

# Viken earns All-State spot

by Ashly Suedkamp

**F**lutist Andrea Viken has been awarded a position in All State Band, the school's only representative. Fourteen other band members also tried out.

Seated first chair in the school band, Viken said she practiced between three and four extra hours every week just for this audition.

"Andrea is one of the finest flute players that I have ever worked with. She has worked hard for over three years to make All-State Band and it was heart breaking to watch her miss it by two or three points last year," said band director Larry Johnson.

The try-outs, which were held in Pierre, consist of preparing a solo, performing major, minor, and chromatic scales, on the spot sight reading, and a written exam.

Viken has tried out for All-State Band and Orchestra every year since she was a freshman.

"This year I didn't really get my hopes up, because after trying out for three years and coming within a

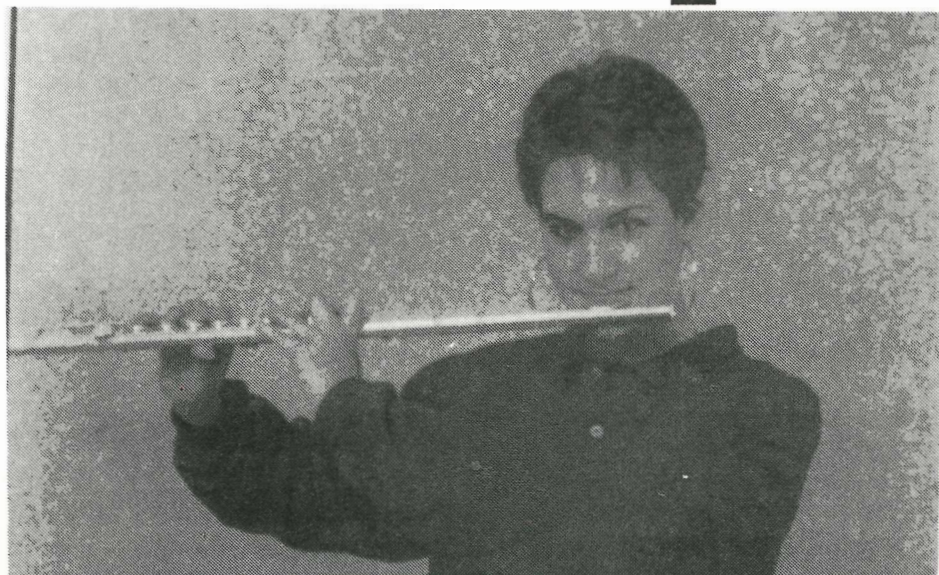
**"I am ecstatic to be a junior and the seventh chair in the All-State Band."**  
- - Andrea Viken

couple of points of the cut-off line, I wasn't sure what to expect," said Viken.

With an 11 being the perfect score, Viken scored 13.5, which placed her as seventh out of the sixteen flutists that were accepted into All-State this year.

"I was excited when I found out that I was an All-State member, and that's when I realized that all the hard work, skipping lunches, and extra practices were worth it," said Viken.

All-State band will be held March 26-28 and concludes with a concert at the Corn Palace in Mitchell.



On to All-State...Junior flutist Andrea Viken will represent Riggs at this year's All-State Band Concert. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

## NHS initiates 36

by Jen Hauschild

**T**hirty-six seniors and juniors have been "tagged" as initiates into the Riggs High chapter of the National Honor Society.

To be eligible for NHS, students must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.2. Potential members must also meet standards of leadership, character, and service. Initiates are selected for membership from among eligible candidates by a faculty council consisting of five members appointed by the principal.

During the school year, each NHS chapter performs at least one service project.

The 1991-92 initiates include Galen Andrews, Alan Berheim, Nathan Brakke, Matthew Ellefson, Guy Erlenbusch, Chad Eschmeyer, Karla Fridley, Becky Gere, Barbara Goddard, Rob Hall, Trina Jensen, Kristen Job, Jaremy Joy, Julie

Kebach, Anne Kenyon, Kara Klein, Jason Knox, Nicole Konechne, Wyatt O'Day, Kara Oehlerking, Krista Oehlerking, Jon Pier, Michael Post, Amy Schochenmaier, John Storsteen, Ashly Suedkamp, Todd Tedrow, Chris Thomsen, Michelle Thorson, Jonathan Urbach, Tobian VanderPol, Andrea Viken, Beth Wahl, Bonnie Wahl, Ryan Weaver, and John Wellhouse.

Returning NHS members who were inducted a year ago include chapter president Brenda Weaver, vice-president Johanna Herrin, secretary Gretchen Forney, and co-treasurers Jessica Evenstad and Sara Stulken, as well as Lora Den Ouden, Aaron Engberg, Christian Hess, Mark Hyde, Karl Keenlyne, Tim Maher, Trent Miller, Kyle Richards, Kristin Smith, Chris Sonnenschein, Tiffany Sonnenschein, Bob Stiles, Eric Unkenholz, and Stacie Zastrow.

## 'Braves' off base

by Matthew Foster

**R**edskins. Braves. Chiefs. All of these names have unique meaning in both American Indian and euro-centric American culture. Often, these meanings conflict.

Scores of high school, college and professional sports teams use American Indian-inspired names such as "Seminoles" and "Bucks". Conflict arises, however, when the five-century old system of white oppression of the indigenous population is considered.

This debate heightened in 1991 when the Atlanta-based baseball team Braves played in the World Series. Many minority-rights leaders insisted that the team change its name. It was also asked that the team's fans cease their imitation of American Indian rituals, most notably the "tomahawk chop."

"I don't mind the name (Braves)," said senior Eugene Swift Hawk. "It shows that Indians kick butt."

Other American Indian students, however, had different views.

"I don't mind the teams using Indian names; they are just names, after all," said senior John Keeler. "But when images of warriors are used in a derogatory sense as mascots, that's wrong."

"The traditional dress of Ameri-

can Indians shouldn't be used to sell baseball tickets," he said.

Ruth Twiggs, junior, shared a similar opinion.

"I don't agree with what the (Braves fans) were doing, like with the headdresses and drums and so on. I feel that this is a racial stereotype from long ago. They tend to look at yesterday's Indians," Twiggs said.

"We have a culture we're proud of. Drums and headdresses are sacred to the Indian people and I don't think it's right to be making fun of the things we're proud of. To make fun of these things is very disrespectful," said Twiggs.

One junior American Indian student, Rob Lawrence, reversed the stereotypical team names. "Is there a team called the St. Louis Jews? Or how about the Cincinnati White Boys?" he said with a laugh.

