



# T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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Pierre, SD

## District begins study of block scheduling

**R**enovation has changed Riggs in many ways, but the biggest change might be yet to come.

The Pierre school board and Riggs administration are considering a switch to block scheduling from the present schedule at Riggs. The switch might be a way for Riggs to improve itself, said Superintendent John Pedersen.

"Pierre may have outstanding test scores, but we still need to review and see what is best for Pierre students," said Pedersen.

The school board is in the studying stage of block scheduling. They are looking at case studies of block scheduling and talking with students, parents, administrators and superintendents in schools that have it to see its advantages and drawbacks, said Pedersen.

Block scheduling would mean many changes. Instead of having seven 50 minute class periods per day, students would have three or four 90 minute classes per day.

Riggs Principal Mike Fugitt said block scheduling can come in several formats. The two most common types are the four by four and the alternating day.

In four by four, students take three or four full-year classes a semester and then another set

of three or four the next semester.

In the alternating schedule, students have three of four classes one day and then three or four different classes the next day. They alternate days the entire year.

Fugitt says Riggs can use a basic design or design its own. He says we need to look at the pros and cons of each schedule and make sure that it's the best schedule to fit Riggs students.

"A schedule that fits Huron or Mitchell might not fit Riggs," he said.

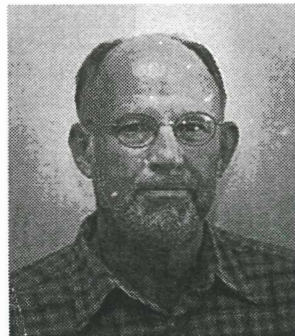
Fugitt believes that Riggs would have less traffic and a better school climate with modular scheduling. He also said that students will have more variety.

"With block scheduling, students can take more classes," said Fugitt.

Pederson claims that relationships between students and staff could be enhanced with block scheduling and that some students benefit from having an easier schedule to manage. The biggest drawback, said Pederson, is the change.

"All humans are leery of change," said Pederson. "The existing schedule works for our students. Do we want to change something that works?"

The only additional costs to block scheduling would be training staff, said Pederson.



Principal Mike Fugitt

"Block scheduling at this time would not cost any more, except [for] staff requirements," he said.

Many students have mixed feeling about block scheduling. Some students are opposed to block scheduling because of the longer class periods and less consistency.

"I wouldn't like being in a class for an hour and a half. It would be really boring," said freshman Kyle Hollingsworth.

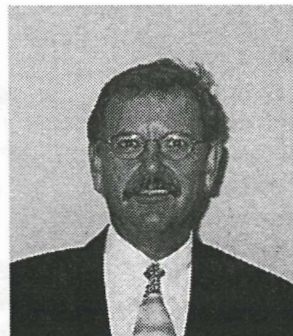
"I think it's a bad idea because things build from day to day, and I wouldn't remember anything," said freshman Carly Feiler.

If the switch were to take place, Pederson doesn't expect it to happen until the fall of 2003.

Many juniors and seniors are indifferent to block scheduling because it will not effect them.

"I am happy that I am graduating because I don't want to have to deal with it," said senior Kristi Tveit.

"It might be cool, but it doesn't really matter because I will be out of



Superintendent John Pedersen

here before anything happens," said junior Michael McEntaffer.

In order to switch to block scheduling, teachers must go through intense training. They would have to adjust from teaching 50 minute classes to 90 minute classes. Fugitt says they have to be able to teach effective lessons in 90 minutes.

"They will have to change their teaching modes," said Fugitt. "They can't rely on lecture."

The music program would really be affected by block scheduling. Band director Larry Johnson said it will interfere with music because students learn drills that need to be repeated day after day. Johnson also said that many music directors in schools with block scheduling do not like it.

"I have talked to directors in Mitchell, Aberdeen, Watertown and Sturgis, and they all say that it has hurt their programs," said Johnson.

Block scheduling

would also negatively affect foreign language classes. Fugitt says that these classes would require modifications to the block.

Although block scheduling might hurt some programs, it would benefit others such as the science department. Block scheduling would allow more time for labs.

"An advantage would be more opportunity for lab work; the disadvantage would be loss of overall class time," said science teacher John Gonsor.

Pierre and Brandon Valley are the only schools in the Eastern South Dakota conference that do not have block scheduling, according to Pederson. The Brandon Valley school board recently turned down block scheduling. Pederson says that the school board will look at Brandon Valley's decision.

Most Brandon Valley students are happy about the decision.

"I was happy because 50 minutes is long enough for a class," said Brandon Valley sophomore Ryan Dump.

Pederson said that most ESD schools are satisfied with block scheduling. Huron's students, who have had block scheduling for many years, are still enjoying it.

Ft. Pierre also has block scheduling. Some students who have trans-

ferred from Ft. Pierre to Pierre prefer Riggs' present schedule.

"I like the schedule we have now because you're not stuck with an hour and a half of a class you don't like," said junior Jake Mortenson. "Here you get a change and more variety."

"I like block better; you get a lot more time to finish things like labs," said junior Jennie Beckwith.

Wade Pogany, an official in the state department of education in Pierre, was the principal of Watertown High School when they were converting to block scheduling. Pogany said many students didn't like the thought of block scheduling at first.

A later poll indicated that 75% liked block scheduling better than they thought they would.

Pogany said that the change was well worth it. Watertown discipline problems went down, but it was a lot of work for teachers and administrators.

"The teachers had to learn to be more hands-on," said Pogany.

Pogany also said that he is glad that Riggs is studying block scheduling.

