



T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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Pierre, SD

Classroom addition opens: Students dislike new rules

Students and teachers got one more Christmas present as they moved into the new addition at Riggs on January 2 after returning from the holiday break.

English/language arts, mathematics, social studies and health classrooms have been relocated in the new academic wing. The addition also has changed students' daily routines.

The arrangement of classes has made the new and old hallways at Riggs less crowded. The added stairwells have allowed more paths students can take to their next class.

"The traffic is running better in the hallways because we have more room and space to get around," said junior Serina Custer.

Besides not having to push and shove through the hallways, the new addition has also helped to reduce tardies. Some students have found that their classes are closer together, which makes those four minutes between classes adequate.

"I'm less likely to be late to my classes now that we're in the new addition. I still have to carry a lot of books, but I have less steps to take," said freshman Kai Hanson.

As with any change, the new addition has meant new rules. The new classrooms are car-

peted instead of tiled, so food or drink is now confined to the lobby. Hallway passes are also required in order for students to go to the library, the bathroom or the office from a class. Another reason for the updated rules is that two new common-use computer labs are now out in the open.

"I can understand the food and drink rule because all the classrooms have new carpet and computer equipment, but the hallway passes are a little too much," said junior Steph Flyger.

Students are also no longer able to roam the building during their lunch or open periods. They must stay in the lobby in order not to disrupt classes.

These new rules have meant adjustments, but many feel that some of the rules are unjust.

"I think that all of the students care enough about the new building not to ruin it, so why do we need these rules?" said freshman Cyrus Butler.

"The new rules are pointless and just make it harder for students to get around and to get things done," said junior Ian Farnsworth.

Students have also been adjusting to cooler temperatures in the addition.

"The new addition is colder than the old part,"

said junior Tami Downs.

The additions at Riggs are also in use after school hours as well. Athletic practices (and physical education classes) are now being held in the new auxiliary gym. With two gyms now available, the times and schedules of practices are better for athletes.

"The practices are more convenient this year because we don't have to stay at the gym so late," said sophomore volleyball player Kylie Mundt.

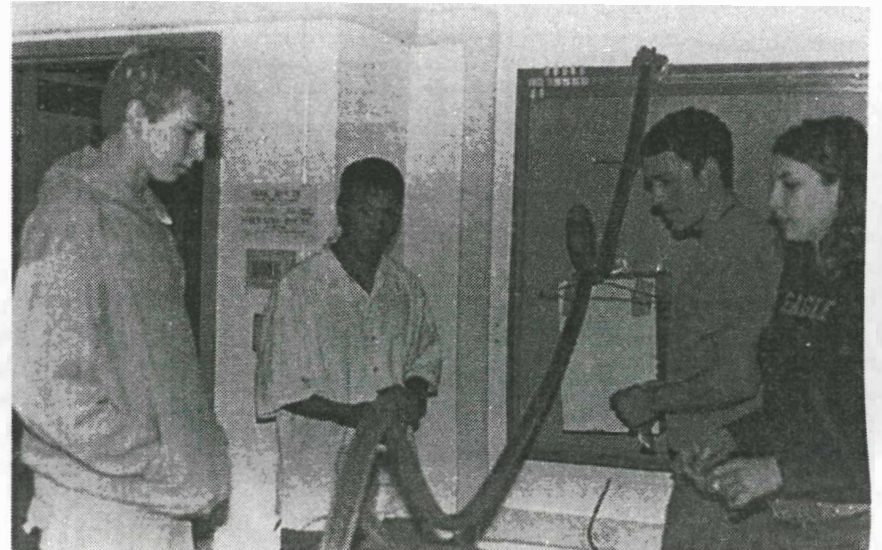
A new wrestling room has provided the wrestlers with their own conditioning room here at the high school. They no longer have to share space with gymnastics as they did in previous years at the administration building.

"The new wrestling room is more convenient because we don't have to drive somewhere in order to practice," said sophomore Torey Garrett.

The 2001-2002 school year is proving to be one of progress. While lots of changes have taken place, more are still to come. The basement area is currently being remodeled. More renovations to the offices and library will take place next summer. By next fall, remodeling should be complete.

by BryAnn Becker

Students have fun applying physics



Students in Kelly Brandt's physics classes spent several days building roller coasters in the old English-wing classrooms that have been sitting empty since the move into the new building. Their goal? Have fun and learn more about the momentum of moving objects at the same time. Seniors Justin Scott, Dan Hattum, Ryan Russell and Brittany Bown experiment with their roller coaster (photo by Mallori Barnett)

Vandals break into high school

Riggs High students and administration got a surprise when they came to school January 8.

For the first time in many years, someone broke into Riggs. The break-in probably happened early in the morning. Principal Mike Fugitt says the police suspect it was about 1 a.m. when the trespassers broke into the school.

The police also suspect the trespassers entered through the door between Jerry Schlekeway's and Lisa Lyscio's rooms on the second floor in the north wing.

"They were just looking for money and, not finding any, they moved on to other places in the

school," says Fugitt.

So far the only item that has been found missing is a DVD player that was in the theater control room.

Little damage was reported and most of that damage was done to doors and door frames.

The two doors with the most damage are the door to the theater control room and the door to Fugitt's office. In all, six to eight doors were damaged. Although only a small amount of vandalism was done, the replacement costs add up quickly.

"Including the DVD player and the doors, it'll cost a couple of thousands of dollars [to replace everything]," says

Fugitt.

Fugitt has not been notified of the identities of the trespassers or if they are high school students. He has been told that the police believe that the arrest they made for the Morse Middle School break-in, which happened a week earlier, is connected with the Riggs vandalism.

Fugitt thinks that the school is lucky compared to the damage that could have been done.

"So many things could have been stolen and so much more vandalism could have been done," he says.

by Heather Mangan

Lack of respect leads to new rules

Sometimes new privileges mean new rules. The administration has established many new rules for Riggs. A majority of students are upset with these new guidelines, but these rules were set in place for a variety of reasons.

In order to protect the school and take care of its appearance, rules concerning food and drink were established.

The condition of our school says a lot about who we are to visitors. We display our measure of respect and concern for our school in how we take care of the building and its grounds.

There might not be so many rules if students would show some appreciation of their school. Spraying pop, writing on the walls, and littering won't help to establish students' credibility. Students continue to spit chewing tobacco on the floor, even in the new building. Gum has been found on carpets already, and students wonder why we have stricter rules?

