



T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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Pierre, SD

School honors veterans: Hoing receives Bronze Star for valor in Vietnam

Yesterday Riggs students saw what heroes are made of.

Teacher Pat Hoing was awarded the Bronze Star and reissued the Purple Heart at a Veterans' Day assembly Thursday morning. Brigadier General Gorman and Sergeant Major Birnbaum presented the awards.

Hoing recently learned that he had earned the Bronze Star for his valor in Vietnam, but that paperwork had apparently been lost for more than 30 years.

Along with Hoing, teachers and coaches Phil Trautner, Jerry Schlekeway and Tom Birhanzel were honored for their military services in World War II and Vietnam.

Also recognized as future heroes were thirteen Riggs current National



OF, BY, FOR THE PEOPLE...Senior Nick Johnson reads "An American's Creed" during the Veteran's Day assembly in the theater on Thursday morning. (photo by Mallori Barnett)

Guard members. Seniors Andy Heymans, Abe Storms, Amanda Schrank, and LeighAnn Dunn participated in the ceremony by presenting the colors of the country and state. Senior Nick Johnson read "An American's Creed."

"I felt honored to be

chosen from the other National Guard members to give the speech," said Johnson.

The assembly consisted of much more than the honoring of the veterans. Latin and German teacher Jay Mickelson was the emcee. The band played patriotic music in

honor of the veterans.

The girls choir sang the national anthem. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by student body president and vice-president Eric Gilbertson and Evan Roth. Members of the Governor staff, seniors Dakota Bixler and Josh Vogt, junior Heather Mangan, and sophomore BryAnn Becker read tributes to each of the four veterans.

Mickelson, along with teachers Elizabeth Vogt and Darlene Neiles, organized the assembly.

Many students felt that honoring the veterans was an honorable thing to do, especially after September 11.

"I enjoyed the atmosphere of patriotism. I thought it was the first assembly that was worthwhile," said senior Josh Williams.

by Heather Mangan

Potential 'future heroes' prepare for military service

Men and women all over the country are willing to fight for America. A few of those Americans attend school here at Riggs.

Students at Riggs who are involved in the National Guard are seniors Nick Johnson, Hank Badger, DeNeil Hosman, Andy Heymans, Patty Heermann, Adam Fuller, Amanda Schrenk, Abe Storms, Bryan Beringer and LeighAnn Dunn. Juniors include Mark Burger, Earl Berg and Ian Farnsworth.

That sense of patriotism and lack of fear seems to represent the feelings of

most Army and National Guardsmen.

"The only time I would have to go over is after I graduate from school," said Nick Johnson. But he is not afraid of fighting either.

"I made a good choice to be in the National Guards because instead of being on the front line, I'd be at home protecting our country," junior Earl Berg says.

America proudly stands behind those that are willing to risk their lives for our country. We salute you.

by Robin Hinesh

Meet the Veep: Pierre teen meets Cheney through family friends

It's not everyday that you get to meet the Vice President of the United States.

Two weeks ago, Vice President Dick Cheney was in central South Dakota on a hunting trip and junior Molly Wilbur got the chance to meet him.

"I got to meet Mr. Cheney because he was staying with a friend of my family's. My mom and I met up with him and his crew at the airport and rode with the motorcade to the

hunting lodge near Gettysburg," Wilbur says.

Wilbur then stuck around the lodge and watched Cheney and his daughter shoot trap.

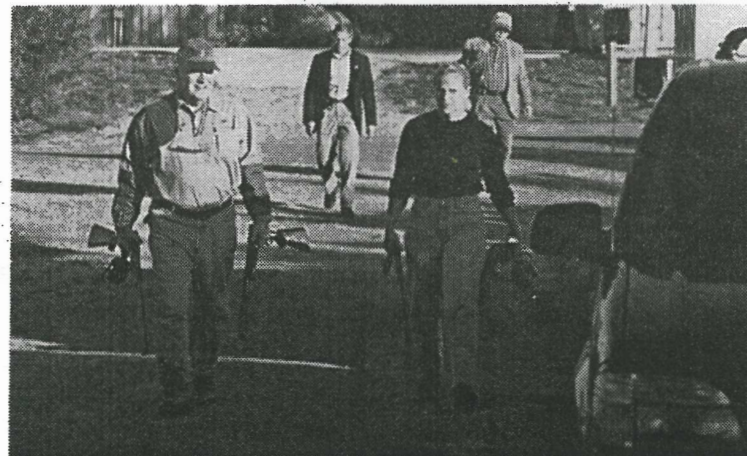
This wasn't Cheney's first time hunting here. He had hunted at the lodge before, but this time it was a bigger deal since he is now vice president.

"There were 70 secret servicemen in Pierre and they traveled with him everywhere," Wilbur says.

One of the special things Wilbur got to do besides meeting the Vice president was get to tour Cheney's personal airplane, Air Force Two.

"It wasn't like other planes. There were Vice-Presidential seals on everything and all the seats were first class. We met the whole crew, right down to the cook. We even got to go into Cheney's private room."

by Dakota Bixler



OFF WE GO...Vice-President Dick Cheney and his daughter Mary are being followed by secret servicemen while they leave for the hunt. (courtesy photo)

Domestic terrorism: Anthrax scare heightens fears

Anthrax has been one of the main focuses in the news for the past few weeks. The anthrax letters are the product of the sick mind of one whose only intent is to cause harm and terror.

Anthrax has caused every letter sent to top government officials to be examined and re-examined. The white substance has not brought our entire government down, but those three letters have created so much damage.

Most students pay little attention to its news coverage because, in their minds, anthrax will never threaten the Pierre area. However, some people in the community are blowing anthrax way out of proportion.

Pierre is not a direct target for terrorists. If terrorists are going to make an attack, they aren't likely to spend a lot of money targeting a little-known town such as Pierre. They are more likely to exert their efforts on an area that affects the total U.S. population to a larger degree.

People need to be realistic in their actions con-



Once again Herman Steps Outside fully prepared for the daily task that lies ahead of him ... collecting his mail.

cerning their protection. Anthrax is likely to come and go; major life changes are not needed. Reasonable precautions might be needed, such as inspecting suspicious mail but not so extreme as to purchase a gas mask.

It is unfortunate that an incident such as this will bring out "entrepreneurs" who will whip the population into a frenzy just to reap the

financial profits from the sales of unneeded gas masks and other anti-terrorist paraphernalia.