"I have two girls that attend Pierre schools, and I would like to see them in block scheduling someday," he said.

by Heather Mangan



## Block Scheduling debate heats up at Riggs

Block scheduling is an extremely complicated subject. Whether it would benefit Riggs or not depends on the reasons why we would have it in the first place.

It is questionable as to why the administration and school board are currently considering block scheduling. Would it improve the academic performance of students, or is it simply being considered as a budgetary solution to diminishing resources?

Riggs students consistently rank high in all measures of academic testing in South Dakota. Why jeopardize the quality of education by changing the system? We're reminded of the old proverb, "If it's not broken, don't fix it."

Administrators say they want students to have a better opportunity to take more classes. In theory, this sounds good. However, who is going to teach these extra classes? If no additional teachers are hired, that means that each teacher's work load will be heavier.

In the alternating day type of block scheduling, teachers would teach three classes one day and

three different classes the next. Teachers currently teach five classes daily with two prep periods.

With block scheduling, each teacher would be teaching an extra class, having more total students and more total paperwork. Would this improve instruction?

In the quest to make the right choice concerning this issue, block scheduling's effect on programs should be considered. Food and consumer science courses and laboratory science courses would probably benefit most from longer

class periods, but English and foreign language classes would suffer.

Some benefits of block scheduling can be found. A majority of the schools that have block scheduling say that problems with student discipline decreased when they changed their scheduling. With students changing classes fewer times a day, there is a decrease in the number of opportunities for them to be tardy or get in trouble between classes.

Longer class periods may also help to better prepare students for col-

lege, since their class period make-up is similar to that of block scheduling.

Fewer tardies and better preparation may help, but they probably won't turn Riggs into the "School of the Year" or improve test scores.

Block scheduling deserves a closer look if it can truly improve instruction and student achievement.

However, if it is simply an answer to a financial problem, the school board needs to grapple with their financial difficulties differently.



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## Watchman, what of the night?

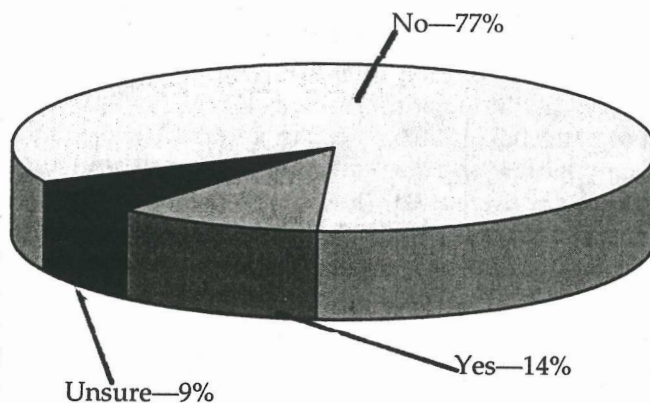
Do you think block scheduling would improve students' education at Riggs High School?



"Using block scheduling only helps the school's budget. I think Stanely County's test scores prove that block scheduling will NOT improve a student's education."—senior Josh Vogt



"I think if we switched over to block scheduling, the students and teachers would be bored easier, and they wouldn't be as productive."—sophomore Niki Fergen



"I think we're doing just fine the way we are. We are one of the top schools in the states. Besides not many students would like it."—junior Zack Frisby



"I don't see how block scheduling would be any better than what we're using now. It's easier to learn with shorter periods, anyway."—senior Hana Bloomberg





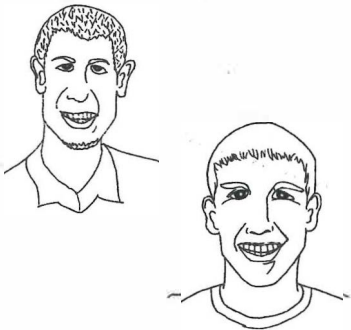
Anchorman risks life for news

Gotham Chopra— everyone knows this news anchor from Channel One news. We agree that a hair-raising question surrounds him: Is Gotham a man of adventure or the next tragic news story waiting to happen?

If you've been paying any attention to Channel One, you've noticed the Hacienda has at times lacked a familiar face. We decided to investigate the absence of Mr. Chopra.

Chopra has been doing quite a bit of fieldwork lately. At the beginning of the year, he was risking his life in Kashmir, a very, very, violent corner of the world. At times, he and his cameraman would have to duck because of cross fire.

After returning from Kashmir, he was packed up and sent off to Ground Zero, yet another very unstable place. Just imag-



Evan Roth & Erik Gilbertson  
Ex-Presidential Poppycock

ine how easily Gotham could have been hit by debris falling from the piles of rubble or perhaps fallen into a huge, ominous crater.

Even after all this dangerous news casting, Channel One wasn't done with Gotham. After learning of Wall Street Journal reporter

Daniel Pearl's kidnapping, Copra gets his next assignment: Karachi, the site of the kidnapping.

With nothing but headlines in mind, Channel One lets loose one of their most valuable reporters into a land where reporters get kidnapped! What's wrong with these people? Maybe we are just getting emotionally wrapped up in this, and Gotham truly is a man of adventure. But next time when he's reporting, note the fear in his eyes as he wonders if he'll be the next victim.

Help us take action for Gotham: Go to ChannelOne.com and tell them to send Gotham home, where no shrapnel can hit him, and back to the Hacienda.

Hallpasses disgust students



Max Huber  
Random Thoughts from  
the Village Idiot

Gross. Sick. Disgusting. These are just a few of the words I can use to explain how I feel about the bathroom/hall passes. Now I know I may upset some people in the school by writing about this, but for the sake of the student body, something needs to be said.

