

# T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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Relax to the sound of music  
Senior McKayla Marso lets her stress out on the dance floor.  
pg 4-5



Juniors get an upgrade

## Students receive eligibility for open periods starting next month

By Will B. Butler

Eleventh grade students meet certain requirements during a one month trial period, they will have the opportunity to have one open period.

Juniors were informed of this chance toward the end of March, and the trial period began about one week after they were told of the decision.

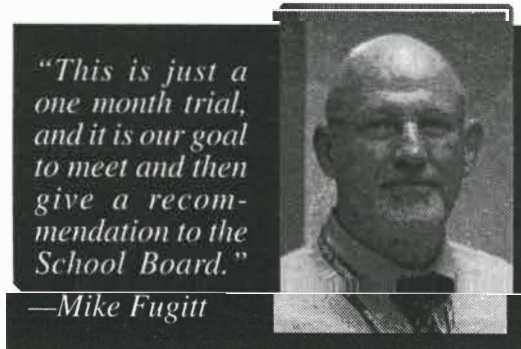
According to Riggs Principal Mike Fugitt, juniors are required to have two or fewer absences during the trial period, be passing in all classes, earn at least 14.5 credits, have no tardies at all, have no discipline referrals and have parental permission to have the open starting in May. Absences related to

school activities will be excused during this time period, and discipline referrals will include parking-related incidents.

"We aren't positive as to what benefits we expect, but our main reason for doing this is to provide an incentive for academic success and good attendance," Fugitt said.

Fugitt said that he couldn't think of any major drawbacks, except for the fact that it is considered to be a step backwards, since juniors have had their open campus removed for several years. Fugitt added that the Riggs administration will evaluate how this trial goes and then give a recommendation to the school board.

"This is just a one-



*"This is just a one month trial, and it is our goal to meet and then give a recommendation to the School Board."*

—Mike Fugitt

month trial, and it is our goal to meet and then give a recommendation to the school board," Fugitt said.

The committee involved in drafting this policy included Fugitt, Assistant Principal John Lakner, guidance counselors Bobbi Brown, Carol Carney and LaDonna Zellmer, Todd Palmer, John Hoover, Terry Peterson, Myron Bryant, Dan Snyder

and Terri Cummings.

Students, for the most part, have been very appreciative of the chance to get an open period.

"I think that they should have kept junior opens in the first place," junior Jim Costello said.

"Every grade except ninth should get opens," sophomore Jake Johnson said.

"I think that they should do this because then my class would get it next year," sophomore Matt

### Requirements for juniors

- two or fewer absences during the trial period
- passing grades in all classes
- earn at least 14.5 credits
- no tardies and no discipline referrals
- parental permission

Geffre said.

Freshman Terrence Tedford agrees.

"It would be a respectful gesture to the eleventh graders," he said.

Some concerns were brought up with the guidelines for getting an open period.

"It's a great idea, but the guidelines are rather strict," junior Brandon Brown said. "I'm really scared to be late for a class, and I don't even have time to clean out my

instruments after band class."

"It's about time that they got their opens back, and I wish that my class would have had that opportunity," senior Amanda Harsin said, "but it seems kind of harsh to me."

When asked if he saw any possible extension of future open-campus benefits for sophomores and freshman, Fugitt stated that he did not. He also noted that in his view, the criteria

for getting opens was not too strict.

"I don't see this extending beyond the junior class if it is implemented," Fugitt said.

"Passing everything may not be good enough, but the criteria are pretty decent," Fugitt said.

"I'm excited about this and interested to see how many students this will impact," he said.

Opens for eligible juniors will begin May 3.

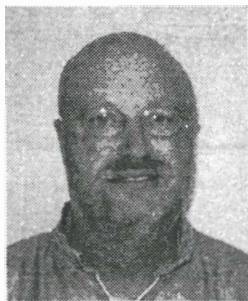
## Three basketball coaches resign Artists win awards

By BryAnn Becker

Fifty-eight years of Riggs coaching experience will be absent from next year's boys and girls basketball seasons. Boys basketball coach Harvey "Skip" Kurth, girls basketball coach Pat McClemons and girls junior varsity coach Steve Robinson have all resigned from their respective positions.

Kurth's 25 years of coaching at Riggs have included boys junior varsity, girls sophomore team and boys varsity basketball. His dedication to coaching stemmed from a variety of influences.

Kurth said he developed an interest in basketball at a young age. "Coaches including

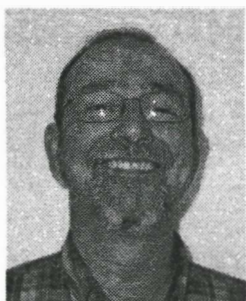


Skip Kurth

the legendary Bob Wachs from Northern State University and others have impacted my life," he said.

Kurth has enjoyed his experiences with coaching basketball.

"The number one thing I enjoyed about coaching was the development of the various relationships involved: the player/coach relationships and the coach/coach relationships. Aside



Steve Robinson

from that, I appreciated the day-to-day challenges of preparing for the upcoming contests," he said.

McClemons began coaching the Lady Gobs in 1996 and has had 84 wins during his coaching career.

In 1997, McClemons' team progressed to the state tournament before losing to Sioux Falls Roosevelt 49-45.

Robinson has



Pat McClemons

coached basketball at Riggs since 1979.

He has enjoyed interacting with the students during coaching.

"You get to know the kids more personally than you do in a classroom," he said.

In general, he said he remembers the state championships for the girls team against Sioux Falls Roosevelt and the boys team against Sioux Falls Washington.

By Robin Hinesh

The art club recently held its fifth annual art show. The art show is one of three that student artists have entered lately.

The artwork is displayed at Photos by Debby.

Winners, by category, are as follows: **Painting:** 1st place sophomore Amy Breitag; 2nd, seniors Megan Spires and Christina Mutschler; 3rd, sophomore Maggie Schultz.

**3-D:** 1st place senior Maggie Spires; 2nd, junior Josh Breske; 3rd, senior Molly Hanson.

**Pastel:** 1st place junior Micah Rockwell; 2nd, senior Emily Goeden and sopho-



Student drawings, photos, paintings, and pottery on display at Photos by Debby.

more Amy Breitag; 3rd, junior Kim McCormick and senior Christina Mutschler.

**Drawing:** 1st place senior Megan Spires; 2nd, junior Jesse Monroe and sophomore Jesse Larson; 3rd, sophomore Kayla Kuiper and freshman

Ashley Smith.

**Photography:** 1st place senior Kim deHueck; 2nd, sophomore Dirk McGrane; 3rd, senior Holly Curtis and sophomore Maggie Schultz.

