

# T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Vol. 62 ❖ No. 5 ❖ Jan. 30, 2004 ❖ Pierre, SD

**In limbo**  
*Jennifer Olson practices being the bag lady for the upcoming play, "Limbo."*  
pg 8



## Riggs experiences changes in lunchroom, security

### Cards eliminated from lunch program

By Ursula Waack

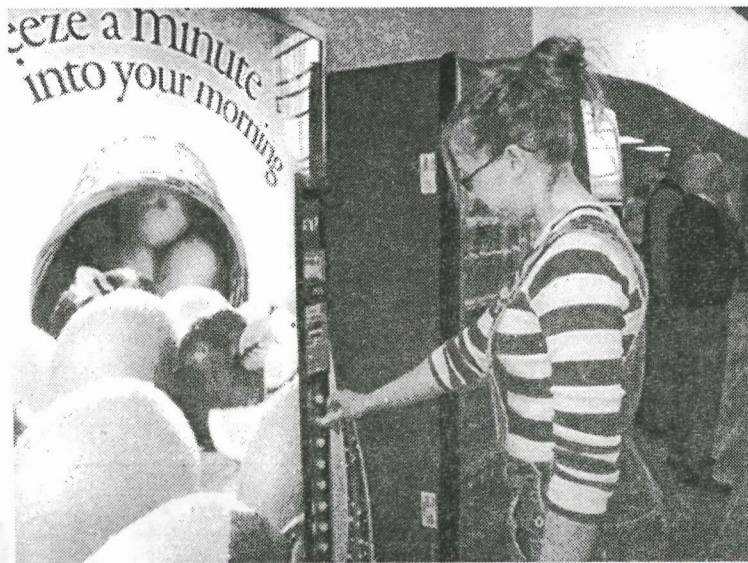
No one has to worry about being last in line at lunch because of a lost lunch card anymore. In fact, no one has to worry about lunch cards at all, after the new computer-based check-out system was implemented. This system will be able to track all outgoing items and can even tell what each individual bought on a given day.

"Many parents have called me and asked where all their money went. We are now able to tell them exactly what their student bought and when," Darryl Davis, the school lunch coordinator said.

The program will be able to track food trends. This will eventually lead to tailoring the foods more toward what students want to eat.

Many students like the new system. "It's nice that you don't have to have your card; before you had to eat last and the lunch ladies got angry," Reed Carda, sophomore, said.

However, some students think the program has a few shortcomings. Sarah Fuoss, sophomore, said, "It's bad for people with bad memories. I keep forgetting my



Anne Zuercher selects a juice to get her morning off to a good start.

photo by Tara Dieken

number. But it does make the line move a lot faster now."

Another new addition to the lunch room is the vending machine. The lunch staff does a nutritional analysis on each item, then sends this analysis to the school board.

Items that are currently being sold include Special K breakfast bars, Nutrigrain bars, gum, Hi-C fruit snacks, rice krispie treats and teddy grams.

Some students are confused about the contents of the health food vending machine.

"It's pointless. Why take out something unhealthy [the pop machine,] and add something unhealthy to replace it when they are supposed to be providing healthy alternatives?" said sophomore Emma Waack.

Students are encouraged to come forward with suggestions and ideas for more items. A new, bigger machine has been requested by the School Board and should be added soon.

A controversial step was taken over the Christmas break. All pop machines have been removed,

### Security cameras to be installed

By Will Butler

The Pierre School District has recently been awarded a \$50,000 grant to install security cameras at the high school and provide for a communications system between schools.

According to Officer Charlie Wharton, he should have specifications for companies to bid on the project by the end of this week. He anticipates that the new security systems will be installed yet this school year.

"The Department of Justice

grants allow for technology improvements to help combat anything related to weapons of mass destruction," stated Wharton.

"As we've looked at this, we've seen many examples of a wonderful partnership," Wharton said.

"We as responsible school board and community members should be concerned with this issue," superintendent John Pedersen said at the January school board meeting.

See CAMERAS, page 8

and pop is no longer allowed. This plan has been in the works for a long time, with pop originally supposed to be gone in September of 2003. No student is allowed to bring pop into school at any time.

"It's hypocritical. If we can't have pop they [the staff and teachers] shouldn't have pop. They should set a good example," said Sam Gaetze, sophomore.

"I understand that they don't sell pop, but I don't understand why you can't bring in your own," Jared Dutton, senior, said.

Even with many recent

changes, the school board recently opted out of changing to block scheduling for the 2004-2005 school year.

Superintendent John Pedersen recommended maintaining the current schedule and cited "unanswered questions" about block scheduling for his main reasons at the January 12 school board meeting.

The board unanimously approved the recommendation.

Over 100 community members attended a meeting to discuss block scheduling on January 5.

## Emerson, deHueck gain second term in senate election

By Kelly Johnson

Adam Emerson and Kim deHueck have been reelected president and vice president of the student body at Riggs.

"To me, it feels good to get things done for your school," said DeHeuck. By attending school board meetings and listening to the voices of the student body, they look forward to impacting the school. "We love looking at our school and seeing things getting better and better," Emerson said.

Starting with the conclusion of first semester, the positions of student body president and vice president were up for grabs. Three teams ran for the offices and made their cases and positions on important school issues known. By hanging up posters, talking to students and participating in an assembly during second period on January 15, the candidates each had their chance to get their platform and point across to the student body.

Running for reelection for a second se-



Adam Emerson and Kim deHueck

mester was Adam Emerson for president and Kim deHueck for vice president. During the assembly, Adam reviewed the major accomplishments that he and Kim accomplished over the previous semester. By frequently attending school board meetings and having a greater voice in important issues, they turned student senate in the right direction.

"We started a little niche for our voice to be heard," said Emerson. In addition, ideas such as the healthy vending machine and the decision to keep the pop machines



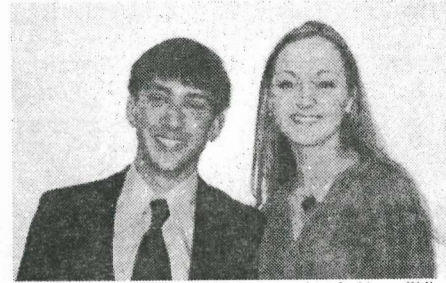
Jared Dutton and Tyson Nafus

until after Christmas were supported by Emerson and deHueck.

