

T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Vol. 62 ❖ No. 2 ❖ Oct. 24, 2003 ❖ Pierre, SD

Band Concert
Marching band's
indoor concert
"raises da roof"
pg 8



Staff, students, board examine scheduling alternatives

By BryAnn Becker

The Pierre School Board is in the process of analyzing Riggs High School's current schedule and deciding whether an alternative schedule should be brought in.

Superintendent of Schools John Pedersen said that although they are researching alternative scheduling, a final decision has not been made.

"I think the key is that people understand we're going to be objective in this study and that the decision hasn't been made," Pedersen said.

Riggs faculty and students are in the process of visiting a total of six schools across the state with alternative schedules.

"The purpose of the whole study is to see if some things would suit needs of students better," principal Mike Fugitt said.

Pedersen said at the conclusion of these visits they will sit down and share information gathered at the sight. Committees will make conclusions as to what the majority wants and will make a recommendation. The final say goes to the school board.

"Because we like to do our preliminary scheduling in January or February, it's

"I think the key is that people understand we're going to be objective in this study and that the decision hasn't been made." —superintendent John Pedersen

important that we reach a decision in January 2004," Pedersen said.

He said student and community input is welcome.

"Before any final decisions are made, we certainly will ask for student and community opinion with regards to this decision," he said.

Pedersen admitted finances are one factor in the decision.

"In education today, finances are always an issue," he said.

Pedersen said there are many options available for the scheduling system. The schedule could be left as is, alternative scheduling could be put in place for next year or put in place for the 2005-2006 school year.

Some popular alternative schedules for other schools around the state include A/B and "4 by 4."

Under an A/B, or alternate-day, schedule students take eight yearlong courses but attend classes for each of them on alternating days.

Under a 4 by 4 schedule, students can take just four classes at a time that meet daily but only last half a

school year.

Teachers such as choir instructor Will Hanson are relying on a variation of the existing block schedules.

"I've yet to talk to a music person that block scheduling has improved the program for," he said.

Hanson said a modified AB schedule would be one alternative schedule that may work for his class, and hopefully for Riggs as well.

Pedersen recognized that fine arts programs do have conflicts with the block schedules.

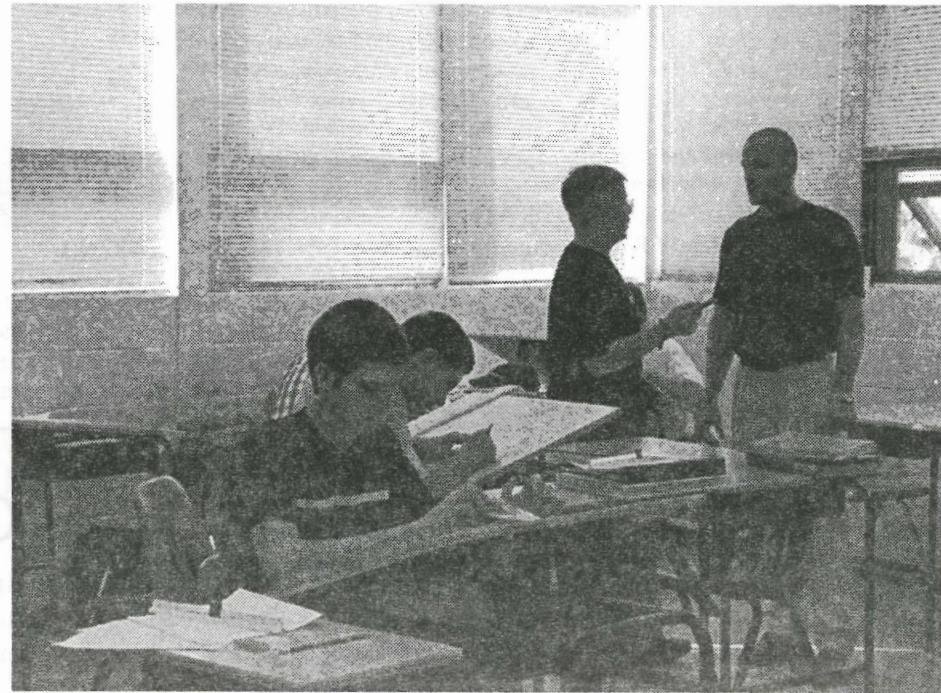
"We have a wonderful fine arts program and I certainly don't want to set items back," Pedersen said.

Pedersen believes that there are advantages to evaluating the schedule.

"I'm a firm believer that schools have to continually evaluate the educational process," he said.

Pedersen said that while Riggs has been very successful under the existing schedule, we have the responsibility to have the best possible schedule to meet the demands of the future.

"There are different skills that are necessary to be successful today than



Ft. Pierre students study at Stanley County High, a school that uses block scheduling.

Photo by Tara Dieken

yesterday," he said.

Pedersen also believes block scheduling would improve school climate.

"Longer periods of time would provide students as well as teachers opportunity for better relationships," he said.

English teacher Peggy Rose said block scheduling would be beneficial to students and teachers.

"I want to urge students and faculty to keep an open mind," she said.

She also said the longer class periods would allow teachers more time in their

preparation period.

"If you do the math, it would allow us more preparation time," Rose said.

Rose urges that attitude is more important than what type of block you have.

Latin teacher E. J. Mickelson said he wouldn't be able to cover as much material under a block schedule.

"I think it will hurt certain academic and music programs here," Mickelson said.

Mickelson said that although students would have less stress under a block

schedule, this isn't entirely a good thing.

"But that [less stress] is a two-edged sword; not enough homework means students are not prepared for college," he said.

Pedersen cautions against people making up their minds about block scheduling before they know all the answers.

"We must work as a school on doing a better job on communicating to our public what alternative scheduling is all about," he said.

Block scheduling in place across South Dakota

By Jessica Callahan

Although the main focus right now may be on the possibility of block scheduling in Pierre, other schools in the state may not even think twice about the subject. Several schools in South Dakota have been using block scheduling for a number of years.

"Something has to be done to slow down the pace for our kids. Kids aren't numbers. They're part of a family. Kids feel a lot like numbers when everything is so fast paced."

Gordon Kendall, principal of Rapid City Central High School, said in a recent interview with the *Rapid City Journal*.

Although schools in South Dakota have incorporated block scheduling, schools use

different types and variations of the block.

Currently, Stanley County, Spearfish, Huron, and Mitchell run on an "A/B schedule." The "AB schedule" is comprised of a schedule of A days and B days. Students have different sets of classes on each day.