Brady Bear Stops, junior, said that there may be ulterior motives behind the protest movement.

"I think most tribal leaders are protesting the mascots just to make a name for themselves. If they really wanted to help the Indian people, they should be more worried about helping the tribes fight alcoholism and helping Indian students get an education," he said.



# Comment

## Editorial: NHS initiation disappoints students

The manner in which National Honor Society initiates were tagged took out the luster of belonging to the society.

NHS members were announced in a less ceremonial way. Instead of the traditional assembly for the "tagging" of the yellow and blue NHS ribbons, the inductees were discreetly tagged in the halls without much of a fuss.

In the past, initiates were called forward during an all-school assembly held in the school's theater. Once on stage, past members would tag inductees on stage. This was the traditional tagging of new members.

The reasoning for getting rid of the assembly is based on not making any group of students seem better than any other group or individual. The advisors for NHS do not want to put students up on a pedestal and proclaim them "better".

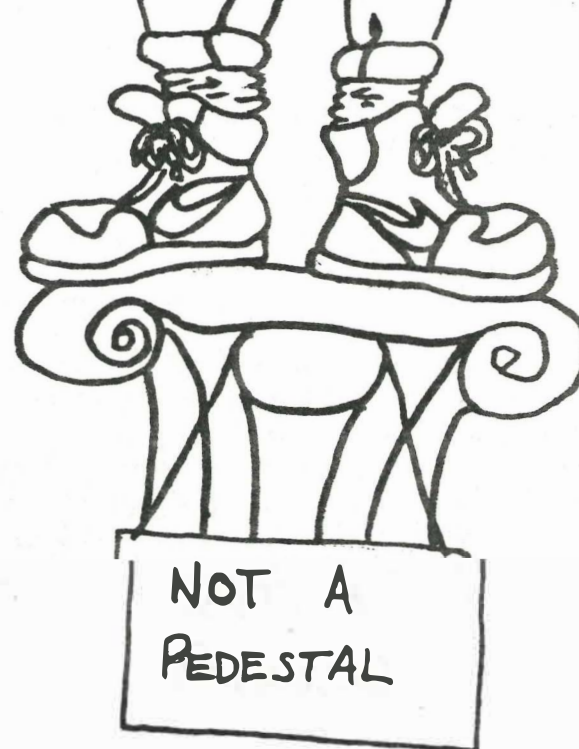
The new and mundane method of initiating new members in the hall has caused a stir among students, according to an official Governor poll. Of the surveyed students 75 percent believed the new NHS members should receive more recognition for their achievement.

A majority of our school's sports teams are honored with pep assemblies to help boost their morale. They justly receive recognition because of their abilities for athletics and sportsmanship.

Students who receive recognition for excellence in academics, service, leadership, and character should receive the same recognition for their attributes as students who are in sports.

The NHS assembly would also inspire younger students and those who did not receive it to do better in school and join more activities in hopes of being honored with acceptance into NHS.

Some say NHS members are put on a pedestal.



## Clinton's lead substantial

by Brian Madigan

**O**n February 25 South Dakota voters selected the candidate of their choice for their party in the Presidential primary. A Governor poll found out what would happen if students had their way in the South Dakota primary.

The poll, made up of sophomores, juniors, and seniors, showed Arkan-

sas Governor Bill Clinton with a substantial lead over the field of eight Democrats.

Clinton took 60 percent of the 33 students who chose to vote on the Democratic ticket. In second place was New Hampshire primary winner Paul Tsongas with 24 percent. Third place was a tie between Nebraskan Bob Kerry and Lyndon Larouche with six percent. Larouche

is presently serving a prison term for tax fraud.

Rounding out the list was Iowa Senator Tom Harkin with three percent. Former California Governor Jerry Brown and Virginia Governor Douglas Wilder, who dropped out of the race, received less than one percent of the students polled.

"None of the Democrats have the leadership ability except for maybe

**See GOP, page 3**

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### Do NHS initiates deserve an assembly?



"If we have assemblies for every other activity and not NHS, you are telling us NHS is not important. Our school is underrating NHS compared to other schools across the nation."

**Bob Stiles, Sr.**



"I think that we have enough banquets, dinners, and receptions so that we do cover NHS activities without having to have a separate pep assembly for the members."

**Toblann Vanderpol, Jr.**



"By taking away the NHS assembly, the administration is saying that athletics are more important than academics. Aren't we here to get an education? I thought sports were extra-curricular."

**Scott Kennedy, Soph.**

Photos by Stacie Suedkamp



## Comment

### First-hand learning

# Students explore possible careers

by Ashly Suedkamp

**T**he removal of a cancerous eyeball from a cow was sophomore Teri Hardwick's first mentorship experience at the Oahe Veterinary Clinic.

This is only one of the professions students can learn about through the Unique Enrichment Program, also known as the mentorship program.

At the beginning of the school year, letters of invitation are sent out to students who are eligible to participate in this program.

"I didn't really know anything

about this program until I received a letter in the mail explaining it," said Hardwick.

To receive a letter, a student must score in the ninetieth percentile in the total battery of an achievement test and must be either a sophomore, junior, or a senior.

After a student receives a letter and decides to find out more about the program, they then fill out an application. The application and the student then appear in front of a committee and are possibly approved, said Unique Enrichment

Program director Anita Rau.

Virtually any profession can be explored in this program. Areas that have already been studied range from accounting to medicine to law.

Junior Reed Ulvestad, who mentored in accounting, said, "The mentorship program lets an individual try out a career that they are interested in with the help of a local professional."

The nice thing about this program is that the student is allowed to experience what their mentor's tasks are on a first-hand basis.

"Not only have I learned about what Mr. Colleran does, but I have also received information on careers that are related to audiology, like speech pathology or audiological surgery," said junior Beth Wahl.

The mentorship students seemed to agree that the hands on experience allows the participant to experience what a professional does during a work day.

"It's a great opportunity that helps you make decisions about your future career plans," said Ulvestad.

## Preview: "Malcom X' awaits release, speaks with bitter eloquence

by Nathan Brakke

**A**s you may or may not know, February is black history month. This provides an opportune time for previewing "Malcolm X".

As Spike Lee continues filming "Malcolm X," with Denzel Washington playing Malcolm, anticipation for its release continues to grow. "Malcolm X" hats, shirts, pins and books are in great demand. This raises the question, "Who is Malcolm X?"

Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska, was a black militant leader who preached black pride and black nationalism. He talked of how "together we can make a difference."

Malcolm X pledged to fight eco-

nomie and political exploitation and social degradation in black America.

He spoke with bitter eloquence against this white exploitation of his people and gained a dedicated following.