The plain truth is that the administration doesn't trust the student body—

and they have had no reason to do otherwise. Apparently, the administration felt it necessary to upgrade some school rules now that the space for potential problems to occur has been enlarged. While some of these rules are understandable, others were taken to the extremes. We can see why pop and food shouldn't be allowed in the new part of Riggs, but why not water? With the exception of the computer labs, wa-

ter should be allowed anywhere else in the facility. If water does happen to be spilled, it is easy to clean up and doesn't stain. Many students are also upset about the rules concerning when they can go to their lockers. It would be fine if students were in the hallways during open and lunch periods only to get a book from their locker. However, disruption is also occurring, thus the rule of only being able to "hang out" in the lobby. It is unfortunate that

the whole student body has to pay for the actions of a few. Yes, hall passes do make us feel like elementary students, but not all students have shown that they're capable of acting responsible. Until this happens, the rules will remain the same. Students seem to be answering the equation of more rules and discipline with retaliation, but this is immature. Only having respect for our school will end this problem.



Hey buddy, can you believe these new rules restricting pop and food to the lobby? What is the administration thinking?

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Watchman, what of the night?

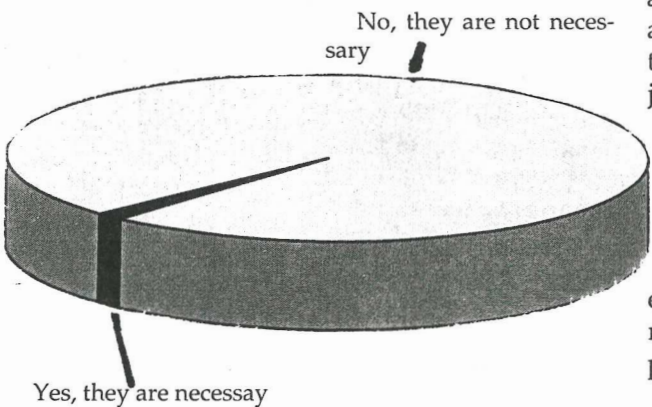
Do you think the new rules are necessary for the new building? (e.g. hallway passes, food and drink, ect.)



"I don't think there was a very bad littering problem before. I do think the rules should apply to the new building with everything but water."—sophomore Heath Dewell



"Students should be expected to be respectful of the new building; it only shows proper courtesy."—sophomore Anne Schmidt



"I think the hallway passes are irrelevant. We're young adults, so why are we being treated like third graders?"—junior Chris DeJabet



"We are mature and old enough to walk to the bathroom and back without a pass."—senior Marj Schmidt



IBA's contain hidden talent

I think Rodney Dangerfield put it best with, "All I want is a little respect," or perhaps you like Aretha Franklin's song "R-E-S-P-E-C-T"?

Either way, if you understand what these two are talking about, then you know how most IBAers feel. Yes folks, that's right, the IBA's, the Intramural Basketball Association, deserves some respect.

Some critics may call it "junk-ball," or others have referred to it as a disgrace to the name of basketball itself, even going as far as to call it wanna-be-basketball.

But these claims and accusations are completely and utterly incorrect. On any IBA court at any time, you can find many different players that could be playing at most any



Max Huber
Random Thoughts from
the Village Idiot

smaller school and probably be starting on that team.

You will find computer geeks, weightlifters, former Governor basketball players, hippies, vice presidents, and even the quarterback of the Governor football team playing in the IBA.

On these courts are athletes—athletes who may not be good enough to play basket-

ball in Pierre, never wanted to play basketball in Pierre, or just plain got fed up with "regular" basketball in Pierre.

IBA's is a way for non-Governor basketball players to have some fun playing hoops and showing off their skills

This is what the IBA's is about—having fun—although at times it gets very serious, sometimes too often.

If you want to have a memorable evening, come check out the IBA's sometime. Your night will be filled with goofy costumes, bright orange shoes, and a wonderful game of basketball.

So I leave you with IBA master T-M Slam's view on the subject, "This is what makes heroes in the Pierre IBA's, folks."

'Glitter' doesn't sparkle

After making myself watch the movie "Glitter," there's only one thing I have to say: if you're looking for a movie to fall asleep to, this is it.

Set in New York City during the 1980's, this is an unoriginal portrayal of a poor girl trying to make it big.

The film stars Mariah Carey, who makes her big screen debut as Billie Frank, a struggling singer. Carey gives a tiring performance, showing no true emotion and at times forgetting that she's not supposed to look at the cue cards.



Gerda Jorgenson
From A Redhead's Mind

Some comic relief comes in her two sidekicks, played by Max Beesly and rapper Da Brat. Their acting is surprising but nice.

In the film itself, there is

little character development, and the few personalities are lost in the muddled plot. For being set in the 1980's, the costumes are unrealistic and sometimes don't seem in the right time frame at all.

"Glitter" is directed by Vandi Curtis-Hall. Curtis-Hall uses no originality and adds useless bits of film at various parts in the movie that were annoying and detracting from the real meaning of the film.

After watching "Glitter," I have only one thought left: Mariah, stick to the singing.

Ketchup wars:
Protesting for bigger packets



Evan Roth & Erik Gilbertson
Ex-Presidential Poppycock

As Erik and I sat down to think about what to write this month, a pet peeve of mine crossed my mind that shall not go unheard any longer. I don't even know if I would say it's a pet peeve. It's much, much worse than that. I would say it's a great injustice.