"Bringing student senate closer to you," was the main platform of McKayla Marso and Andrew Kightlinger. Marso ran for president and Kightlinger ran for vice president. Topics such as coed basketball and intramural floor hockey for underclassmen were some of the ideas supported by the team.

"McKayla and I are the new voice—it's our time now," said Kightlinger.

The team of Tyson Nafus and Jared



Andrew Kightlinger and McKayla Marso

Dutton had many suggestions that they wanted to fulfill if they won the election. A full size vending machine, morning snack bar and lunch rotations were just a few of the ideas discussed during their speech. They made it clear that even through they had no political experience, they would be up to the challenge.

"We can do the job, we just need the chance," said Nafus.

After the students got a chance to hear the arguments and campaign speeches, they weighed their decision and voted by ballot.



## Improvements must continue to be sought for school

"He that will not apply new remedies must expect new evils; for time is the greatest innovator" (Francis Bacon). What was true for Bacon in the 1600's still holds true today. Recent ideas surrounding security cameras and scheduling show remedies for Riggs High School are being examined. School board members, community members and students must continue to work towards improvement.

Riggs High School has definitely not let time slip beneath its fingers. In an era when most schools fight to remain open, Riggs has certainly beat the odds.

Within my last four years at Riggs, I have seen tremendous changes on the building. Students now have more access to computers with the additional labs; teachers have more classroom space,

along with more workrooms. In the past year, the school's lunch program has only been improved. These changes have bettered not only the school itself but the education provided.

Yet improvements continue to be sought, recently in security.

While the installment of security cameras seem intrusive in a school of 850 students, the cameras would be beneficial in potential crises.

Faculty, administration and students have also discussed the current seven period schedule. Although the superintendent eventu-

ally recommended not to change the schedule, discussions promote growth and change.

Everyone has the responsibility to continue to question the quality of education offered in Pierre in order to offer the best.



### Thumbs Up

...to the three candidate teams who ran for student body president and vice-president. It takes guts (and commitment) to run for such a position.

...to the end of the first semester.

...to new computers at lunch that speed up checking out.

...to better food in the school cafeteria, yum!



### Thumbs Down

...to the cold temperatures throughout the school building.

...to < 8 hours of sleep a day.

...to people who don't realize there is a time and place for everything, urinating included.

## Letter to the editor:

Dear editor,

I'm concerned that some people don't stand for the pledge. This is nothing new but it still annoys me. I know these people could stand up. They are normal healthy people (physically anyway) so there is no reason not to stand in respect during the pledge. I know these people aren't trying the "look-at-me-I'-a-rebel" act because no one wants to be a cliché.

To spare myself the attack of any rhetoric-spawning, empty-minded anarchists who might actually be foolish enough to give me reasons why "America sucks," I will simply tell you why you should stand—respect.

Now don't get me wrong. People don't have to actually to say the pledge if they don't want to; that's their choice. But millions of soldiers have died under that

flag defending their rights and mine, including the right to say or not to say the pledge of allegiance. It's simple respect to these fallen soldiers and courtesy to those who are pledging their allegiance that people stand silent.

Some religions, such as Jehovah's Witnesses, forbid dedication to any belief, country, person, or thing other than God. It's their right not to say the pledge. But their religions do allow them to show respect to those who do.

If you truly hate our horrible country so much, you will no doubt be leaving as soon as possible. Perhaps you'll find a more comfortable home in Afghanistan or in China.

If my thoughts offend, there's one way to shut me up. Stand up.

Sincerely yours,

Adam Emerson, senior

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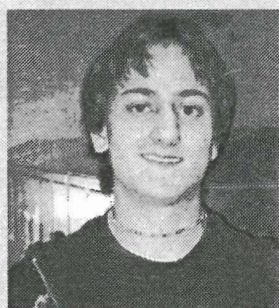
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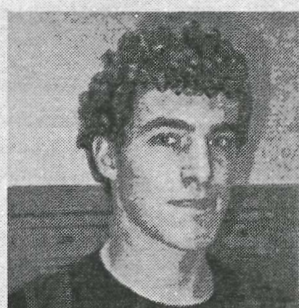
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## HALL TALK: IS IT NECESSARY TO HAVE SECURITY CAMERAS IN THE LOBBY AND PARKING LOT?



"We can use the money for something better...like heating for the school."  
—Alex Helbig, junior



"I'm indifferent; it won't really affect me."  
—Chris Fry, senior



"I think the cameras are just another way to waste money the school could use for something more valuable."  
—Melissa McComsey, sophomore



"If it will keep us safe, I don't really care."  
—Mel Steely, senior



"I don't think it's a bad thing, because they [the students] shouldn't be doing anything bad at the time."  
—Lindsey Coit, freshman



"No. We're old enough to be responsible for our own actions."  
—Jason Mangan, sophomore

photos and quotes compiled by Dirk McGrane

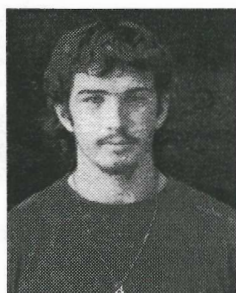


# January's stress takes toll on columnist

First of all, congratulations go out to Adam and Kim on their victory in the recent student senate election. The best candidates won—but don't forget about that lunch rotation idea.

Ah, it's been a hectic month. Legislative meetings and ceremonies locking up parking spots from here all the way over to Zesto seem common. Soon, the one-acts will be here as well, limiting the student parking lot's access once again. But, that's January for you.

The lack of caffeine in school hasn't really effected...no, affected... um, changed my ability to think. At least, I don't think so... Well, it did lead me to run for president anyway. For those of you who were confused as to why we put 42 on top of our posters, just look for a little book called *Res-*



**Columnist  
Anonymous  
Tyson Nafus**

I've been up and about all month. It could be worse though; I could be a shoe salesman (people dreaming of a life of shoe-selling, take no offense.)

*taurant at the End of the Universe.* Your lack of understanding will clear up then.

I honestly didn't have a topic planned for this column, and probably shouldn't be telling you that. From writing to screaming to campaigning,

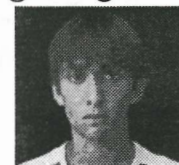
Life seems to be at the source of all our problems. But, at the same time, it helps them as well. Now, before I take this column off and run a philosophy lesson into it, I'll change topics yet again.