He believed that before blacks in American could have civil rights, they had to have human rights.

Before he was assassinated in 1965, he modified his view of black separatism. He declared that he was no longer a racist and spoke of his vision of the possibility of world brotherhood.

One can learn the most about Malcolm X from his words. Excerpts from some of his speeches

follow.

In August 1964 Malcolm X said, "Now in speaking like this, it doesn't mean that we're anti-white, but it does mean we're anti-exploitation, we're anti-degradation, we're anti-oppression. And if the white man doesn't want us to be anti-him, let him stop oppressing and exploiting and degrading us."

In a 1964 speech, he was quoted as saying, "Policies change, and programs change, according to time. But our objective never changes. You might change your method of achieving the objective, but the objective never changes. Our objective is complete freedom,

complete justice, complete equality, by any means necessary."

Also near the end of 1964, Malcolm X said, "A person can come to your home, and if he's white and wants to heap some kind of brutality on you, you're nonviolent . . . But if another Negro just stomps on your foot, you'll rumble with him in a minute. Which shows you that there's an inconsistency there. I myself would go for nonviolence if it was consistent, if everybody was going to be nonviolent all the time."

Those were just some of Malcolm X's great words. He was a great speaker. He made sense. He opened a lot of people's eyes and a lot of people's minds, and his words continue to do so today.

*Continued from page two...*

## GOP students approve Bush, notice Buchanan's absence

Bill Clinton, but his chances were about shot," said one student commenting on the Democratic field of candidates.

President George Bush had an easy time with the Republican side of the ticket. Bush ran against a choice for uncommitted delegates as his opposition, since no other candidates qualified to be on the ballot.

Of the 40 students who voted on the Republican ballot 85 percent choose Bush over the uncommitted delegates.

Several of the students polled re-

marked on the absence of columnist Patrick Buchanan from the Republican ballot.

Buchanan grabbed headlines after a near 40 percent showing in the New Hampshire primary against President Bush. Buchanan was not allowed a spot on the Republican ballot because he announced his candidacy too late for the South Dakota Republican delegation selection.

"Too bad Pat Buchanan is not on the Republican ballot. Many people might not think to vote uncommitted," one sophomore said.

## Brooks chosen Teacher of Year

by Angela Hall

**T**his year's Teacher of the Year is English teacher Vicki Brooks.

The Teacher of the Year is chosen by National Honor Society. She was formally honored Tuesday, February 25.

"I was very surprised. I did not expect it. Mr. Schneider came in and told me during my sixth period class, while the students were watching a filmstrip. It feels very nice; it is a good honor, and I am proud to get it," said Brooks.



**Outstanding...Teacher of the Year Vicki Brooks has instructed Junior English for the last 6 years. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)**



## Feature

# 1992 marks five centur

## Swift Hawk explores past with art

by Tim Maher

**E**ven as a child living on the Pine Ridge Reservation, senior Eugene Swift Hawk had an interest in painting. Well, not really an interest...more of a flair.

"I've been interested in art ever since I picked up a crayon," Eugene said. "The interest began because reservations are really boring. It was basically the only thing to do."

It is good fortune that Eugene took interest in painting since he has grossed over \$4,000 for his works in the last three years.

Recently, he was paid \$200 and supply costs to paint a mural in the Tower Apartments.

"The owner of Tower Apartments called me and asked if any students would be willing to paint a mural in a hallway. So I gave them Eugene's name," art instructor Sandy Peterson said.

A majority of Eugene's paintings deal with his Native American heritage.

"I'm very nostalgic. I like the past. Most of my pictures are kind of sad because the Native Americans that I have pictures of were forced to get their pictures taken. They were sad. I look at the proud part of my heritage," Eugene said.

To add to his artistic ability, Eugene went to the Oscar Howe Summer Arts Institute. There he was supervised by artist Robert Penn.

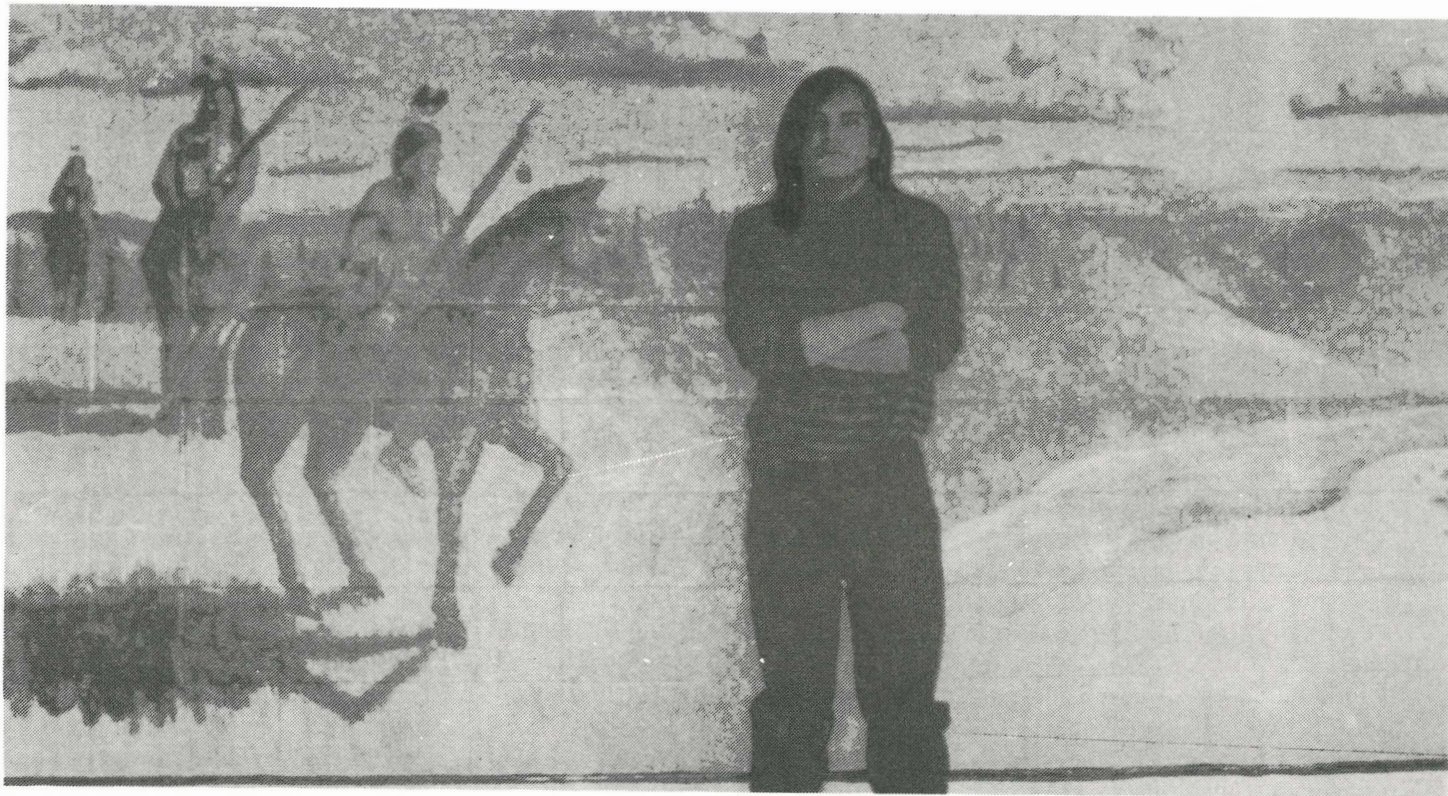
"Penn taught me not to use black in my painting, and this helped me to get colors that I needed in my paintings," Eugene said.