Although students in Pierre might not receive letters containing anthrax, we will still eventually see the effects of this psychological terrorism. These effects may not be seen today or tomorrow but possibly a year from now.

One such effect is bound to be increased

prices to mail letters and packages.

Another potential effect will be an increase in the use of the Internet and email because of the security in knowing that although a computer virus may be attached, anthrax won't.

Perhaps the worst effect of all is the fear that has been introduced to Americans in their homes and workplaces.

Experts have long feared that Anthrax could be used as a new fighting technique in warfare, but nobody expected this warfare to be waged in America's homes and workplaces.

Who knows? Maybe we have seen the worst of anthrax, and the scare will go away in a few months. Even if it does, people will always remember anthrax and its effects on the U.S. government and its people.

Whether students want to admit it or not, Americans and their lifestyles have been forever changed by this cowardly act of terror.

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Watchman, what of the night?

Has the anthrax scare made you feel threatened in any way? Has it caused you to take any extra precautions since it began?

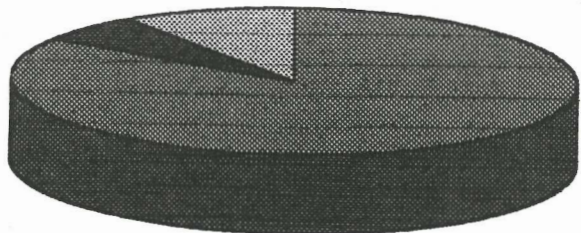


"I feel safe in the center of the country because we're surrounded by protection. I'm very confident in our military."—sophomore Heath Dewell



"My mom is a health official. She is now on call 24/7 and often has to work late opening letters and other things because some people are paranoid."—freshman Kaitlin Thomas

10% of students do feel threatened but have not taken extra precautions.



6% of students feel threatened and have taken extra precautions.

84% of students do not feel threatened by anthrax.

"I don't think any terrorist will bother to release anthrax in Pierre, South Dakota."—freshman Cyrus Butler.



"Anthrax hasn't killed enough people to be a serious problem."—senior Shawn England



Heroes defined: Basketball team makes Pierre proud

What makes a hero? Is it someone who goes above and beyond the call of duty to help someone in need? Is it someone who does a random good deed for the well-being of another person? Is it a person who has such a strong character that he or she raises up everyone around them to that same level of character? We both strongly believe that those are qualities displayed by a hero.

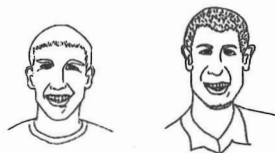
On the local scene, however, it is the belief that something else makes a hero. We're sure everyone heard about the girls basketball team's district game against Huron that went into triple overtime two weeks ago. Both of us had to work, so we

listened to the game on the radio. It was a very intense game, and emotions were running high. At the end of the first overtime, radio announcer and junior Tyler "Webmasta" Merriam put it best when he said, "This game will make heroes in the towns of Pierre and Huron!"

Even through the immense pressure and adversity the girls faced, Pierre's fate hung

in the delicate balance. Huron's 60 foot shot from behind half court to sink in the last few seconds of the second overtime sent them into a third overtime. The ladies pulled it out, thus becoming the heroes of Pierre.

As for us, runner-up Sumo Champion Iron Myron Bryant will always be our hero. Don't worry ladies, you're right up there, too.



Evan Roth & Erik Gilbertson
Presidential Poppycock



Max Huber
Random Thoughts from the
Village Idiot

1776: Freedom acted out

With the events of the past months, it seems that drama director Ms. Zakahi picked the perfect musical to direct this fall, "1776"—a fun, humorous way to learn how the Declaration of Independence was written.

"1776" shows what the framers had to put up with: weather, each other, separation from their wives and many other opposing forces, all sacrifices in the name of freedom.

The chemistry of the show is a nice blend of comedy and drama that will keep audiences entertained throughout the



Gerda Jorgenson
From A Redhead's Mind

two-hour long show.

The cast is headed by seniors John Williams as John Adams and Michael Bumann portraying Benjamin Franklin. They make a great onstage duo, and the jokes between the

two will keep you laughing throughout the entire play.

The music of "1776" consists of songs such as "Sit down John," "Momma Look Sharp" and "Piddle Twiddle."

Some standout solos from the performance are sung by John Williams, Aaron Bumann and Josh Williams.

To sum it up, 1776 is a great play performed by a great cast.

I highly recommend seeing the play. It will be performed on December 3, 4 and 6 in Riggs Theater and hey, for you seniors, it could even help your Constitution grade.

What is Extreme Basement Wrestling?

Today's society loves sports entertainment, and there's no sports entertainment that even compares to pro wrestling.

Some young people love to start up their own federations in the their basements and backyards with dreams of WWF glory in their heads. This now somewhat famous practice known as backyard wrestling has swept the nation by storm, and this doesn't exclude Pierre.

The local fed, known as Extreme Basement Wrestling (EBW), was recently shut down due to management problems. The owner of this infamous federation wishes to remain nameless, but I will release the names of some of the wrestlers.

Massive Horde, Great Malenko, Welch, The Hawaiian Assassin, Cheddar Nuts, Maxkind, Chiquita Style and Stud Lee are the names of a few of the stars of EBW.

I recently interviewed EBW Commissioner and Matchmaker senior Sean Corcoran,

aka Massive Horde, on his thoughts about the EBW.

His claim to fame was the time he was knocked unconscious by a devastating powerbomb from Welch, senior Austin Schneider.

"The powerbomb I took from Welch was one of the greatest moments of my life," Sean said, "and it proves that if pro wrestling is done right, it is still somewhat safe. I enjoy making people happy, even if it comes at the welfare of my own body."

However, further events were soon stopped by the owner's mother, "Peg." This made the EBW fans and loyalists irate beyond compare, but due to the fact that they are just a bunch of 17 year olds and "Peg" does supply them with pop and food, they didn't make that much of a fuss.

Well that's all your EBW champion Maxkind...er wait a second, I mean, that's all your village idiot has to say this month. Keep it real.

