

Riggs journalists win awards in state contest

by Molly Robertson

Four Riggs journalists recieved high awards in the annual South Dakota Press Women's Youth Writing Contest.

Juniors Cammy Clark, Molly Robertson, Jessica Vogt, and Krista Lovald were named place winners for stories they wrote and published in this year's *Governor*.

Cammy Clark won second place in three different categories: features, editorials, and sports. Her feature that placed second was a story about Dungeons and Dragons that appeared in the December issue. Clark's editorial on students standing at games and her story on sports injuries also were second-place winners. She also recieved third place for another editorial and honorable mention for a fea-

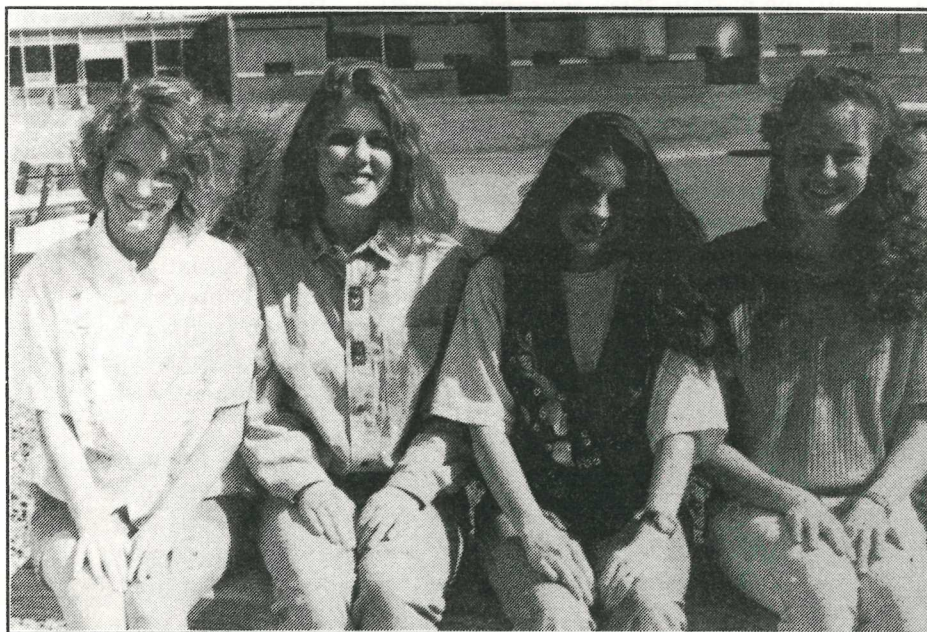
ture about sexual harrassment.

Jessica Vogt's article on teacher's perspectives on cheating that appeared in the January issue of the *Governor* won third place in the features category.

Krista Lovald's story about Erik Nelson's swimming accomplishments won third place in the sports writing competition.

Molly Robertson's article about Pierre's performance on the State Report Card won honorable mention in the newswriting category.

Students from schools across South Dakota competed in the annual contest. Other place winners were from Sioux Falls Roosevelt High School, Brookings High School, Rapid City Central, Brandon Valley High School, Vermillion High School, and Canistota High School.



Juniors Jessica Vogt, Cammy Clark, Molly Robertson, and Krista Lovald recieved S.D. Press Women's Youth Writing Contest awards. (Photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

Myron Bryant named 'Teacher of the Year'

by Jen Hauschild

The National Honors Society of Riggs High School has chosen Myron Bryant as the recipient of the Teacher of the Year award for 1993.

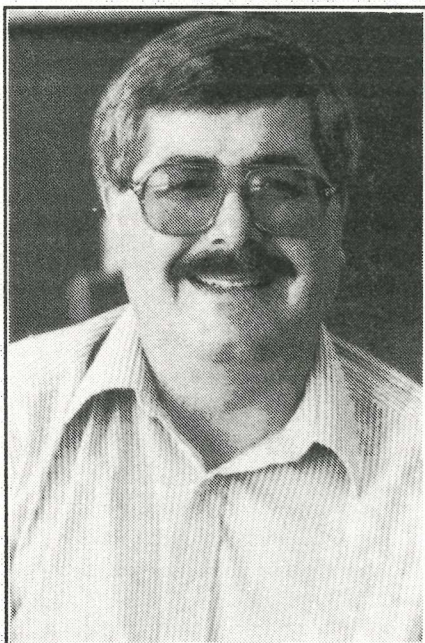
"This kind of thing gives you a good feeling about teaching," said Bryant. "You know the students have respect for you, and it makes teaching worthwhile."