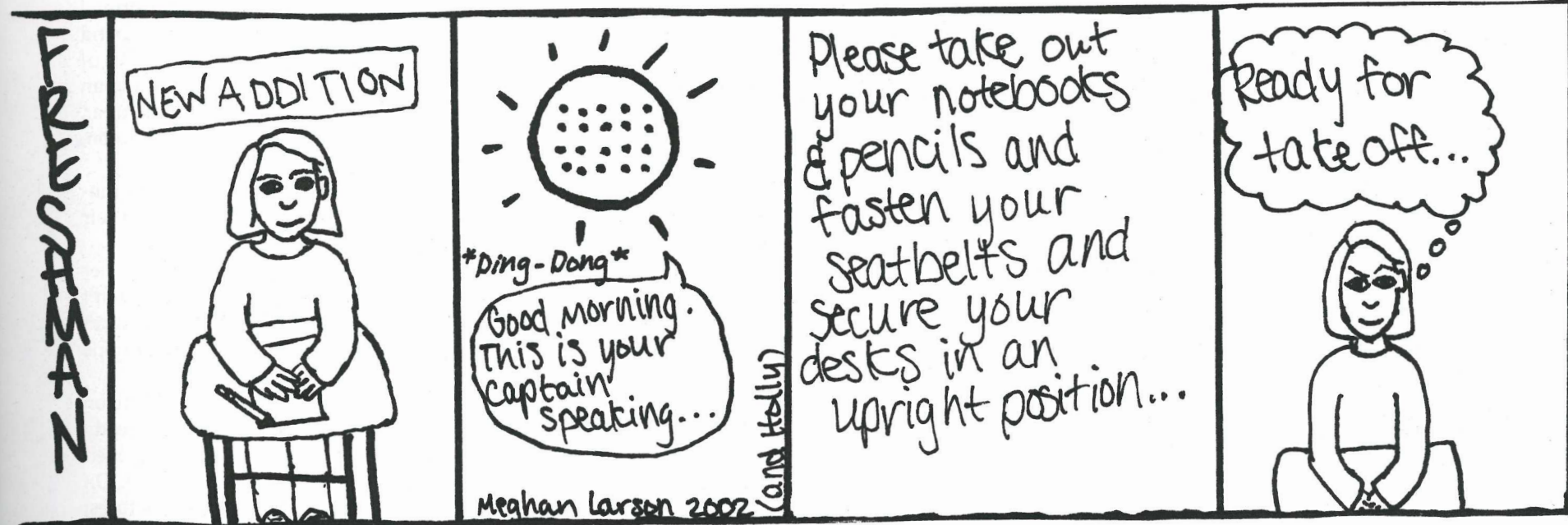
When I sat down to eat my food recently, I opened up one of those Heinz ketchup packages to dip my popcorn chicken in. As usual, I was only able to squeeze out enough ketchup for two pieces of chicken. This has bothered me for quite some time and this was the last straw.

After I finished my popcorn chicken (after using about five packages in all), I grabbed fifteen more packages on my way out and immediately threw them away. Why would you do such a thing, you might ask? Soon the ketchup companies will wonder where their ketchup packets are going. The

answer is awaiting them in an email. I am letting them know their ketchup packets will continue to "mysteriously" disappear until they make them at least twice the size they are right now. I'm tired of hearing about these pansy "cool" new green ketchup products. All I want is bigger packages!

Join me now! It's time for a ketchup revolution! We would still be taxed by the British if it weren't for the Boston Tea Party. It's time for the Pierre Ketchup Party. You too, can be a part of history and can say you stood along the side of a great revolutionary hero who once attended your school and wrote a column in your school newspaper.

Sure, people may come up to me soon and sputter, "It's impossible. You're just dreaming!" Do you know what I say to them? I will say, "Where would Martin Luther King Jr. have been without a dream?"



Bands provide way t

Some might think that the only band at Riggs is the Emerald Regiment, but that is far from true.

Many Riggs students participate in bands. Their types of music range anywhere from punk to rock to Christian music. They play covers (songs that are from other musicians), make up their own songs, or do both.

One of the bands at Riggs is "Griffin Park," which has been in existence for two years. The members consist of seniors Tom Johnson on lead guitar and vocals, Evan Roth on drums, Erik Gilbertson on vocals and rhythm guitar and junior Sheridan Cronin on bass guitar.

"Griffin Park" plays mostly cover music from bands such as "Metallica" and the "Dave Matthews Band." Their music style is rock and usually consists of older songs.

The band has played at many different places. Their big gigs this summer were at Crazy Days and the "Whisky River Bar." Although the "Whisky River Bar" was one of their main performances, many of their fans could not be there to enjoy the music.

"A few people got in [the

"Being in a band and expressing your emotions through song writing is an excellent way to sharpen your music skills."—Jason Monroe

bar], but then they were kicked out because they were underage," said Cronin.

One of the places that "Griffin Park" is looking forward to playing at is Oahe Bash, which takes place in the summer. They will also play at the Battle of Bands again.

Underclassmen also share in the band-playing mania. Luke Shuetzle on bass guitar, Jacob Shoup on drums, and Matt Gill and Blake Severyn on guitar make up one of the few freshmen bands, "Exact Image."

They are a Christian band and play mostly at churches, like Lutheran Memorial and the First United Methodist Church. The also plan to play at Battle of the Bands this year. "Exact Image" even has their own music video called "Jesus Freak" that computer teacher Bob Gill put together for them.

One band that has members that are not Riggs students, but former and future Riggs stu-

dents is "Reflection of Self." The members include junior Jason Monroe on drums, sophomore Edwin Schenk on Bass guitar, 2001 graduate Stewart Jenner on guitar, and middle school student Jesse Kepford as a vocalist.

"Reflection of Self" plays mostly at the Chamber of Commerce. They play their own Christian songs, although some are ideas they get from other bands, says Monroe.

Although being in a band is fun, there are other reasons why students are in them. Monroe said he uses the band as a way to improve.

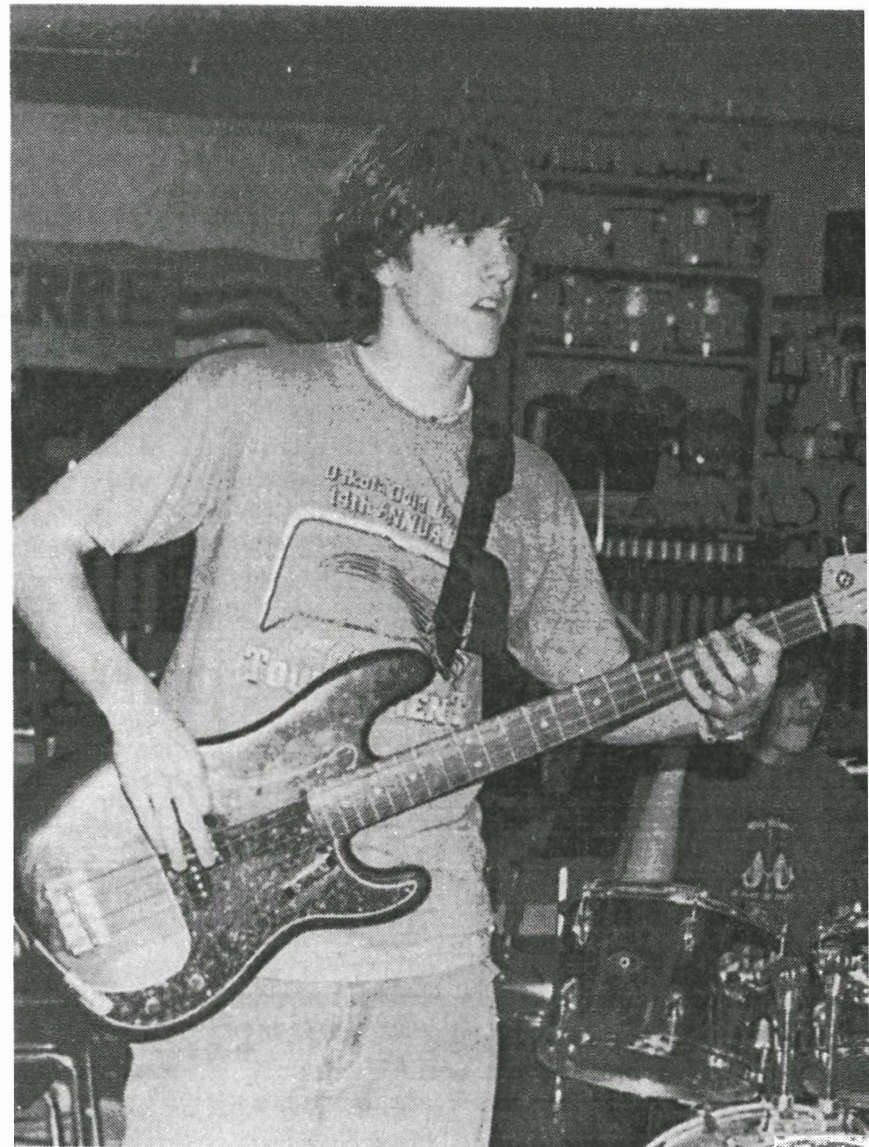
"Being in a band and expressing your emotions through song writing is an excellent way to sharpen your music skills," said Monroe.