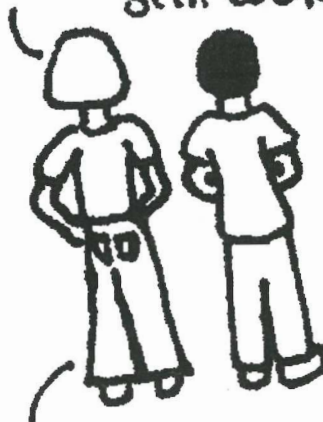
Freshman

My mom won't watch the news. Just the Food Channel.

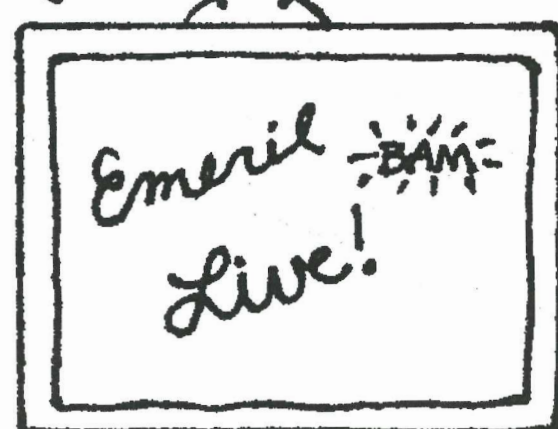


Why not?

As long as Emeril's still cooking...



...everything's okay.



Meghan Larson 2001

Birhanzel sacrifices one year for Vietnam service

Riggs math teacher Tom Birhanzel knows more about war than what students will learn in history books. He fought in one.

In 1969, Tom Birhanzel was drafted into the Army during the Vietnam War. When Birhanzel realized he was going to war, he had mixed feelings. He knew it was his duty

to fight and wouldn't avoid the draft like some who fled to Canada.

However, being drafted was bad timing. His wife, Candi, was only a few months from having their first baby, and Birhanzel was scared he might never see his child.

"I knew I might be killed at war and never get to see my son," he said. "The first time I saw my son, he was already one year old. That was hard."

Birhanzel was in Vietnam

for one year, fighting at Bi Xuan Loc, which is northeast of Saigon. As a soldier, he ambushed trails, swept through the jungles looking for enemy trails, and performed guard duty at small base camps.

Vietnam was hard in so many ways. Birhanzel had to fight in 105-degree weather with the rotting stench of dead rats and cats mixed in with the stifling heat. Birhanzel said it was actually cooler to fight in the jungle but more dangerous.

Being shot at was always something Birhanzel thought about. He came close to being shot once when he was setting up a search and destroy ambush trail. The machine gun operator and Birhanzel, the assistant machine gun operator, walked through the jungle and two bullets flew by Birhanzel's barrel.

Birhanzel was healthy throughout most of the war, except for a couple of instances. Ammunition is shipped in wooden boxes with metal binding around it.

Birhanzel was cleaning up the metal bindings and one was stuck in the mud. As he yanked on it, his finger tip was almost ripped off. He also had malaria for ten days. While he was sick, he had to take an ice-cold shower and sit in an air conditioned room to lower his temperature.

"Many guys lost legs and arms. I was extremely lucky," he said.

Birhanzel said the U.S. fought the Vietnam War differently than any other war. He was frustrated by how troops would fight for a piece of land, go up on a hill and then come back down the same hill and return to the same piece of land.

"It was hard knowing that one of your friends lost his life for nothing," he said.

Another hard part for Birhanzel was the year away from his family. Birhanzel said it was like jail—no escape.

"I was constantly thinking what they [my family] were doing, especially while I was

on guard duty."

Family members were concerned with his safety. Birhanzel only wrote about the good things and never about what really went on. He once told his brother that if he was missing, he was dead.

"If I were taken prisoner, I didn't want them wondering if I was dead or alive," Birhanzel said.

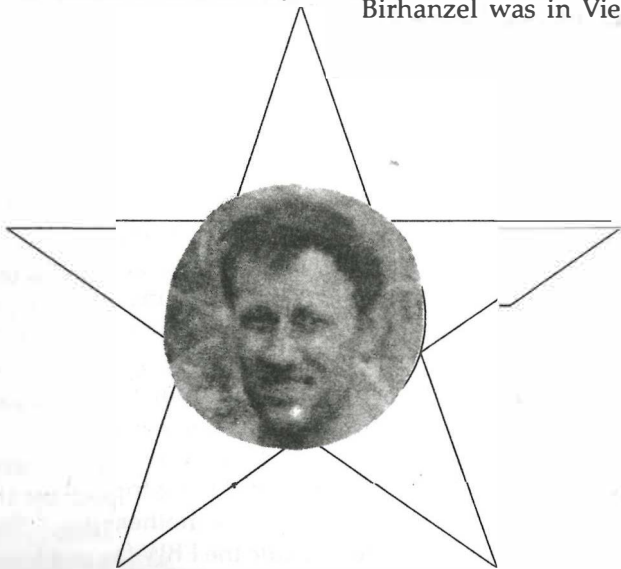
Birhanzel is glad that he made it through the experience and now knows nothing will ever be that bad again.

"You really find out how thick your buttons are," he said.

Knowing what it's like, Birhanzel offers advice to students now dealing with the war in Afghanistan.

"Pay close attention to the news," he said. "Don't think someone else will do the fighting. Even though it's half way around the world, it still will hit home."

by Heather Mangan



Schlekeway created fun for weary vets

Some soldiers' duties left them drained and in need of someone to lift their spirits. Riggs math teacher Jerry Schlekeway helped do just that while working in Army Special Services during the Viet-

nam War.

Schlekeway was unable to go into the frontline because of his poor eyesight. Instead, he worked escorting people to United States Overseas (USO) shows located in different bases throughout Korea. He also ran the recreational gym in Pusan, Korea, from December 1966 to January 1967.

Schlekeway was drafted right out of college. He graduated on a Saturday and began basic training on the following Monday. Schlekeway was nervous to go overseas but knew

it had to be done. His parents were concerned about their son leaving but also accepted the idea. Schlekeway's older brother had previously gone to war, which prepared the family for the reality of the draft.

"Half of the men my age were drafted, so going to war was just accepted as what had to be done," he said.

Schlekeway also worked in Rest and Recuperation Centers during the war. At these centers, the men took a break after having fought for two weeks by playing basketball and other games.

Wartime experiences proved to shape the lives of people and who they would become.