Thank you everyone who voted for us. I'm glad you thought we could do the job. Oh, and teachers, thank you for listening and liking some of our ideas. That's a lot more than we expected, to be honest.

I promise for next month's edition that I will have something slightly more interesting than a ramble for you to read, so please, don't turn my column away. Everyone has their down times, and I'm just a little more than stressed. I'm sure most of you can relate.

## 2004 promises great moviegoing!

Here are some films worth seeing in 2004. Let's hope they live up to expectations.



**Cinerama!  
Andrew  
Kightlinger**

*The Passion of The Christ* is arguably the most controversial film since...well...since another movie about Christ, *The Last Temptation of Christ*. Mel Gibson directs this graphic drama that chronicles the final twelve hours in the life of Jesus Christ. *Passion* sets out to create the most accurate portrayal of the last hours of Christ's mortal life, and that has stirred so much controversy that no Hollywood studio wants to produce or distribute it. The controversy centers mainly on the fact that the film might be anti-Semitic, or that it blames the Jews for the crucifixion of the Christ. I can't wait to see and understand for myself what all the controversy is about. *The Passion of The Christ* ascends on February 25, or Ash Wednesday.

In *Eternal Sunshine of The Spotless Mind*, Jim Carrey plays Joel, a man desperate to forget his turbulent relationship with Clementine (Kate Winslet of *Titanic*). He goes to Lacuna Inc., a company that specializes in the erasure of the mind, to get an operation to remove any memories of Clementine. But not everything goes as planned when Joel inadvertently wakes up in the middle of the procedure. Chaos ensues. Written by Charlie Kaufman, this film will be a mind-tease. *Eternal Sunshine* confuses the mind on March 19.

*Hellboy* is based on a dark cult comic book series created by Mike Mignola. A demon born in the flames of hell is brought to our world during WWII to destroy all the Nazis. But he is defeated and left for dead. Nearly 60 years later, he is reborn and is sworn to protect mankind with his fantastic powers that prove to be both a blessing and a curse. It stars Ron Perlman (*Beauty and The Beast* TV Series) as the big red demon named Hellboy with a head of cork-shaped horns, a big red fist, and a big gun. This might sound utterly ludicrous, but it just might be one of the more original films to come out this year. *Hellboy* rises on April 2nd.

Throughout time, men have waged war, some for power, and some for glory, some for honor...and some for love. In *Troy*, the infatuation of two of history's most legendary lovers, Paris, Prince of Troy (Orlando Bloom) and Helen, Queen of Sparta (Diane Kruger), ignite a war that will devastate the ancient Greek civilization. Brad Pitt stars as Achilles, the man believed to be the greatest warrior alive, and Brendan Gleeson (28 Days Later) as King Menelaus. Peter O'Toole and Eric Bana co-star. On May 14, two worlds will go to war for honor and power. Thousands will fall in pursuit of glory. And for love, a nation will burn to the ground. I can't wait!

## Columnists provide dating tips in time for Valentine's Day

Well all you guys out there, this month is for you. With both Valentine's Day and King of Hearts coming up, we've decided to help you out in planning the "perfect" date for your girlfriends.

1. If your idea of a nice dinner for two consists of a restaurant that has both a drive in and a super size option, it's probably best to just skip dinner.

2. If you plan to buy your girlfriend

jewelry, remember that Peachy O' Rings, onion rings, or anything else that has "ring" in the name and is NOT made of metal is not a good idea. (Other things to avoid—25 cent jewelry, macaroni necklaces, and Hospice/Value Village costume jewelry.)

3. Poetry is a very good idea but try not to make it too gruesome, especially if you two have or will be eat-



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

ing within the hour. Things to avoid—lots of blood, broken limbs and insect-to-human contact.

4. Girls DO know the difference between ex-

pensive and cheap after-shave. So when getting ready for the date, don't just grab the nearest bath deodorizer or that really old hanging pine tree in your car.

5. Girls like compliments, so try to give them some. Try, for example, "That dress looks really pretty on you" or "Your hair is really pretty." Avoid statements like "Your hair is less greasy today than usual" or "You look a lot better with makeup on" or "I like those shoes—they make your feet look totally smaller than they really are" or "That color is really pretty but it makes you look fat."

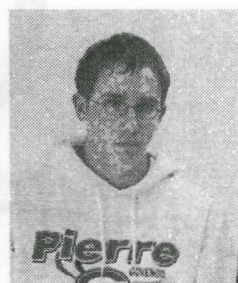
6. Dinner and a movie is nice. You can either go to the movie theater or just watch a movie at home. Try to avoid taking them to the movie every Tuesday night (cheap night); spend a few more dollars and go on a weekend night. If you watch a movie at home, most girls don't want to see a documentary on wrestling or on race cars. Think of what they want.

## Name tag complaints from one angry cracker

I have some good news to report. Jon Huft quit as the replacement angry cracker. That is ok, and I am not going to knock him like I knocked George. The fact is, they can't take the flak from the editors that I do. I will not make fun of Jonny H. though like I made fun of George because I can't handle the flak from editors anymore either. I have to write semi decent to decent articles now. And to George and Jonny H., I still love you guys. Now to tackle the issue that the angry cracker is so angry about.

On Tuesday, January 20, a joint session of the legislature was held in our theatre. I did not know what they were doing or who they were until I was told by someone while I wrote this article. To that someone, thank you.

Did anyone notice what these legislatures were NOT wearing? Guess again, unless you guessed correctly. They did not have any name tags on with the classic term



**The Angry Cracker  
Andrew Berreth**

want to know is who is above the name tag issuing and who isn't.

Another thing that bothered me was that they took our parking. As someone I know put it best, "They took OUR parking areas so they could use OUR theatre," without name tags I might add. Did we have any warning of this to come? Possibly, but I couldn't hear it over the gigglers doing the announcements if it was even in the an-

in all caps letters, GUEST. At the time I did not know who they were, so I was worried. Why are those name tags used? So people like me don't have to be worried, right? All I

nouncements. This seems to be poor planning on someone's part, but I have no names and will not mention any.

And why couldn't they take the teachers' parking area instead of the student's parking area? All I have to say is first come, first served. If we beat legislative participants to the spot, then they should not have the right to ruin our daily niche.

One last thing that bothered me about this whole situation was that I saw someone without a name tag on, most likely parked in the students' parking area, standing around and eating nachos in the theatre.