Watertown, Aberdeen, and Sturgis run on a "4 x 4 schedule," which consists of having the same four classes every day for the whole semester. Students then take a new set of four classes in the second semester.

Both of these schedules seem to suit each of the schools much better than their previous schedules.

Caitlin Brusseau, a senior who moved here this fall from Spencer, Massachusetts,

spent three years in a "4 by 4" block at her previous high school.

"You could take more classes with block scheduling. I liked the classes; I just didn't like how it switched every semester," Brusseau said. "Block scheduling has worked very well. In a recent survey, an overwhelming amount were in favor of keeping block scheduling," said Kevin Mutchelknaus, principal of Stanley County High School.

Both principals Mutchelknaus and Kendall credit the success of block scheduling to the preliminary research that was done and the training that was given to teachers before block scheduling was actually put into place.

S.R.B. Pass Card
School Year 2003-2004

Name: _____
Advisor: _____

Day	Period	Class	Teacher
8:15 TO 9:45	1		
9:50 TO 11:20	2		
11:25 TO 12:55	3		
1:00 TO 1:40	Channel 1		
1:45 TO 2:15	4		

MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL
BLOCK SCHEDULE

DAY	BLACK	GOLD
8:15 TO 9:45	1	1
9:50 TO 11:20	2	2 SRR*
11:25 TO 12:55	3	3
1:00 TO 1:40	Channel 1	Channel 1
1:45 TO 2:15	4	4

*SRR = STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY BLOCK

TIMES FOR LUNCH PERIODS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) 11:25 - 11:55
(B) 11:55 - 12:25
(C) 12:25 - 12:55

Time, serious consideration should go into scheduling decision

Schedules are the basis of students' lives at Riggs. They determine where students go throughout the day, when they go and to whom they go.

The majority of students spent time seriously considering what classes to take for the 2003-2004 school year.

They talked with counselors, parents, teachers and friends to receive their opinion as to what class schedule would be best for them. If a counselor suggested taking a certain class, they considered it. They kept an open mind.

The same process of deciding what classes to take must also be given to the evaluating of Riggs' current schedule.

A considerable amount of time should be spent in researching what type of schedule is best for Riggs.

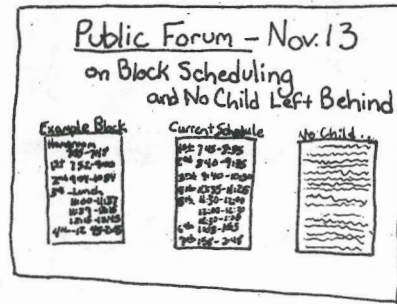
Input from other people should also be taken, as long as they are looking out for the best schedule option for Riggs.

An open mind should also be kept when considering different circumstances.

The responsibility to carry these tasks through doesn't just lie on Riggs staff and the school board. It also lies on students, parents and community members.

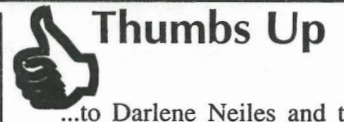
The quality of education in Pierre affects everyone who lives here. A large part of the economy depends upon the education. People will be more apt to move to Pierre if they know we have a superior educational system.

Everyone should be concerned that students at Riggs and other schools in the district are receiving the best education possible.



Community members and parents shouldn't focus on block scheduling in general but on what will make students more prepared for their futures.

Before an individual speaks out against block scheduling, challenge them to, first of all, do their research and, secondly, think of what is best for Riggs.



...to Darlene Neiles and the Red Ribbon Committee for putting up anti-drug use posters and placing red ribbons on the vehicles in the parking lot. Both the posters and the ribbons serve as good reminders to students and faculty members about prevention of drug use in the community.



Thumbs Down ...to select members of the student body who ruined the anti-drug activities poster. Instead of allowing students who recognize activities besides drug use to express themselves, a few immature students forced faculty to take the poster down because of inappropriate comments made. We ask these students to next time think before they ruin a good intention.

Letter to the editor:

Dear editor:

We all enjoy the occasional refreshing can of soda, but those of us who drink it obsessively may need to start looking for a second job.

The price of a can of pop went up this fall from \$.50 to \$.75. And not only that but Coke machines have replaced the old Pepsi products.

Not everyone likes the increase in price or the switch to Coke.

"The pop should be free; we already have to sit in school all day," said senior Kent Skron Dahl.

Vending machine prices at school have remained constant for the past five years. Pop prices have actually been rising for the last two years, but the high school has resisted change. However, it has gotten to the point where the school

must raise its prices to maintain a profit.

Profit? Where does that go? The profits from the Riggs pop machines are put into the general student account and are used to purchase items and fund programs for the students that would not be possible under the set budget. Intramural sports, some remodeling, and other programs benefit the students at Riggs.

"None of the money goes to Mr. Lakner or myself," said principal Mike Fugitt. That means the money you spend on that nice cool refreshing can of soda goes right back into your education and extracurricular activities. Not too shabby, huh?

Sincerely yours,
Jason Bakeberg, senior

Governor Staff 2003-2004

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The policy of the Riggs High Governor 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: WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF BLOCK SCHEDULING?



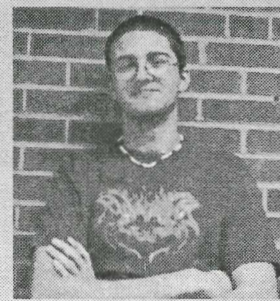
"I wouldn't like it but I don't have to worry about it because I won't be here." —Courtney Zander, senior



"It's a good idea because it gives you more time in class to do activities and homework." —Julie Leidholt, freshman



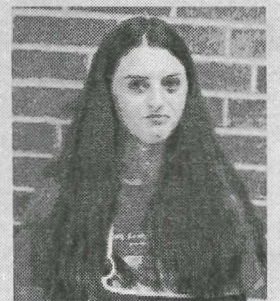
"I think that it is ridiculous. I don't want to spend my senior year in block scheduling. The test scores are going down at schools with it; why would we switch?" —Kim Bartels, junior



"I wouldn't like it because class is going to be too boring and too long." —Dan McDonald, sophomore



"If I wanted block scheduling, I would go to Ft. Pierre." —Jessica Lenz, sophomore



"I wouldn't like it because the classes would be too long, but I would like having that long of an open." —Britany Hedman, junior

Columnist: lack of activities in Pierre becomes clear as children reach adolescence stage in their lives



Columnist Anonymous Tyson Nafus

In the beginning, Pierre was a paradise for some. Children joyfully welcomed the warm summers and life on the river as well as took to liking the winter snows. Basically, they had sufficient enough ADD not to notice the lack of events in their neighborhood and the city in general.