Some of Schlekeway's most memorable war experiences included escorting Pearl Bailey for five days and officiating a Korean/Japanese volleyball game during the World

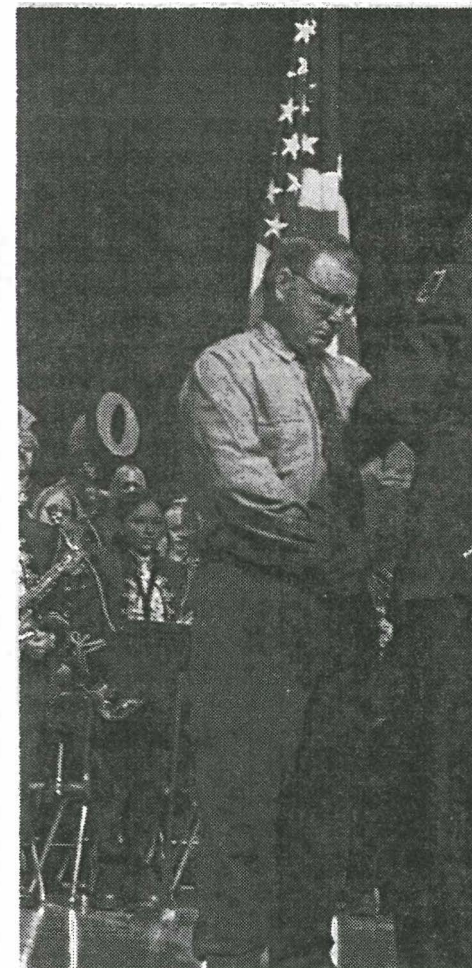
Games.

"Officiating that particular volleyball game was very enjoyable because both the Koreans and the Japanese played hard and never questioned our calls," said Schlekeway.

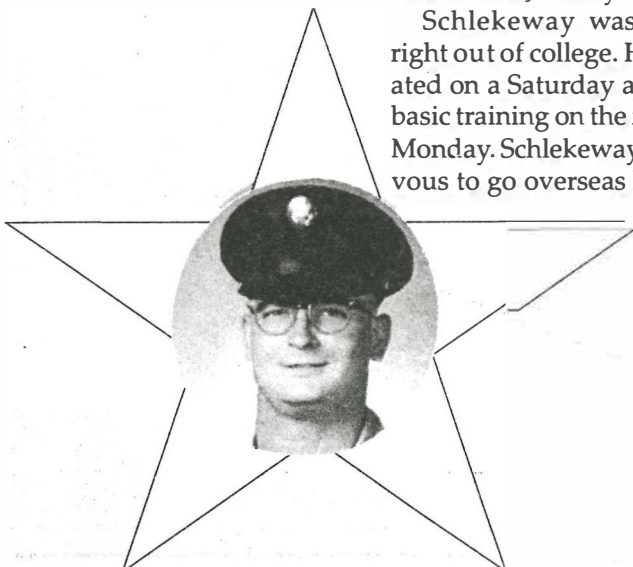
The emphasis when Schlekeway was in the service was mostly on keeping the war from reaching the United States by traveling to fight in someone else's land. Now, however, the present war on terrorism is on two fronts—one of those being the United States. Schlekeway feels the U.S. is doing a good job dealing with the present world situation.

"I think we need to continue what we're doing and be patient. However, attacks will eventually reappear someplace, and we need to be ready for that," says Schlekeway.

by BryAnn Becker



WHAT HE DESERVES...Industrial technology receives the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. (p. Barnett)



Trautner experiences WWII in navy

Over half a century ago, Phil Trautner served our country loyally in World War II. As a former teacher and a current tennis coach at Riggs, Trautner has had the experiences of war and has lived to tell about them.

Trautner trained as a signalman, learning how to communicate with and send signals to other aircraft and ships.

Trautner served for the duration of his service on the USS Remey, a destroyer ship.

"A destroyer is the fastest ship in the navy. It was loaded with depth charges for enemy submarines and anti-aircraft guns as well as having the ability to send smoke screens," Trautner said.

"I was seasick in the early days of being on the destroyer, but I eventually got used to it. I can say that I was a little scared throughout the war, along with everyone else, but

there was really no time to dwell on it. We all had jobs to do."

The USS Remey was stationed in the South Pacific around the Phillipine Islands, Okinawa, and along the coast of Japan.

Their job was to protect the US bombers in the air as well as to protect the other ships from invasion. Being on a destroyer meant being a constant target for the Japanese; floating mines and Japanese submarines were always a present danger to the ships. The worst form of attack was being bombed by Kamikaze planes. Luckily for Trautner, his ship was never targeted.

Trautner was a first class signalman, which meant that he worked with visual forms of communication. There were eleven other signalmen besides Trautner onboard, and they used semaphore signals by flags and sent coded messages by blinker lights in Morse Code.

Their posts were on the

bridge station on the upper deck and they worked in a continuous round-the-clock cycle of eight hours of work, four hours off, then eight hours of work again. During battle, eight signalmen worked at the same time.

The USS Remey heard the news of the atomic bomb immediately after it dropped on Hiroshima.

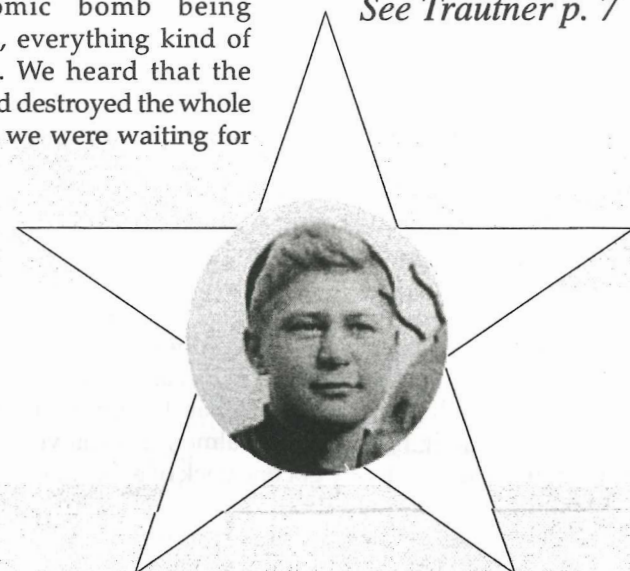
"The moment we heard of the atomic bomb being dropped, everything kind of stopped. We heard that the bomb had destroyed the whole city, and we were waiting for

Japan to surrender," Trautner said.