Why have rules if you are just going to bend them for others behind the students' backs. All this person had to do was either walk up to the lunch room and eat it or walk outside and eat it.

Maybe it was too far? That's a lot of stairs you know, especially with those heavy nachos.





## TV promotes eating habits, violence and sex

By BryAnn Becker

Does watching television make a difference on people's behavior?

Junior Jill Brotherton doesn't think so. Brotherton watches about four hours of television a week, including "One Tree Hill" and other reality shows.

"I don't think they affect you because if you know what's bad, you wouldn't let it affect your life," she said.

Brotherton, however, watches only 30 percent of what the average American teenager does each week. Solution Research Group's syndicated study in February 2003 found teens spend 13.3 hours per week viewing television.

Studies have shown that the shows people watch do influence their behavior. Sophomore Quincy Christie agrees.

"It has some effect, but I think friends have more of an effect than tv shows," he said.

"I think that if a child continuously watches violent or obscene tv, it could hinder their ability to decipher right from wrong. However, if an adult would watch the same shows, it wouldn't have as much of an effect on them," senior Molly Hanson said.

Neuroscientists show environmental happenings help form the maturing brain, according to the International Child and Youth Care Ministries.

"Too much television—particularly at ages critical for language development and manipulative play—can impinge negatively on young minds in several different ways," psychologist Jean Healy said in "Understanding TV's Effects on the Developing Brain."

Most people would agree watching violent shows affects young children, but skepticism remains around its influence on teens and adults.

The amount of time spent in front of the television can take away from other mental, social and physical activities, such as reading or exercising.

"I think that if a child continuously watches violent or obscene tv, it could hinder their ability to decipher right from wrong. However, if an adult would watch the same shows, it wouldn't have as much of an effect on them." — senior Molly Hanson

Television may subconsciously teach teens about different aspects of life. American culture—with subjects ranging from fashion to sex—are portrayed in tv shows.

When shows as "Real World" or "Dawson's Creek" bring up such issues, viewers are watching.

A survey conducted in 2000 found that teenagers between 13 and 15 ranked entertainment media as the main source of information for sexuality and sexual health.

Another survey in 1995 found that the amount of tv watched affects eating habits of viewers.

As teens' television viewing time increased, fruit and vegetables intake decreased, in part because of advertisements, the study said.

Although these surveys' results show tv's negative influence, teenagers will continue to flock to the tv to catch the latest in entertainment or news.

Television is essential for you in life, sophomore Jason Steely said.

"Without tv what would you learn?" he said.

## Are you hooked on

By Johanna Snow

Many people are being drawn into a new kind of television show, one that's live and doesn't have scripts or real actors to play parts. These so-called actors are just everyday people who signed up to go on the latest new show only to be watched by millions of people. So why would anyone want to watch a show that has no scripts, no famous people, and is on the air live? Because it's spontaneous and new.

Reality T.V. is becoming one of the most-watched programs on television. Whenever you change the channel, a new reality show pops up. So what makes people watch these shows or not watch them?

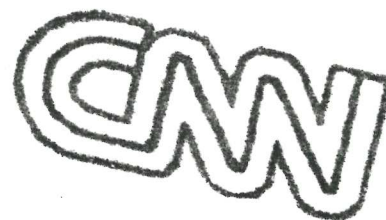
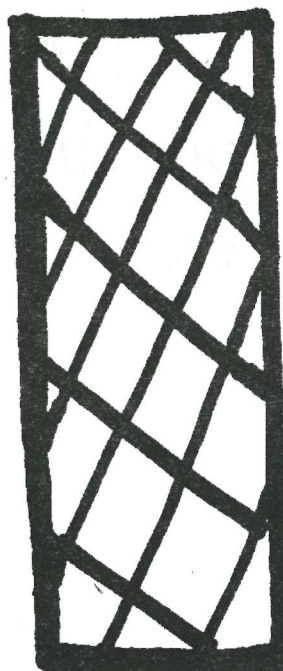
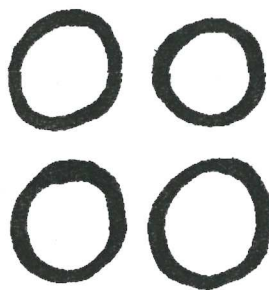
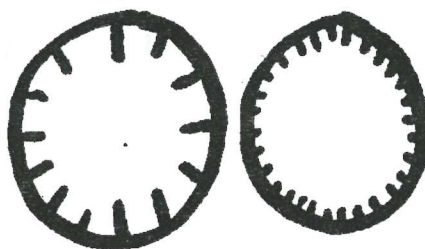
"I like to watch reality shows because the competition between the players is interesting and helps to draw you into the show," junior Cassie Snodgrass said.

Many people watch because they think reality shows are funny and easy.

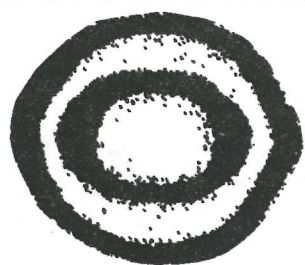
"I don't like to watch t.v. because I think it's just don't see the point. Why would you want to watch somebody else's life when you have your own life?" freshman Bill Deffenbaugh said.

But more and more people are becoming hooked on reality shows. Some people miss out of their schedule to watch one reality show that is on at a certain time of the night. Some people miss an episode and just watch them to see what's going on. Nothing else on t.v. is as interesting as reality shows. People's favorite reality shows range from every body has secrets to Bachelor to Fear Factor.

But do reality shows go too far? From eating live animals to jumping off high buildings, reality shows are pushing the limits.







# Are You Obsessed? STUDENTS DAZZLED BY THE STARS!

By Laura Marsh

When Britney Spears was married and divorced in a matter of two days, the whole nation knew about it.

Celebrities' lives are followed closely by fans and critics alike. Often, actors and singers have no private lives. The media is watching their every move. Why? Because the people listen.

There has always been an interest in superstars because of their success, their wealth, and their attractiveness. People read about their favorite idols and see both their moments of pride and of downfall.

The band Silver Chair is one of junior Sarah Farnsworth's favorite bands.

"I really like their music; they seem like really fun people," said Farnsworth.

She's found out a lot about the band via the Internet.

"Their drummer threw up on Blink 182's manager, and Daniel Johns [the group's lead singer] is married to Natalie Imbruglia,"

Farnsworth said.

The majority of the time, people gain interest in "their celebrities" because of their looks.