Bryant said he was happy, proud, and surprised when he received the award.

"An award like this keeps a person in the teaching profession," said Bryant. "I hope I have made some major impact on students and their choice of careers."

"I like to work with kids. That's why I chose the teaching profession," said Bryant. "At first I had no intentions of becoming a teacher, but in my junior year at college I changed my mind."

The selection process is done



Myron Bryant was named 1993 Teacher of the Year. (Photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

solely by the students in NHS. They pick three or four teachers as nominees and then vote on them by secret ballot.

Board now to decide school starting time

by Molly Robertson

A bill passed in the South Dakota legislature this session put the control over when school terms begin back into the hands of local school boards. Previous law had prevented schools from beginning classes until after Labor Day. This was to allow for State Fair participants to not miss school.

So does this mean heading back to school in mid-August? Will there be more vacations? According to Riggs principal Roger Lonbaken, no such luck. "Our main goal is to eliminate holding school into June. When we plan our calendar, we will move the starting date back as much as possible. There probably won't be more vacation time; those days are usually pre-determined."

Most of the arguments against this new law come from people concerned about 4-H participants missing school. "A few years ago we had the power to start earlier. Our agriculture program

was stronger, but we still had relatively low numbers of absentees. There is a provision excusing these students for five days, so few absences are reflected," said Lonbaken.

To determine the calendar for Pierre Public Schools, a Pierre Education Association (P.E.A.) committee surveys teachers and administrators. They put together a proposal and submit it to the school board, who approves it.

"Usually the agendas of the school board and the teacher committee are about the same. There might be one or two differences, but we negotiate and don't have a hard time agreeing on a calendar," said Bob Judson, biology teacher and member of the P.E.A. teacher committee.

Most people seem to approve of this new law. Terry Peterson, sophomore English teacher and another member of the committee said, "I think it's a good idea to put the right to decide when to start school in the hands of the local school board and the teachers."

Editorial: school start bill approved by S.D. legislature

The South Dakota Legislature recently passed a bill that allows individual school systems to determine when they want to begin school in the fall.

In the past, by law, every school in South Dakota began after Labor Day. This ensured that students who planned to participate in the State Fair would not miss any school. Now the decision of when to begin has been given back to the local school boards.

This editorial board believes that this is a better system because it allows for individual adjustments. Rural schools that have many students participating in the State Fair can still begin after Labor Day if they want.

The Pierre Public School does not have a large population of rural students that participate in 4-H, so it is unfair to expect the rest of the school to wait until after Labor Day to begin. The majority of the students are in town and ready to start classes. Last year school did not start until September 8 and consequently will not let out until June 4.

School that starts earlier in the fall could allow for more vacations throughout the school year. Teachers and students alike benefit from more frequent breaks. By the time Labor Day rolls around, summer is winding down and students are ready to come back to school. It also allows the seniors to graduate earlier in the spring.

Hopefully this new legislation will allow the Pierre School Board to approve a schedule for next year that will benefit all students.



I'm sorry, but I simply can't push the starting date back for your little event.

What the people say about... starting school before Labor Day



I don't think we should cater to any special groups. If those people in 4-H feel they have to go, then they need to make the sacrifice of missing school.

---Michelle Reinke, senior

I am opposed to it because there seems to be less confusion with activities at the end of summer vacation if all schools start at the same time.

---Teri Hardwick, junior



I don't like it at all there are a lot of people going to the State Fair anyway. We would probably get out of some half days of school because of the heat too.

---Brandi Kebach, sophomore



Governor staff

Published monthly as an extra-curricular activity by the newspaper staff of T. F. Riggs High School, 1010 E. Broadway, Pierre, South Dakota 57501. Telephone 224-5931. Editor-in-chief-----Jen Hauschild Associate editors-----Cammy Clark

Tom Kamnikar

Molly Robertson

Artists-----Kris Erickson

Tom Kamnikar

Photographer-----Stacie Suedkamp

Reporters-----Wendy Birhanzel,

Nathan Brakke, Jamie Clair, Sally

Herrin, John Jordre, Krista Lovald,

Stacie Suedkamp, Sara Torson, Sara

Van Camp, Jessica Vogt

Adviser-----Elizabeth J. Vogt

The policy of the Riggs High Governor is to report the news accurately and objectively and to provide a forum for the expression of its readers' views. Views expressed in the editorial reflect the concerns and opinions of the editorial board and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the individual reporters, editors, adviser, faculty or administration. The staff encourages signed letters to the editor but reserves the right to accept or reject letters and to edit for length, grammar or libel.