**Other:** 1st place Meaghen Schoenhard; 2nd, freshman Ashley Smith and junior Barb Jones; 3rd, junior Corie Oliva.



# Teachers inspire, make difference for students

I left the elementary classroom reluctantly while the other kids were eating their snacks. Feelings of worthlessness and stupidity flooded my mind as I went to my weekly special speech class. However, as I entered the room, the teacher made me feel welcome and normal, despite my inability to say my "s's" and "z's." She played games with me and encouraged me when I told her I thought I'd be taking Speech classes forever.

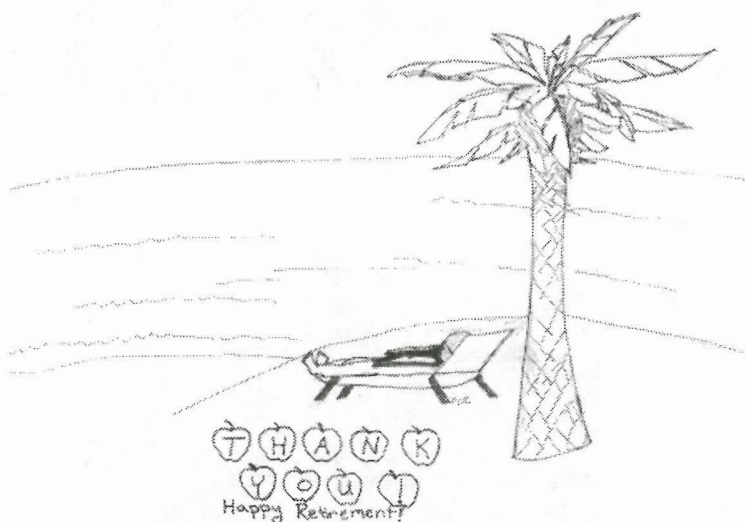
Forever turned out to be only two years, and now the only memories of my speech problems are of my teacher's smiling face and caring attitude.

Teachers like my speech teacher Sue Burger have shaped and defined my life for the past twelve years. They have taught

me more than textbooks could every say; they have taught me about life, character, and spirit. Amidst learning about Laura Ingalls Wilder, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Aphrodite, Pascal and others, my teachers have helped me touch the tip of an iceberg called knowledge.

When teachers such as Betty Weiss or Carol Pickering retire, I wonder if they realize the effect their teaching has had on students. Their students will remember their smiling faces long after they forget where a kidney is located or the definition of a logarithm. (Yes, Mrs. Weiss, I remember: Logarithms are exponents!)

While the profession requires long hours of dedication and patience, I hope teachers realize the profound effect they have on their students.



Since South Dakota doesn't reward its teachers highly in salary units, this is a thank-you to teach-

ers who have made a difference in students' lives, including my own.

## Thumbs Up

...to the parents, teachers and students who helped make Prom and Post-Prom a success. Everyone put in a lot of time and planning to make a night to remember.

...to the senior parents' preparation of an anticipated night of fun for this Saturday night's Parent Senior Party.

...to Riggs' first, and hopefully not last, film festival, and to the organizers for being brave enough to try something new.



## Thumbs Down

...to students and teachers who didn't attend the spring play "Arsenic and Old Lace" or the first two days of the film festival. Empty seats aren't encouraging.

## Letter to the editor:

Dear editor:

Boys and girls soccer should be an official school sport. Soccer has been a youth activity in the Pierre community for quite some time, and so far the young people who play it have received little or no support from the school administration.

At the soccer team's current venue, they are lucky if twenty-five people show up. Even if more people wanted to come, there is only one small set of bleachers. When the varsity soccer team earned a berth in the championship game at the state soccer tournament last year, not many people supported the athletes. If the basketball team made it to the championship game, the whole town would come to watch. It proves that school sports have much more recognition.

Many more people know about these programs since game schedules are posted everywhere and are reported in the announcements.

It would give varsity soccer players more confidence if they could play a home game at night on Hollister Field. The lights glowing on the field and the crowd roaring for the team's success would be an awesome event. In years to come, the Pierre varsity soccer teams have a very good chance to win a state title. I would think that the school would like to be part of this accomplishment. Soccer teams would not even need to use that much of the school's funding since the soccer teams have minimal and inexpensive needs. All a soccer player wants is his/her day in the sun—I mean out of the sun and under the lights.

Sincerely Yours,  
Kai Hanson, junior

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

## HALL TALK: DO YOU THINK THE DRUNK DRIVING AWARENESS PROGRAM SUCCEEDED IN GETTING ACROSS A MESSAGE TO STUDENTS?



"No matter what anyone tells them, the kids are going to do what they want to do."  
—Greg Whisenant, senior



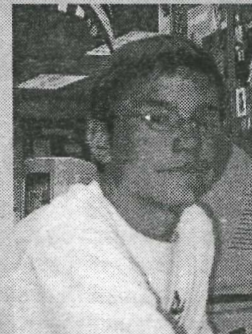
"I think it was necessary because there are people who do stupid things and need to know the consequences."  
—Sam Gaetze, sophomore



"I don't think so; people were sleeping because it was boring."  
—Josh Tetzlaff, sophomore



"I don't know. I thought it was pretty good, but I don't think people listened."  
—Tiffany Andersen, junior



"No way, we've heard enough about it over the years."  
—Scott Szugger, freshman



"Yeah, I think kids need to be aware of what could happen."  
—Natalie Likness, sophomore



# April creates fond memories for columnist

On this, the final edition of Columnist Anonymous, I shall rant further on topics of my own interest. Please read and enjoy.

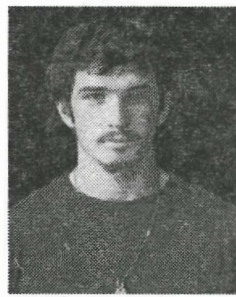
Prom went very well this year, with some live news crew covering the entrance to the event.

To everyone who missed the final night of 'Arsenic and Old Lace' you missed seeing fellow students dealing instruments of torture to each other while apparently intoxicated. Highly entertaining only begins to describe it.

April has been a hectic month for everyone with all the to-do's it involves. Now there's only one major event to make for hassle and stress: talent show. From whis-

ting 'Night on Bald Mountain' to fire-eating while juggling chairs, you'll see none of that physical manipulation here.

Talent Show gives students with unique abilities the chance to show off. Maybe a tap-dance routine, a or a balancing act will appear, but for the most



**Columnist Anonymous**  
Tyson Nafus

part solos and musical ensembles will rule the night.