I am not the only one that disagrees with the use of these passes. I have also heard many complaints from my fellow classmates.

Not only are the students of Riggs High old enough to get around the school without a laminated red or green piece of paper, but just the thought of where these passes have been is enough for one to lose his or her lunch.

Let us just imagine this scenario: Joe Schmo decides in the middle of chemistry class that nature is calling and calling hard. He runs to the front of the class, grabs the pass and hurries off to the restroom.

After "doing what people do in the bathroom area," Joe

hurriedly grabs the pass and runs back to class so as not to miss more of Mr. Gonsor's lecture for that day.

Once back in the room, Joe Schmo puts the pass back on the desk and returns to his/her seat.

However, it seems Joe has forgotten to wash his hands and has now infected this "harmless" hall pass with vile, disgusting germs.

Now the next person to take this pass, let's call him Bob Slob, grabs this "germ pass" and takes off to the drinking fountain. Bob has no idea that he should now wash his hands because he has only taken a drink from the fountain. Unfortunately, Bob goes on with his day spreading germs. Hopefully Bob doesn't get hungry and decide to have some lunch without washing his hands. I think you know what I'm getting at from here.

So am I just an idiot, or do we need to rid Riggs High of "germ-carrying-hall-passes"?

King of Hearts dance goes well

The dresses, tuxes and dancing of this past weekend could have meant only one thing: the King of Hearts dance.

The dance was hosted by the Job's Daughters on Sunday night at the Boys and Girls Club.

The dance was scheduled to begin at 9 p.m. and end at 1 a.m. The DJ's played many good songs, but not very many that one could dance to. There were also lots of slow songs, but I won't comment on that.

There was a wide variety of candidates for the King, and Kevin Yackley of Sully Buttes



Gerda Jorgenson  
From A Redhead's Mind

ended up with the crown. Shortly after Yackley was crowned, the dance stopped, 45 minutes early! There wasn't even a reason for this

to happen! This left a lot of people including myself, quite upset. That's almost \$5 worth of the dance just wasted.

All in all, I thought the dance went over really well. There will always be the last minute plan changes, those few hairs that just won't go into place and the embarrassment of tripping over your heels, but these events are bound to occur. The main point of the dance is to try to have fun, and if you try to, you will. As for me, I did.

FRESHMAN

KOH FROM (h-e-double hockey sticks)

Ready?

his idea of a tux...

It looked okay a week ago...

your corsage...

So much for the dress...

dinner...

It was all a dream

Sunday Morning

Heghan-Larson 2002



# Ever heard 'There's nothi

## Wacky ideas break monotony of winter blues

**L**iving in a smaller town brings its advantages and disadvantages, one of the disadvantages sometimes being the lack of new things to do. However, students can get around this problem by just being creative.

Nature presents some great activities to try.

Star gazing is fun and easy to do in South Dakota because there aren't many city lights getting in the way. Try getting together with a group of friends on a clear night and relax while picking out constellations.

Picnics are also a nice change of pace from the regular lunch. Some sunshine along with a blanket provide the beginnings to a great lunch, but be sure that the Canada geese don't get hold of your food.

Telephone Booth Stuffing, an art long forgotten, could be an event to try. All that is needed is a sturdy telephone booth and a bunch of friends. Then just start squeezing people inside. This fad, which swept the country during the 1950's, was started in South Africa in 1959 where 25 students were able to pack into a booth. If telephone booths aren't handy, try using a car instead.

If you are a person who likes to reach new heights, flagpole sitting is just the activity for you. In 1924, Alvin Kelly decided to attempt this after a dare from a Hollywood friend. He earned the nickname "King of the Pole" and set a record in Atlantic City, NJ, where he sat atop a flagpole for 49 days.

Some projects can be productive and self-entertaining at the same time.

Candlemaking is a great way to pass the time, along with stamping your own cards. Materials for these and others

crafts can be found at Wal-Mart.

Is your mother constantly watching the news and waiting for the world to end? Why not be prepared for anything — build a bomb shelter! You can go all out and add necessities and supplies in case you actually do use the shelter. This will provide you with something to do and also give some relief to your mom.

You can also try taking up a new hobby.

All of the pictures lying around your room can actually be put to use by combining them together in a book. Scrapbooking is a fun way to spend time and put into use your artistic talents.

Juggling is very easy to do; it just takes a little practice. All you need is an object to juggle and some time to perfect your throw and catch.

If your hand-eye coordination isn't the greatest, you can always try cooking. There are millions of great new recipes

out there to try. A fun twist on cooking would be to have a contest with your friends and have your parents as the judges.

