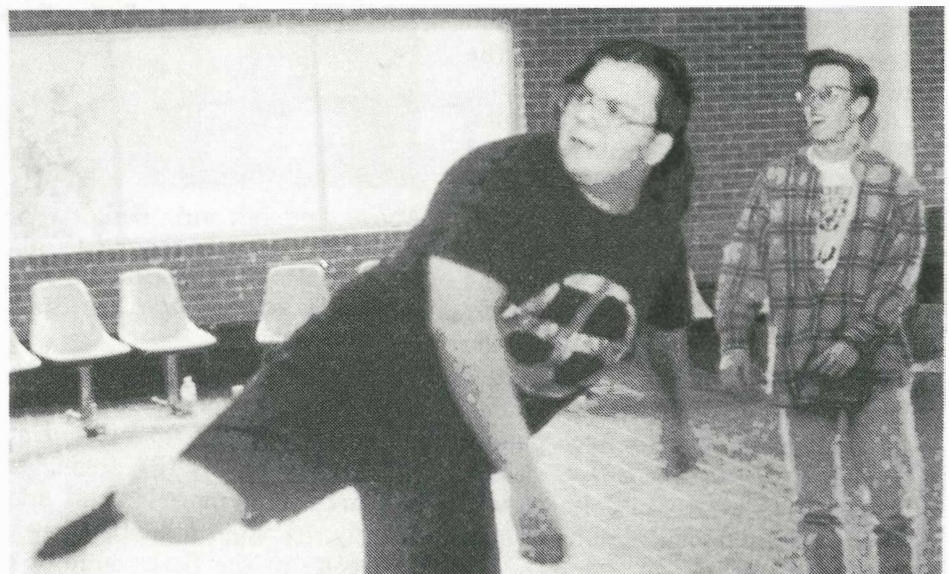
because it is an easy way for me to show off," said Lehmkuhl jokingly.

"I hack whenever the opportunity arises. I usually try to hack at least once a day," commented Loren Lowe, a junior and part-time hacker.

Most hackers would agree that practice was the key to getting good. "I hack probably a hour a day at the least; like any other sport, it takes practice to get good. The good

part about hacking is that you don't need any one else; you can do it by yourself," commented Chick.

Many wonder how long this hacking fad will last. Some say that it will be around forever. Others claim that hacking, like other fads, will be gone soon. No one is sure, but one thing is for certain: students like Aaron and Tom will certainly be hacking it up while it is here.



All in the game...junior Rob Lawrence stretches to keep the hackey sack in play. (Photo by Stacie Suedkamp)



## Sports

# Pierre's 1st: Riggs student bowls perfect 300 game

by Matthew Foster

**T**he first ever female bowler in Pierre to score a perfect game is Riggs junior Cally Winters.

Winters, who has been bowling for eleven of her seventeen years, scored a record 300 game on March 21.

Since the game was not affirmed by the Young American Bowling Alliance, Winters is disqualified for any awards. Notwithstanding, the score is still recognized by Lariat Lanes as the first perfect game ever bowled by a Pierre female.

"I was disappointed to find out my game wasn't sanctioned," Winters said. "But it didn't take away from the glory of bowling a perfect game."

Winters said she had not realized that she was bowling all strikes until the eighth frame.

"That's when I started to get nervous," she said. "The rest of the

game went fast."

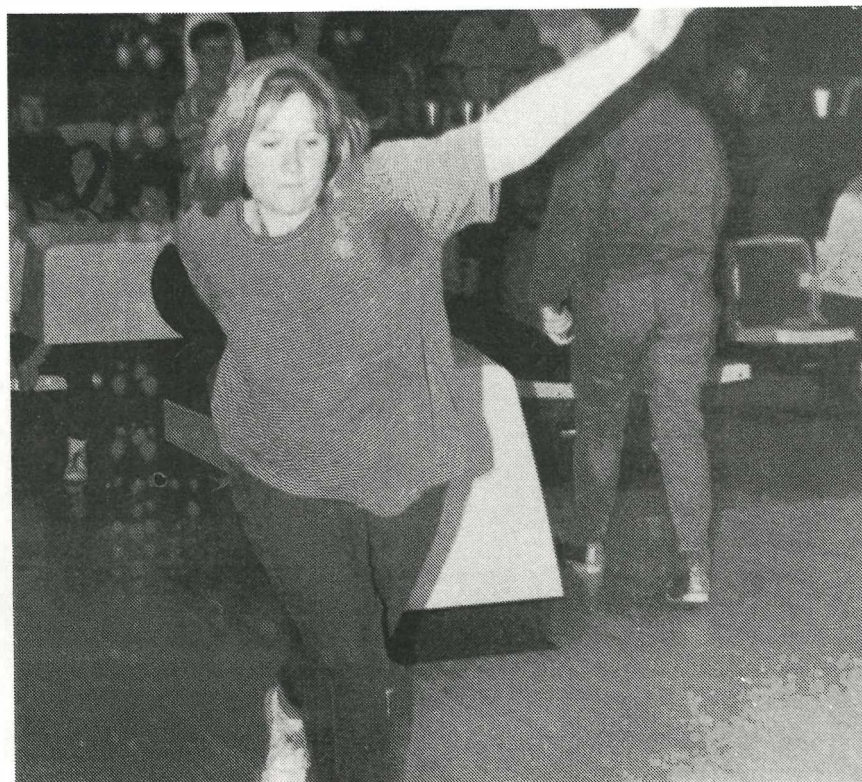
When the symbol for a perfect game--a turkey with twelve strike X's underneath it--appeared on the electronic scoring screen, Winters said it felt like she was having an out-of-body experience.