While I'm advertising, there's a tractor for sale on the corner of Sioux and Main. Find it and you can name your price.

Oh, I almost forgot to mention Post Prom. I did not go to it, but from second-hand accounts, the hypnotist was sadistic. Funny, but sadistic. Much more wasn't divulged to me about Post Prom but I've heard off-handed mentions of it, ranging from "It was entertaining," to "It was free and I still walked out." To all who went, I sincerely hope you enjoyed yourselves and didn't get electrocuted too badly.

# BEST OF 2003

So-called critic updates list



**Cinerama!**  
by Andrew Kightlinger

- \*\*\*\*\*Perfect Movie
- \*\*\*\*A must-see
- \*\*\*Rental fare
- \*\*Not recommended
- \*Avoid at all costs

The Year of Movies 2003 has passed us by for many months now, but so many great films I missed from that year have now been released on DVD in all their digital glory! So here is an update of the Best Films of the Year 2003:

1. *Lord of The Rings: The Return of The King* \*\*\*\*\*---If you read my column regularly, then I have no need to praise this movie anymore than I already have...oh...well, it's one of the greatest movies ever made!

2. *Kill Bill Volume 1* \*\*\*\*\*---One of the most entertaining movies I have ever seen! The story is perfect, if simple, and all the characters are fascinating. This is also 1000% more violent and gory than "Passion" and leaves a longer lasting impression after having seen it. Must see Vol. 2!

3. *Lost In Translation* \*\*\*\*\*---If you haven't already seen this, then check it out at around 5:15 p.m. today (the day you are reading this column) at the Abstract Film Festival. It is a great movie, and plays better on a larger screen.

4. *Matchstick Men* \*\*\*\*1/2---Nicholas Cage is the most underrated best actor in Hollywood and this little gem proves that.

5. *Finding Nemo* \*\*\*\*1/2---One of the greatest animated movies of all-time! It is funny, clever, and full of in-jokes that keep popping up after repeated viewings.

6. *House of Sand & Fog* \*\*\*\*---Unbelievable! A movie that pits two extremely different people against each other, but manages to make both characters sympathetic and causes you to root for both of them. And the ending just blows you away!

7. *21 Grams* \*\*\*\*---This movie is so intense, you are emotionally drained by the end, but the drainage is worth it. Sean Penn deserved his Oscar for this, not *Mystic*.

8. *Intolerable Cruelty* \*\*\*\*---One of the greatest comedies I have seen in years! This is hilarious stuff, and though not for all tastes, it's a great screwball romantic comedy with a dark twist. George Clooney is the new Cary Grant.

9. *Whale Rider* \*\*\*\*---A great tearjerker with exceptional performances and a great message for a person of any age.

10. *Mystic River* \*\*\*\*---Though lacking in certain areas of character development, this movie is nonetheless a powerhouse. It is gripping and intense the whole way through, and never lets go until the credits roll. Sean Penn is worthy of his Oscar, though *21 Grams* is more worthy.

GO TO FILM FESTIVAL!!! On Friday go to *The 'burbs* at 3:30, *Lost in Translation* at 5:15, *Casablanca* at 7:00, *The Graduate* at 9:00. Admission is \$3. There might be POPCORN!?!)

# Creative ideas help fight summer blues

With spring here and summer soon approaching, people are now starting to wake from their winter slumber and are now venturing into the great outdoors. So this months article is going to be dedicated to cheap but semi-fun things that you and your friends can do outside.

1. Get some friends together and go down to the softball complex and play a fun and healthy game of

baseball/softball. (This works with other sports, too. Maybe try soccer or football, ect.)

2. When the weather warms up, go to the beach or the outdoor pool and work on your tan. Or maybe just lie around in your friend's backyard.

3. Get a bunch of people and go down to the beach at night or a friend's house who lives out in the country and have a bonfire and roast marshmallows and



**Much 'To Do' About Nothing**  
Maggie Schultz & Jenny Badger

hot dogs.

4. Pack up a lunch and go to the closest park or Hilger's Gulch and have a nice picnic.

5. Go over to a friend's house and

make smoothies and sit outside talking.

6. Get some friends together and go camping.

7. Go to Hilger's Gulch and roll down the hill with friends.

8. Go over to a friend's house and watch movies and eat ice cream and pizza. It's a very good way to stay cool.

9. You and your friends can have a huge water fight at the park or in someone's backyard.

10. Go to the beach and build sand castles with your friends. See who can make the biggest, prettiest sand castle, then when you're all

done, you and your friends can all smash the castles.

11. Go to the beach and bury each other up to your necks in sand; then see who can get out.

12. Go to the beach and, well, just swim. That's always a fun thing to do; it's cheap, too.

This summer when you and your friends are just sitting around getting bored, remember our article and go out and have yourselves some fun.

# Furious Cracker digests school lunch

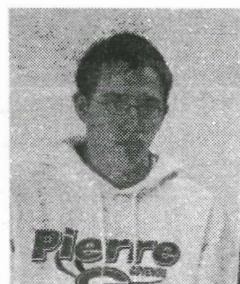
Well, it has finally happened. It appears that most of your prayers have been answered. I went a little overboard on the last few articles. So what did the editors do to me? They fired me. I am being let go. This will be the last ever column you will ever read from the Angry Cracker. The editors decided to let me do one last article though. That was nice of them.

You know what? Forget that firing stuff. I will not be fired. I am going to retire from column writing altogether.

Actually, this is my last column because next month somebody else will write about the end of the year. (see below)

When I had to think of a topic to write about this month, I couldn't think of one. The topic I did think about will hopefully not leave you with a bad taste in your mouth.

The last angry cracker topic ever is go-



**The Angry Cracker**  
Andrew Berreth

You know, what most of all of you people do during this time period—you run. You get your daily exercise with a 93 meter dash (estimated distance, as I did not actually measure it). I must admit, I participate in this daily routine. It is also one of the parts of the day that I look forward to ev-

ing to be about something you all know about. The topic is school lunch, but not the lunch in particular. I am talking about what happens in the first 1.235275 minutes of each lunch period.

ery day. Who wouldn't look forward to it? This may be looked down on by some certain individuals that have a job to regulate the students in this school, but I look at it for them as an opportunity to become school heroes.

If a teacher lets us out of class a few seconds early, he is a hero. It is greatly appreciated, and I hope this happens more often. I have also noticed that the principals have been lightening up a little on the runners. I saw one person, whose name is David, scamper at his full speed right by a certain individual of high authority. The person just shrugged it off, and said, "Looks like he's got quite an appetite." He just let him go. That thrilled me to death. I was very happy to see that happen.