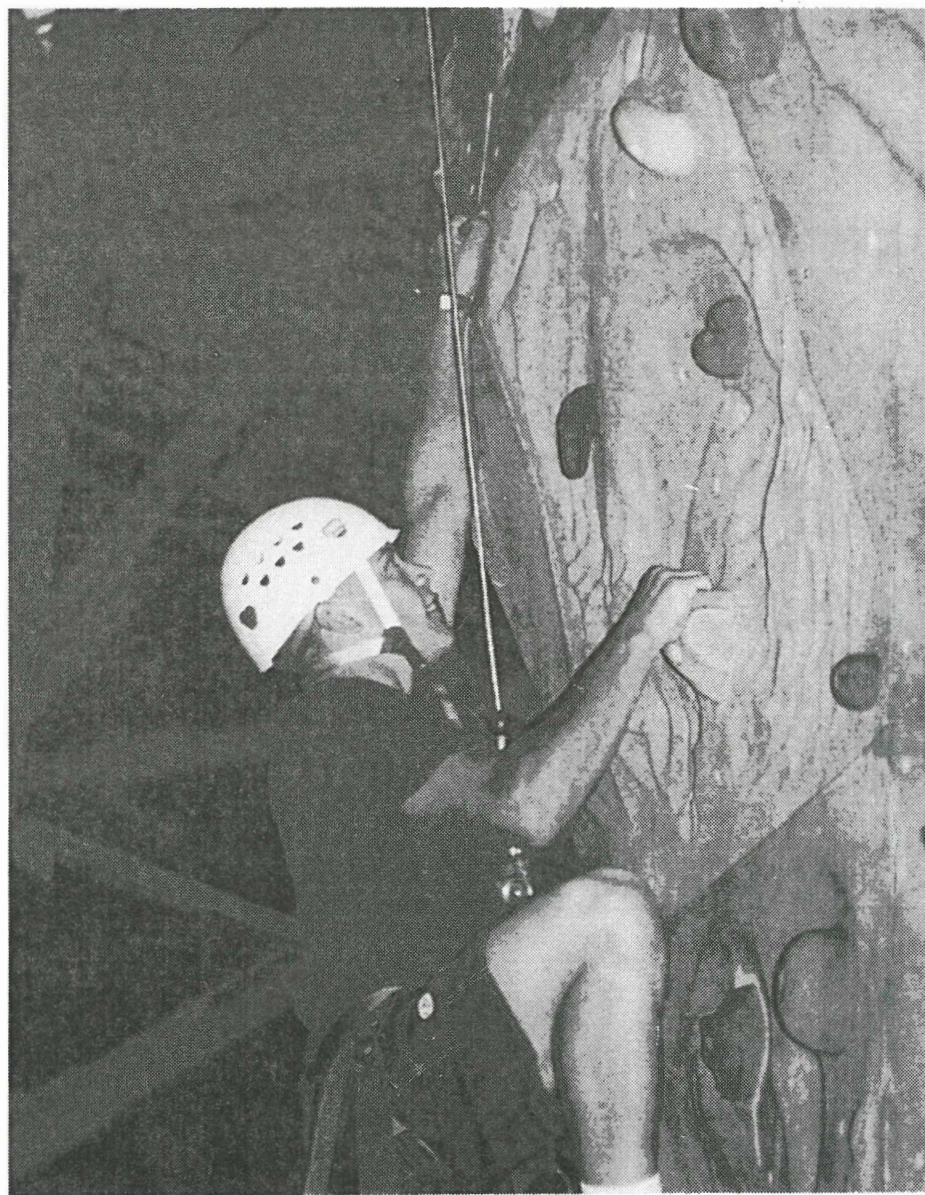
Some of the greatest things to do may just be right in front of you at home.

Sparky or Garfield can provide some great entertainment, and can even earn you some bucks. You can easily teach young Sparky some new tricks, such as chasing your cat up a tree, and then enter him in the next dog show.

Instead of watching your favorite t.v. show, why not create one of your own? Who knows, you might end up with a drama that rivals "Friends."

If none of these ideas have sparked your interest, maybe your mission in life really is to sit on the couch all day. Be sure to make the best of it and turn on some South Dakota Public Television.

by BryAnn Becker



WHO SAID WHITE MEN CAN'T JUMP?...Senior Matt Dayton hangs from his basketball hoop after school. Basketball is a great way to have fun and get exercise. (photo by Gerda Jorgenson.)

## Shape up or ship out:

## Students have new opt

During the winter, it's hard not to just sit at home and watch t.v., but there are actually some fun activities in Pierre that you can try.

While most students are aware that the YMCA has a weight room and cardio machines, they may not know of the fitness classes they provide.

Classes such as cardio plus, strength, step plus and power strength are offered through the YMCA. Energizing music provides the background to a fun work-out in these classes that usually last an hour.

Karla Seyer, head aerobics instructor at the Y, says that high schoolers should be interested in taking these classes.

"They [high school students] can get strength training and cardio all in one class," says Seyer. "The classes also help you to stay flexible."

New workouts such as kickboxing, yoga and pilates are also offered at the Y.

Kickboxing is a unique workout that is gaining popularity across the U.S. A yoga class can give a different approach at fitness though relax-

ing and stretching, pilates involves strength exercises for the whole

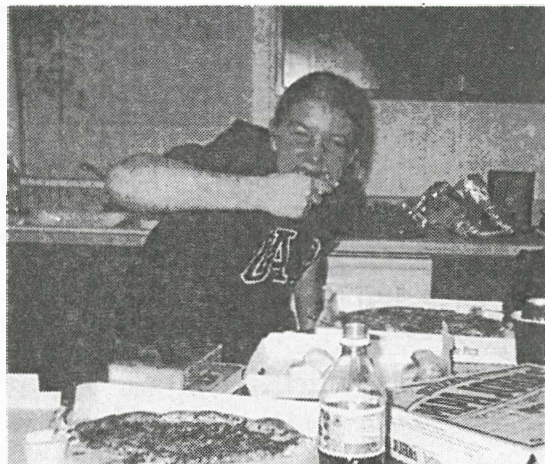
"The Challenge" is a new class at the Y. It is boot-camp style with courses and stations designed to get you into great shape.

All of these classes are attended by anyone who wants to exercise. Whether you are experienced or a beginner, they are experienced ones. "Most of the programs cater to all levels," says Seyer.