Another Christian band is "Sould Out." This band features many of the same members as "Reflection of Self." Monroe and Jenner are also in this band, both playing the same instruments. The other member is senior Josh Williams who plays the bass guitar and sings.

They play at the Chamber of Commerce and at 24/7, a middle school youth night with bands and games that have a Christian message.

Girls are not excluded from displaying their musical talents. One of the girl bands at Riggs is "Staquist." This band is made up of seniors Laurel McDonald on drums, Shana Bauer on bass guitar, and junior Miki Weber on guitar.

The band has been together for about six months and has played at six shows at the Chamber of Commerce and



ROCK AND ROLL...Senior Tom Johnson and junior Sheridan Cronin practice for the Kids

also at Goosefest. They play mostly punk rock music and also make up their own songs. The girls are on a break right now because Weber has moved away, but when she returns the band will start again.

New bands are being started at Riggs. A freshly put-together band is "=D", who have only been playing together about a week. Their members are sophomores Chris Fry on drums, Alex Jorgensen on guitar, Jay Corcoran on bass guitar, and Tyler Seeley on vocals.

"We've only had roughly four practices and we already have two or three songs with lyrics," said Chris Fry.

The band hopes to ready in

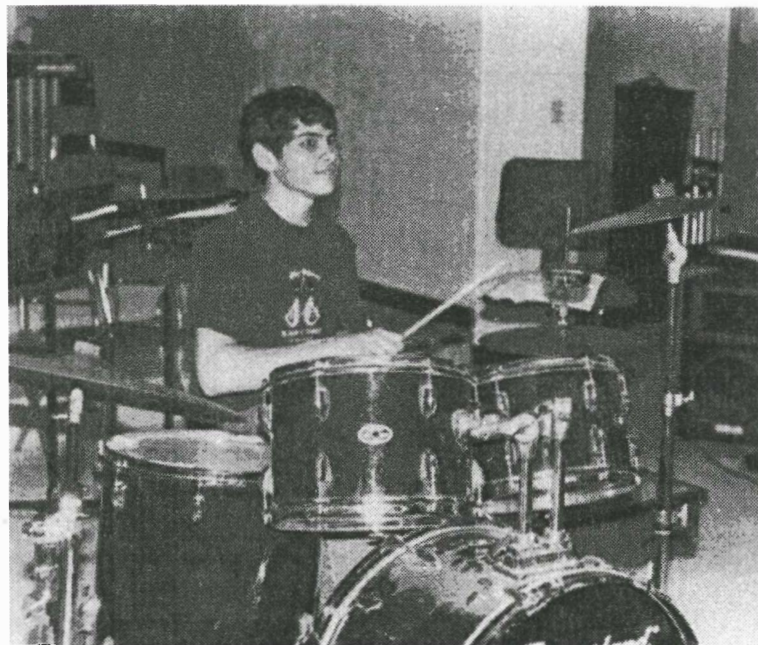
time for Battle of the Bands.

Some bands have been together but haven't performed in public yet. One such band is "Swivel." It consists of sophomores Corey Bowman and Jason Bakeberg on guitar, Kent Skrondahl on bass guitar, and Chris Fry on drums.

They play mostly rock music that they make on their own.

"Swivel" has been together since this summer. They don't have enough songs to perform for an audience yet but hope to be able to do so soon.

They may not have been on stage yet, but "Swivel" already has fans that they have gained from their own website. On the page they have pictures,



HIT IT!...Senior Charlie Magedanz messes around on the drums.(photo by Gerda Jorgenson)

express creativity

Students rock out at shows



Wednesday night.(photo by Gerda Jorgenson)

show reviews, and instructions on how to make your own "Swivel" t-shirt.

While most bands choose to create their own eccentric names, others have no real identity. One such band has sophomores Chris Garry on lead guitar, Chris Markley on drums, Edwin Schenk on bass guitar, and Casey Templeton on guitar as members.

They have played various types of music together for three years. They play both cover songs and their own songs. Last year, they played at Battle of the Bands and plan to do so again this year.

Another no name band is seniors Charlie Magedanz on drums, Kyle Rausch on guitar and vocals, and Andy McKay

on bass guitar. Their reason for not having a name is that they keep changing the current one.

"We keep getting a new name each time we play at a new place," said Magedanz.

They have been together for four years. They play a mixture of punk, alternative, and rock music and perform both cover songs and their own original ones.

The band always plays at the end-of-the-year graduation dance, usually with one or two other bands.

Be sure and catch some of these bands and more at the next show at the chamber in March or at the Battle of the Bands later on in the year.

by Heather Mangan

If a student told his or her parents that he or she would be spending Saturday night at the Chamber of Commerce, they would find that unusual, but their friends wouldn't.

About once a month, the Chamber of Commerce hosts a "show" where bands from all over the nation come and play. Juniors Bobby Sowers and Tamen Eggers, along with other various people, coordinate the shows.