The river city provided a relatively quiet, safe environment for nurturing the child into maturity. At the point of reaching adolescence, the reality of Pierre's isolation hit the preteen like a wheelbarrow full of bricks.

For some, sports were popular for recreation. They loved to just get out and play with their friends on the field. This fun, non-competitive practice is all of a sudden

considered frivolous and looked down upon unless you join a team and practice everyday (and in all honesty, who has that kind of time?)

Another vital step in coming into the teen years is developing your own self and distancing yourself from your family. Pierre actually seems completely in favor of group individualism, as expressed in its new motto: "Be a rebel: Conform."

But there are others we find here that are in a poorer boat than we are. At least once in your life you will hear the story of a Hayes resident making the big trip to Pierre for their monthly shopping trip at the Great Hallway of the Midwest (a.k.a. Pierre Mall). Consisting of the same thirteen stores you've grown up with, the inventory should be in short supply, depending on what you have come there for.

Another unique item to the capital city from its nearest neighbors is located at 123

West Capital. With a screen selection as wide as the hallways in the old south wing, the State 123 has been known, despite its size, to take a risky film or two in for the nightly showings. Cinemas such as "Finding Nemo" and "Holes" (a true rarity in these parts) tack onto their audacious record alongside such controversial movies as "Matilda" and "Hercules."

Of course, the city has something to say for location, although being out in the middle of nowhere isn't really constricting anything. It lies just a few miles from the awe-inspiring natural wonder, the Oahe Dam. Our dam postcards sell like hotcakes to tourists. The Capitol Building is also very pretty to visit any season of the year.

In summary, I guess there are honestly worse places to live than here. We could all be living in Bonesteel, South Dakota, which save for the name, isn't all it's cracked up to be.

Movies: best, worst of the year so far



Cinerama! Andrew Kightlinger

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

LOST IN TRANSLATION *****

The BEST movie of the year will most likely be "Return of The King," but for now, there is "Lost In Translation." This movie is sweet and sad and, at the same time, it is sarcastic and funny. Bill Murray ("Caddyshack") and Scarlett Johansson ("Ghost World") play two lost souls roaming about a Tokyo hotel in the middle of the night, who fall into conversation about their messages, their happiness and the meaning of it all. (You got that?)

Though many would find the Japanese stereotypes to be offensive, I found they were appropriate because the film wants the audience to feel as lost as the main characters do. I felt like a tourist watching the movie! It is amazing how a story so simple on the surface can leave such an emotional impact on a person. I will never forget this movie. I give "Lost In Translation" a perfect score. OTHER GOOD MOVIES: Matchstick Men, Dreamcatcher, 28 Days Later, The Rundown, Matrix Reloaded, Willard, Finding Nemo, Pirates of The Caribbean.

BAD BOYS 2 *1/2

The WORST movie of the year so far is "Bad Boys 2". I hate this movie! What an overblown piece of 2-1/2 hour garbage! I enjoyed the original, so I wanted so badly to like this sequel, but in the end, it had too much action, it was too long, and it wasn't very funny. Do throwing bodies out of a mortuary truck and running over them with other cars seem like good action? Not really. Will Smith and Martin Lawrence do the most they can with a pointless, unfunny script and unoriginal and cruel action sequences. Keep clear of "Bad Boys 2" because life is too short and this movie is too long. OTHER BAD MOVIES: "2Fast2Furious," "Spy Kids 3-D," "Dumb & Dumber," "Charlie's Angels 2," "Darkness Falls," "A Man Apart" and "S.W.A.T."

BEST OF SUMMER 2003 POLL

Pirates-35%...Nemo-16%...Bad Boys 2-9%...2Furious-8%...Matrix 2-7%...American Wedding-6%...Bruce Almighty-5%...Open Range-3%...Seabiscuit-3%...28 Days Later-3%...X2-2%...Terminator 3-2%...Daddy Day Care-1%...Hulk (loser!)-0%

(258 Riggs High students polled)

How to make a Halloween costume quickly

With Halloween approaching fast, there is little time to think of a costume idea let alone scrounge up money to buy one. So this month we have made a list of some quick and easy costume ideas that will not put a hole in your pocket.

Put on a pink shirt and a pink pair of pants and tape a shoe to your head.

3. Candy Corn: Wear a white hat, an orange shirt, and yellow pants.

4. Tourist: Wear some of your parents' tacky old clothing and wear some real or fake cameras around your neck.

5. A Blizzard: Dress up in all white and paint your face and dye your hair white.

1. Garbage Can: Go to the nearest trash can and pull out some trash and stick it on you.

2. Gum on the Bottom of a Shoe:



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

6. A Stop Light: Make big dots of red, yellow, and green and stick them on you like a stop light.

7. An Idea: Carry

around a light bulb, and when you are asked what you are, just hold the bulb above your head.

8. A Grocery Bag: Go to a Gro-

cery store and ask for some brown paper bags and tape them to yourself.

9. A Space Cadet: Buy some tin foil and wrap yourself in it.

10. A Worker: If your job has a uniform, wear that around; but if you don't, find a friend to borrow one from.

11. A Homicidal Maniac: This one is very easy because they look just like normal people.

12. A Ghost:

wear a bed sheet over your head. The sheet does not have to be white; the more colors the better.

13. Johnny Apple Seed: Put a cooking pot on your head and carry around a bag of something like bird seed to throw out.

So we hope that we have helped you a little on your last minute Halloween plans and we hope you have a fun and safe Halloween.

'If it ain't broke, don't fix it' with block scheduling

We swear and affirm that the article we are about to write is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help us God. (Actually, the article is just our opinions).

We have seen people make some pretty dumb decisions before, like those people that chose to elect Bill Clinton to the presidency.

Somebody might actually make an even more irrational decision right within our own city. That decision would be the school board's decision to possibly incorporate block scheduling into our school system this upcoming school year. Pretty poor possible decision, ain't it?

There are many reasons that block scheduling has us confused about the administration and their reasoning. In a recent Capital Journal article about block scheduling, superintendent John Pedersen said, "I THINK it's important we as a school



The Two Angry Crackers George Summerside & Andrew Berreth

seek ways to improve education for students." NO KIDDING! What were you doing to improve education before you thought of this amazing idea, Mr. Pedersen?

If Pedersen wants to improve student education, then why do he and the school board want block scheduling? We are already one of the best schools in the state academically. Why change what is obviously already working?