Whether you prefer your exercise at the beginning of your day or later in the day, there is an exercise for you.



# ing to do?' Think again!



far left—HANG ON!...Senior Nick Johnson climbs "The Rock" while out of town with his friends. Rock climbing is a popular activity and fun pastime.

left—STUFF THAT FACE...Senior Anita Nicholas pigs out by herself on a Friday night. For people who just need some down time, renting a movie and ordering pizza is a perfect way to spend the evening.

below—SOMEONE GIVE ME A PUSH!...Senior Aubrey Hunt hangs out in the park, burning off energy and taking advantage of the nice weather after a long day at school. (photos by Gerda Jorgenson)



## Volunteering offers a chance to help others

Imagine spending time doing something in which you make yourself and other people feel better. Sound impossible? Think again.

Volunteering is a great activity in which you can help others and have fun doing it at the same time. It is also a good way to chase away boredom and experience something new.

There are many opportunities in Pierre in which you can give of yourself. Everyone can find an activity that meets his or her interests and talents.

If you enjoy working with kids, many facilities in the community are in need of help.

The Boys and Girls Club could use people to work in their Net Center computer room, fitness and recreational programs in the gym and game room, and educational programs such as Power Hour. Jerry Oberg, director of the club, mentions that volunteering is both fun and looks good on applications.

The Healthy Community/Healthy Youth Mentoring Team is in need of teens ages 16 or over to read to children at the Eastside Neighborhood Center on Thursdays from 4-4:30 p.m. If you're interested in this opportunity, contact Kristie Maher at 224-8295.

Many places in the community are also in need of help in providing their services.

The Discovery Center and Aquarium is asking for help with greeting guests, assisting guests with exhibits, working in the Discovery store, helping with birthday parties, designing exhibits and teaching science workshops. They could use volunteers at any time, whether it be after school or on the weekend.

If you're interested in working with history and like being around people, the Cultural

*"It's important to give back to the community. When you help others through volunteering you feel better about yourself." —Darlene Neiles*

Heritage Center would be a great place to volunteer. Teens ages 16-20 are needed to work in the South Dakota Heritage Store, give tours or work in the museum. Customer service skills and computer or history knowledge are a plus to have for this job but are not required.

Working at a Boys and Girls Club Dance is another way to have fun and socialize while helping others. People are needed to work in the coat room and help in the concessions area during dances. Those who work receive free admittance to the dance. If you're interested in volunteering at any of the activities mentioned, contact Jerry Oberg at 224-8699.

The Missouri Shores Domestic Violence Center is in need of help to manage donations made to the center. There are no age requirements and the responsibilities include sorting, processing, and storing donated items. Contact Jean Moody-Putnam at 224-0256 if you are interested.

Volunteering is a way to get out of your comfort zone and meet new people in the community.

*"It's important to give back to the community. When you help others through volunteering you feel better about yourself," says Darlene Neiles, family and consumer science teacher.*

by BryAnn Becker

## tions to get back in shape

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you. Fitness classes are offered early mornings, evenings, and weekends.

The cost of the classes range from \$5 for once a week to \$18 for a class three times a week for members, and from \$14-40 for non-members.

Fitness classes provide people with a way to get in shape while having fun. Those interested don't have to wait until a new session begins; jump into a class right away! Get together with a group of your friends today and join a class that interests you.

Another opportunity to escape the "winter blues" is to ice skate.

The Oahe Expo Center, located in Fort Pierre, is the site of hockey and figure skating practice. However, many students do not know that open skating is also offered at the rink.

Open skate is offered for the public four times a week at no charge. All you need is a good pair of hockey or figure skates to have a great time.

"It's fun going to open skate because there's a lot of people

that I know to talk to there," says senior Mackenzie Kusser.

The rink's open skate times are on Sundays from 6-8:30 p.m., Mondays from 7:45-9 p.m., Wednesdays from 5:45-7:15 p.m., and Fridays from 5:45-9 p.m.

Open skating continues until the end of March when the rink closes.

Skating presents a different activity for students to take part in while waiting for spring to arrive.

by BryAnn Becker





Tyler Merriam

The Merm Made Sports Column.

## The role of sportscasters

"What role do sportscasters play in sports?"

Being a color commentator for Governor football and Post 8 baseball, along with other experiences, I've had the pleasure of doing my share of work in sports journalism and getting to know anyone who's anyone in the business.

"What is my role in sports?" I kept asking myself.

As a Governor football color commentator, it's numerous things.

With my position as a team manager and being at every practice, I am able to learn the in's and out's of the squad, and learn the game plans.

I do my best to learn everything about the next opponent and what coach Gusso and his staff plan on doing against them.

I then present that in my job as a "color analyst," trying to "analyze" the game, while providing some humor, or "color" to the broadcast.

"Yes, that's my job description, but what role do I play for everyone that listens?" I again pondered, something Venner would be proud of.

I found the answer to be so simple yet so complicated. I am the eyes and ears of everyone listening.

It doesn't matter if it's the parent of a quarterback who can't come to the game or a fan who brings a radio to the game.

I provide them with a perspective few could offer. I may be a little selfish in this thought, but I am as close to the guys as anyone else outside, let me repeat, OUTSIDE, the team.

I am not a part of the team. I don't claim to be. I carry tackle kits and I hold a laptop. The team goes on without me, and probably much happier (wink, wink).

Nevertheless, I am there, always talking to the guys, always trying to learn things no one else would know.

My role is to present as many facts during the game that people who didn't listen wouldn't ever hear.