So keep it up, school leaders, and I hope that you will not read this article and want to be harsh again against us.

**Calling all seniors:** Submit a column to replace these four next month! We will choose the best ones to publish. Columns can be funny, sad, touching, or angry, but they should reflect your experience here at Riggs and your hopes for the future. Articles are due by April 30 to Mrs. Vogt or any editor.



# One Pierre family fosters early music skills

By Mallory Petersen

As you walk into Denette Eisnach's house, your ears will be flooded by all the noise that surrounds you.

It's not bad noise by any means; it's music, the world's most cherished noise.

Over in the corner you'll hear twelve-year-old Taylor practicing his new drum set. At the other end of the house you will hear ten-year-old Tanna playing her violin, and somewhere in the middle you'll find four-year-old Kaylee with her mom learning something new on her violin.

Eisnach first exposed her children to music while they were still in the womb, all thanks to a research paper she had to do in her school days.

But once her first child, Taylor, was born, they discovered their newest addition had severe colic.

"We actually had to tape the vacuum. It was the only way he would calm down," Eisnach said.



Taylor and Tanna Becker were are part of Capitol Area's 100 Faces Project.

courtesy photo

Later on, they moved from playing a vacuum cleaner to storms, until he finally got wind of classical music.

Then one night at home, Eisnach's husband, David Becker, was flipping through channels until it landed briefly on Lawrence Welk.

"It stopped him (Taylor) dead in his tracks," Eisnach said smiling, thinking of that mo-

ment.

They once again began to tape. Only this time it wasn't vacuum cleaners and storms. It was Lawrence Welk.

As soon as each of their children was old enough, Eisnach started violin lessons with her children using the Suzuki (sa-zoo-ki) Method.

The Suzuki Method is a special method used on children to start teaching them a musical instru-

ment, along with pitch—all by ear.

"The Suzuki Method strives for perfection, but with a positive approach," Eisnach explains.

Eisnach works with all of her children, who started the method on the violin, five days a week without fail, which explains their musical abilities.

But does music really enhance fetal develop-

*"The Suzuki Method strives for perfection, but with a positive approach."—Denette Eisnach*

ment?

Studies indicate that playing music to an unborn child may or may not affect the child later in life.

Some studies say the growing fetus can hear and react to sound by moving. The problem is that no one knows what these movements mean. For all we know, the child could be in discomfort.

It also has been said that there are no studies that tell the world of a relationship between music and fetal development.

But the story is very different when it comes to young children.

Researchers have found a big relationship between music instruction and positive performances in various areas, including concentration, coordination, relaxation, patience, and self-confidence.



"Music training jump starts certain inherent patterns in parts of the brain responsible for spatial-temporal reasoning," said a researcher from University of California in a previous interview with Paul Borgese and Jovanka Caires.

But the main reasons Eisnach works with her children are so that they improve their skills in science and math, develop confidence to get up in front of people, and to foster enjoyment in music, of course.

Her kids are lucky.

## Music: How times have changed

By Mallory Petersen

The feel of Beethoven warms the streets with the hint of Mozart following steadily behind. You look up and see 16th century architecture. You are on the streets of Vienna.

You are on the streets of Chicago. It's 1920. Jazz fills the air. People around you are scurrying to get back to their homes so they can sit and relax, only to dream of being part of vaudeville.

It's 1960. You are standing on a lonely corner in the middle of the prairie where the only sign of life is at the local bar where

laughing echoes all around you. All of a sudden, you hear a jukebox jolt out the beginning of Charley Pride's "Kiss An Angel Good Morning."

Those days are long gone, but rock, rap, hip hop, and others fill the air making classical, jazz, country, and rock a

part of our past. While it may be a good thing that music preferences change along with the times, that's a personal opinion. But it is interesting to think about what the next generations will be listening to.

Will they still like rap

or appreciate the flourishes of instrumental music? Will they have their car stereos turned up with the bass booming? It is difficult to imagine what future music lovers will be listening to.

One direction that music may be headed is in more computer-generated songs. Even now it's not hard to find a song completely comprised of computer-generated sounds. By the end of this millennium, will there even be guitars, drum sets, or trumpets? Maybe they will only be in museums.

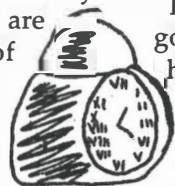
"My music likings haven't really changed, but have just become

more diverse. I used to be all country, and it's still my top choice, but now, depending on my mood, I listen to just about anything except for heavy metal," sophomore Alayna Hyde said.

Others think students' music has already changed but not because it is liked.

"Business people have totally killed modern music by polluting the radio and TV with what they think we want to hear," freshman Alex Lindholm noted.

Hopefully music from the past will be a part of the future and not just a remembrance at the local museum.



## You said...

"Hip hop/Rap music is the downfall of American culture."

—Andrew Kightlinger, senior

"Music is a river of words that calms people down when they are stressed."

—Thomas Voeltz, sophomore

"I think that music is a new interesting form of communication from artists to listeners."

—James Blackmore, freshman

"The music you lis-

ten to is your own sense of style and contentment. If you insult someone of their likings of music, you are pretty much insulting them."

—Melisa Forest, junior

"I love music. It expresses things that I could not with words."

—Karen VanCamp, senior

"I love music. I love to bust some skulls in a killer mosh pit. It rocks... and rolls."

—Steve Nelson, sophomore



# Rhythms connect stress, music

By Mallory Petersen

It is around you all days and nights. It engulfs you when least expected. And if there is one thing for certain, it is never going to leave.

It is stress.

There is a way to help conquer that menacing beast, and it is something that many people include in their daily lives—music.

Music is there to turn

to during that long day at the office; it's there to relieve mental exhaustion caused by tests, which account for many sleepless nights. It's there to help everyone walk through stress.

"Music is my life. Whenever I am working or doing something, I always have some sort of music playing—or, I am singing something," sophomore Debbie

Gannaway says.

Listening to music is a simple yet helpful technique for keeping the day that much more stress-free.

"When I go to swim meets, I listen to music just before I have to race to calm my nerves," freshman Mary Holm said.

But really, what makes music so relaxing?

Well, Great American Big Bands' Research Affiliation were able to come up with a few answers.

Music releases stress by: 1) providing a predictable, secure environment—or in simpler terms, enforcing mental comfort; 2) inducing feelings of well being; 3) decreasing physical responses, such as heart rate and respiration; 4) inducing and maintaining relaxation once it occurs; 5) bringing order to chaotic events; 6) and providing a break from frenetic activities.

"Music is very relaxing, but at the same time it wakes you up," com-

mented junior BobbieJo Hirman.