Golfers begin season with new coach

by Krista Lovald

Lady Gov golfers will make their debut at the Rapid City Invitational April 6.

The team has a new coach this year, Buchanan elementary teacher Todd Bohls.

"We are not overly experienced, with only four girls returning from varsity. We are hoping to rely on the younger girls to come through for the team," Bohls said.

There are no returning seniors on the team which lost four girls to gradu-

"We are not overly experienced, with only four girls returning from varsity. We are hoping to rely on the younger girls to come through for the team."

golf coach Todd Bohls

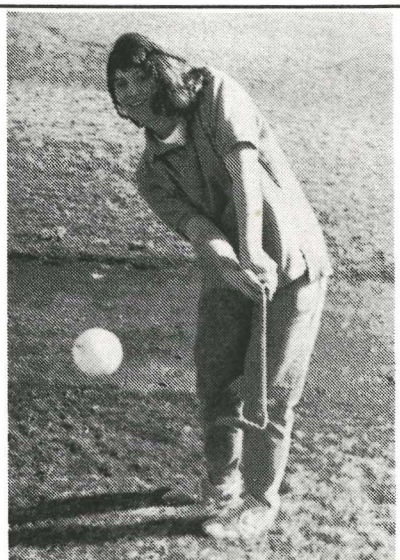
ation last year.

Junior Sara Harens said, "We are a young team, but regions and state are here in Pierre, so we are hoping to hold our own."

Team spots are yet undecided, said

Bohls.

Team members from Riggs include Harens, Wendy Birhanzel, Allison Stout, Shannon Dykstra, Rosanna Solem, and Ann Schroyer.



Allison Stout practices a short-distance shot. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

Tedrow, Miller enjoy coaching "Y" team

by Nathan Brakke

Many kids grow up wanting to be professional basketball players. They start playing when they are in elementary school and play all the way through high school keeping that dream alive. It seems they grow up with a basketball in their hands. Two seniors, Nic Miller and Todd Tedrow, have recently exchanged that ball for a clipboard.

Miller and Tedrow became coaches of a freshman basketball team called the "Pierre Flight" which competes in YMCA tournaments throughout the state. The previous coach, Verne Brakke, turned the team over to Nic and Todd this December, remaining simply as an adviser.

The new coaches' first test came two weeks ago as the "Flight" played in the Watertown Boys & Girls Club Tournament. The team lost to Yankton by about twenty points and then lost to McCook Central in overtime. Miller said, "We lost both games, but they all played hard; the ball just wasn't bouncing our way."

Miller's career record is still a respectable 2-2 though, as he won two games last year filling in for Brakke.

The team's next test will be the Aberdeen YMCA Tournament this weekend. Miller said, "I have no real changes planned for the next games. We will just work on our offensive set and try to cut down on turnovers."

The "Flight" will also be competing in the Pierre YMCA Tournament on April 2 and 3.

When asked why he got into coaching, Miller said, "I always thought that I could do the job better than the

people on TV."

Tedrow explained, "I got into it because I've always been a player, and I wondered what it would be like to be involved in a game from the coach's perspective."

Both have already learned some valuable lessons in their first few games. Tedrow said, "I've learned what we need to focus on in practice in order to win some games." Miller added, "You must treat all the players differently. When you put ten guys on a team you get different attitudes, so we try to mix all them together to come up with the winning combination."

As with most coaches, Tedrow and Miller do a lot of teaching also. Tedrow said, "I teach the players not to talk trash on the court. At this level and most levels, the way to impact the other team is not through their mouths but through their play on the court. I also try to teach teamwork."

Miller said, "I try to teach some of the basics, and I also try to teach them to bond as a team."

Miller and Tedrow have already seemed to develop a coaching philosophy.

Todd said his is that "everyone plays, has fun, works hard, and the rewards will follow. My favorite quote is 'There is no 'I' in team.'" Nic has a similar philosophy: "I believe in giving 110 percent to help your team. I also think that the key is a strong defense that will lead into an explosive offense."

Both Tedrow and Miller seem to be happy coaching. Miller explained, "I love working with kids and having them respect you. I just have a thirst

for the game. I'm a wacko during March Madness."

Tedrow added, "My favorite part is getting to work with the kids. I enjoy it when I feel that I have helped them improve their game. It gives me a good feeling to see their faces and actions when we win. It's just fun to be involved."