Well, the real reason--we hate to break

it to you--is not to improve education, as Pedersen would like you to believe but for money. The administration is putting their wallets before your education! Block scheduling will not improve the quality of education.

Any student who is in favor of block scheduling is LAZY and doesn't want to do as much work. Block scheduling (in A-B form) WILL give you less class time every two days. How much? Ten minutes. If that happens, then you will lose twenty-five minutes per class PER WEEK.

Clearly, for this school, block scheduling is a bad idea, in our opinion.

So, you choose the side you want to be on. Our opinion (which should not be construed as the truth even though you're all wrong and should never backtalk to the two angry crackers because we know where you live), derives from an old adage: Why fix it if it ain't broke?

Homeschooling provides alternative for some

By Laura Marsh

While the majority of Pierre's youth attend public school, around 50 families are homeschooling. The choice of where a child learns depends on financial situation and time.

Joyce Goehring, a local piano teacher, chose to homeschool her two sons and is now teaching her daughter Jenna, a seventh grader. She has two main reasons for her decision.

"You can do more individually [with homeschooling], and we wanted a Christian-based curriculum," Goehring said.

The A Beka series is one of many sets of books for homeschoolers to choose from and order. They add a Christian perspective to many subjects. For example, when covering the printing press, they show how the early presses were used to mass-produce the Bible.

"You can do more individually [with homeschooling], and we wanted a Christian-based curriculum."

—Joyce Goehring

However, some families opt to use the same books as the public school and can acquire them simply by asking the administration. "Video teachers" are also available for subjects outside a parent's expertise.

Amy Petrick also homeschooled her three children but only for one year.

"They had attended a private school, and the move to public school was hard. I taught them at home to help them adjust," said Petrick.

The one-on-one a student gets at home can be a major benefit. He or she can spend more time on more difficult areas and quickly go through things they understand.

Other families choose homeschooling because they want to avoid exposing their children to some negative influences or behaviors in the public

schools.

South Dakota has no requirements for a parent to meet in order to teach his or her child. It isn't necessary to keep up with scores and grades on tests or quizzes from kindergarten through eighth grade unless you want to. Even in high school, it isn't necessary unless you want a diploma.

"If you want a diploma, you can get one sent, but it's not a big thing," says Goehring.

When applying for colleges, a student need only explain that he has been homeschooled and send in his ACT/SAT scores. Colleges accept homeschooled students on the basis of their scores. While that sounds easy, to do well on these tests still takes the same amount of studying and work for a homeschooled student as it does for a public school student.

But public school



In addition to home schooling, junior Robin Hinesh is a part time receptionist at Burke Real Estate.

photo by Megan Wellner

has its advantages as well.

While teens that stay at home can still get out and communicate with others, those in public school have a much more social environment. They are placed in the midst of many their own age and must interact with them on a

daily basis.

Pierre's school board recently passed a policy stating that homeschooled students can participate in extra-curricular activities offered by the public school. Homeschooled students can participate in activities ranging from cheerleading to

school plays. Most homeschoolers join clubs and other community activities, just like public schooled teens.

Studies show that homeschoolers do better than public school students on test scores, but who knows how well they would have

done if they had gone to public school instead?

Both experiences—public schooling and homeschooling—can be positive for students, and both also have unique negatives. In the end each individual family must make right decision for its child.

My life as a home-schooler

Teen explains how homeschooling works for her

By Robin Hinesh

Greetings all ye children of the public school system!

It's me. Remember? Ha ha, no you don't, so I'll clue you in.

This is Robin Hinesh. Last year I wrote a column for the *Governor* and attended high school with you all. I was a sophomore, so I am now a junior. Only now I home school.

I went public school for 10 years and after two years of high school, I decided to home school. Less stress and the freedom to travel around and visit my sisters were the main reasons.

I am using something called the A Beka curriculum. I have books, quizzes, tests, reports and projects

just like public high school students do.

I also have teachers. They set up a camera in a classroom down in Florida and tape the lessons. It would be just like if someone were to set up a camera in your English class and record it for a student at home to learn from.

I am taking the following classes: history, English, math, New Testament, Life Management, P.E. and Home Economics.

A normal day should take about six hours, although depending on the amount of work it can be more or less. I wake up around 8 a.m. but if I am out late at night or not

feeling well, I can start the day later.

The curriculum is designed for a 170 day school year. A standard school year is supposed to be 180 days so the extra 10 days are meant for field trips and other special projects.

I don't have to turn my homework in to anyone, I just correct it myself. I also take quizzes that are corrected at home and tests, some of which I send in. I have to record my homework, quizzes and test grades.

This curriculum is based largely on trust, trust that the student and the parent will not cheat. They even have a paper that my mom and I have to sign saying that we did not cheat.

It's a lot of work, and there is still stress just like any other kind of school, but I think that the freedom it gives me is worth it.



Homeschooling

Top five disadvantages

5. There is no one to sign my bathroom pass (I've had to go to the bathroom for three weeks...)

4. I've had to start buying gum because I can no longer chisel it off the bottom of desks.

3. All my teachers are on video, thus my teachers no longer react when I throw my books and various other objects

Top five advantages

5. Swimming laps in my bathtub counts as a P.E. credit.

4. I've discovered the key to cloning human beings, the exact date of Armeggaedon and a great oatmeal cookie recipe by playing math videos in reverse.

at them.

2. Because I no longer attend Riggs, I was forced to forfeit my position as official water girl to the marching band, a lot to do with the near fatal drowning accident involving me, the tuba player and a full cooler of Gatoraid....

1. There is no one to keep me from eating my papers...etc.

3. I AM the student council.
2. Health assignment this week: Don't die.

1. I'm writing this entire list at 1:00 a.m. on a weeknight, and it doesn't matter because I can sleep in!

by Robin Hinesh

How to become a better student

By Mallory Peterson

For some students, life's hard. Getting up early in the morning and getting to school on time can be brutal. Then, once you get to class, you are expected to focus and do well in class. Sound overwhelming?