Many different varieties of music are performed at the shows. Any kind of music is welcomed, but mostly punk, acoustic and hard-core bands play at the shows. Some bands are local, while others are more nationally known. Two famous bands that played at the chamber this past summer were "Align" and "Deville."

Sowers says that the shows have been taking place for several years. Eggers and he do

most of the bookings of bands. The chamber charges \$10 for rent each time a show takes place.

"We paid a down payment many years ago [to the chamber] and then Tamen or I pay ten dollars each time we have a show," Sowers said.

The price of admission depends on the number of bands that will play at the show. The more bands, the higher the admission. Admission also depends on how far the band has to travel to reach Pierre and how far they have to travel to reach their destination the following day.

There is also a strict drug and alcohol regulation at the shows. The Chamber of Commerce is very strict about it, says Eggers. When they have a show, they make a clear statement on the flyer that there will be no alcohol or drugs at the show; usually it's not a problem.

"A majority of people respect the no drugs or alcohol [policy]," said Eggers.

They make sure that no drugs or alcohol get past the door.

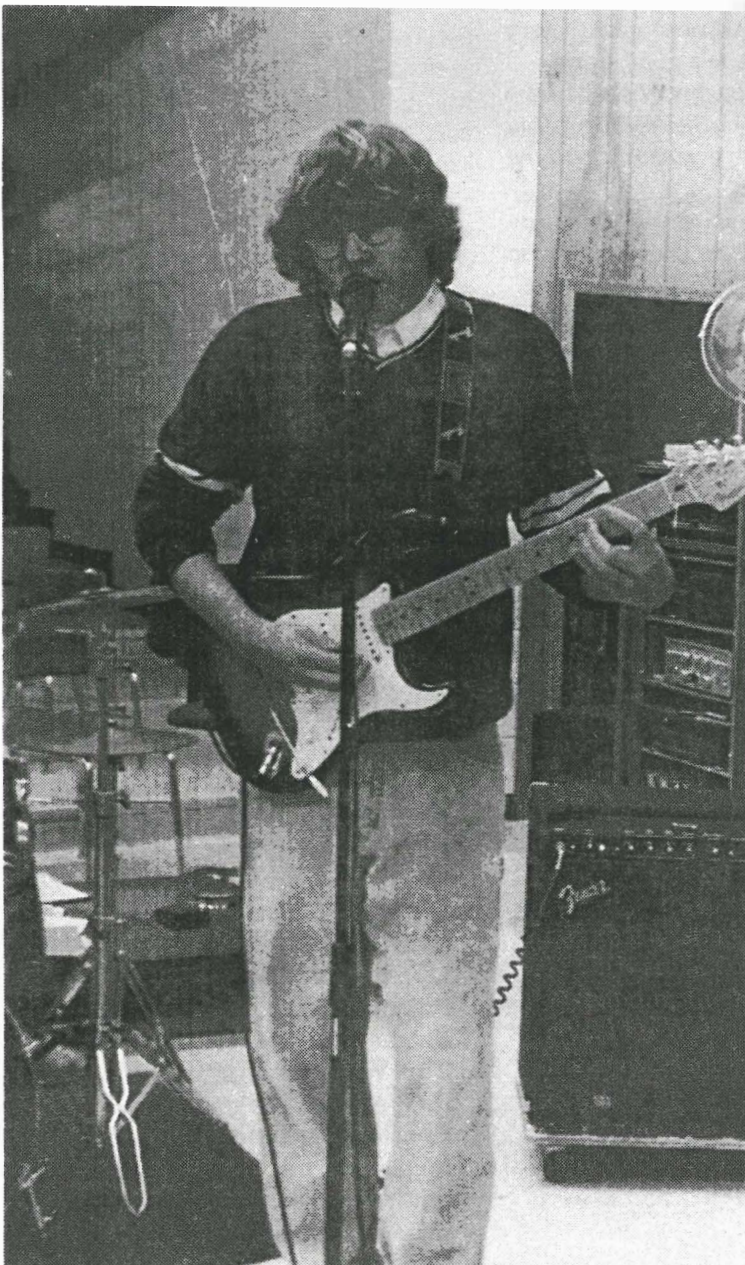
"We can tell if someone has been drinking, and if they have they will be kicked out," said Eggers.

All the profits from the shows go to the bands, which is an average of \$125 per show. A house is provided for the band to stay at, and food is provided for them to eat after they perform.

"We give them all the money that we make," said Eggers. "We pay for rent of the Chamber of Commerce, food, and housing."

Sowers said that the shows are intended to help bands get from place to place and for high school kids to have fun.

By Heather Mangan



ON MY OWN...Senior Tom Johnson practices his guitar. Johnson is a member of "Griffin Park" and also does many solo performances.(photo by Gerda Jorgenson)



Tyler Merriam

The Merm Made Sports Column.

Gov hoops: What's wrong?

Over the past couple of weeks, numerous people have posed a question to me: "What's wrong with the Govs?"

Be it out-of-town radio announcers preparing for a broadcast, parents who know me, or simply kids in the hall who hear about or see what happened, they're asking, "What's wrong with the Govs?"

Being that I get a courtside view of every game and have constant interaction with the men on the court, I think I have a pretty good idea on this issue.

First off, there is no way all of the blame goes on head coach Skip Kurth.

After the unfortunate off-the-court events of a year ago, Kurth has been blamed for everything. Now, while a head coach does shoulder some responsibility, he can only hold so much.

Then again, is there anything to say? This is the same team, after all, that won their first two games in January a year ago.

They followed that with a horrendous performance at Rapid City Central and another weak game in Huron before turning it around.

People have numerous ideas as to what the problems are, and people can think what they want, but it's not what most suspect

This team entered the

season as the preseason No. 2 squad, and with that comes a bull's eye on their chest.

Also, players tend to believe what people say. Well, that's fine, but we have to perform at that level every game.

In my opinion, much like last year, this losing streak now could very well be a good thing.

You know that teams don't believe you are that good, and neither do the press.

That gives us something to prove, a reason to play better than ever.

That's what sparked last year's team, as from the end of January through March, the squad lost just three games, two to Mitchell.

Yes, the inside game has been lacking, and the Govs' shooting hasn't been anything to write home about.

But these are not problems that can't be changed. The team is still together, and they still believe they can return to last year's prominence.

Many think that promoting three sophomores to the varsity level is another reason for the team's struggles.

But let me tell you, they are there because they have the talent, and anybody that has seen Dutt, Kurth or Waitman play knows that.

Bottom line—have faith in the Governors. Come March, they'll be in the thick of things.