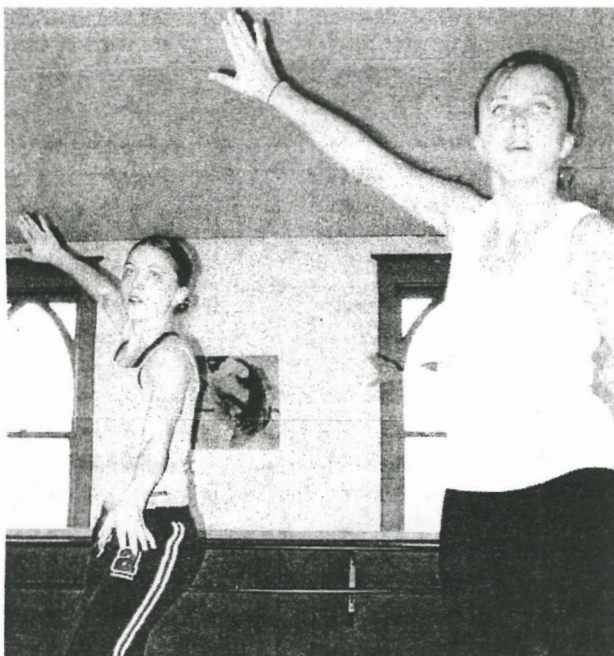
Long ago, factory owners came to realize the importance of music in increasing productivity. That very same theory is used today. In fact, many, if not most factories provide 'soothing' background music to give their employees a little boost.

Music therapy can also be effective in helping the individual learn to recognize feelings and behaviors associated with stress. Using music therapy, people learn to react in positive ways instead of negative.

Music, of course, can help ease stress when the boss says that he needs a big report by tomorrow or when one of the teachers decides that she wants yet another big project out of you before the semester ends.

Don't forget, though, that music is more than a tension reliever.

As freshman Julie Marsh puts it, "Music is the door to any emotion or place imaginable."



Tara Dieken and Emily Zarecky find that dancing to the beat of the music is a stress-reliever.

## Movie music magic Music enhances movies

By Mallory Petersen

If students go to the movies, then they probably can tell the meaning and importance of the orchestra they can sometimes hear in the background.

But have students ever wondered the meaning of music's existence? Have they ever become agitated because they could hear the music more than the lines being said?

Music's purpose in a movie is to bring the viewer into the movie, closer to the emotions going on. Sometimes it seems to cover up some bad acting the directors didn't want viewers to notice. But most often, when the viewer doesn't know what to think, the music guides him or her.

As sophomore Kris Schaffer put it, "Pictures will never be as beautiful as the many ways that notes and rhythms fuse together."

Believe it or not, not everyone realizes that music provokes the movie.

"They have music in the movies?" responded sophomore Alayna Hyde when asked if she liked movie music.

Those who pay attention to the music realize that movie music is more than 'just some noise.'

"Especially in scary movies, if they didn't have music, I don't think they would be as scary. And in sad movies, I think it's the music that makes everyone start to think and get really emotional," sophomore Brandi Hahn said.

Just take a look at the recent hit movie "Pirates of the Caribbean." If you didn't have music in the background during, say, one of their sword fights, it's doubtful that the scene would have been as effective or as memorable—despite the popularity of stars Orlando Bloom and Johnny Depp.

Now don't read this wrong. Sure, people go to the movies and pay hardly any attention—if any—to the music. And you could bet that many people go to the movies just because of the actors/actresses in them.

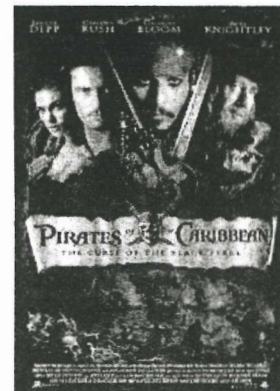
Yet music, for most of us, enhances the story line of the movie. It brings us further into the characters' thoughts and feelings, and for some of us, we are so engrossed in the story itself we hardly notice there is anything else going on around us.

"You could never describe music with words; we never created words like those," sophomore Courtney Sheffield says.

The orchestral directors in Hollywood should really like that comment!

Next time you go to the movies—if you're not too busy—just take a minute and listen to the music in the background and think about how it affects your mood and the effect of the movie on you.

"Music can do just about anything when it comes to changing moods," senior Melanie Steely said.



# Billboard Top 20 Albums

1. Usher—*Confessions*
2. Various Artists—*Now That's What I Call Music!* 15
3. Janet Jackson—*Damita Jo*
4. Jessica Simpson—*In this Skin*
5. Norah Jones—*Feels Like Home*
6. Evanescence—*Fallen*
7. Kenny Chesney—*When the Sun Goes Down*
8. Lil' Flip—*U*



Usher & (left) Hoobastank



9. Guns 'N Roses—*Greatest Hits*
10. J-Kwon—*Hood Hop*
11. Aerosmith—*Honkin' On Bobo*
12. Josh Groban—*Closer*

13. OutKast—*Speakerboxx/The Love Below*
14. Kayne West—*College Dropout*
15. Eric Clapton—*Me and Mr. Johnson*
16. Maroon 5—*Songs About Jane*

17. Tamia—*More*
18. Hoobastank—*The Reason*
19. Modest Mouse—*Good News For People Who Love Bad News*
20. Hilary Duff—*Metamorphosis*

Source: Billboard/VNU eMedia, Inc. as of 4/24; photos courtesy of MTV.com



This is Captain Rounds speaking...

## Student flies high over the Capital city

By Andrew Kightlinger

Since the dawn of man, humans have had the urge to fly. The Wright Brothers had the urge. John Glenn had the urge, as did John Travolta.

On December 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the Wright Flyer became the first to fly a powered, heavier-than-air machine to achieve controlled, sustained flight with a pilot aboard.

On January 31, 2003, senior A. J. Rounds entered the cockpit of a Cessna 150, eased his way through the complicated steps of starting the engine, and then lifted the metallic bird off the surface of the earth. This was Rounds' very first flying lesson. Much like the Wright Brothers or John Glenn, A. J. Rounds had the urge to fly.

Rounds' fascination with flight began due to the influence of his relatives, such as his two uncles, and his great grandfather. After being introduced to flight, his interest grew stronger until it became a passion.

Rounds said that this flight fanatic didn't fly because he wanted to make money or was forced into it. He wants to fly, to like to fly, because when he is up in the air, thousands of feet above all other beings, where the largest elephant is transformed into a worker ant, he finds escape.