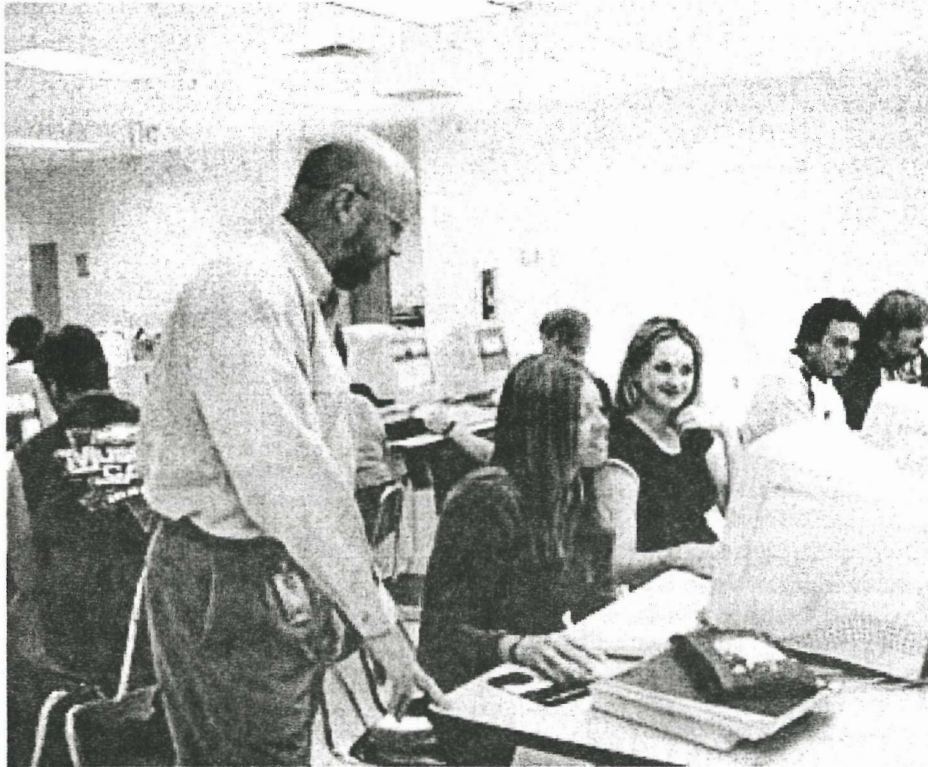
The first step to becoming a better student is setting goals for yourself.

They don't have to be major ones, in fact, the smaller the goal the better. Set goals you can obtain reasonably. Getting straight A's on your next report card would be nice, but it is not very realistic. Be sure to set realistic goals.

If you don't understand the material or are not doing as well in a class as you would like, talk to your teacher. Avoiding the situation may only cause it to linger and get worse.

Teachers are usually more than happy to help, which may have an effect on your grades in the long run.

Use rewards to make progress. You could allow yourself a movie on Friday night or a new CD if you get



Seniors Ashley Heikes and Kelly Johnson ask Constitution teacher Skip Kurth a question in an effort to become better students.

your history project completed on time.

Allowing rewards for positive improvements will leave you feeling better about taking a step in the right direction to becoming a better student.

Realize that personal

feelings may affect the way you react toward the lesson or class.

"You have to learn to set personal problems aside. As you mature, you learn better ways to handle the problem," said guidance counselor LaDonna Zellmer.

Typically, if you have a better experience with the teacher, the class may become more enjoyable.

Your study habits may also heavily influence what kind of student you are.

"Even though it's not all that much fun, most stu-

dents could probably spend a little more time studying," geography teacher Larry Joy said.

Studying your notes or reading your textbook, even for just fifteen to thirty minutes a day, will make preparing for quizzes and exams less painful.

Last minute studying or "cramming" isn't quite as effective as studying your material every day.

Reviewing the day's material helps you to remember more permanently what happened in class that day.

"Talk to the teacher, do your assignments, and go to the study groups. If there isn't one for that subject, create your own. There are also student tutors that can help," counselor Bobbi Brown said.

Each student is different, which is why all students need to decide on their own how to become a better student.

Not only will doing this have an impact on your grades, but it will leave you with a sense of accomplishment on the continuing journey of high school education.

Quick Facts

*Home Schooling has been legal in every state since 1993.

*According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, (NCES) about 2% of the school aged population, or 850,000 children, home schooled in 1999.

*The NCES reports that 80% of home schooled kids live in two-parent families.

*The estimated number of children home schooled in the United states is between 1.725 million and 2.185 million.

*The Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) reports that 35 states do not require home schooling-parents to meet specific teaching qualifications.

*According to the HSDLA, 69% of home schoolers go on to post secondary education.

WebCT, AP online courses offer options

by Dirk McGrane

On-line teaching is making its presence known at Riggs. Many different types

of programs are available for use, each with its different specialty, style, and options.

One of these programs is

called WebCT. WebCT is an online class management program that can be used by any teacher in South Dakota who has completed a class

detailing its use.

Geoff Gross, who teaches junior and senior English, is one of these teachers. Gross says he uses WebCT with his classes because it supplies a variety of useful tasks that aid in teaching.

Students with on-line access at home can use WebCT to make up work they have missed. Students are given their own e-mail address which they can use to e-mail assignments to Gross.

There is a student message board for students to post questions and other comments as well as an on-line calendar where Gross posts new assignments.

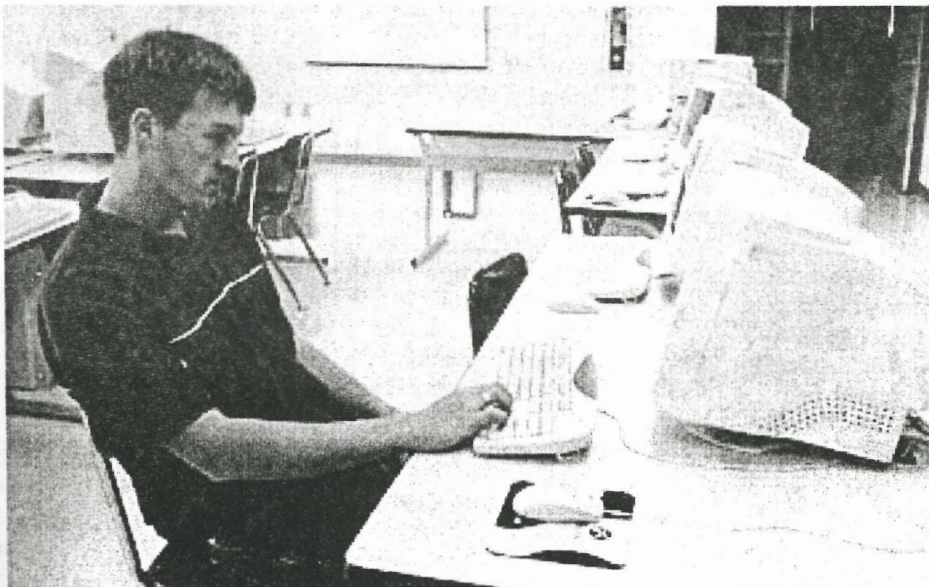
Gross believes that using WebCT creates more student accountability and gives students more oppor-

tunities to use their technical skills with computers. It also helps cut down on paper waste in the classroom since most assignments can be turned in without a pen ever touching paper.