He believes that his best painting he ever created came after his attending the institute. He created a canvas painting which he sold to Jerry Pier for \$50.

"I have a lot of respect for Eugene. He is motivated. He does a lot of ceremonial, meaningful paintings about what his Native American Heritage means to him," senior artist Andrew Chick said.

According to Eugene, his inspiration came from the Sun Dance.

"The Sun Dance is a Sioux dance where we sacrifice part of ourselves for our people. It's the hardest four days of my life. We dance for four days without food and only a cup of water per day," Swift Hawk said.



**A tale of two generations...Eugene Swifhawk stands before his mural of pre-European settlement American Indian life. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)**

The Sun Dance is a grueling testimony of Eugene's faith, and what makes his faith more devout is the fact that he has done it five times.

"I want to set a good example for my younger brother," Eugene said. "I believe my ability is a gift from God and someday my gift will return to God."

Eugene had an unusual occurrence take place recently. While he was painting "The power of the Chief," which depicted a Sioux Chief surrounding two of his warriors, he decided to swab his purple background to get a faded effect. In the course of wiping the heavy purple paint away, a buffalo skull began to take form behind the chief.

"It was as if the buffalo skull was meant to be there. I believe God possibly put it there," Eugene said.

At one time, he was confronted by a fellow student who asked, "Why don't you Indians just leave."

Eugene took the question in stride and responded, "You're right. As a Native American, I think Indians should go back to India."

"I would like to go on the record for something," Eugene said. "I don't use drugs or drink. That's one misconception too many people have of me."

Eugene hopes that he will be able to return God's gift by selling his paintings for money and giving it to charity.

"My dream is to sell my art for thousands of dollars and set up student centers on reservations so that others can have their dreams come true," he said.

Eugene is on his way to meeting his goal with the \$4000 he has earned selling 30 paintings and nearly 200 drawings.

From the time that Eugene lived in Wamblee on the Pine Ridge Reservation, his artistic ability has bloomed. His dedication to art has grown, and the detailed description of his works has increased.

"Eugene has done some incredible things," Peterson said.

As Eugene's artistic ability grows, he looks to further his education at either the Colorado Institute of Art or possibly the University of South Dakota.

While Swift Hawk's abilities with a pen and brush continue to foster, he remembers that his gift will one day return to God. Hopefully not too soon, though. Art enthusiasts are too interested in spending good money for his art.

## Cultural dif

### Counselor explai

by Ashly Suedkamp

**A**merican Indian students are raised between two cultures - the Native American one at home and the white one at school.

"Being raised between these two cultures can be a good experience if the child can overcome the problems that come with it," said Indian Education Counselor Joanne Bear.

There are 277 American Indians in the Pierre Public School System. One-hundred ninety five of these students are in the grade schools, fifty-three are in the junior high, and only twenty-nine are in the senior high.

These statistics show a tremendous dropout rate between grade school and high school American Indian students, which may be due to the pressures that they face.

"There are many pressures put on the American Indian student; the most common types are subtle racist remarks and stereotyping" said Bear.

Some students let the racist remarks tumble off their backs and go



## Feature

# es of racism in America

## Students experience racial discrimination

by Mandy Johnson

**R**ACISM: Have you been the target?

How do you feel about this situation? Do you think racism exists in our school? Several of the Native American students who are members of the predominantly white student body voiced their response to the question, "Have you ever been the target of racism?"

Raina Howe, a senior at Riggs High School said, "No one has ever really been mean to me because of my skin color, and even if they were, I could care less about what they say."

"I've never actually felt any discrimination because most people can not tell that I'm Indian," replied Lesley Spears, a junior at Riggs. "Except for one time when we went

out of town for a volleyball game, Ruth Twiggs and I were just about to get on the bus, and our white bus driver said, 'This is a white man's territory, so you two stay off.' That really hurt me because he singled us out and didn't even know who we really were. I'm very proud of my culture and who I am. I've never considered changing a thing," stated Spears.

Deanna Prue also added, "Only once has someone been out-right racist towards me, but other than that, I've only felt racism in small ways, such as when people make negative comments about Indians, even though they say, 'Oh, no offense to you.'"

Think about it! Is racism a problem in our school? If so, what can we do to prevent it?

## Stereotypes dispelled

by Matthew Foster

**M**ost South Dakotans regard racism as something exclusive to New York City suburbs and Louisiana gubernatorial races. That, however, may not be the case.

Although racial stereotypes aren't as visible here, some Native American students say they still are alive, well and kicking.

"I strongly believe racism is visible here," said Ruth Twiggs, junior. "(Whites) don't try to understand our feelings and our culture, even though many Indians live here."

"People ask me if I run and draw," said junior Dawson Her Many Horses, enumerating some of the stereotypes he has encountered.

Another student said he has also run into the "Indian-artisan" assumption.

"Most people think I draw," said senior John Keeler flatly. "I don't."

But by far the most common ster-

eotypes most Native American students say they encounter are those of laziness, drunkenness and cultural barbarism.

"When Indians are pictured as drunks and lazy, that's not true," said Twiggs. "There are very many successful and well-educated people who are also Indian. They have worked hard for what they wanted."

"Unfortunately, most whites think that drunken Indian is a hyphenated word," said Keeler.

When asked who stereotypes Indians, Keeler said that he finds it not to be students, but older adults.

"Most students have Indian friends, so they know that a lot of the misconceptions about Native American culture aren't true," he said. "White members of our generation grew up being told that if they misbehaved, they'd be sent to the reservation. I think most of them have gotten over that."