When asked why he took up flight, he responded simply with



A. J. Rounds' current metallic bird, the Cessna 150; He should have his Private Pilot License by graduation. *courtesy photo*

the word "fun." He obviously feels free in that cockpit. He is able to let go, let the blood rush to his head, and fly until he falls right off the edge of the world.

"I want to fly private jets" said Rounds, with no desire to fly for a commercial airline. As a pilot of a private jet, Rounds will be classified as Regional/National Airline Officer, though most first officers begin flying small commercial jets, such as Mesaba. A first officer is paid nearly \$20,000 per year, and usually flies about 1000 to 2000 hours per year, according to the Internet. Although those figures do not seem very large, a private jet pilot also receives benefits

from big shot or government-affiliated passengers. If there were one person Rounds would fly for rest of his life, it would be his uncle, the governor of South Dakota.

Rounds' road to pilothood has been filled with large requirements ranging from flying solo for ten hours straight to three hours in a flight simulator. The age requirement is also 18 years.

After completing all requirements, Rounds now flies regularly, sometimes flying nearly 290 miles.

Rounds understands the difference between being a private jet pilot and a commercial pilot for a major airline.

The variation in pay and work hours is vast, but he does not let money and stature hinder his infatuation with flight.

This pilot is more passionate about flying than anything else in the world. He doesn't seem the type to make a brouhaha over his zeal for flying; he just flies.

As human beings, we are all required to be passionate about something. Whether it is dogs, cars, movies, or planes, we continue to become more passionate about it and never let anyone or anything stand in our way.

A. J. Rounds will fly for the rest of his life. And he will love doing it.

## Joy in basketball responsibility of coaches, players, fans

It has become a spring of change for the Riggs High School boys and girls basketball programs.

The season was hardly over before Skip Kurth resigned as head boys basketball coach. One day later, Pat McClemons resigned as head girls basketball coach and Steve Robinson resigned as assistant girls basketball coach.

Let us first say thank you to all three for their service. While coaching strategies are always open to the "second guessing" of fans, we need to stress that coaches Kurth, McClemons and Robinson cared about their programs and their players. That must never be overlooked.

At the same time, however,

the three coaching openings give the administration a chance to change directions of the two programs. And we are not just talking about more wins and more championships.

I participated in the boys program for about one and a half years. I quit late in my sophomore season because it wasn't fun sitting on the bench when everybody else was playing. I know others who have quit over the years for various reasons. That's too bad.

For whatever reason, there appears to be a lack of joy in the two programs. Whether it is the long season or the pressure to win, it appears that no one really has fun

being part of the basketball program. That includes the coaches, players and most fans. While winning is still great, there still should be some joy in the sheer competition and doing your best. You just don't see anybody smiling or having fun on the court.

For example, at times this last fall the football team struggled, but you could tell from the stands, that the players and coaches enjoyed the game. But there is no fun in the basketball program.

I think that the attitude can change—but it is going to take work on the part of three groups, the coaches, the players and the fans.



Chris Mangan

For the coaches, I they will be more sensitive to the feelings of their players.

For the players, I ask that you work hard and do your best.

For the fans, I ask for your patience and remember that it is easy to support a winner, but a true fan is there regardless of wins and losses.

This is a time of change for the school's basketball programs. We are confident that the administration will select good coaches for the programs—maybe even a female coach for the girl's team.

Change though painful at times, can present new opportunities. For all of those involved win the basketball program, this is one of those times.

At a glance...

## Sports Scores

### Golf

**Last Meet/How they did:** Aberdeen Invite last Thursday. The team placed second in the tournament, with senior Kate Wylie and sophomore Kelsey Hanson placing 3rd and 4th, respectively.

**Next Meet:** Huron Invitational yesterday; results were unavailable when this paper went to press  
**Coaches Comment:** "We have a young team with only one senior, two sophomores, three freshmen, and one seventh grader. However, we're very much improved this year because even though we are young, we have been able to show everyone that we are a lot more aware, and with several other teams losing their senior support, we've been able to be a lot more competitive and I can see us still improving over the rest of the season." - Coach Todd Bohls

## Boys /Girls Track

**Last meet:** Corn Palace relays last Saturday in Mitchell

### Outstanding Performance:

Placing first in the meet were senior Adam Johnson in the 110 Meter hurdles, sophomore Quincy Christie in the 100 meter dash and long jump, and sophomore Kris Schaffer in the shotput.

**Next meet:** Pierre Legion relays today

**Coach comment:** "If a person enjoys watching track and field, then they really need to come to our meet today because it is going to be an awesome meet to watch." - Coach Geoff Gross

## Soccer

**Last game:** Boys won last Sunday vs. Rapid City

**Player's comment:** "Our club season should be pretty exciting because we will be going to a lot of tournaments, and everyone will be looking forward to beating us because we are a pretty good team, I think, and the added competition will be fun."

-Sophomore goalie/defender Alex Beckwith

## Tennis

**Last match:** Pierre Invite last Thursday, also a match yesterday

**Next match:** Pierre triangular next Tuesday



Ridin' and ropin'

# Teen enjoys competing in rodeos, horse shows

By Cleo Hilding

Everybody likes something different. Some of us write, some of us eat, some of us play sports. Some people chose to do different things. Senior Jessica Larson has chosen to ride horses and rodeo.

Jessica's interest in horseback riding began in her childhood. She has grown up around horses and rodeo all her life. Her mother and father both ride and have ridden as long as she can remember. Watching them rodeo was interesting to Jessica and fueled her desire to ride horses and rodeo as well.

Her riding days began when she was a baby, even before she knew about the rodeo and riding competitions.

At age seven, Jessica was given her first chance to show horses and ride rodeo. Ever since this humble beginning, she has been riding in the 4-H horse shows.

She competes in state 4-H horse shows, 4-H rodeos, state 4-H rodeos, high school rodeos,

*"I enjoy meeting people who have the same interests as me."—Jessica Larson*

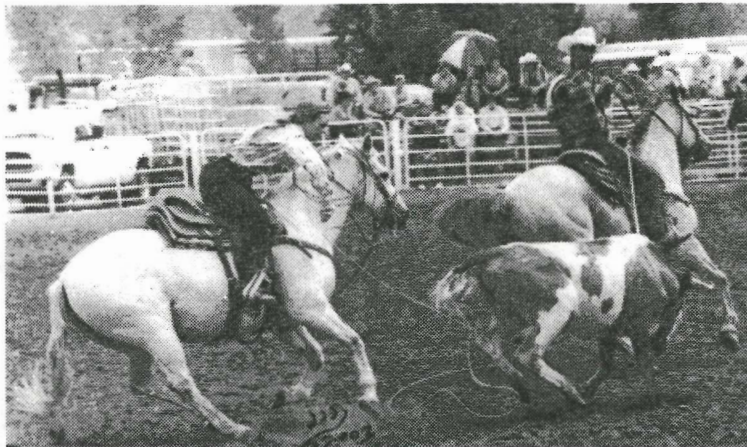
and horse shows. Locations for these competitions are all over the state. Rodeoing has taken her on many journeys.