Students that use WebCT have mixed feelings about this new way of teaching.

"I like it because it's something different, but at the same time, I don't like it because you don't actually see the teacher or interact with them as much," senior Sean Colleran says.

Another program that is offered here at Riggs is online AP classes. Senior Adam Mayberry is taking AP calculus and senior Dan Mayberry is taking AP statistics. Students are given the choice to take these online courses if the school does not offer them.



Senior Adam Maberry working hard on his on-line AP calculus class.

Photo by Tara Dieken

compiled by Governor editors

Source: yahoo.com

Student makes transition to new team, school

By Lisa Heffernan

Riggs's newest varsity football player comes from the Sioux City West High Wolverines to the friendly confines of Trautner Stadium. Meet Quincy Christie.

Adjusting to Riggs hasn't been too hard for Christie. The school is fairly close in size to West High even though Sioux City is much larger, about 85,000 people.

"Pierre seems kind of in the middle of nowhere, but I like it because it has a little bit of everything," Christie said.

Christie's interest in football began as a second grader when he just started to play for fun. Admiring one of his older cousins who plays football also influenced him to play it in high school.

Team unity is one major difference he's seen in Pierre.

"A lot of guys [in Sioux City,] had no heart for it; it became like

a one-man show," Christie said.

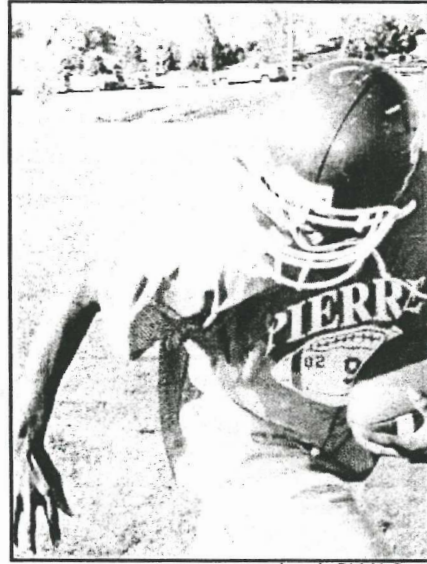
Christie also likes how the whole team are great guys and they all get along with each other. This is why he thinks the team is doing well this year. Games don't turn into one-man-for-himself.

"I think [Christie] is doing good—faster than anyone on the team," said junior Joel Stars.

The quality of the team is also different, although he thinks the quality of the running and throwing is the same as Sioux City.

School activities are also varied from Sioux City. Christie said more Pierre students participated in the homecoming activities than at his old school and added that he really enjoyed the homecoming olympics.

Christie also likes how more sophomores are stepping up to help varsity. He thinks the team is coming along really well.



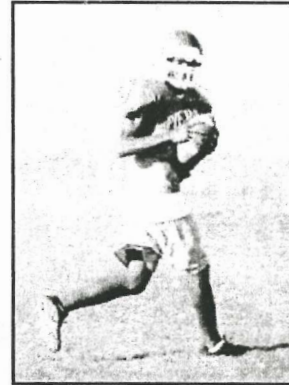
photos by Dirk McGrane

Training is going well for him too, but he isn't fond of conditioning.

"I don't really like it, but I will do it because it's good for you,"

he said.

There is one thing that hasn't changed for Christie since moving to Pierre—his school colors remain green and white.



(left and above) Quincy Christie practices for an upcoming game. Football isn't Christie's only interest. Aside from football, the runningback plans to be in track this year; he also likes to go fishing.

Team Unity: many activities allow members to bond, have fun with each other

By Kelly Johnson

A strong concept of team unity is essential to the success of any team from football to dance. Activities that build friendship, bond and trust help make the season go by smoother for both players and coaches. Most of all, team unity involves respecting the weaknesses and strengths of other teammates.

Over dishes such as spaghetti and lasagna, the cross-country team comes together the night

before meets by attending a carbo-load. The carbo-load is a chance for the cross-country team to get together for conversations and a good meal.

"We all get along well because we are all enduring the same pain in practices," senior Ashley Heikes said.

However, it takes time for time unity to become established.

The Riggs High football team is under the new direction of coach Mike Busch. The team doesn't have specially designated

team-building events.

"Team unity is something that comes about from years of playing with the same people and is a reflection of the coaches we have," senior Brian Bumann said.

The Pierrettes dance team formed last year. Activities such as sleepovers and camping trips keep the team spirit high.

"Team unity is important because it keeps the girls working together as one dancer instead of a group of dancers and it makes practices a happier place," coach

Sarah Winters said.

The volleyball team has also integrated events into their season to make the team united. A scavenger hunt at the beginning of the season and a pumpkin decorating party strengthen the team bond.

"We try to incorporate fun life skills into the sport," junior varsity volleyball coach Amy Simon said.

The variety of these team bonding experiences allow the team members to get to know each other while having a good time.

Motivation, action found in unlikely places

I'm sure all of you remember Adam Emerson's speech given at the homecoming coronation and pep rally. If you recall, he poked fun at the football team and its losing record.

Some of you—including players—took it seriously; some of you didn't. Something we all thought was funny was coach Mike Busch tackling Emerson at the Olympics.

I think maybe the football team did take it to heart and has used it as motivation. In the games following the speech, the football team has played well in its games beating Huron and then completely dominating Rapid City Central the following week.

The Governors have gotten

better each week following the O'Gorman game, which was easily their worst game of the season.

At the beginning of the Huron game, after Huron marched down the field and scored on their first two possessions of the game, I was thinking, "It looks like we are going to lose another homecoming game, and this time it's going to be to Huron instead of the last two years when we lost to good teams."

I'm sure some of you were probably thinking pretty much the same thing—but it's a good thing we were proven wrong.

Pierre played well, rallied and won, doing most of it in the sec-



Chris Mangan

ond half, where it hasn't played well at all this season. The second half of that game might have turned around the Governors' whole season because they have played well since then.

The Rapid City game was a completely different story. Many reserves that haven't played much this year stepped up and made things happen, namely Darren Scott on his 43-yard touchdown reception.

The Governors were firing on all cylinders—the offense played very well, scoring on all five possessions they had in the first half of the game; the defense played well and even the special teams

got into the action by blocking an extra point.