I also provide a perspective of the game that differs from theirs, one that is strictly impartial when it comes to analyzing the event; however, when it comes down to it, it's obvious I want the team to win.

My role as a sportscaster...well, to be totally honest, I still am not sure.

Maybe I am supposed to be the eyes of people who can't be there, maybe I'm a voice of confidence, or just a voice of comfort for people by just knowing I'm on.

I don't know why I am in the sports journalism business, but it sure beats the heck out of other jobs.

Besides, watching sports isn't a job; it's a privilege.

## Magedanz sets IBA scoring record

Records are meant to be broken, and what IBAers consider one of the most prestigious in the history of T.F. Riggs High School has just been shattered.

Senior Charlie Magedanz set the single game scoring record by racking up 65 points in the Prime Time Divisional Challenge against Team Gilbertson on February 5.

The previous mark, established by former IBA star Jordan Jarvis, was set at 58 points in a single game and was often thought of as unbreakable.

Until Jarvis came along, 50 points was the standing record. But this record is no exception to the rule.

"It was a tremendous feeling. It was quite an experience taking the scoring title to new level. I don't think many people thought it was

possible to score much more than 50 points in one game.

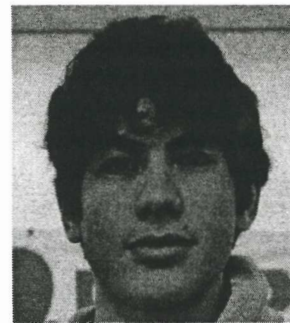
"But that night when I broke the infamous IBAer Jordan Jarvis' record of 58, I started to turn some heads in the IBA world," says Magedanz.

The rise in popularity of the IBA has subsequently raised the bar on the level of play in the league.

Players in the league can range from former Governor basketball players to people who've never picked up a basketball.

Magedanz, who led the IBA in scoring by averaging 45.2 points per game, has been playing the game of basketball all of his life.

However, he has never had a game like this before. That game will be long remembered throughout the IBA community.



HE SHOOTS, HE SCORES...Charlie Magedanz, new holder of the IBA scoring record, poses for a picture. (photo by Gerda Jorgenson)

"Well, during the game I took the basketball and, in various ways, put it through the cylinder. By doing this many times, I broke the scoring mark."

Magedanz received the Prime Time Player of the Year award given to the best player in the IBA.

He says he didn't even know he was approaching the record before being alerted by the crowd and fellow basketball players.

"I didn't know I was scoring that many points until halftime, when I was told I had 26. I wasn't even aware of the record I was approaching until people in the crowd started yelling to me.

"I knew I could score a large amount of points and the only question was when. I guess that night was the time because I was unstoppable.

"I couldn't even stop myself. I didn't get nervous when I got closer and closer to the record. I just kept doing what I had been doing the whole game."

Magedanz' record was amazing, and not many school basketball players could perform at the high level that Magedanz that night.

Many now think that this record is impossible to break, but we all know how the saying goes.

by Pat Anderson

## SCHIEF'S VARSITY SPORTS SCOREBOARD

### Boys Basketball

**Current Record:** 8-8

**Last 2 Games:** defeated Brookings 69-52 last Friday; lost to top-ranked Spearfish 61-50.

**Next 2 Games:** host Watertown tonight; in Yankton to end season tomorrow night.

**Notable Performance:** Senior Nic Hogan needs just eight more 3-pointers to break the Governor school record for career 3's.

### Girls Hockey

**Last Weekend:** lost to Mitchell 2-1 Saturday; defeated Aberdeen 6-3 Sunday.

**This Weekend:** at Watertown tomorrow.

**Notable Performances:** The team, currently 13-8 overall and 7-5 in the South Dakota High School Hockey Association, has won 8 of their last 9 games.

### Volleyball

**Last Week:** defeated Sturgis 2-0 in Tuesday's home match.

**This Weekend:** Eastern South Dakota conference tournament in Brookings Saturday.

**Coach's Comment:** "We will be matched up against No. 1 Aberdeen in the first round, which will be tough, but we played really well Tuesday, so hopefully we'll be ready."

—Coach Kim Bierle

### Gymnastics

**Last Meet:** The Lady Govs struggled at the state meet in Huron two weekends ago.

**Notable Performances:** Kara Kurth placed highest for the Lady Govs, getting 21st overall. **Coach's Comment:** "We didn't end the season as well as we would have wanted, but I was proud of my girls." —Coach Cliff Jorgenson

### Wrestling

**Last Weekend:** 12 of 13 wrestlers qualified for the individual state tournament; the squad qualified for the dual tournament

**This Weekend:** Individual state tournament in Watertown today and tomorrow

**Coach's Comment:** "Our guys did a great job. They worked hard and have come a long way." —Coach Rick Jensen

### Boys Hockey

**Last Weekend:** Lost two games in Sioux Falls against the Orange team.

**Next Weekend:** The Capitals are in Minot, North Dakota for a Saturday contest.

**Coach's Comment:** "We played well against Huron, but Huron proved why they are good." —Coach Rob Kittay

compiled by Jenna Schiefelbein



# Wrestlers have 13 individuals, team qualify for state

Many wrestlers have been looking forward to the state dual and individual tournaments all season, hoping to see all their hard work and determination pay off.

The wrestlers agree that they've had a long, rough season, but it's been pretty good overall for them as a team.

Only two wrestlers won championships in the regional tournament: junior Dan Swenson at heavyweight and senior Dalton Decker at 215 pounds.

Thirteen of their 14 wrestlers qualified for the state individual tournament in Watertown today and tomorrow.