Actress Natalie Portman is the dream girl of senior Zane Erickson. He's read about her in magazines and on the Internet.

"She's hot," Erickson said.

He says Portman was discovered in a pizza place at age eleven, recently earned a psychology degree from Harvard University, and does not answer fan mail.

"She got some hate mail, and so now she just doesn't open letters from people she doesn't know," said Erickson.

Some find that keeping up with some celebrities' lives makes them more human. Some of the glamor of their lives is lost and their success becomes attainable.

However, junior Chelsea Parkinson has a different opinion of celebrities.

"I think celebrities are kind of shallow, so I don't look up to them as role models," said Parkinson.

## Average Joe

A girl is told that she will have the chance to find prince charming. She assumes that there will be 18 beautiful men to choose from; instead, she is presented with a variety of "average" men and a few less than average.

## Bachelorette

Unlike the other two shows, the girl is not tricked. No gimmicks, but lots of drama. She does get to pick any guy she wants out of a whole bunch of hotties.

## Gorgeous girl

## My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiance

In this show an actor is playing "Prince Charming." The girl also has to convince family and friends that she is in love, something that is not a part of the other two.

reality tv?

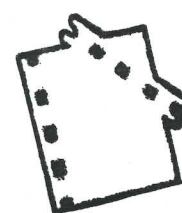
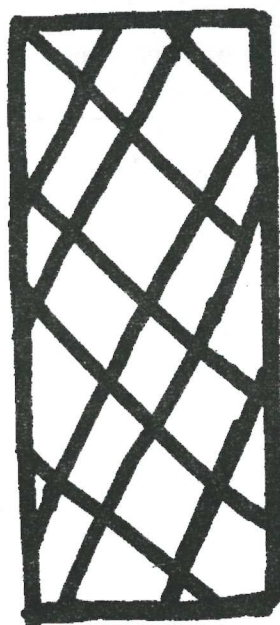
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viving on an island, it makes you wonder just how far people are willing to go to make the big bucks.

"Some (reality shows) are stupid, but I don't think they go too far because people sign up for the show and know what their signing up for," junior Vanessa Sevier said.

"I don't think that reality shows go too far because new challenges push people to have new experiences and do things they've never done before, and that's what makes the show interesting," Snodgrass said.

So whether you're watching to see just how much more Nick Lachey can take of Jessica Simpson (MTV Newlyweds) or whether or not you can keep cool on Boiling Points, it looks as if reality shows are here to stay—well at least until the next new fad comes along.







Luke Oehlerking



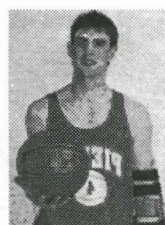
Allen Goodman



Brendan Newman



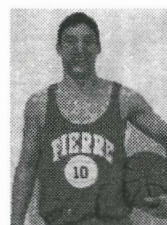
Tony Rislov



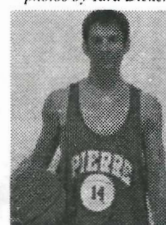
Mathew Dutt



Kyle Kurth



Casey Ahlers



Seth Waitman

photos by Tara Dieken

## Nine seniors finish basketball career together

By Kim deHueck

For the first time in several years, the Governor basketball team features a large number of senior players—nine, to be exact.

This is a special group of senior boys, due to their long basketball history together. For many, their career dates back to playing together in "Mighty Mites" in the first grade.

"I remember when some of us started playing together at a time when we couldn't even really dribble the ball," said Seth Waitman.

In the fourth grade the boys started to compete against each other on traveling basketball teams.

"We were basically split on two teams and were each other's biggest competition," says Luke Oehlerking.

By junior high the two teams had merged to form one and have been playing together ever since.

"What was once a competition in elementary school turned into what we are now—an unstoppable team," added Oehlerking.

"I've played basketball all my life—it's one of my favorites, and this is the last year for me," said Matt Dutt

Many of the players find their history together encouraging.

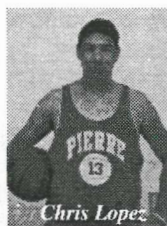
"It's a good feeling to know when you go into games with a group of guys that you have been playing together for so long. It makes you know they care about the game just as much as you do," says Kyle Kurth.

"When we were younger, we got any awkwardness out that we had. Since then a bond has been formed. This has made it easy for us to play together and know who can do what for the team," says Casey Ahlers.

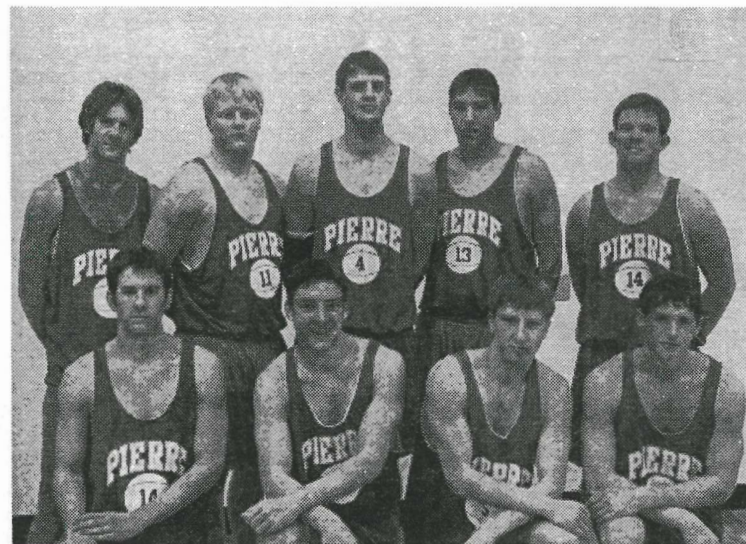
The boys are coached by Harvey "Skip" Kurth, who has had the advantage of watching them grow over the years.

"I think the best part about these boys is the chemistry that they have together. This chemistry is shown through their unselfish play on the court. Everyone has the ability to score, but the ball is given to the open man," says coach Kurth.

Chris Lopez returned to the team after a few years of playing in intramural basketball.



Chris Lopez



These nine basketball players represent the unusually large number of seniors on this year's team.

photo by Dirk McGrane

"I needed a challenge. IBA was fun, but I wanted to get into shape," said Lopez.

"I've enjoyed playing basketball with these guys; we always have been together," says Tony Rislov.