Sophomore hoops on the right track

In team sports, the phrase "there is no I in team" is often used. The Pierre Governor sophomore basketball team certainly exemplifies this concept.

The sophomore squad has gotten off to an 8-1 start this year, being undefeated until a hard fought 62-51 loss at the hands of the Aberdeen Central sophs in their home gym last weekend.

Through all the hype of the varsity boys team, it seemed as though Dan Snyder's sophomore team was overlooked. But hustle, teamwork, and depth has accounted for the good start.

"We really work as a team on the court. Everybody out there can score for us which makes it very hard to defend us," said Casey Ahlers.

Tony Rislov provided another reason for their success. "We win games because we, as a team,

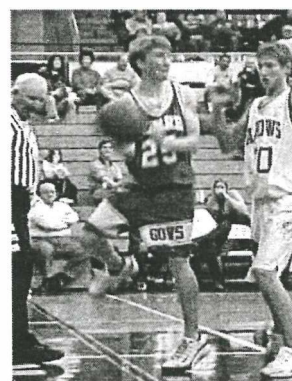
score more points than the other team, and also because I do bicep curls every day."

It should also be noted that three of the sophomore starters, Kyle Kurth, Seth Waitman, and Matt Dutt, dress for varsity games and see some time due to how well they have played this year.

But it is not just these three that account for their team's success. On any given night, any one of the sophomore players, whether starter or reserve, can lead the team in scoring, rebounds, or assists.

Seven of the team's eleven players have led the team in one of those three categories throughout the year, making the team well rounded and hard to defend.

"We have a lot of weapons ... to go to. We also have great role players who do what it takes



MAKING A SAVE...Lucas Oehlerking makes keeps a loose ball alive during the sophs' overtime win in Watertown (photo by Tyler Merriam)

for our team to win," said guard Kyle Kurth.

The squad includes Ahlers, Casey Breitag, Dutt, Allen Goodman, Kurth, Chris Mangan, Brendan Newman, Lucas Oehlerking, Rislov, Casey Templeton, and Waitman.

The sophomores have proven themselves to come through big in the clutch, pulling out two nail-biters, the first being

in December hosting Yankton. Pierre pulled out a 44-42 win on Kyle Kurth's last second basket.

They also beat a solid Watertown Arrow squad in their own backyard. The game went into overtime, with Pierre trailing by two when Kurth was fouled in the final moments.

Kurth's first shot was on the money, but the second fell short. The game seemed over, but Templeton snagged the rebound and threw up a last second shot, scoring at the buzzer to give the sophs a 55-54 win.

Despite their success, the sophs understand that some credit must be given to coach Dan Snyder.

"With such a great looking coach, we feel we have to win just for him," Waitman said.

by Pat Anderson

SCHIEF'S VARSITY SPORTS SCOREBOARD

Boys Basketball

Current Record: 3-5

Last 2 Games: 32-51 loss at Aberdeen Central last Friday; 33-44 loss at Watertown two weeks ago

Next 2 Games: Rapid City Central tonight, Rapid City Stevens tomorrow night.

Player's Comment: "We just need to start playing more as a team; things will come around." — senior Nic Hogan.

Girls Hockey

Last Weekend: Won consolation championship at Mitchell invitational

This Weekend: in Sioux Falls for a weekend of games.

Coach's Comment: "We lost to Watertown last weekend 6-2, but it was the best we have played them all year."

— Bruce Lindholm

Volleyball

Last Weekend: 3-1 at the Rapid City Central invitational.

This Weekend: at Mitchell invitational tonight and tomorrow

Coach's Comment: "We are playing well, the girls are getting stronger. The girls are finally realizing they can play with anyone in the state."

—Kim Bierle

Boys Hockey

Last Weekend: lost Friday at Watertown 2-7; lost Saturday at Brookings 0-4.

Next Games: The squad is off until February, when they host Huron on Feb. 1 and Bismarck on Feb. 2.

Coach's Comment: "We played well against Brookings, except we couldn't score.— Rob Kittay

Wrestling

Last Weekend: 51-16 win over Aberdeen Central Friday; 1-2 in Pierre Invitational Saturday.

This Weekend: at Huron tonight; JV at Sully Buttes Invitational Saturday

Notable Performances: Matt Englund was 4-0 on the weekend, with Dan Swenson, Shannigan Heckenlaible, Chad Grunewaldt and Torey Garrett all 3-1.

Gymnastics

Last Weekend: Placed ninth at the Rapid City Stevens Gymorama

This Weekend: at Sturgis Invitational tomorrow

Coach's Comment: "We are going back to the basics. We want to be ready for the ESD Invitational in Watertown Feb. 2." — Cliff Jorgenson

compiled by Jenna Schiefelbein

IBA: it's sports entertainment

Intramural Basketball Association—is it a game or a way of life?

Many of the students here at Riggs are ignorant of the IBA, thinking it is just another activity for some guys to spend a night making fun of each other.

But say this to IBA players such as Tyler Merriam or Evan Roth, and you might get killed. These are two of the many who live and die for the IBA.

The IBA is comprised of twelve teams with captains. The teams are selected by a highly publicized draft in John Hoover's room.

The teams are then split into two divisions, North and South, which are based on rankings from the preseason polls selected by the IBA alliance.

The team captain has a very important role in the IBA. He selects his team and usually is the star player for his team.

All team captains are seniors who show good leadership qualities to lead young IBAers to a successful career.

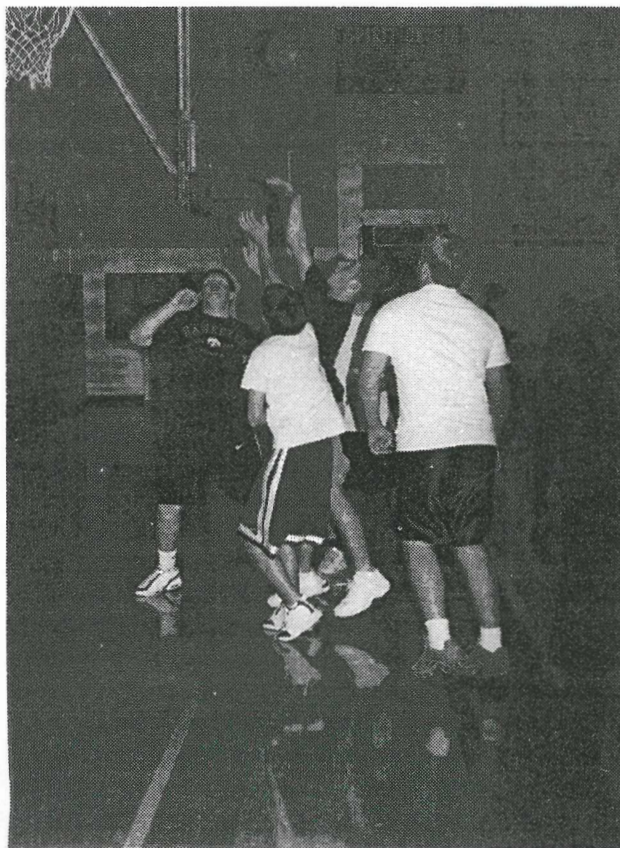
This year's captains are as follows: Adam Fuller, Andy Hanson, Charlie Magedanz, Justin Scott, Travis Scharnweber, Jerry Tveidt, Bronson Blow, Erik Gilbertson, John Gosselin, Max Huber, Brian Knadle, and Lucas Scheibe.