The Governors have started to play well as the playoffs near. The last game of the season—tonight at home—may or may not determine their seeding in the playoffs. The last game of the regular season won't be easy because it is against Yankton, the defending state champion.

While the team has played well and deserves the credit, I think Adam Emerson's speech lit the fire.

Some of you may think that Emerson's speech made fun of the football team, but I think that it gave them motivation to prove everyone wrong.

So far it has worked.

At a glance... Sports Scores

Cross Country

Last event: The 5 Star Cross Country Invitational in Huron

Next event: State meet in Huron
Notable performance: Boys: senior George Summerside, senior James Berreth and sophomore Julian Sheard. Girls: junior Amy Brandner, sophomore Erin Titze, and freshman Michelle Monroe.

Coach comment: "I think the key to success is to continue to progress, and I think that they have managed to improve over the year and I think that has really helped them."—coach Tory Zeller

Football

Last event: Lost 34-2 against Aberdeen

Next event: Tonight vs. Yankton

Coach comment: "I think our team has a chance to move deep into the playoffs. We've played against some very good teams, and we've done very well against them. I think if we work as hard as we have been, we will definitely make it to at least the semi-finals."—coach Mike Busch

Boys/Girls Soccer

Last game: State tournament, Boys finished second and girls finished eighth.

Notable performance: Girls: juniors Donielle Gustafson, Jenna Forsch and Carly Feiler all made the All-State team

Boys: sophomore Alex Beckwith, senior Matt Dutt.

Coach's comment: "Next year is going to be our year. We will have a great year and finish in the top four in state for sure."—girls head coach Kevin Forsch

Volleyball

Last Match: Mitchell Invite last Saturday—10th

Next Matches: Yankton Dual today and Aberdeen Invite tomorrow.

Coach's comment: "We haven't had a very good record, but it only matters how we do in ESD and districts. We may go in as underdogs, but we won't necessarily go out that way."—coach Shawna Fullerton

Riggs welcomes three new coaches to fall athletics

By Johanna Snow

Coaches. What is the first thing that comes to mind when the word is mentioned? Someone who encourages young athletes to go for the gold? Or perhaps someone who runs up and down the field yelling instructions? This year, Riggs welcomed three new coaches.

Shawna Fullerton has been playing volleyball since high school and has a distinct love for the sport. Her plan for the varsity volleyball team is to bring discipline and hard work onto the courts in order to perfect fundamentals.

She has coached two years at the seventh grade level in Pierre, four years junior varsity at Todd County and coached freshmen volleyball one year while in college.

"Our goals for this year are to improve serve receiving, overall defense, and our major goal is to make it to State," Fullerton said.

Another new coach is the football coach Mike Busch.

"I plan to bring excitement and try to get people to appreciate the game of football," Busch said.

Busch has coached at Rapid City Central, Milbank, Mitchell and South Dakota State University (SDSU).

"I used to be a head coach, and I missed doing it. So when I was given the opportunity to come and coach here, I took it," he said.

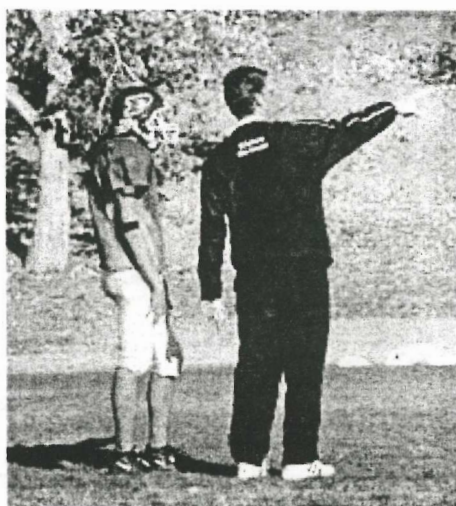


photo by Tara Dieken

He has played football at Huron High School, Idaho State and SDSU. His main goal for this year is for the football team to stay together as a team and for them to play with enthusiasm and effort.

"A positive attitude takes you a long way, and if you have high goals, then anything is possible. That doesn't apply to just football, it applies to everyday life," Busch said.

Cross Country has a new assistant coach, Krista Oehlerking. This is her first coaching experience. She heard that the school was hiring a cross country coach, and since she had loved the sport she applied for the position.



photo by Tara Dieken

(Above) Coach Shawna Fullerton instructs a volleyball player during a recent practice.

(Above left) Governor football player Jameson Linn looks on as Coach Mike Busch tells him about an upcoming play.

"I love to run. I've run a marathon in the past, and I hope to do it again sometime in the future," Oehlerking said.

Oehlerking just wants everyone to have fun with the sport of running and believes that everyone on the team can reach their

goals.

She wants the team to know that she believes in them, too. Even though everyone in cross country has their own personal goals, she hopes that the team will do well at State.

Athletes to watch

Kate Wylie

Position: #1 on Pierre Lady Governor tennis squad

Individual record: 14-8 for singles; 19-4 for doubles

What you liked best about this year: Being team leader and helping younger



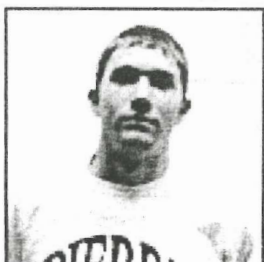
players
Most pleasant surprise on the team: Mandy Forest

What was it like playing with your sister: Fun playing with a lifelong teammate.
What you'll miss about this year: Seeing friends from other teams

James "Bart" Berreth

Position: #1 runner on Cross Country team
Place at ESD meet: 7th

Best moment so far this year: Coach Zeller taking our shoes when we jumped in the river
Some



thing most people don't know about the Governors: We actually work hard
Goals for the team at state: Everyone

running the best they can
Most surprising runner this year: Julian

by Allen Goodman

End results Soccer, tennis and golf finish seasons

By Drew White

The boys and girls soccer teams, the girls tennis team, and the boy's golf seasons all recently ended their seasons with respective state tournaments.

The boys soccer team went into the tournament ranked eighth, so they had nothing to lose, coach Chris Derry said.

They upset the number one team in the state in their first game, with the defense holding them to one shot, which was saved by sophomore Alex Beckwith.

Scoring goals throughout the tournament were seniors A.J. Rounds and Matt Dutt and juniors Kai Hanson and Brady Neiles with one goal each.

"Practically all of our starters will be returning with only Matt Dutt and A.J. Rounds graduating. These boys play their hearts out and deserve all that's coming to them," he said.

The Lady Gobs soccer team finished their season

by placing eighth at the state tournament.