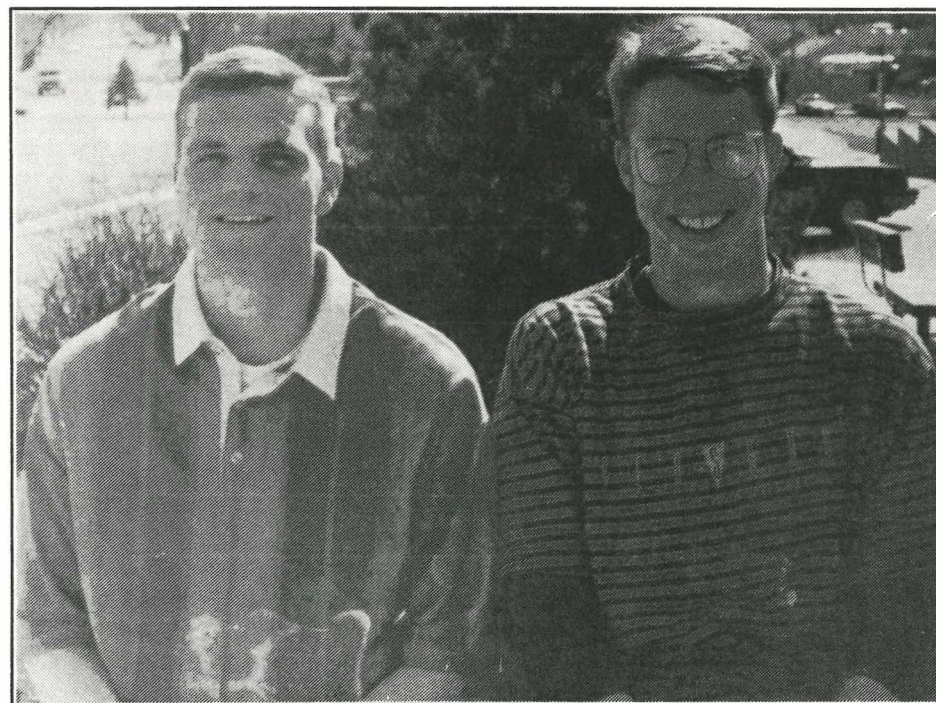
Tedrow says an ideal player is "someone who has heart, hustles, and plays as hard as possible when he's in the game. Nic added, "When I see a good basketball player, he must display a strong desire to lead and be ready to give up his body for the ball. I like hustle and muscle. The more they play physical, the bigger the heart they have. I don't like quitters and

slackers."

As for coaching in the future, Tedrow claims, "I wouldn't get involved in organized coaching because too much stress is involved. Although I would coach teams like my current team—teams that go to the YMCA Tournaments because these tournaments are fun."

Miller had a somewhat different answer. He said, "I would love to have a career in coaching basketball. I love the game and love dealing with kids."

Listening to these guys, it's probably safe to say that those ninth graders love playing for Miller and Tedrow just as much as Miller and Tedrow love coaching them.



Todd Tedrow and Nic Miller have recently taken over the coaching of a ninth grade basketball team.. (photo by Stacie Suedkamp)

Pierre's really not such a bad place after all...

by Nathan Brakke

"I hate Pierre!" Do these words sound familiar? We've all uttered them at those times of sheer desperation that seem to occur all too often here in Pierre. But is Pierre really all that bad?

Most people complain about Pierre because it's such a small town. It may be small, but it's no Blunt or Onida. Pierre's not a big city, either, so we aren't faced with the problems of extreme poverty, crime, pollution, high cost of living, AIDS, and homelessness that people living in big cities have to deal with every day.

Living in a small town has other benefits. Most of the people are friendly. Almost everyone knows each

other. It's so peaceful here. The air is clean, and the people are real. Pierre has to be one of the best places in the state to raise a family. In fact, Pierre was recently rated twelfth in the nation in a book which compared all the small towns in the United States. We must be doing something right!

People complain that there's nothing to do in Pierre. Sure, cities have many attractions that Pierre does not have, but Pierre also has advantages that are lacking in cities. Here in the winter you can go hunting, sledding, ice fishing or go out to ski in the Black Hills. In the summer you can camp, play softball or baseball, golf, fish, water ski or sail.

We take the river for granted. Pierre would truly be boring if it

weren't for the river. The capitol also adds a little something extra.