The hype of the IBA has really grown this year, thanks to the efforts of the junior Merriam.

Merriam created an IBA website, preseason team and player polls, and most importantly, respect for the IBA.

Then there are the unique creatures, the players. They are more like pro wrestlers than basketball players.

They are there to entertain fans more than to play basketball. Some go as far as to call these men sports-entertainers.



AND ONE...Erik Gilbertson gets fouled as he scores two points during an IBA game in the Riggs High Gym. (photo by Gerda Jorgenson)

On team Knadle, two of the most controversial players are found.

Roth, otherwise known as E-Rodd the

Bodd, is famous for wearing the shortest shorts in IBA history, while Merriam is known as "T-M Slam."

Another player, Sean Corcoran, does cartwheels whenever he makes a shot.

Bronson Blow shoots ten times for every pass he makes. John Gosselin, the largest player in the IBA, and his closest counterpart, Abe Storms, are teammates.

They use their huge frames to clear the boards and own the paint.

When asked why they play, the players have many different reasons.

Sam Shaw, a junior hockey player who is also an IBAer, says he plays to "give my team moral support."

Max Huber, has another reason. "For love of the game. With role models like T-M Slam and E-Rodd the Bodd, I think it's a good way to lead the underclassmen to good IBA careers."

IBA games take place two nights a week, with four to six games a night.

The games are comprised of ten minute

quarters with running clocks. They are refereed by employees of the Pierre School District for a small wage.

When asked why he referees, Darryl Walz says jokingly "for the money."

Many of the players are waiting for February 5, when the Prime Time Divisional Challenge takes place.

The two top teams from each conference play each other to perhaps get a glimpse of the IBA championship game that takes place on February 19.

If you are interested in the IBA, visit the official website, where Merriam makes the everyday people of the IBA seem heroic. The address is: <http://riggsiba.tripod.com>

The IBA is a great game for all of Riggs, and, for a few, it is not a game but a dream of greater glory.

by Tony Rislov

Kara Kurth sets team gymnastics records

Senior Kara Kurth did something that had not been done for over ten years in a Pierre Invitational on January 12.

She won an individual event, the balance beam. Her two favorite events are the floor exercise and the balance beam.

"I like those two events the best because those are the two I do the best in," Kurth explained.

The floor exercise is done on an open mat, while the balance beam is done on a bar that is "about the width of your average television remote at home," Kurth pointed out.

"I tied my record for the beam that I had set earlier," Kurth stated.

Kurth set a school record on

"Gymnastics is challenging and the support from the team is great, but I like basketball more. There you are not alone." — Kara Kurth

the floor exercise at the Stanley County meet and another school record on the balance beam at a dual.

This accomplishment comes after 15 years of participating in the sport.

"Of course I felt good about these accomplishments, as anyone else would."

She began gymnastics when she was two years old.

"My parents signed me up for gymnastics at the YMCA, so I just kept with it," Kurth explained.

"Gymnastics is challenging, and the support from the team

is great," said Kurth, "but I like basketball more. There you are not alone, and your mistakes are not magnified."

Kurth fears the worst for the season switch in girls basketball and volleyball that will be taking place next year.

Gymnastics will remain a winter sport, but girls basketball will become a winter activity. In its place, volleyball will move to the fall.

"Gymnastics is a more physical and mental sport," Kurth said.

"Those who want to be in both events probably won't get

to participate in gymnastics, unless she has a lot of fun with it."

Kurth also made second-team All-State for girls basketball this past year.

She was named all conference and all tournament at the Girls State AA tournament in Huron.

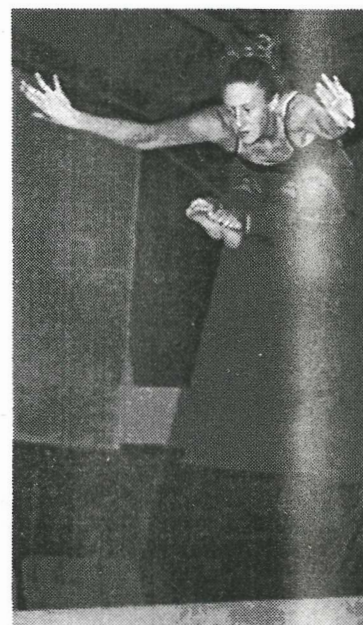
"I enjoyed receiving those honors," Kurth stated.

"I probably will be playing a little basketball when I get to college."

She doesn't plan to progress in her gymnastics career.

"Although I might be good enough for Pierre, I don't think I am good enough for college or any higher form of competition," she explained.

by Sean Corcoran



PERFECT FORM...Kara Kurth practices her routine on the balance beam, an event she set a school record in this year. (photo by Mallori Barnett)

The M&Ms take charge

Michael Bumann and Max Huber were elected by the student body last week to serve as second semester president and vice-president.

Three other candidate pairs campaigned for the jobs, including Shana Bauer and John Stover, Dan Payne and Brandon Coyle, and Josh Williams and Roger McKillip.

In addition to posting signs on school walls and down hallways last week, campaign promotions included home-made videos. These were shown in classrooms and in the theater due to not having TV's set up in the new building.

Most of the students enjoyed watching the videos, although the sound quality was poor in the theater.