The team members enjoy playing together for a number of reasons. "We used to play together all the time when we were little, and we had a great time," said Brendan Newman.

"I keep playing because all my friends play and I have nothing

better to do. It keeps me out of trouble," said Allen Goodman.

"The special last-second, game-winning shots and hard losses in overtime have formed many memories. All in all, it has come down to the bonds and the friendships that have been formed, not only on the court but off the court, too. The special memories that have occurred throughout this amazing experience will be unforgettable. It's very upsetting to even think of this long haul coming to an end," says Waitman.

## All athletic events deserve to be watched

Every day as you walk through the halls of Riggs High School, you see students you probably didn't even know were athletes.

They are athletes that no one recognizes because they aren't part of the big-name sports. They take part in lesser-watched sports like wrestling, gymnastics, volleyball, cross country, track, soccer, swimming and baseball. To these athletes, the only time they think of a big crowd is at a home football or basketball game.

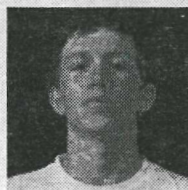
But that is not the way it should be. These athletes deserve our support too as fellow students and friends.

Not many people—except

maybe their parents, a few friends, and those who really follow the sport—actually go to the games and matches.

Many times, these teams and athletes play in front of half-filled gyms, rinks and fields. They don't get to realize what it is like to play in front of a big crowd unless they are participating in a state tournament.

As part of the Pierre Post 8 American Legion team this past summer, I had the pleasure of playing in front of big home crowds all summer. None were bigger than when Pierre hosted the state Legion tournament. The stands were packed every night.



Chris Mangan

To look up over the dug-out and see all of those fans in the stands was a big thrill.

I recently attended a Capitals hockey game. Sure, there were those fans who cared immensely about how the game turned out, but unfortunately, those "true fans" are outnumbered by a large quantity of those who go to make an appearance and act interested.

And no one really gets into the lesser sports like they do with the big-name sports. When you go to a basketball game or a football game, you see the student body really get into the game and show a large amount of support for the team. That's good, but the same

kind of excitement can happen at other sports too. If you pay attention and follow the action, you will get caught up in the fun.

The thing to remember is this: The football and basketball players work hard and deserve your support and enthusiasm. But so do the athletes in other sports. For them, there is nothing "minor" about what they do.

So the next time you hear about a hockey game, wrestling match or gymnastics dual being held in Pierre, go out and support the team and your friends. You will be surprised at how much it will mean to our athletes.

Every athlete I know loves to play in front of fans. Give them the chance.

At a glance...

## Sports Scores

### Boys Basketball

**Last game:** Won against Rapid City Central

**Next game:** Saturday against Mitchell there

**Notable performance:** 21 out of 26 free throws by the team in Rapid City Central game.

**Coach's comment:** "I'm pleased with the progress we've made so far, but we have more improvements to make."—head coach Skip Kurth

### Girls Basketball

**Last game:** Lost against Rapid City Central last Saturday

**Next game:** Tonight against Mitchell here

**Notable performance:** The team was 19 of 26 from the field against Huron.

**Coach comment:** "We've played some really good basketball at times, and we hope to continue to improve."—head coach Pat McClemons

### Wrestling

**Last match:** Finished eighth in the Rapid City tournament last weekend

**Notable performance:** Seniors Harry Decker, Torey Garrett, Taylor Brock and Cody Gregg.

**Coach's comment:** "We're going to keep our chins up and look at the next few weeks as experience."—head coach Rick Jensen

### Gymnastics

**Last match:** Gym-O-Rama in Rapid City last Saturday

**Next matches:** Tomorrow at the Sturgis Invitational.

**Coach's comment:** "They're working on new skills and perfecting routines."—coach Nicki Abels

### Capitals Hockey

**Last games:** Boys lost 2-8 against Sioux Falls; Girls lost 5-10 to Huron.

**Next Games:** Boys here against Watertown tonight. Girls against Sioux Falls there on Saturday.

**Notable Performance (Girls):** Game against Mitchell because of teamwork and effort.

**Coach's comment:** "We have a lot of young players but we're doing better every game. We hope to do well at the state tournament."—head coach Bruce Lindholm

Compiled by BryAnn Becker



# For one short season, Busch fulfilled dream to play in NFL

By Drew White

Sombody once said that everybody has a story to tell. Mike Busch, Riggs' new history teacher and football coach, certainly has one.

It was 1987 and the New York Giants had won the Superbowl. While Busch was at home, he received a phone call from his agent.

"He asked me if I would like to be a free agent with the Giants. This left me with a couple of choices; I could stay at Brookings, or I could go to New York City."

The Giants already had three good quarterbacks: Phil Simms, Jeff Rutledge and Jeff Hostetler. However, Busch didn't let this fact deter him.

"The chances of making this team were almost impossible," Busch said. "I signed there because it was another opportunity to play, and you never know what will happen."

Busch had previously begun his career at Huron High School and then at-

tended Idaho State University on a football scholarship. While he was there, Idaho State won the National Division I-AA championship. Busch then transferred to SDSU, where he played for two years and set some offensive records.

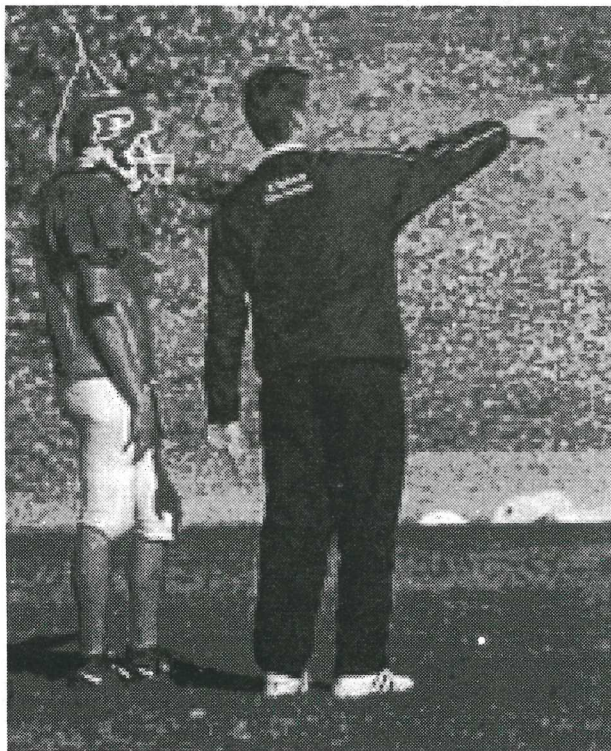
Following his graduation, Busch signed a free agent contract with the Atlanta Falcons but was soon released.