Rodeo isn't just horseback riding. Jessica enjoys having fun with her friends while riding too. She also has multiple opportunities to meet new people.

"I enjoy meeting people who have the same interests as me," Jessica said. Another benefit of rodeo and riding, as Jessica sees it, is getting to spend a great deal of time with her family, riding and talking.

Consequently, Jessica's family is very important to her. Her brother, her parents, and her friends have been her biggest influences because they are always willing to help her become better at rodeoing."

"I look up to my parents. I think they are the greatest people a girl could have because



Jessica Larson competes with her brother Tyrel at the Ft. Pierre 4-H rodeo state finals.

they've always wanted me to be the best in whatever I wanted to do."

Equipment and attire are very important to rodeo. In order to rodeo, competitors have to wear a cowboy hat, belt, a western shirt, jeans, and cowboy boots. Of course, their need a horse to ride.

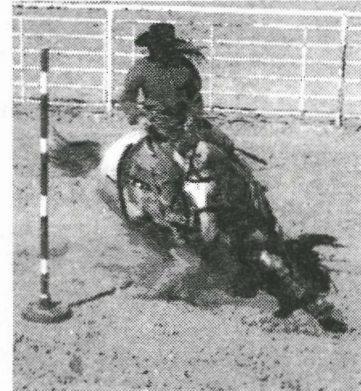
While there are a vast variety of horse breeds, the Larson family mostly breeds and rides Quarter horses.

The hardest part of rodeo, for

Jessica, is the competition that exists in itself.

She said many people do well in their own events and many of these naturally talented people work just as hard as she does toward the same goals. She also said not everyone can win everytime.

Another perspective drawback to rodeo, or reason why not everybody does rodeo, is the cost. Riding and rodeo are probably one of the most expensive sports.



courtesy photo

Jessica Larson pole bends in a 4-H rodeo competition in New Underwood. Larson's competitions take her to different places around South Dakota.

"[The cost is] nothing compared to how much you learn about life while rodeoing," Jessica said.

Jessica plans to keep horses, rodeo, and riding a part of her life always. She will never forget the memories, the lessons, and the friends that were made. She hopes that she will always have horses in the future and keep riding.

"Someday I play to share the love of horses and rodeo with my kids," she said.

## Two students participate in national tournament

By Kelly Johnson

While many students were wishing away ice and snow, two Riggs students gladly spent many hours on the ice—rink, that is. During April 13-17 seniors Adrienne Lindholm and Adriane Wegman traveled to Chicago to compete on the South Dakota Select hockey team. Joining 18 other girls from across the state, Lindholm and Wegman earned to chance to compete by trying out in March. The weekend after tryouts, the team traveled to North Dakota to play together for the first time.

"Going to North Dakota gave our team the chance to see how good we could be," Lindholm said.

Before competing in Chicago, the state team met three times to practice



courtesy photo

Adrienne Lindholm (third row, third from the left) and Adriane Wegman (third row, second from the right) competed in a national hockey tournament in Chicago this month.

both in Sioux Falls and in Mitchell.

Going out of town for a short practice was rugged; however, it allowed time to visit different colleges," Wegman said.

Finally after much anticipation, the two girls and their families set off for Chicago.

"My parents and two

younger brothers went with me," Lindholm said.

Once in Chicago, the South Dakota team played against Minnesota, Atlantic, Mid-America, and Rocky Mountain teams. Although the South Dakota team lost all games, some were close.

"Our game against Atlantic was one of our best games," Lindholm said. Throughout the tournament,

talent scouts from across the country were seen taking notes and watching the players.

"I don't think anyone from South Dakota got approached," Wegman said.

All in all, the trip was a great experience for both Wegman and Lindholm.

"It was fun being with other elite teams who were at your same level," Lindholm said.

## Athletes to watch

### Michelle Beemer

Member of the Pierre girl's track Team

**Events:** Long and triple jump, mile and medley relay.  
**Favorite Event:** Triple jump.

**Goals for this Year:** To triple jump 35' 6" and set the school record.

**Team Strengths:** Our mile relay team.  
**Girls to look out for in the future:** Jen DeHueck and Renee Rodgers.



### Chris Williams

#1 tennis player for the

Pierre Govs tennis team  
**Individual Record:** 4-3

**Doubles Record:** 5-2  
**Favorite Opponent:** Braden Bradfield from Sioux Falls  
O'Gorman

**Favorite Place to Play:**

McKenna Park in Sioux Falls.

**Team Strengths:** We have a lot of younger players on the team this year, so we will be looking forward to next season with all of us returning.



By Allen Goodman

photos by Dirk McGrane



## Not just about beauty Pageants help develop poise, confidence

By Kimberly Bartels

America may put too high an emphasis on beauty, but three senior girls compete in beauty pageants for a completely different reason.

"It's so fun to meet new people," says Stacy Zeigler, who competed in the local and state Snow Queen Pageant this past year.

Ashley Heikes agrees. "I loved hanging out with the girls all day. I enjoy meeting new people, and getting scholarships is a plus," said Heikes, who also competed in the local Snow Queen pageant.

This was a first-time experience for both girls.

"I heard about it in the announcements and just thought it would be fun," Heikes

said.

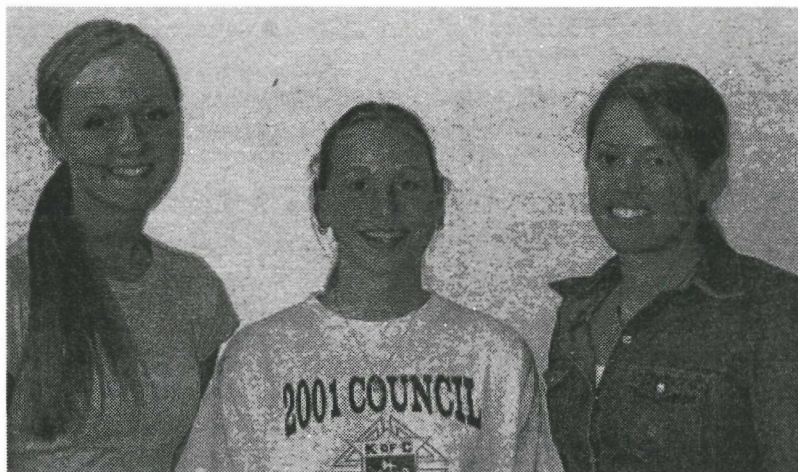
McKayla Marso has been competing in pageants since her sophomore year.