A lot of students say the worst thing about Pierre is Riggs, but Riggs really isn't that bad either. Most of the teachers are good. The newspaper is interesting. The yearbook is excellent. The IBA and IVB programs are exciting. Homecoming is always a blast. Prom and King of Hearts are usually pretty memorable. Although Riggs doesn't boast many state titles, school spirit has grown to unbelievable heights. The games are always fun. And just like Pierre, Riggs is a good size—not too big and not too small.

Pierre is not perfect though. I admit that I, too, get frustrated and bored. In fact, like a lot of seniors, I

can't wait to get out of this town next fall. But some will come back. Some won't like city life, and some will miss Pierre. Like it or not, to most people, Pierre will always be home.

After all, most of our lives have been spent here. When we look back on our high school days, we won't remember the bad times. We will remember the good times. Sure, we could have had good times living in another town, but it wouldn't have been the same. We wouldn't have met the same people. We wouldn't have shared the same memories. And when it's all said and done, this "stupid" town will be the source of that tear in the corner of our eyes when we pack our bags and leave forever.

In Brief

'Cinderella' cast hard at work

by Krista Lovald

"Cinderella," this year's musical, will be performed by the drama and music departments next month.

The characters have been cast, and rehearsals are underway for the April 26, 27, and 29 performances.

Cinderella will be played by Mandy Johnson opposite the prince played by Jonathan Urbach. The King will be played by Jeremy Joy and Andrea Viken will portray the Queen. Trina Jensen will take on the role of Cinderella's godmother, while Lyndee Clemetson as the stepmother and Angela Hall and Molly Robertson as the stepsisters make up Cinderella's "wicked" stepfamily.

Other cast members include Ryan Knox, Jon Boer, Jeremy Ripperger, Ryan Merriam, Ashly Suedkamp, Allison Mickelson, Jolie Sheppick, Nancy Marbach, Angel Hanson, Sara Harens, Sarah Kringel, Tess Shatek, Cally Winters, Shelley Thorson, Bridget O'Connell, Wendy Birhanzel, Gail Black, Gina Kotilnek, Chuck Bartlett, Matt Ellefson, Chad

Snodgrass, Mike Anderson, Denise Asheim, Ryan Beck, Paula Darger, Guy Erlenbusch, Danielle Hageman, Richard Jackson, Mary Knippling, Denise Kusters, Lachelle Peterson, Jac Pier, Ann Schroyer, Sara Thorson, Sarah Unkenholz, and Kristen Viken.

A pit band composed of student musicians will accompany the production.

FHA to sponsor blood drive

by Cammy Clark

Future Homemakers of America (FHA) will sponsor its second blood drive of the school year on Monday, April 19.

The blood drive will be one day only, from first period to after school, said FHA adviser Darlene Neiles.

Neiles hopes for 75 donors. "Last fall, we were right at 60," said Neiles.

Students who wish to donate blood must be at least 17, in good health, and weigh at least 110 pounds. Each donor receives a thorough pre-donation interview, including a review of medical history and a check of tem-

perature, pulse, blood pressure, and blood iron level.

Students who would like to donate can contact any FHA member or Mrs. Neiles to sign up for a time.

Riggs O.M. team heads for state

by Erin Harmon

An Odyssey of the Mind team from Riggs recently earned first place at regional competition and also a special award for creativity. They now advance to state competition which will be held in Pierre on April 4.

The winner in each division at state advances to a world competition which is to be held in Maryland later this year.

Riggs had only one OM team this year. This team consisting of juniors Andrew Durbin, John Jordre, Erin Harmon, and Scott Kennedy, and sophomore Jamieson Clair, is involved in the "Which End is Up?" problem. They must construct a balsa wood structure that weighs under 18 grams and test it by placing barbell weights on top of it. At regional competition in Spearfish, the structure they built held over 500 pounds.

Odyssey of the Mind is a creative competition involving students in 48 states and over 15 foreign countries.

Juniors to take Stanford tests

by John Jordre

It's testing time once again. Fourth, eighth, and eleventh grade students across the state will take the Stanford Achievement Test on March 31 and April 1.

"These tests are used to measure the student's achievements so far in their learning careers," said guidance counselor Gary Schneider. "We hope the students will look at their scores and plan their senior year and college careers according to their needs."

The test is composed of seven different areas of study: reading, spelling, English, study skills, science, social science, and mathematics.

This is the first year that test takers will be able to use calculators.

Students will take the tests during periods six and seven on March 31 and during periods one through four on April 1.

"We're not giving the tests under ideal conditions," said Schneider. "There are other students at the tables, you have to sit in a folding chair, and there are occasional interruptions, but they are the best conditions we have at this point."