Unfortunately, history repeated itself as Busch was released after his second preseason game for the Giants.

Just as all seemed lost, two weeks later he received another phone call, this time from the New York Giants. The player's union was going on strike, but the owners were going to stand strong and continue the season, but they needed more players.

Busch accepted, secretly hoping for the strike to last all season.

There wasn't a lot of time. The new team only had eight days to practice,



Coach Mike Busch instructs football player Jameson Linn last fall.

but he was already familiar with the Giants' offense, so he wasn't really at a loss.

His first game as an NFL starter was against Joe Montana and the San Francisco 49'ers on national television, nonetheless.

Even though the Giants lost the game, Busch threw two touchdown passes.

Unfortunately, the Giants also lost their next game, after which the player's union and the owners were coming to an



photo by Tara Dieken

agreement, which meant this would be his last week playing.

For the next game against the Buffalo Bills, a unique situation occurred when three players from the regular team crossed over to play with the new team. Two of those players were Lawrence Taylor, easily one of the best players in the league at the time, and Jeff Rutledge, one of three quarterbacks who beat Busch out earlier in the year.

"My last game in the NFL was spent on the sideline," Busch said, "but I thought: what a great place to be—playing the game you love, watching the best player in the NFL and getting paid for it!"

*"My last game in the NFL was spent on the sideline, but I thought: what a great place to be—playing the game you love, watching the best player in the NFL and getting paid for it!"—Mike Busch*

Following that game, Busch flew back to Brookings for a final time, where he then began his coaching and teaching career.

Busch said he was grateful for the opportunities he was given, and he believes that each situation has given him a strong background for his chosen career.

"I believe in two sayings told to me," Busch said. "First, have a dream, follow it, and it will come true if you just adapt, adjust, and overcome; this works in all situations. Also, know that everyone has unique gifts and talents within them, use them to your maximum potential—and be prepared to make the most of luck!"

## Wrestlers work to manage their weight

No pain, no gain

By Emma Waack

"Weight"—the word usually brings to mind diets, pills and food. However, some athletes associate weight with success in wrestling.

Wrestlers work to manage their weight in a sport defined by weight classes.

"Mostly when I'm trying to keep my weight down, I'll run and work really hard in practice," sophomore Derek Weber said.

One of the biggest things you hear about is the food cut backs.

"You want to try to sweat as much as possibly and definitely cut back on your food intake," freshman Nate White said.

Coach Rick Jensen encourages the wrestlers to eat right and watch themselves to make sure they're being safe about their habits.



Freshman Nate White pins Scott Szagger during a recent wrestling practice.

photo by Megan Wellner

"You do have to watch them to make sure they're not hurting themselves. Sometimes adjustments do have to be made," he said.

But the cut back on food and extra hours of working out doesn't always have positive effects.

"You do tend to get

cranky. Mood swings are really common, and some times you will get slightly dizzy," junior Brian Custer said.

Most wrestlers, however, realize the importance of cutting weight.

"It's [losing weight] better for the team, and you

have more strength than you would at your normal weight," senior Taylor Brock said.

"It's way more competitive when you know that you are wrestling a guy who used to be 20 pounds lighter," sophomore Jake Johnson said.

## Athletes to watch

### Laura Bernhard

Member of the Lady which we do.

Govs Gymnastics squad

Best moment so far this year:

The Pierre Invitational Team

Strengths:

Our team is very small so we are forced to work very hard,

good regional tournament



Your favorite event individually: The beam  
What's the event you are looking forward to the most?

Having a

### Kyle Kurth

Position: Point guard and co-captain of Governor basketball team

Team

Record: 7-2

Goals for the team:

win ESD and go to state tourney

Best moment so far this year:

Rislov's game-winning shot in

Brookings

Team Strengths: Team leadership and deep bench

Most nervous moment individually this year: Guarding Waterown's Ryan Berry in last minutes of the game



by Allen Goodman

photos by Dirk McGrane



## Riggs cast stuck in 'Limbo' at State One-Acts

By Andrew Kightlinger

"Limbo" will be performed locally at the Riggs High Theatre next Monday and Tuesday and on Thursday at the State One-Acts.

A one-act is a thirty-minute play. The point, the plot, and all the characters must be established and then built upon in those thirty-minutes. If the play is still running when the time is up, the act is disqualified.

The time frame is only one of the many pressures placed upon the backs of the cast and director Hyrna Zakahi with Riggs' new one-act play, *Limbo*, written by Jerome McDonough.

*Limbo* deals with the question "Where do we go when we die?" Is it heaven? Hell? New Jersey? We never quite know until we ourselves die. Nevertheless, McDonough has an intriguing idea.

Eight individuals, previously unaware of each other's existence, abruptly appear in a grim waiting room. They were all someplace else, but now they are there, together. Nobody knows anybody and nothing makes any sense. It is up to them to figure out *where* they are and *how* to get out. But perhaps most important of all is *who* they are.

McDonough establishes the mood early in the play, and then he introduces a variety of vibrant characters, one by one. The characters all have a firm amount of depth to them, considering the forbidding atmosphere in which they are placed. The characters ponder whether or not they are dead and

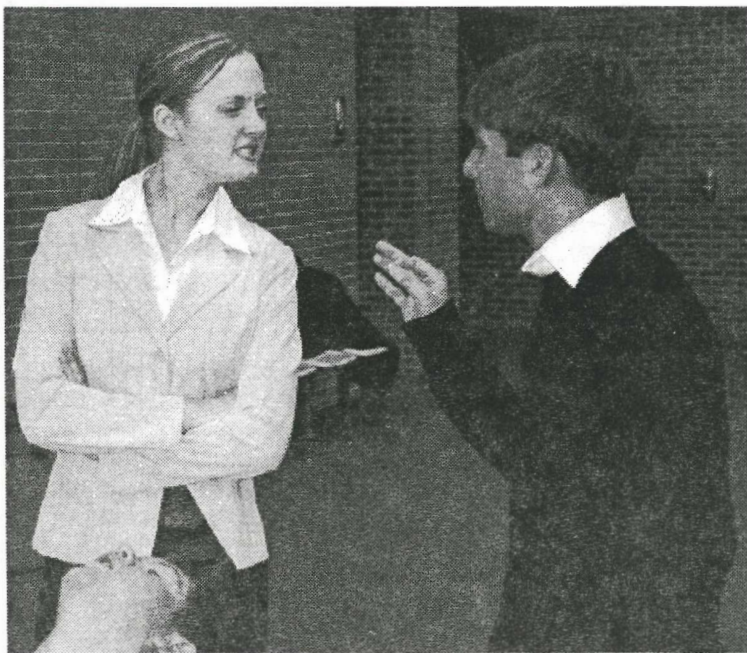


photo by Dirk McGrane

McKayla Marso and Andrew Kightlinger are stuck in 'Limbo', and Brian Bumann (lower left corner) doesn't seem to care.

whether there are any exits from their location. But as seen in other instances, when strangers are put into a room together, not everything runs like clockwork.