# ences cause problems for Indian students

## causes

**"There are many pressures put on the American Indian student: the most common types are subtle racist remarks and stereotyping" - Joanne Bear**

on unharmed, but other students have a low self-esteem and use these remarks as an excuse to drop-out, said Bear.

Another aspect of the white culture that is difficult for American Indian students to deal with is the role Native Americans supposedly played in history.

"When I was in the fifth and sixth grades and heard the white version of Native American history, I wanted to slide down in my desk. They made us look like a bunch of scalpers and warriors," said Bear.

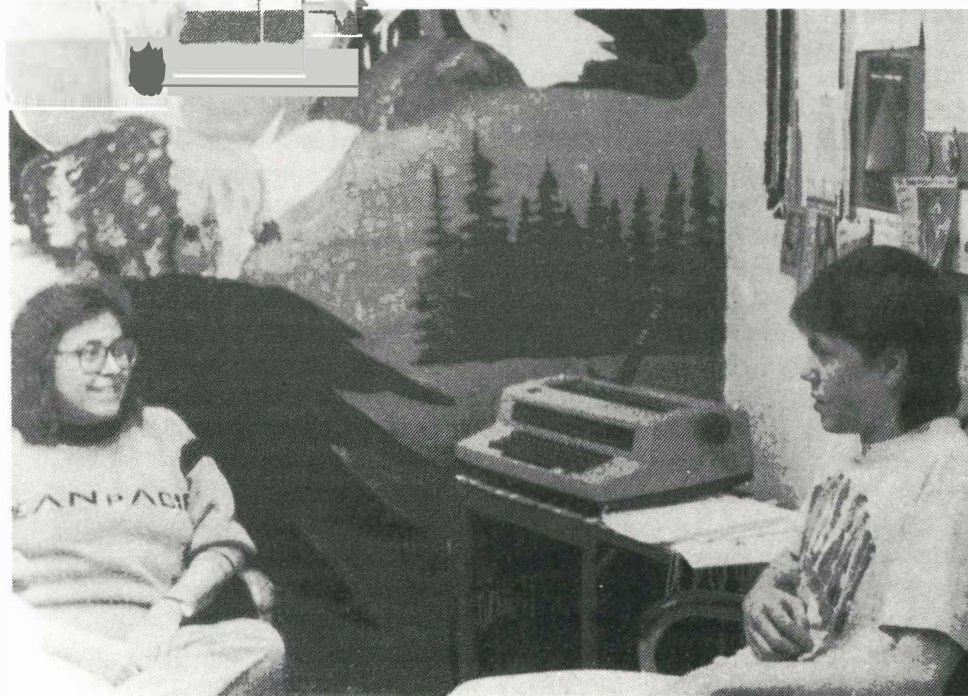
There is usually a difference in the Native American history taught at home and the history taught by the school system. School book history seems to focus on the negative aspects of the Indian culture and they tend to leave out all the positive contributions of this culture. Some of these include their ap-

proach to government, which was freedom and justice for all, their medical advances, and their respect for nature.

"The Pierre schools have high standards when dealing with the Native American culture, and I would like to see them be one of the first schools to implement classes that deal specifically with Native American history and culture," said Bear.

Ignorance is the main reason racism exists, and American Indian classes would educate students and would help them understand a culture that is foreign to them, said Bear.

Bear cautions students to be careful with what they say and do because people's feelings can really be hurt when their way of life and their heritage are made fun of.



**Talk to me...Joanne Bear visits with a student in her office at Pierre Junior High. Even though her office is in the junior high, she serves all American Indian students in the Pierre district. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)**



## Sports

# Gov gymnasts reach goals

by Ashly Suedkamp

**T**he Lady Govs Gymnastic team returned from the state meet in Watertown with seventh place and a score of 135.69, just short of this year's season high score of 136.1.

"We are basically satisfied with the season. Our expectations were low because we lost four seniors, but we met our goals," said junior team member Melissa Coyle.

Five of the varsity gymnasts had qualified individually for the state competition.

Coach Vickie Semmler is pleased with the performance of her team, especially since Pierre girls do not have the opportunity to attend year-round clubs. "Any team that has girls attending club classes year-round were the only AA schools that beat us."

"Even though no one placed individually at the state meet, the girls performed very well," said Semmler.



**Strike a pose...**A member of the Lady Govs gymnastics team executes her floor routine. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

ler. "They received valuable experience for next year."

Semmler also said that the team had some of the strongest and highest-scoring workers in the state.

"The girls' positive attitudes,

ability to learn and their drive to perfect the routines were also strong," she said.

The season, according to Semmler wasn't without its weak points. "We were scoring low on our floor

and beam," said Semmler. "The floor ended up being our lowest event. It takes a long time to perfect a floor routine," Semmler said.

A strong point for the Lady Govs were on the bars with the Ladies being among the highest scorers in the state. "The girls' positive attitudes and curiosity to learn new tricks and their drive to perfect the routines were also strong points," Semmler said.

Next year's team will lose two seniors due to graduation. Dana Ertz overcame a knee injury this season to compete, after not having competed in nearly two years. Rachel Gates was, according to Semmler, a true team leader because of her never-ending desire to do well.

Regional competition went well, with Pierre taking second place next to Mitchell and Anne Kenyon winning the bars.

## Governors to attempt third seed

by Cammy Clark

**T**onight the Pierre Governors take on the Yankton Bucks in their last game of season play.

"The team is excited about the opportunities ahead, the chance for ten wins, the chance for the third seed in the district, and the chance to make it to the state tournament," said coach Harvey "Skip" Kurth.

Although Yankton is not ranked, Kurth doesn't down-play the importance of this game.

"We can't afford to overlook this game, although we are steadily improving; ten wins would be nice, but we can't afford to be overconfident."

Reflecting on last weekend's victories, Kurth was very pleased with the strong team defensive effort and the patience demonstrated in the half-court offense.

The biggest team goals for this year were to show steady improvement and earn a birth in the state tournament.

## Experience in the works Wrestlers looking to tourney

by Tim Maher

**T**he Governors are nine men strong heading into the 1992 State A Wrestling Tournament held in Sioux Falls today and tomorrow.

"We're going into Sioux Falls looking to get experience," head coach Rick Jensen said. "We are a young team and we're glad to have come this far."

After coming away from the Region 3A meet held in Winner, the team placed nine out of 12 people, two of whom came away Region 3A Champions.

Heavyweight junior Levi Hillmer pinned Dave Rehorst of Mitchell in 1:15 to take first in his weight class.