Kevin Forsch, the head coach, said the Lady Gobs had the best season on record for Pierre's girls soccer program and just had a tough break in state, although finishing eighth was also an all-time best for the team.

Three players were elected to the All-state team—junior Donielle Gustafson on first team, junior Jena Forsch on second team for the second time in her career, and junior Carly Feiler was an honorable mention.

"Next year will be our year, we have twelve returning letterwinners, we will have a great year and finish in the top four in state," Forsch said.

The girls tennis team also finished their season with a tournament in Sioux Falls.

"The tennis team did extremely well," tennis coach Lisa Blake said. "It was a

real team effort."

Four girls made it to the quarter finals. Senior Kate Wylie, junior Jennifer Hoscheid and freshmen Mandy Forest and Emma Wylie.

The Wylie sisters made it to the quarterfinals in the doubles division.

"Everybody contributed, regardless of whether it was varsity or junior varsity, and everyone should feel great about their season," Blake said.

Boys golfers finished the year at the state tournament in Spearfish with a team finish

of twelfth out of sixteen teams.

Individually, the team was lead by junior Zach Vogt who tied for ninth at 78/78; sophomore Mason Linn shot 83/85; senior Drew Johnson, 95/82; junior Josh Schwartzkopf, 94/88; junior Austin Blair, 101/87; and sophomore Logan Dahl, 94/97.

"My goal for the team next year is to move up into the top half of the field, both in the ESD and at state" said Vogt. "Individually, my goal would be to try to win ESD and state!"



Zach Vogt gets ready to putt at the state golf meet in Spearfish earlier this month.

Fun indoors!

Band moves indoor marching concert to theater

by Kim deHueck

The Riggs High Emerald Regiment performed their annual Indoor Marching Concert on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. For the first time in several years, the concert was held in the theater rather than the gym.

The concert is a fundraising activity sponsored by the fine arts boosters for the trip the band takes to Chicago every other year.

The band was under the direction of Larry Johnson and drum majors McKayla Marso, senior, and Ashley Iverson, junior.

The concert featured the pep band's favorite song "You can call me Al."

Three Western pieces entitled "The Outlaws," "Home on the Range" and "Rocky Top" added flavor to the concert.

The Emerald Regiment previ-

ously performed three songs at the homecoming football game and with only eight practices from homecoming until the concert, they still succeeded in learning new choreography and routines.

"It was a lot of hard work and long hours, but it was worth it," junior Brady Neiles said.

Neiles is a member of the drumline 'Pierrecussion' who practiced at 6:30 a.m. every morning with the rest of the band coming in at 7:00 a.m. in preparation for the concert. Also working hard and assisting the band was the Riggs High Flag Corps.

"It has been a lot of hard work changing routines around, but it is a lot of fun and pays off," senior Flag Corps captain Shanna Payne said.

Johnson said he was glad when the concert was over, but it was a very enjoyable one.



Photo by Dirk McGrane
Brian Bumann and Zach Vogt blast their trumpets at the band concert.



Photo by Dirk McGrane

The horns blare as the band's brass players take the stage front and center.

News Briefs

Chorus performs first concert

by Will B. Butler

Music filled the air as the Riggs High Chorus performed their fall concert last night.

The mixed chorus sang seven songs including "Cole's Song", "Pilgrim's Hymn" and "Dies Irae."

Five songs were also performed by the ninth and tenth grade girls including "Angel," "Fields of Gold" and "Cowboy Take Me Away."

"This year's fall concert was fun," Hanson said.

The mixed chorus this year has a total of 67 students and the girls chorus has 48 girls.

The prospect of performing left some students anxiously awaiting the performance.

"I like the songs and I looked forward to it," junior Brittany Merchen said.

In other recent action, 26 students, Hanson and two other adults traveled to the All State Chorus workshop in Aberdeen.

While there, students had the opportunity to sing with over 600 other students from across the state.

Homecoming provides highlights

By Laura Marsh

The Governors won their Homecoming game against the Huron Tigers 30-20 on October 3.

During homecoming week students dressed up like cowboys, movie characters, or hippies on appropriate days.

Cody Nicholas and Sasha Kean were crowned Governor and First Lady.

Correction

There was an error in the September issue of the *Governor*. The article concerning No Child Left Behind by Ursula Waack

mistakenly stated that McKinley School was under alert, and that is incorrect. *The Governor* regrets the error.

Hartley qualifies as National Merit semi-finalist

by Ursula Waack

Along with "four-year choir and band member," senior Kit Hartley can now add another accomplishment to her resume.

Hartley qualified as a National Merit Semi-Finalist because of her results from the PSAT test last year.

Fifty students took the PSAT test at Riggs, but only Hartley received a score high enough to be named a semi-finalist.

All the scores in the state were first placed in numerical order with the highest on top. The top 10% of the scores were figured. Any person with a score in the top ten

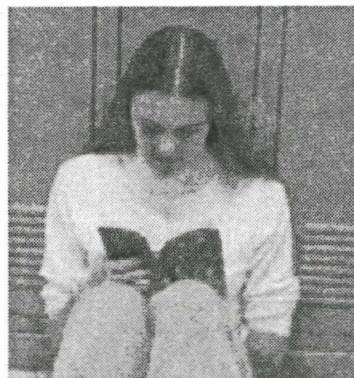
percent is a National Merit Semi-Finalist. The score to get this year was 206.

Hartley said she was shocked to find out she had qualified as a semi-finalist.

The semi-finalists must take the SAT and submit their scores to the National College Board. Hartley also has the chance to compete to become a National Merit Finalist.

"The National Merit Program offers unique opportunities, but it is very difficult," counselor Bobbi Brown said.

If Hartley does well, certain companies and colleges would be willing to offer her financial aid.



Kit Hartley
Colleges that offer scholarships for finalist in South Dakota are USD and SDSU.

Erin Brown of the class of 2001 was the last finalist that Riggs had.

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

Name: Carla King
Born: Platte
Grew Up: Chamberlain
Family: Husband Kevin, son Matthew, and daughters Mary and Megan



Education: Bachelor's degree from SDSU
Why teaching?: She had an English teacher who made an enormous impact on her.
Classes: Junior English
Past job history: Taught middle school and high school English at Artesian/Letcher

and Stanley County. King also taught at The Right Turn.
Why high school English?: She likes working with high school students because they're independent,

creative and challenging.
Life philosophy: Everyone must have something that they really believe in and something to find joy in.
Hobbies: Snow skiing, gardening, reading, biking and spending time with her family.

by Kimberly Bartels