As a junior she won the Miss Dakota Rose pageant, the preliminary pageant for Miss South Dakota. Because Marso hadn't graduated from high school she couldn't compete in the next level.

However, she will participate in the 2004 Miss South Dakota pageant in June. Her eligibility to participate comes from winning the title of Miss Rushmore in January.

Most pageants consist of a private interview, evening gown and question interview on stage.

Both Heikes and Zeigler said the interview made them really nervous.



McKayla Marso, Stacy Zeigler, and Ashley Heikes have competed in local and statewide beauty pageants.

Heikes was named Miss Congeniality; Zeigler was named first runner-up. However, the Snow Queen (Summer Kleinschmidt) was unable to fulfill her duties, so Zeigler went on to compete for the Snow Queen title in Aberdeen.

The seniors believe people have mistaken

ideas about pageants. "One of the biggest misconceptions is it's not all about being feminine and preppy," Zeigler said.

"It's not stereotypical, and it's not about 'World Peace'. It's not about beauty but about poise and expressing yourself," Marso said.

Heikes added that

pageants help boost confidence.

"It's not just about beauty but about poise and how you express yourself. I think pageants are good because they test your ability to speak and make you more articulate. The only bad thing is the feeling of competition," she said.

## 'Think and Drive, Stay Alive': teens encouraged to drive safely

By Emma Waack

Sophomores and juniors from Riggs and four other schools recently participated in "Think and Drive, Stay Alive" program which was broadcast live on the radio.

Patrick Callahan of Dakota Radio Group

emceed the program.

Students heard firsthand experiences from a variety of people who have experienced the tragic results of drinking and driving.

Captain Rod Olerud talked about some of accidents that he has seen and showed pic-

tures with a Powerpoint presentation.

Kent Heid, who was involved in a drunk driving accident, shared the experience that killed his cousin.

Dr. Marc McClellan, a dentist and EMT, talked about some accidents he has seen and

some ways he has had to identify the bodies of accident victims.

Funeral director Ken Ripley talked about the death of Mobridge area student Tommy Ryckman last May when a drunk driver took his life. Tommy's mother Robin

Ryckman dramatized the finality of Tommy's death by helping Ripley close the lid of a coffin on stage.

A few students were also involved in the assembly. They read poems that were written about drunk driving accidents.

## Seven writers win statewide honors

Seven student journalists have won awards in the statewide Spring Writing Contest jointly sponsored by the SDHSAA and the SDSU Department of Journalism and Mass Communications.

These *Governor* staff members include senior BryAnn Becker, junior Will Butler, senior Ursula Waack, sophomore Dirk McGrane, senior Andrew Kightlinger, senior Chris Mangan, and sophomore Drew White.

Journalists from schools across South Dakota can enter stories and photographs that have been published in their school newspapers during the 2003-2004 school year.

Across all categories, the *Governor* staffers won third place in the overall sweepstakes, behind Sioux Falls Lincoln (1st) and Yankton (2nd).

In the writing categories alone, the *Governor* staffers also won third, again behind Yankton (1st) and Lincoln (2nd).

Becker, editor-in-chief of this year's newspaper, won second place in the category

recognizing high point students, where points earned in individual categories are added together. She won third place in feature writing for "Overcoming Racism," third place in in-depth news for her story on scheduling alternatives, and first place in special editions for the November feature spread on Cultural Diversity.

Butler won first place in the in-depth news category for his story on the new lunch program.

Waack won an honorable mention for her story about the elimination of cards from the hot lunch program.

Kightlinger's feature spread on the movies you should see before you graduate won third place in the special editions category.

In sportswriting, White won both first and third places for his stories on Mike Busch's NFL career and Rick Jensen's wrestling record.

Mangan's sports columns received third place honors.

McGrane won third place for his photos depicting school activities.

## Library honors local, state authors

By Jessica Callahan

Whether students know it or not, they can now learn about their favorite authors without even leaving the school. The author recognition program, run by library assistant Michelle Hopper, displays the work of famous authors while displaying the work of authors here within the school.

Hopper said she usually picks two South Dakota authors a month and writes an excerpt about their life and displays a few of his or her books. South Dakota authors featured so far include Badger Clark, Tom Brokaw, O.E. Rolvaag, and Linda Hasselstrom.

She has also featured popular authors such as John Grisham, C.S.

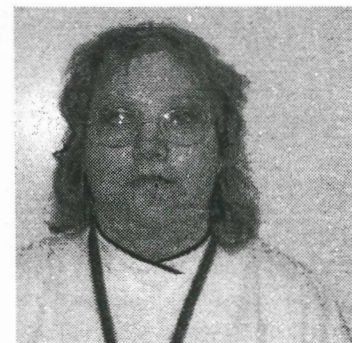
Lewis, Robert Jordan and J.K. Rowling.

Student submissions differ. The submissions have usually been poetry, but Hopper stresses that they accept all kinds of creative writing. The following students and teachers have been featured this year: Greg Whisenant, Tyler Seeley, Katie Gourneau, Ken Larsen, and Lisa Heffernan.

When she receives submissions, Hopper reads the submitted pieces, and if the author is chosen, she displays his or her work along with a picture and information.

The recognition program has been in place since the beginning of the year, Hopper said.

"I decided to give writers a chance to display their work and



Michelle Hopper, library aide

learn about other authors," Hopper said.

She encourages students to submit their work. Interested students or staff can find more information in the library or by talking to an English teacher.

### Who's who...Who's new?

**Name:** Sharlene D. Schmutz  
**Position:** Secretary  
**Birthday:** April 1  
**Grew Up:** Farm/ranch west of Baker, Mont.  
**Siblings:** One brother and two sisters.  
**Family:** Parents Leonard and Dorothy, husband Tim Schmutz, daughter Crystal, son Caliber and step-son Tre  
**School:** Miles Community College in Mont., BHSU in Spearfish, National College in Rapid City and currently training for nursing at CUC/USD in Pierre  
**Past job history:** Mostly bakery/deli management; also hotel management and family construction.



**Hobbies:** God granted me eternal life. That's gonna make me a pretty old lady someday.  
**What do you do during free time?** Mostly taking college classes and studying; she also likes to garden, bike and wood-work

By Cleo Hilding