The squad was also good enough to reach the state dual tournament, only in its second year of existence, coming in as

the No. 8 seed. They took on top-seeded Sturgis in the first round yesterday.

Swenson was one of two Governors to win his division at the regional tournament this past weekend.

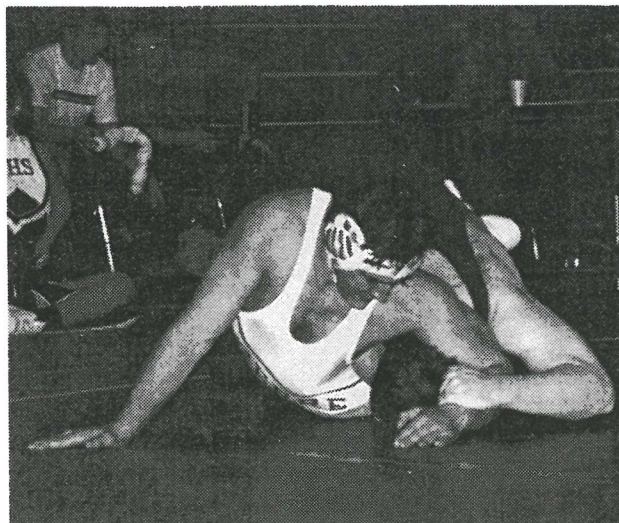
Swenson was asked how he thought the team was doing.

"We've come a long way, and the team has improved a lot. Now, we look to make aim for ourselves at state," said Swenson.

Out of everything that takes place in wrestling, the team mostly enjoys going on bus trips.

"I think some of the best times of our lives have been on the bus trips," says senior Matt Englund.

"I enjoy the competitive nature of the sport, the satisfaction of win-



**THAT'S GOTTA HURT!...**Senior Brandon Deffenbaugh grapples with an opponent in the championship match of the regional held last Saturday in the Riggs High Gym. Deffenbaugh placed second at 171 pounds. (photo by Mallori Barnett)

ning," added Swenson.

Although most of the team gets along and has a good time, they have their rough times as well. Currently the squad says their toughest opponent is Watertown.

Sophomore Torey Garrett simply explains "they're good."

As for individuals, Swenson says his toughest opponent is Aberdeen Central's Ryan Kotzea.

"He's huge," says the

Governor heavyweight.

Injuries have also been a drawback for the squad this year.

Senior Russ Hofeldt can't wrestle, as he will have surgery done on his knee in the near future.

Englund previously had a knee injury and has taken the precaution not to make it worse by wearing a special brace.

Swenson has been recovering from several injuries, one being his elbow that actually was first injured during the football season.

The wrestlers are aware of what they need to concentrate on to win this weekend. However, each wrestler has something different to focus on.

Overall, one of the most important things the team encourages is to

start young and hit the weights.

"Pay attention to detail and learn the basics. Ninety percent of what you do is what you learned in elementary and junior high. Being good depends on who practices the right techniques the most, the hardest, the best," says Swenson.

"Two things that we can take from wrestling and apply to life would be the hard work ethic and the self-discipline that you can ensure in yourself as an individual," Englund adds.

If the Governors use the hard work ethic and self-discipline, they should do well in Watertown for this year's state tournament.

by Tiffany Murtland

## Not interested in basketball or hockey?

# Indoor soccer provides an entertaining alternative

Indoor soccer is becoming a popular winter sport for year-round soccer players.

It is a fast-paced, physical, high-scoring, shortened version of the outdoor game.

In fact, it is preferred by most players over the full field, full length version.

Indoor games typically include four field players and one keeper (goalie) per team.

Games are 40 minutes long with two twenty minute halves. There is a three minute half-time and seven minutes allotted between each games.

The games are orchestrated over an intercom with a central time keeper. This helps keep games on schedule.

Games are played on fields that range in size from a little larger than a tennis court to a little smaller than a basketball court.

The surfaces of the fields include basketball floors, indoor track facilities, indoor tennis courts, artificial turf, and

sport court, which is a lego type tile.

Indoor soccer is regulated by two main associations, FIFA and FUTSAL.

FIFA (Federal International Football Association) is also the regulating body for outdoor soccer.

The FIFA indoor regulations are more closely aligned to the outdoor regulations than the FUTSAL indoor regulations.

FUTSAL is a game that is half soccer, half hockey, but unfortunately without the physicality of either.

Teams from Pierre have played both, and the FIFA version is favored.

The Pierre indoor soccer season spans from mid-December to mid-March with a varying number of tournaments, depending on how far a team wants to travel.

The Rushmore Soccer Club in Rapid City and the Spearfish Soccer Club both offer two FIFA indoor tournaments a



**SAY 'CHEESE'...**The Pierre U19 indoor soccer team placed third at the Spearfish Winter Classic earlier this year. Front row: Bronson Blow, Chris Fry, Colin Brown. Back row: Shawn Ludemann, Dustin Bonnett, Jake Mortenson, Brady Neiles, Sheridan Cronin, and coach Curt Mortenson. (courtesy photo)

year.

"I like Spearfish and Rapid soccer more just because that's what I'm used to," says Emily Zarecky, a sophomore member of the U16 girls team.

Other regional tournament hosts who have FUTSAL style

tournaments include Bismarck, Sioux Falls and Huron.

There are also many other tournaments throughout the country.

Riggs High boasts two teams: one under 16 girls team composed of sophomores and

freshmen, and one under 19 boys team composed of freshmen in high school to freshmen in college.

Both teams go to tournaments throughout the region and are generally superior to their competition.