After the second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki three days later, the Japanese surrendered.

"My ship was with all the rest of our fleet when we heard the news of Japan's surrender. All of a sudden, everybody threw their hats up into the air and people were crying and

See Trautner p. 7



Hoing receives Purple Heart, Bronze Star

It is 3 p.m. on April 27, 1967. A large Vietcong force has been spotted. The American platoon moves to intercept the enemy, finds the Vietnamese force and a firefight begins.

Outnumbered, the platoon exchanges fire all night until 4 or 5 a.m. During the battle, a grenade explodes behind one soldier, sending him through the air and shrapnel into his back. He also takes a shot to his shoulder. Two of his buddies are wounded; their only chance for survival is if another soldier would risk his life to carry them to safety. Despite injury and great risk, that wounded soldier evacuates them to safety.

Sounds like a plot for a Vietnam war movie? Actually, this story is the real-life experience of teacher Pat Hoing as a soldier in Vietnam.

Thirty-four years later, Hoing has been awarded the Bronze Star for his valor in evacuating those two wounded soldiers from the battle that took place that night in 1967. The Bronze Star is awarded for an act of heroism while involved in a military operation against an armed enemy of the United States. Hoing is finally being awarded his medal after the paperwork for his medal was lost for over thirty years.

He has also received a Purple Heart for being injured in battle. When the exploding grenade injured Hoing, it sent about thirty pieces of shrapnel into his back. Several pieces came within a 1/4 of an inch of his spine, which if hit, could have caused paralysis. The explosion from the grenade sent him flipping through the air.

"That ride [through the air] was very frightening," remembers Hoing.

He was also shot in the

shoulder by a ricocheted bullet. Hoing commented, "That [being shot] felt like a mule kicking you in the shoulder as hard as possible." Hoing was then sent for treatment to Long Binh, a hospital near Saigon. Amazingly, after four days of recovery from his wounds, he was back in the field.

Hoing volunteered for the U.S. Army in 1966. After completing advanced infantry training, he was sent to fight in Vietnam for a year. He served in the Mekong Delta, south of Saigon, for most of his tour of service. He was a machine gunner in the infantry, firing an M-60 machine gun. His gun could fire up to one thousand rounds per minute.

"I provided support fire for the rest of the troops," said Hoing.

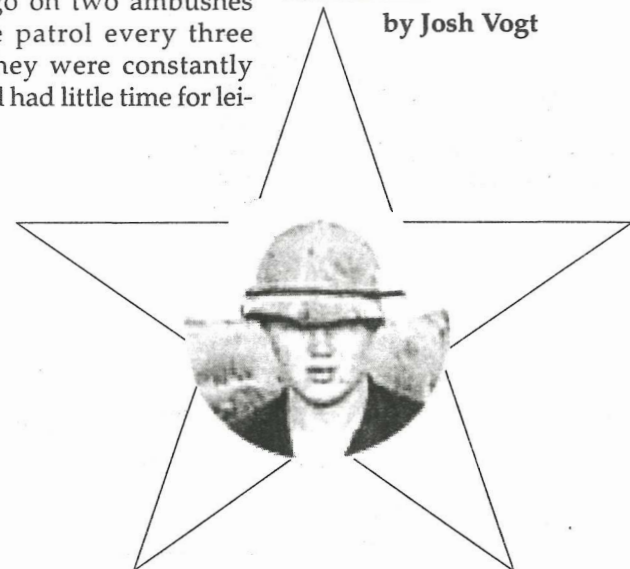
Life in Vietnam did not consist of much leisure. Hoing's infantry unit would spend three months in the field and then would get only three days

off. When in the field, he would go on both patrols and ambushes. On a patrol, about thirty soldiers would walk for five to ten miles looking for Vietcong. On an ambush, a group of about ten soldiers would go out away from their camp and would wait for Vietcong soldiers to pass by so they could ambush them. Hoing and the other soldiers would go on two ambushes and one patrol every three days. They were constantly busy and had little time for leisure.

"When I got back from Vietnam, I wasn't even old enough to vote or buy alcohol," said Hoing.

Even though Hoing and his friends were very young, they did not show a lack of bravery. These young men that risked their lives for their country showed a love for our country that few other citizens could match.

by Josh Vogt





Tyler Merriam

The Merm Made Sports Column

New facilities finally ready for use

Most students have mo-seyed across the old gym to take a look at the new gym.

What people see is a big piece of wood floor surrounded by some bleachers with a few hoops hanging over it.

Yet talking to athletic director Dusty Kracht is a different story. To him and many other athletes in Pierre, the new gym is a big deal.

"I'm very excited to have extra facilities available," Kracht said.

One important addition is the new weightlifting room.

The new weight room was needed because the old one was too small.

The old weight room was adjacent to the health room, which caused noise problems.

"It is annoying when you are lifting and the class needs you to turn the music down," says

"I'm very excited to have the extra facilities available."—Dusty Kracht

sophomore Peter Mickelson.

The new weightroom will be isolated from classrooms and by December should be fully functioning.

Overlooking the new gym is the new wrestling room.

It's occupied by the varsity and JV wrestlers, who started practice November 5.

One added convenience to the wrestling room is the mat hoist.

This feature will save a lot of time and energy because the mats would usually have to be moved by hand.

The new wrestling room also provides added space for gymnastics in the administration building. Gymnastics in the past has had to share use of the building, but

with the absence of the wrestlers this year, the amount of available practice room for gymnasts doubled.

Wrestlers began using their new room November 5 and will practice there all season.

The squad will hold all of their competitions in the Riggs High Gym.

The last and biggest part of the new facilities is the new gym.

It is a large gym with a wooden floor and six basketball hoops. It also has a loud stereo system that will be useful for many various purposes.

Attached to the gym are two new locker rooms which are already being used by the wrestling squad. On the longer sides of the gym, bleachers extend to five rows of seats running the

length of the court.

This winter, sophomore and varsity volleyball and boys basketball will rotate using the old and new gyms.

Competition for each squad will still be held in the main gym.

Freshmen basketball will practice at Jefferson but will play their games in the new gym.

Next year, the girls basketball and volleyball seasons will flip so that volleyball is in the fall.

The volleyball teams will have the all the gyms available to them, where basketball will have to share.