"Levi is very quick. He's a good athlete. He is agile and wants things to happen out on the mat," Jensen said of Hillmer.

The other championship came when junior Ryan Noyes decisioned 130 pound Jason Wietzel of Hot Springs, 5-1.

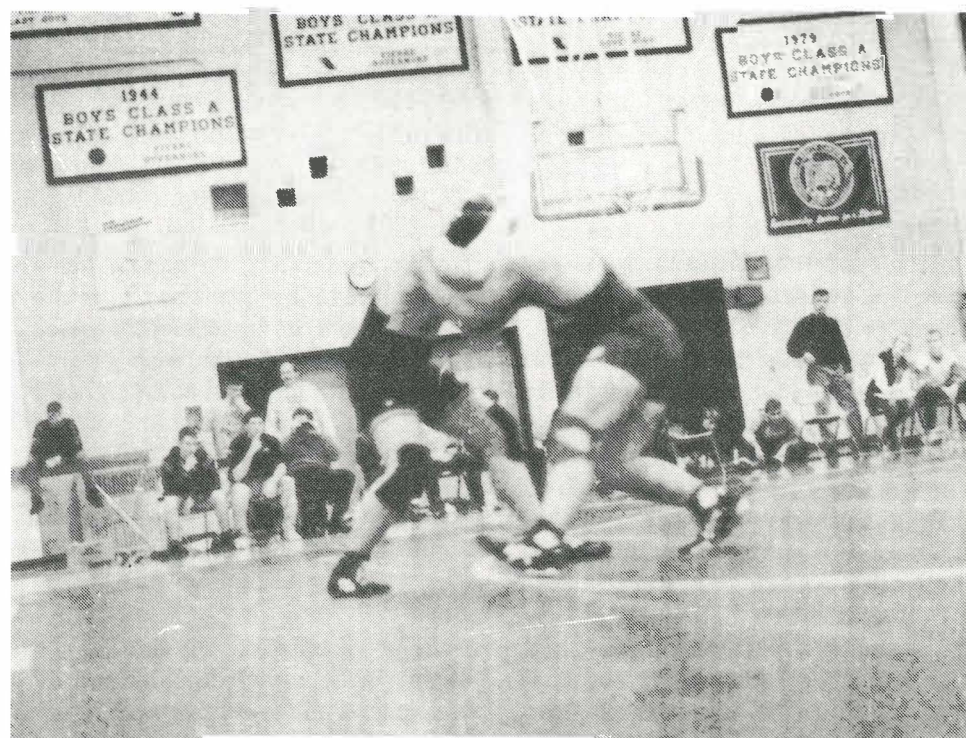
Noyes, who is a place winner at last year's state meet, has been out for a majority of the year due to injuries.

"Ryan has had only a few matches since December," Jensen said.

Senior Dave Kowalczyk took second place at 171. He lost by decision.

"We would really like to place our senior," assistant coach Myron "Iron" Bryant said. "He's put in a lot of work for us and we would like to see it pay off."

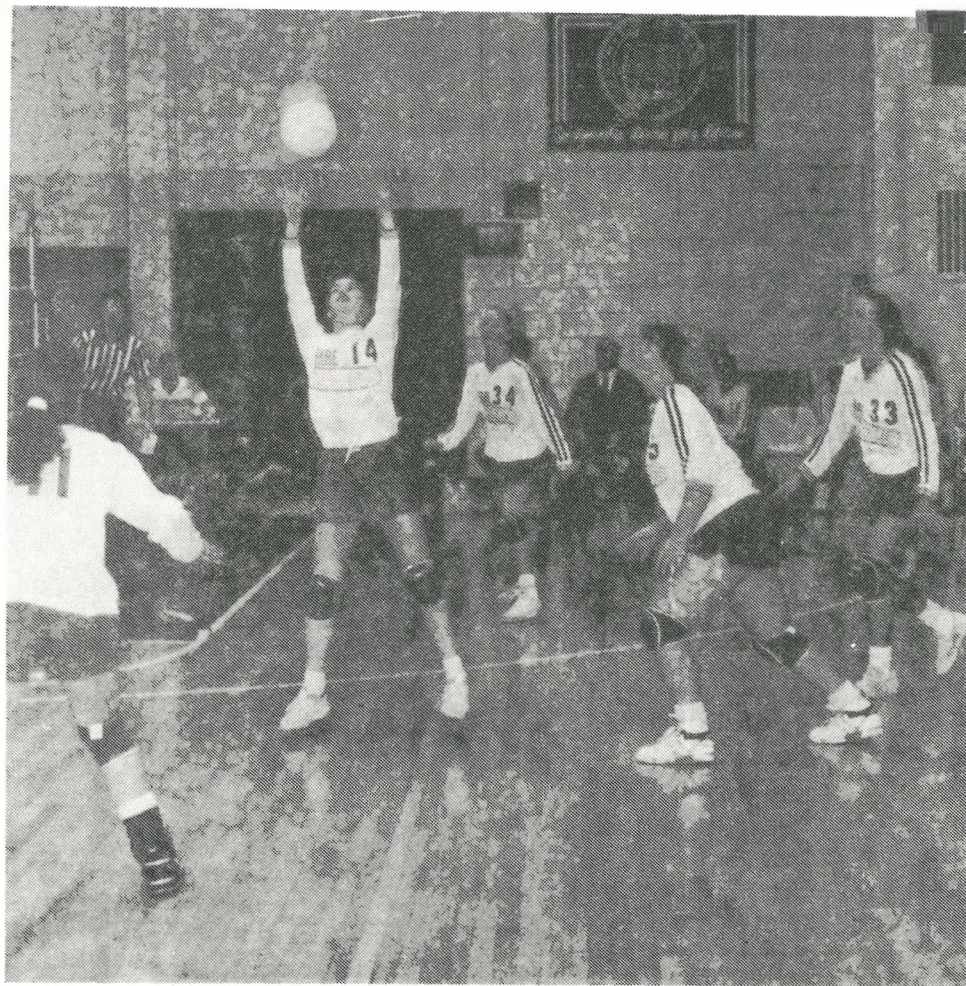
Other place winners at the Region 3A meet include Mike Gilmore, taking third at 103; Jeremy Joy, third at 112; Jason Robinson, fourth at 119; Brian Hermanson, third at 125; Joe Gunderson, third at 152; and Chris Stotts, third at 189.