"I have this gun, you see? I try to use it," informs senior Tyson Nafus.

McDonough has written a taut and evocative psychological mind-tease, which in the end will leave all audience members discussing which is the best manner to interpret the story.

"I still can't seem to figure it out," says junior Kim Bartels.

*Limbo* is a challenge for a cast that shines at lightheartedness and comedy. After the musical *Anything Goes*, *Limbo* marks an enormous

switch in tone, but the switch may be exactly what the new cast needs. It will broaden the actors' theatrical experience and test their range. "They needed to expand their repertoire," says Zakahi pertaining to the dramatic switch in tone.

According to the cast, a real drama is not easy to perform.

"It takes time to make it convincing; to make it work," says senior McKayla Marso. If it fails (which is highly doubtful), at least the actors have drifted from the dreaded "typecasting" as comic thespians.

Comedy emerges rarely to cheer up the audience for an otherwise dark thirty-minutes.

## Mickelson ends McRel term

By Kim Bartels

In January, Latin teacher Jay Mickelson said "farewell" to his term on the respected McRel board. McRel stands for Midcontinent Research for Education and Learning. It is one of nine regional education laboratories in the United States. They do research and training for the best educational practices and spend and distribute federal money for education.

McRel is based in Denver, Colorado, and covers seven states including North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, and Wyoming. Each state is represented by three people: each state's elected chief school officer, a lay educator, and an educator/ex-teacher, board member or administrator.

"I loved being with these

people who were so dedicated to education. Being on the board is truly one of the great highlights of my professional career," said Mickelson.

Mickelson has served on the board from 1995-2003. During this time he met three times a year to help plot the course of the board.

"We met in beautiful places but really worked hard for the organization. We even did lobbying in Washington, D.C.," says Mickelson. They tried to find the correct standards in regard to teaching material and then McRel tries to help the teachers teach the standards.

"I felt I was not as political as the rest of the board, but I believe



Jay Mickelson

I brought the unique perspective as the only classroom teacher."

McRel board members serve a four-year term and can be re-elected once; they must have been recommended by the other board members from their

respective state. Now that Mickelson has served his time, a professor from Madison has taken his place. A man Mickelson remarked is "very qualified for the job."

McRel is highly respected. Mickelson explains "it has to do with the highly quality of the CEO of McRel, Tim Waters, and all the other incredible minds that serve the organization in Denver."

## Elvis concert Riggs choir honors 'King'

By Lisa Heffernan

Members of the Riggs choirs and director Will Hanson attended a concert in honor of Elvis Presley's birthday in Rapid City earlier this month. Tommy Graham, a former band member and friend of Presley's, put on the concert at the Civic Center.

Graham has been performing Presley's songs for many years since the King's death in 1977. He performed some of Elvis's classics on his grand piano, along with a guitar player and drummer.

Other songs he performed were the 1950's hits "Fever" and the Jerry Lee Lewis hit "Great Balls of Fire."

"Tommy is a super piano

player and singer. I really enjoyed the concert," said Hanson.

"I had so much fun; I'd go back in a second," said junior Will Butler. Junior Cassie Snodgrass got picked to play the piano with him after the concert. Graham had her play two notes on the grand while he played a melody along with her.

Graham met Presley in the mid-1950's and later toured as his piano player for twenty years. They became very close in that time and were friends until Presley's death.

He now performs at the St. Charles on the weekends and is beginning a radio show in the afternoons in Pierre.

## Cameras: devices bring security

CONTINUED from 1

Fugitt added that in this day and age, this measure is necessary for school safety.

"This is more an issue of safety for our staff and students than it is of student supervision," said Fugitt. "This installation will help in combatting vandalism, harassment and other similar issues."

Citing recent incidents involving guns at other schools, Wharton added that these cameras are a vital safety measure for the school.

"By doing this we do not have intents of supervising the students, but we want more to keep them safe," said Wharton. Police dispatch would be able to monitor the cameras from their station, and the administration would also be able to view them.

"We wouldn't have this if Officer Wharton weren't here,"

added Pedersen.

How do students feel about the addition of security cameras?

"I think that security cameras are highly effective for middle school, but students would do more purposeful harm if they were installed in the high school," said freshman Casey Smith. "One main camera in a particular location would be better."

"It's a bad idea since it doesn't give us any privacy," added junior Joel Stars.

"I don't like it at all since it's an invasion of privacy," senior Zane Erickson said.

"I thought that they already had cameras, but maybe I'm just paranoid," senior Amanda Harsin said.

"It could be a good thing, for drugs and other similar problems," junior Lisa Heffernan said.

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

**Name:** Darryl Davis

**Born:** September 8, 1967, in North Dakota

**Grew Up:** In Stanley County

**Parents:** Sheila & Raymond

**Siblings:** Two older sisters, two older brothers

**Spouse:** Shaina Davis, who is on active military duty

**Childhood:** His strongest memories concern his experiences with friends in a small town.

**College:** At Black Hills State he received a Bachelor's degree in science and hotel restaurant management

**Past job history:** Darryl worked at the Ramkota for 11 years, the Pierre Indian Learning Center for 5 years, and is in his first year of employment here at T.F.



Photo by Dirk McGrane

Riggs.

**Life philosophy:** Easy come, easy go.

**Hobbies:** Davis enjoys hunting, fishing, walking, and traveling.

**Something you probably didn't know:** Darryl and Shelia have visited 27 of the United States. Their goal is all 50. This summer they will visit Louisiana.

By Cleo Hilding