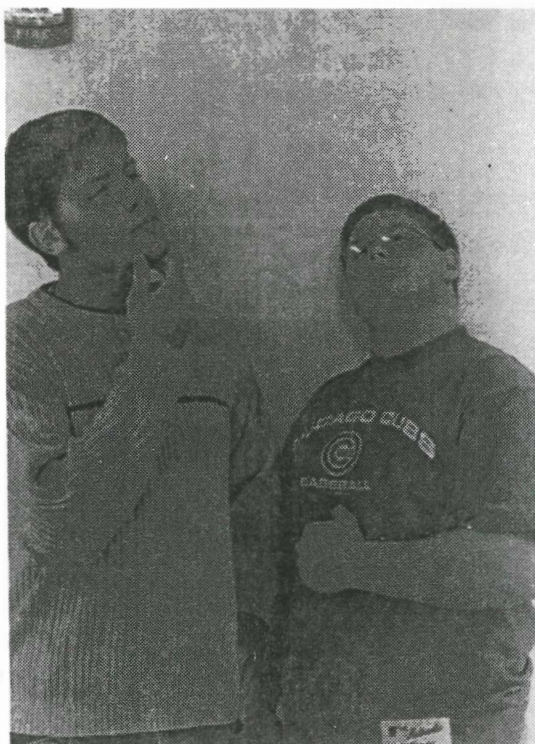
"Not everyone could hear the speeches well, one of which was just a 'bzzzzzt,'" claimed senior Ron Machan.

After watching the campaign videos, the students selected their choices by either voting in their regular second period classes or, if they had an open, joining a classroom for the time-being to cast their ballots.

The new president and vice-president have new ideas about what should happen at Riggs the rest of the year.

"I really want to see the IFHL (International Floor Hockey League) come through this spring," Bumann said.

Huber wants the existing schedule to remain as it is--no block schedules.



WILL THEY LIKE US?... Newly elected president and vice-president Michael Bumann and Max Huber ponder their first project. (photo Gerda Jorgenson)

"Why fix something if it's not broken?" he says.

To keep up with how the newly elected president and vice president are

doing or to make suggestions, you can visit their website at http://michael_max_2002.tripod.com.

by Sean Corcoran

Two seniors selected as legislative pages

Two Riggs students have been selected to serve as pages for the 2002 legislative session. Seniors Carrie Gonsor and Dakota Bixler

will each spend two weeks at the State Capitol.

Gonsor and Bixler applied early last fall

and were chosen based on their leadership skills, high grade point average and involvement in the community and school.

Once selected, they went through one day of training, getting an orientation tour of the Capitol and learning to file documents and answer phones the day before beginning their jobs.

Pages have many duties that include compiling journals, filing bills, distributing daily calendars and agendas, and offering assistance to legislators.

Since pages spend most of their time in the presence

of lawmakers and down on the Senate and House floors, appearance is important. Business-like attire is expected every day.

Gonsor paged for Senator Patricia de Hueck from January 7-18 and Bixler is currently paging for Representative Jeff Monroe until February 1.

"I plan to look into a career field related to this, so this [being a page] was a great experience for me," said Gonsor.

"I don't especially like the work, but I love being in the Capitol. I plan on going into politics so I think this will come in handy someday."

by Jessica Callahan



RING RING... Carrie Gonsor spends the last day of being a page on telephone duty in the Senate chambers. She was allowed to dress casually in jeans and a sweatshirt sponsored by her senator. (photo by Mallori Barnett)

NHS to select members

Tag Day may seem like a day to play games, but to many juniors and seniors, it isn't a game at all--it's a key to scholarships and the future.

Tag Day refers to the day when National Honor Society announces its new members and is scheduled for February 19. The formal initiation ceremony follows on February 26. Current senior

members of NHS will pin students whose applications were accepted.

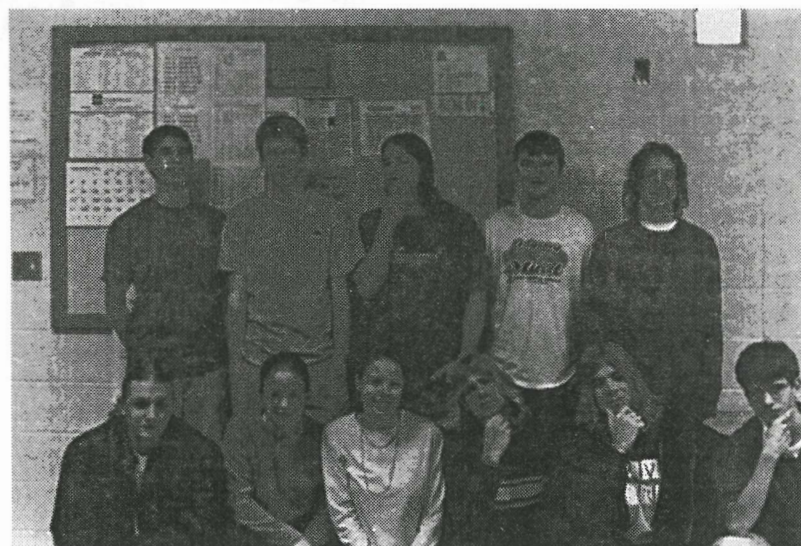
Juniors and seniors with an accumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher are eligible to be in NHS. The list of these students will be posted outside the library and on the bulletin boards. The list of students chosen for NHS is further narrowed down after the students fill out an applications listing their activities

and honors.

NHS is advised by guidance counselor Bobbi Brown. They also do service activities including a United Way blood drive and a fundraiser for New York.

"I like being in NHS because it's an honor and I like to help others out," says senior Kendra Droppers.

by Vicki Foshie



THE SUPER (QUIZ) BOWL... (front) Juniors Colin Brown, Zach Parsons, Joseph Kean, senior Hannah Waack, sophomore Ursula Waack, senior Ron Machan and (back) junior Jake Mortenson, senior Scott Pfahler, junior Nate Chappelle, and seniors Dan Serie and Dan Payne get ready for near competitions. (photo by Gerda Jorgenson)

Activities resurrected

Last year's budget cuts axed several extra-curricular programs at Riggs, but two programs have been resurrected this year.

The Destination Imagination (DI) Program is continuing with Shirlee Hoag as adviser while physics teacher Kelly Brandt is coaching the Quiz Bowl Teams. Brandt was happy to coach students in the program.

"If the kids are

willing to put forth the effort, I don't see why I can't help out," Brandt said.

The Quiz Bowl members are happy that he has chosen to be their coach.

"We are all very grateful that Mr. Brandt has volunteered to keep our program alive. We all hope he continues to do so in the years to come," says senior Hannah Waack.

Both Hoag and Brandt will continue

with the programs next year if their schedules permit.

Unfortunately other academic programs such as mentorship, philosophy group and future problem solvers are not as lucky as Quiz Bowl and DI. They have no one to direct them, so they are not available as extracurricular activities for students.

by Ursula Waack