**Grappling...**junior Heavyweight wrestler Levi Hillmer drives a Huron Tiger opponent off the mat. (photo by Tim Maher)



## Sports



**Bump! Set! Spike!...Lady Gov volleyball team members merge together looking for a kill. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)**



## IBA season captures purest basketball form

by Nathan Brakke

The Intramural Basketball Association season is now in full swing. Teams are gearing up for play-off positions. Intensity and anticipation are building.

So what is the big deal? Isn't varsity basketball supposed to be the big show in town?

The truth is IBA's are what basketball is all about: FUN. After all, basketball is a game. Games are simply for amusement and enjoyment. IBA's definitely fit the description.

IBA's are basketball in its purest and rawest form. In fact IBA's often incorporate skills from football, hockey, and boxing.

Does this mean IBA's are rough? It sure does. IBA's are where the men are separated from the boys. This is where winners are separated from losers.

There's more to IBA's than just fun, though. Take for example the fierce competition. Almost everyday teams are talking of how they are going to annihilate their next opponents. Too often, though, these teams can talk the game but they can't play the game.

Though the crowds have been dwindling lately, IBA's also provide guys an arena to showcase talents in front of admiring young ladies. This usually brings out the best!

IBA's have also proven to be a fashion show. The cockier the outfit, the better. Black socks, flannel warm-up pants, "doo-rags", new haircuts, and the ever-cocky attitude all seem to do the job.

Without coaches, practices, and conditioning, some might say IBA's are for lazy bums. But that is just the reason for playing IBA's--not having to worry about screwing up, sitting on the bench, or dreading practices. IBA's are something to look forward to.

This is not meant to take anything away from the varsity program. An IBA championship is in no way comparable to a state championship. But on Tuesday nights those who aren't varsity material get to be the stars.

## Coming to life

### Ladies have positive attitude

by Ashly Suedkamp

**A**fter a slow start this season, the Lady Gov's volleyball team is coming to life just in time for this weekend's regional match in Huron.

"The team has really improved since the beginning of the year," said varsity volleyball coach Randy Briese.

The team's sluggish start has turned into a winning streak now that the girls are more focused and are working together.

"We have either done really good or really bad this year. We are never in the middle. I think we can do well on Saturday, especially if we're havin an 'on' day," said junior Michelle Reinke.

The team's attitude is a positive one going into tomorrow's regional match at Huron.

"The girls are very competitive. They really want to win and if we get some breaks, things should fall into place," said Briese.

Making it to the state tournament was one of the volleyball team's goals. They must be one of the top two teams at regionals to advance to the state competition.

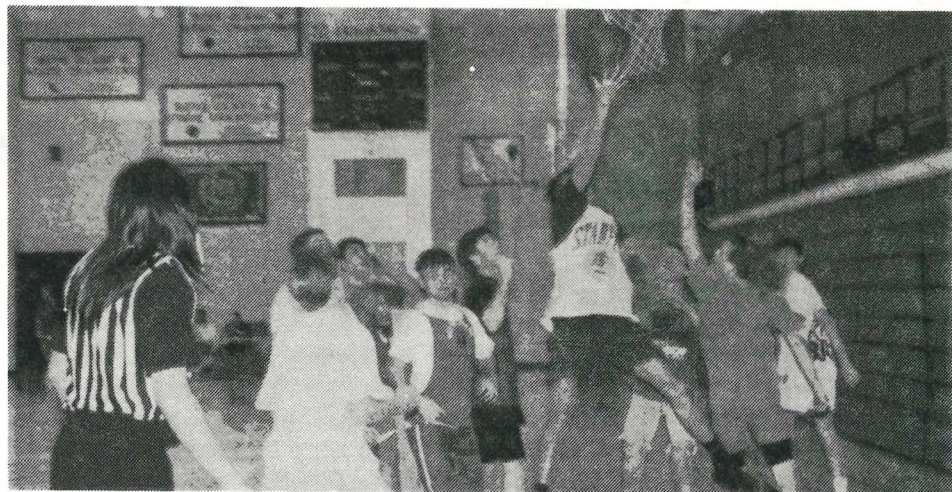
"We have been working well together, and I think that if we pull together, we can win on at regionals," said junior Krista Oehlerking.

The team with only three seniors on it is fairly young.

"As one of the three seniors on the team, I felt that we gave the juniors and sophomores the opportunity to become experienced players which will allow them to have a stronger team next year," said senior Heidi Zeller.

Volleyball is a momentum game, and players have to be concentrating and giving one hundred percent at all times.

"All the players are important and the girls are finally concentrating and things are starting to happen," said Briese.



**Air Brakke...Junior Nathan Brakke soared over opponent John Storsteen on Tuesday night. (photo courtesy 'Gumbo')**

## IBA's 'Choir Boys' 5-0

by Wyatt O'Day

**I**BA's continue to heat up the court every Tuesday night--more specifically, "The Choir Boys" led by captain Eric Unkenholz.

"Last week's game was a lot of fun for me; I scored 30 points," senior Tim Schmidt said.

The team has managed to stay undefeated as of last week with a record of 5-0 after they defeated Chris Sonnenschein's team.

"The team has four consistent scorers, and we rebound real good. The last couple of games we have won by at least 10 points, if not more," said Eric Unkenholz.

Other team standings as of last week are: Keatts 4-1, Harford 4-1, Sibson 4-1, Shea 3-2, Ott 3-2, Parks 2-3, Sonnenschein 2-3, Osberg 1-4, Keenlyne 1-4, Hunsley 1-4, and Swift Hawk 0-5.

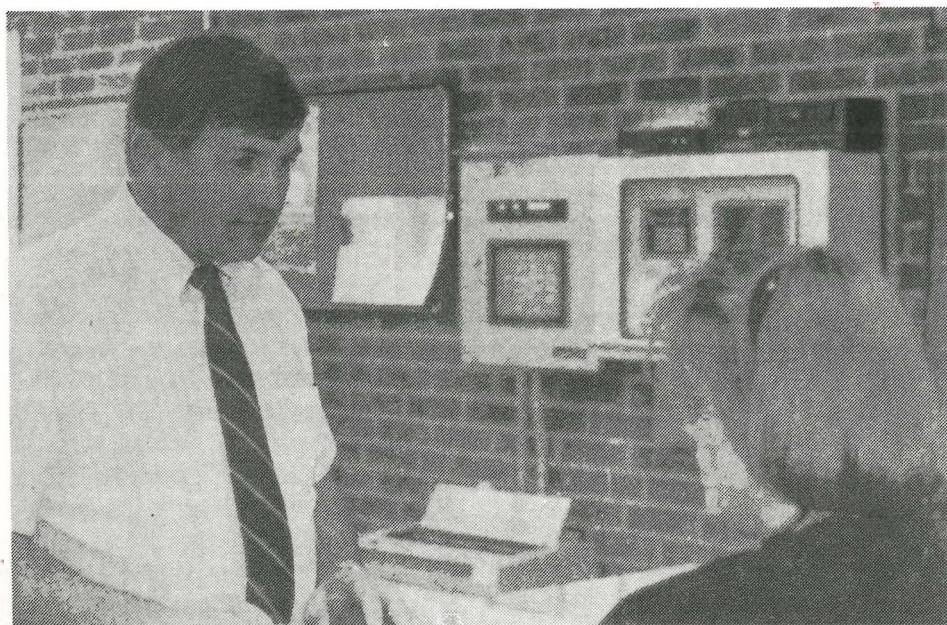
Even though the competition gets higher with each game, the teams are out there to have fun.