The boys and girls basketball squads will follow much the same process that boys basketball and volleyball are doing this season.

It is certain that with the new athletic facilities at Riggs, teams will have quality practice time.

by Tony Rislov

Jensen new wrestling coach

This year the Pierre varsity wrestling team will welcome a new coach.

Rick Jensen, a seventh grade skills teacher at the middle school, has taken the position of head coach.

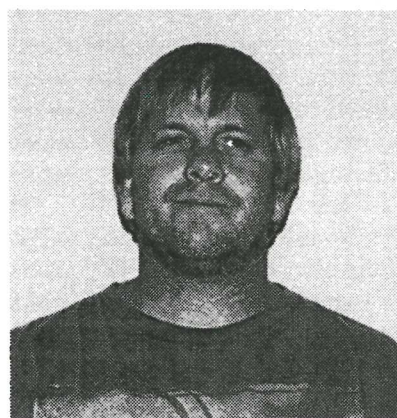
Chuck Seamands, the former coach, resigned from the position earlier this month after his second child, Preston, was born.

Seamands also has a 14-month old daughter.

Seamands says he loved coaching and cherished the relationships he had built with all the wrestlers.

Despite that, he said that his kids are just too close in age and too young to be left home alone with just his wife to watch them.

"Priorities switch, and interests have to take a backseat. Family comes first," Seamands said.



New wrestling coach Rick Jensen

Ironically, family is also what kept Jensen out of coaching in the past several years.

Jensen chose to start his own boys in wrestling, and this is his first year he won't coach them.

Jensen, who has previously held the head coaching position, is no strangers to the wrestlers.

He has already coached most of

them, and he has known this year's senior wrestlers since they were seventh graders.

Jensen is sure this year's team will be an ESD contender, and he credits a lot of that to Seamands.

"Because of the work ethic Chuck has already instilled in them, all they will need is some encouragement from me and hard work on their part, and they will be able to contend with any team in the ESD," Jensen said.

Seamands says that even though he'll miss coaching, he knew resigning was the right thing to do.

"Working with the wrestlers was great. That's the part I'll miss the most. But being with my kids is wonderful, and family is so important."

by Jenna Schiefelbein

Memories of state

First things first. Congratulations to the girls on reaching the state tournament.

Hopefully they are preparing for a semifinal game tonight, and not a game to be played this afternoon.

To Shantel, Connie, Ami and Kara, I wish them the best of luck on what will be their final basketball games.

Speaking of final, the girls tournament also marks their final basketball tourney in the fall, with the seasons changing next year to winter.

However, one thing that won't change from last year is a winning boys basketball squad.

Last year, they reached the title game, falling just seven points short of the championship.

This season, which starts Monday, provides the chances of a return to a state title, one that I expect the squad to make.

Granted, we no longer have DJ Prue, Joe LeFaive and Eric Aadland.

We lose the electricity that Prue provided for the squad, but we also lose the distractions he would occasionally throw at us.

The most experienced returning player is junior Pat Anderson, who will run the point, with senior Nic Hogan at another guard.

Bradley Ronald Wire will see action at center

and he could end up All-State, as well as both Anderson and Hogan.

Senior Colin Whitebird also returns, the man who is the Michael Jordan of the open gym.

Throw in senior Garrett James, and the bench of a year ago in seniors Chas Olson and Drew Palmer, and you've got one heck of a foundation.

Then the junior class has Kevin Hall's gargantuan frame, Chris Iverson's ball handling and Nathan Auch's touch that add even more firepower.

The 2001-2002 Pierre Governors, headed by Skip Kurth, will be a pre-season top five and have a good chance of ending up as the top in the state.

Last year, the weekend at state was perhaps the most fun I've ever had being with the squad, and I look forward to doing it again.

Oh, and how could I forget hyping our first two home games?

December 7, we play Aberdeen Central. We hate em; enough said.

December 14, the Kernels come to town. Coach Gary Munsen showed his respect by refusing to shake hands after the state game a year ago, and he'll get embarrassed this year.

See ya next time, and don't forget to visit GovsBBall.Tripod.com

Pierre-Mitchell rivalry: brings out best, worst in fans

Rivalries. In Pierre, the very word brings thoughts of hatred and bitterness towards the black and gold of the Mitchell Kernels.

Rivalries are as much a part of sports as sweat and hard work. They are as old as sports themselves and continue still today. Rivalries are almost essential in sports in that they bring an added excitement to an already important game.

Whether it's Nebraska vs. Oklahoma, North Carolina vs. Duke, or the Yankees vs. the Red Sox, these games seem to bring out the best in individuals and their teams.

These rivalries also bring out added motivation, an extra incentive, to win. It's almost as if the game played is the most important of the year. For some teams, their only goal for the whole year is just to beat their most hated rival.

"The best part about the night was seeing their faces at our hotel after we beat them on that last-second shot."—Sara Tillman

Who is our most hated rival? Ask anybody at T.F. Riggs and they will only say one other school—Mitchell.

"Essentially, we take pride in beating Mitchell 'ESD style,'" said Kipp Stahl, junior. This theory seems to hold true for many reasons.

So what makes this rivalry? What brings out the infamous Mitchell t-shirts, which are too inappropriate to say what is actually on them, and the relentless chanting and booing? Is it blind hatred? (Meaning that we simply hate them because our parents or older brothers and sisters did.) Or is it deeper?

Most likely, it is a combina-

tion of both. Yes, part of this rivalry is instilled in us as youngsters and young adults by past students and older siblings or friends, but another part comes from the actual experience of a game or activity versus the Kernels first hand.

Although there is a passionate rivalry now, it wasn't this bad years ago when our parents attended Pierre High School.

"The rivalry wasn't as bad in years past. We always were rivals mostly because we were in the same district but it wasn't like it is today," said sophomore basketball coach Dan Snyder, who is a graduate of Riggs.

There are many reasons that has enhanced this rivalry. One main reason for this rivalry is Mike Miller. The now NBA Rookie of the Year used to play for the black and gold of Mitchell during his high school years. A combination of his stardom, our hatred for Mitchell, and the fact that we always played them tough, even if we didn't beat them, are big factors for many years of our rivalry.

Another factor of this rivalry is what many people believe to be the overwhelming arrogance and cockiness of Mitchell players and fans. The attitude that they are better and more talented than anybody else in the state (not just us) is childish and inappropriate.