Each team has won tournaments in Rapid City and Spearfish throughout the years.

Their next action is this weekend in Bismarck, ND.

Indoor soccer is, for most soccer players, the perfect alternative to outdoor.

Junior Dustin Bonnett, U19 boys indoor soccer player, talked about the advantages of indoor soccer as opposed to outdoor.

"It creates more scoring, dribbling and touches on the ball for each individual player. It is a good game for players to have a little fun while developing their motor skills."

by Jake Mortenson



# Our own hero: School officer helps at Ground Zero

Heroes have emerged from some of the least likely places since the tragedy our nation faced on September 11. One such hero is found right here in our own school.

High school resource officer Charlie Wharton went to work for the New York Police Department at Ground Zero last month to help aid the round-the-clock officers and volunteers that work on the site of the collapsed World Trade Center.

Wharton is part of the Central South Dakota Critical Incident Stress Management team, and along with three other team members from Pierre, went to New York on Saturday, January 5, and stayed 10 days before returning home. The team submitted an application to go to New York to help at Ground Zero and was accepted. The City of Pierre and Hughes County donated the



**UNITED WE STAND...** Pierre police officer Mark Broer, Hughes County Sheriff Mike Leidholt, high school resource officer Charlie Wharton and counselor Julie Darger represented Pierre in New York last month by working at the site of the September 11 tragedy. (courtesy photo)

money, and the team was trained on what to do.

The team's responsibility in New York was to help debrief the men and women who work on the scene of Ground Zero. Debriefing is a means of stress-relief, and many of the police officers, fire fighters and emergency

medical personnel at the site need the debriefings to help themselves cope with what they are faced with everyday.

Wharton, along with the other members of his team, spent the day at different precincts, talking to officers. This gave the chance for many troubled

officers to open up about their experiences and talk about the impact this attack has had on their lives.

The main objective of the debriefings was to reduce the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder. The debriefings were mainly started after the attack because of what

happened to the officers who helped after the Oklahoma City bombing in 1996. Those officers were not debriefed and therefore suicide rates, divorce rates and alcohol-related problems later ranked high among the officers that worked the site and suffered from sensory overload.

Hopefully, the debriefings that Wharton took place in will help minimize these problems among the officers in New York.

While in New York, several things made a lasting impression on Wharton.

"One of the most interesting things to observe was the way Ground Zero was portrayed as more of a construction site than a place where something had been destroyed," Wharton said. "Also, the devastation was incredible. It is completely normal for 16

acres of absolutely nothing to be sitting out here in South Dakota, but when an area is that void in the middle of Manhattan surrounded by 50-story buildings, it is really out of place."

Wharton said one of the things that impressed him the most was the resiliency of the New Yorkers, from police officers to citizens to politicians. He said they were on the rebound and had a positive attitude among the death and destruction.

"The entire experience was incredible," said Wharton. "If you made an impact on just one person, you feel like you've done your job."

Although he felt like he made a difference, he did leave with one regret—he couldn't take away the pain.

by Dakota Bixler

## Roger Johnson honored as 'Tech Ed Teacher of the Year'

Technical education teacher Roger Johnson has been named the teacher of the year by the South Dakota Technology Education Association. Johnson serves as a teacher at both Riggs and Georgia Morse Middle School.

Johnson has also been accepted to receive the Teaching Excellence Award given by the International Technology Education Association. Johnson will receive the award at the

association's conference on March 15 in Columbus, OH.

To be chosen as teacher of the year, Johnson was nominated by a fellow educator. Then, the association finalized who receives the award at the association's annual meeting.

To be nominated for the Teaching Excellence Award, applicants submitted an application with information on their technology education teaching background.

In addition to receiving an award



Teacher Roger Johnson

from the South Dakota Technology Education Association, Johnson serves as the association's president. SDTEA's main purpose is to promote technical education throughout the state.

Technical education has been offered in Pierre since 1990. Pierre was the second

"larger" school to offer this class, Sioux Falls being the first. Of his 28 years in education, he has taught 24 years here in Pierre with 12 in teaching technical education.

"He [Johnson] provides the classes with interesting lessons and puts the emphasis on learning the modules," Fugitt says.

"We are happy to be able to offer these classes for the students."

by Jessica Callahan

## PEP group talks to middle school students about sex issues

"Have you ever had sex? What are the symptoms of STD's? What are your views on abortion?" These questions and many others greeted the P.E.P group on January 27 when they visited the middle school.

P.E.P stands for Preventing Early Pregnancy, and the group consists of seniors Sean Corcoran, Hannah Waack, Kayla Klemann, Craig Schochenmaier and Bryan Beringer and junior Trevor Fisher. They performed all day January 27 to groups of big-eyed eighth graders at the middle school.

"Their purpose

was to expose the younger kids to pressures that they might face or already do and give them some options," said Krist Sanchez, a counselor at the middle school.

The group made up a skit that portrays typical problems teens might face. The skit is about a girl who was in trouble at home and is pressured by her boyfriend to have sex. The skit had two different endings, one where she said "yes" and the other where she said "no." This way, the kids saw both sides of the situation.

After the skit, the eighth graders wrote

down questions for the P.E.P group to answer. The kids felt free enough to ask a wide range of questions about sex and high school.

"We had basically the same questions from each class," Beringer says.

Overall, the group really enjoyed it.

"I hope the kids learned a lot because I learned from them," says Schochenmaier.

The group doesn't know if they will be performing again, but if they don't, they will still have lasting memories from their day at Morse Middle School.

by Hannah Waack