"It was like I was watching someone else on TV," she said. "But then people realized what was happening and ran up to me and said 'Good job! Good job!'"

Winters said that after listening to the song "Particle Man" by They Might Be Giants, her bowling seemed to improve.

"I was in such a slump until I heard that song," she said. "I don't know why, but hearing it just helps."

And help it has. Winters has recently won the state finals of the National Junior Bowling Championships. She will be representing South Dakota at the national finals in Tuscon, Arizona, in July.



Got the touch...junior Cally Winters uses her form, which got her a perfect 300. (Photo courtesy of Gumbo)

## All the way

# Johnson keeps going

by Tim Maher

**T**he Governor basketball team's leading scorer keeps going and going, like the "Energizer Rabbit."

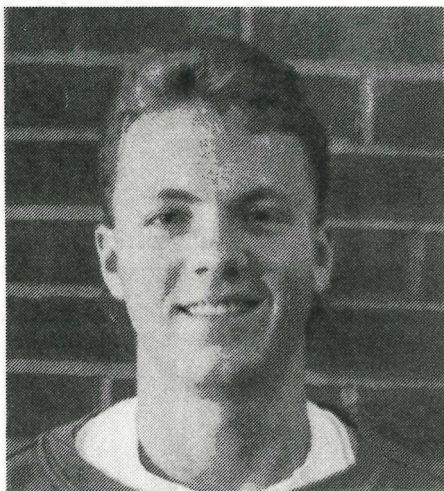
After ending his regular season with 336 points and 131 field goals, senior Ryan Johnson was named to the Class AA All-State Basketball First Team. He is the only Pierre player to receive this recognition since Troy Schaefer garnered the award in 1985.

Johnson, who averaged 17 points, 5 rebounds and one dunk per game was also named to the All-ESD Basketball Team.

"He was exciting to watch. It was fun to watch the crowd when he would get a breakaway. Everybody anticipated a dunk, and he usually came through for the Gobs," senior class president Brian Madigan said.

On April 11, Johnson took part in the Three Class Shoot-Out. Class AA lost to Class A, but Johnson was named the AA Most Valuable Player for AA.

"I am so happy for him. He is really deserving of the awards he



Above and beyond...senior Ryan Johnson recently signed to play basketball at the University of South Dakota. (Photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

got. Ryan has put so much time and effort into his game, and I think it has really paid off for him. I only wish he was on my IBA team," senior Karl Keenlyne said, and added jokingly, "though, I doubt he would have gone in the first round of the Intramural Basketball Association draft."

# Intramural playoffs rough and tumble

by Tim Maher

**W**hile varsity basketball provided entertainment and brought in admission and concession money from area Governor supporters, the Intramural Basketball Association was cashing in on its own action.

Over 90 players were signed up on 12 different teams. Captains picked their teams of 7 or 8 players in the IBA draft. The twelve teams were divided into North and South Divisions.

"The draft was a good system. It evened out the teams so that some teams didn't dominate over others," junior Mike Youngberg.

After eight regular season games, Eric Unkenholz's and Shad Harford's teams tied for the North Division first place with a 6-2 record. Eric Sibson's team record of 7-1 clinched a South Division first place ranking over Chris Ott's 6-2 team.

These 'Final Four' teams advanced to the IBA championship tournament, representing their divi-

**"It's great to have fun and be a little serious in IBA's."**

**- Eric Sibson  
Senior**

sion because of their rank.

In the first round of the final four, Harford's team beat Unkenholz's 'Choir Boys' and Ott's outdistanced Sibson's in overtime. On Tuesday, March 24, Ott's team overwhelmed Harford's squad for the IBA championship by a score of 49-43, giving the South Division a win.

Leading Ott's team to the top of the IBA pyramid, Nathan Brakke and Ott scored 14 and 9 points, respectively. Harford led his own team with 28 points followed by Chad Eschmeyer with 9.

"Everybody got a fair chance to play. No one stayed in the whole time, so it was lots of fun," sophomore Ryan Beck said.