"[Mitchell's] fans were really mean to us [Pierre fans] before the game," said junior Sara Tillman, discussing last

year's Pierre-Mitchell state tournament game. "The best part about the whole night was seeing their faces at our hotel after we beat them on that last-second shot."

So what is to become of this rivalry? Like so many other great rivalries in sports, it will most likely last for many generations. But this is not necessarily a bad thing. Rivalries are good for all sports, including high school basketball. It gives otherwise normal games an extra something, an added dimension which adds to the fun and intensity of the game.

What do students at Riggs think of this heated rivalry? Most comments you would receive if you ask them would be too explicit to write. But it is safe to say this rivalry still burns and will continue to do so for many years to come.

by Pat Anderson

Trautner: continued from p. 5

hugging each other. People were throwing things all over the ship. The horns of all the ships started blasting in mad celebration. Earlier, a supply ship had stopped by and dropped off huge crates of California oranges for every ship. Before I knew it, every one started to throw

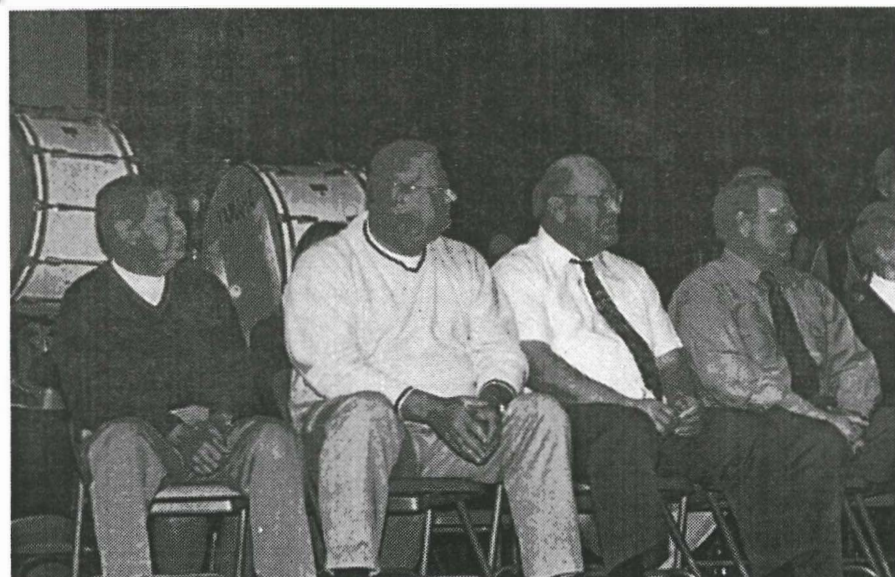
the oranges up in the air and as far as you could see, it seemed to be snowing oranges. It was such an amazing sight."

The Remey headed home a few weeks later and every one of Trautner's shipmates made it back safely.

"One of the greatest memories I have is when my ship returned to

America from the war and we sailed in under the Golden Gate Bridge. It was a great feeling to be back home. I couldn't believe I was back in America and it took a while for it to sink in. I was filled with a sense of relief," Trautner said.

by Dakota Bixler



FOUR OF AMERICA'S BEST... Phil Trautner, Jerry Schlekeway, Tom Birhanzel, and Pat Hoing were recognized for their service of their country during Thursday's ceremony. (photo by Mallori Barnett.)

Martial arts teaches defense

Nobody expects to be attacked when they are going about their daily business, and the vast majority of people will never be. Violent attacks can come without warning when a person least expects it. This is one of the many reasons why people in the Pierre community are involved in the martial arts.

Different varieties of martial arts have been performed over many centuries, but the most common forms are Karate and Tae Kwon Do.

Junior Nicole Ormesher explains that one of the best reasons for taking karate is the self-defense.

"I used to watch my dad and brother during their combat karate classes when I was young. Ever since then I had wanted to follow their footsteps and receive a black belt just like them," said Ormesher.

In both Karate and Tae Kwon Do, students are

"Tae Kwon Do is lots of fun. It teaches self-discipline and confidence."—Terry Peterson

classified into levels by their color of belt, with each color representing a different rank.

Riggs speech teacher Terry Peterson is a fourth degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do. He started Tae Kwon Do 14 years ago with his daughter and has continued ever since.

Karate consists more of hand movements and punches, whereas Tae Kwon Do consists more of a variety of kicks which are usually higher than karate's.

"Tae Kwon Do is lots of fun. It teaches self-discipline and confidence. A lot of people should know how to defend themselves," said Peterson.

Besides self-defense and exercise, martial artists get to enjoy the ex-

citement of competing.

"One thing I always looked forward to was the privilege of getting to travel to different competitions," said former karate student junior Robert Sautner.

Junior Pat Anderson is a second degree black belt and has been in Tae Kwon Do for ten years.

"I started when I was five years old because my mother and older siblings were in it. I also wanted to learn how to defend myself," he said.

Anderson has been to many Tae Kwon Do competitions and tournaments where he gets the opportunity to spar, or fight, against other martial artists.

Any form of martial arts is a great way to get in shape, learn self-discipline and self-defense and most importantly, to have fun.

by Tiffany Murtland

Oral Interp winners advance to state

Poise, clarity, expression. What do these words have in common? They are all part of Oral Interpretation, an extra-curricular activity at Riggs.

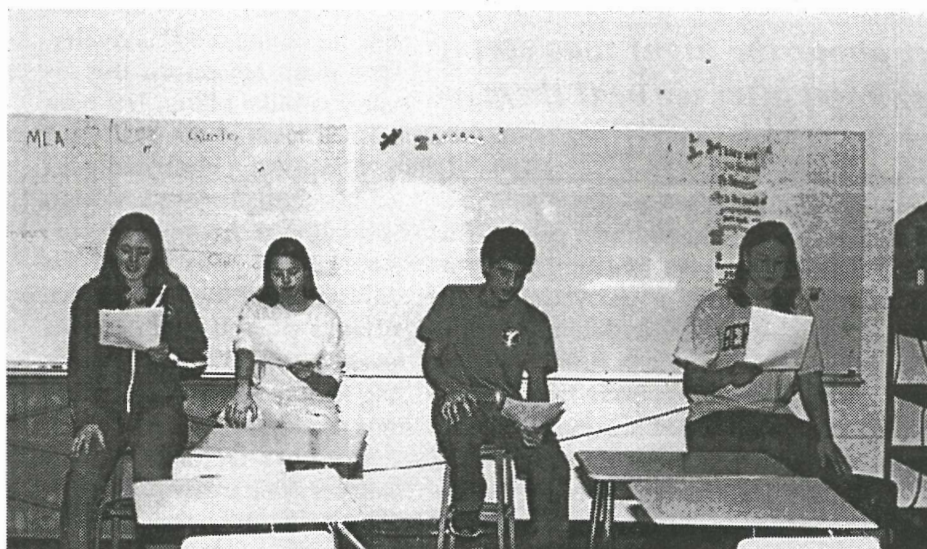
Last night winners were chosen in a local competition to determine who will advance to state.