"I think they're really fun to watch because most of the guys are there just to have fun, with some exceptions," said Julie Shangreaux.

There was one minor incident in which a hoop was pulled down during one of the games, but other than that, there have not been any injuries.



## Interest



Mess with the Best...assistant principal Gary Merkwan assists students on a day to day basis. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

# Merkwan selected 'Veep' of the year

by Brian Madigan

Vice-Principal Gary Merkwan has been selected by the South Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals as the "Assistant Principal of the Year."

As part of the recognition, Merkwan is awarded an all-expense-paid trip by the McDonald's Corporation to the Leadership Forum for the 21st Century in Oak Brook, Illinois. The program will include presentations on leadership skills, motivating students, and other topics.

Merkwan shrugs off the recognition by modestly saying, "It's a nice award, but I don't do anything different than other assistant principals."

Merkwan is viewed by many of the student body at Riggs as the dreaded discipline side of the administration.

Few students realize the full extent of the duties of vice-principal.

"The discipline part is always the hardest," Merkwan said.

## Six awards to 'Outsiders'

by Tom Kamnikar

This year's one-act play "The Outsiders" received awards for both its February 14 performance and five of its actors.

Seniors Tim Schimdt, Jason Knox, Tim Maher, Kyle Richards, and Bob Stiles received "outstanding performer" ratings for their individual acting abilities.

Although 14 schools took part in the AA competition, no certain school came away a sure winner.

"There is no way to determine a winner," said Ms. Zakahai. "It isn't like wrestling where one school comes away a winner; in one-acts you just do your best and hope to get a I+," Zakahi added.

Not only did the students get to watch but since the one-acts were held in Pierre, they also got to help set them up. "I enjoyed all the excitement setting up the plays, and I met new people," said junior Jim Patten.

## Bills affect schools

by Jacinta Wang

Issues ranging from salary increases to school bus colors are being debated in the 1992 South Dakota State Legislature. Most of the bills involve placement of funds, but several directly affect students.

Senate Bill No. 119 would add three days to the school year. However, this bill does not make any provisions for extra pay for school employees. This bill was defeated in the Senate, 13 to 22.

Several bills concern financial aid to students. House Bill No. 1258 is an act to appropriate money to provide tuition assistance to certain students. Senate Bill No. 269 would appropriate money for superior scholar scholarships. Both of these bills were tabled in committee. On a more limited note, House Bill No. 1344, which is currently in committee, is an act to make an appropriation for the Indian scholarship program.

Some bills that have little to do

with learning are also being debated. House Bill No. 1270 will prohibit public school employees from administering medication to students. It was tabled in committee, but there will be a summer study done to decide what to do. House Bill No. 1205 will allow buses from the Head Start program to be painted school bus yellow. This passed both the Senate and the House. It was delivered to the Governor and will most likely be signed.

More than a student's education can be affected by the state legislature. Several bills fund counseling programs. Senate Bill No. 120 appropriates money for the payment of certain juvenile care and detention costs.

These are only a small sample of the bills concerning education in the 1992 Session. Even if most of these were tabled in committee, they signify a trend in upcoming issues. If brought back next year, they may become law. This could change education as we see it today.

## Students prepare projects Science fair approaches

by Stacie Zastrow

Advanced Biology students are working to finish their research and experiments before the night of the science fair arrives.

Jon Gonsor, advanced biology teacher, said, "The science fair is a learning experience. It gives the students a chance to compete in an academic setting instead of an athletic setting."

The students have been preparing their projects since October. "It gives them the opportunity to do research and present the results in a knowledgeable and confident manner," said Gonsor.

Terrariums helped Jenny Murphy, senior, test the affects of the ozone layer's hole on plants. Jon Pier, senior, chose to test the affects of snake venom on blood.

Gonsor said, "the science fair also helps the students to overcome their fears of speaking in front of people."

"At first I thought I would have problems with my presentation.

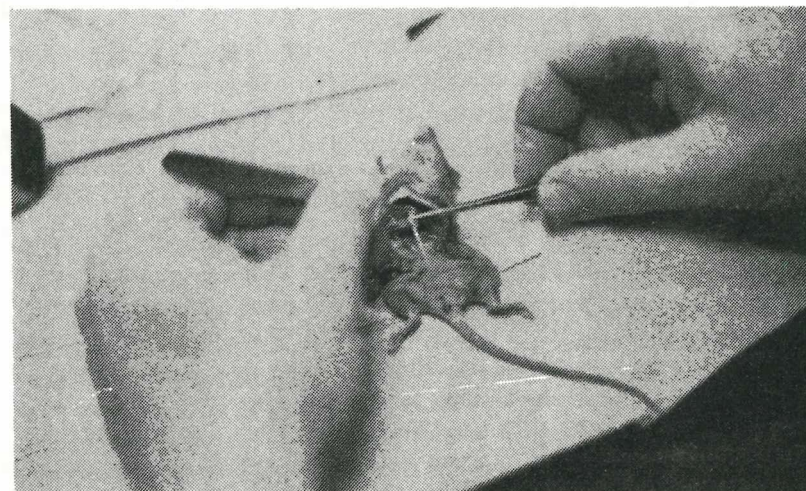
But I have learned so much through my research I don't think I will have any problems," said senior Joby Herrin.

Herrin will present her project dealing with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) to the judges at the fair.

The students become involved with the community through their research, said Gonsor. Through the years they have worked with the State Health Lab, the Department of Water and Natural Resource, the hospital, pharmacies, veterinarians, and doctors.

The students are judged on their projects and also given a grade. "They are rewarded for their efforts," said Gonsor. A junior high school science teacher and two professionals in the science field are chosen to judge.

The science fair will be held on March 10 from 7 to 9 p.m.



Mmmm, mmmm good...An advanced biology student dissects a mouse. (photo by Tim Maher)