The winners were senior Hannah Waack in the poetry category and in a duet with her sister sophomore Ursula.

Senior Max Huber will advance to the state competition in the humorous category and junior Stephanie Trujillo in the serious drama category.

Some members didn't have to compete yesterday because they had already qualified for state.

They were senior Katie Clark in the serious prose category; senior Dan Payne in the oratory category; and in the readers



STATE, HERE WE COME...Seniors Katie Clark, Hannah Waack, Dan Payne and junior Nate Chappelle rehearse their piece for Readers Theater. (photo by Gerda Jorgenson)

theater category, Clark, Hannah Waack, Payne and junior Nate Chappelle

"Being in oral interp taught me to be a better speaker in public!" commented senior Katie Clark.

Twelve students were active members of Oral Interp.

The members participate in different types of competitive contests, according to their speaking capabilities.

They have been in

other competitions held in Winner, Belle Fourche, and Sturgis.

The state competition will take place in Sioux Falls on November 30 and December 1.

by Sean Corcoran

Musicals require many talents

The house lights dim. The orchestra begins the overture. The curtains roll back revealing an elaborate, beautifully painted set.

These may be the images that come to mind when one thinks of a musical. But how does it

all come together?

The first step is casting. There could be no play without performers. Auditions for a musical usually consist of reading a scene or part of a scene from the musical. The directors then narrow down the list and

hold callbacks, which usually include singing part of a song from the musical. The directors then determine which people are best for certain parts.

Another crucial part of a musical is the orchestra, often called the "pit." As the title might suggest, the band doesn't have the most glamorous role in the process.

"The music is really repetitive, and it's all written in difficult keys," says senior Hana Bloomberg, who will play in the pit for "1776." Both the cast and the band put in many hours of practice, both together and separately.

Another group that makes a big contribution is the set crew. These people build, paint, and decorate the set. The set for an average musical may take weeks to build.

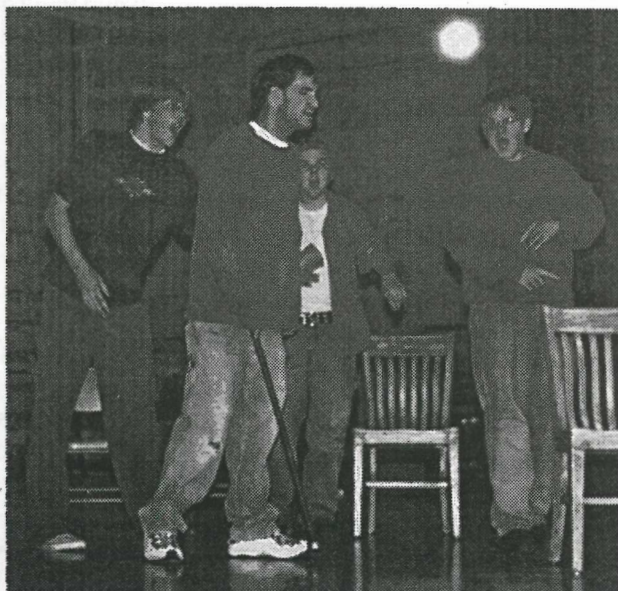
A musical also requires costumes and props. A few people must be willing to design or collect the necessary items.

No one could forget the technical people who keep the show running smoothly. People are needed backstage to open and close curtains, change backdrops, and move props. Two people work spotlights, and three to four people are usually in the booth controlling lights and sounds.

Of course, there are also people who put up signs, sell tickets, and pass out programs.

It has been said that, "It takes a village to raise a child." It also takes a village to put on a musical.

by Gillian Woodburn



SIT DOWN JOHN...Seniors Tom Johnson, John Williams, Erik Gilbertson, and Aaron Bumann practice a scene. (photo by Gerda Jorgenson)

NHS raises funds for attack victims

National Honor Society sponsored a fundraiser held during October.

The proceeds from this event were donated to help the victims of the September 11 terrorist attack.

Senior Katie Oberg served as the chairperson of the fundraiser.

"I thought we needed to do something to help the New York victims," said Oberg.

The goal was to get one dollar from each student at Riggs. Jars were placed in the English rooms, Mr. Mickelson's room, Mr. Venner's room, and Mrs. Weiss's room.

Though some money was collected from the jars, a big proportion was gathered by P.E. teacher Dan Snyder on the final day of collecting. He easily won the prize.

Gary Schneider and Bobbi Brown, NHS advisers, report that the total amount raised was just under \$1,100.

The money was sent to New York through the United Way. If anyone would like to help the victims of the terrorist attack, contact the United Way, Red Cross, or talk to Mrs. Brown in Student Services.

by Amy Bergeson

Close-up students work toward trip to Washington D.C.

Close-Up students, advised by history teacher Bruce Venner, continues fundraising for their trip to Washington D.C. in April.

Their fundraisers include selling coupon books, and working concessions at various girls volleyball and boys wrestling matches.

The Close-Up Foundation has also sold prints for the World War II Dedication and close to 6000 candy bars earlier this fall.

About 80 members initially signed up at the beginning of the year, but only about 40 are still planning to go to Washington D.C.

"I am excited for the trip. I will enjoy the culture and the history of

Washington D.C.," said junior Heather Mangan

The cost to go to Washington D.C. from April 9 through the 13 will be around \$1400, and members will continue to raise funds toward their goal.

Venner says that if concerns about anthrax pose a threat to the group, the Washington D.C. trip will be cancelled and money will be refunded.

Of course both Venner and the students hope that a cancellation won't be necessary.

Close-Up allows students to get a first-hand look at the seat of our nation's government.

by Jessica Callahan