

T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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Hard work
pays off for
athlete
A look at the #1
high school
singles tennis
champion of SD
pg 7



Students have mixed feelings on new lunch program

By Will B. Butler

As Riggs High Students entered a new school year, many immediately noticed changes in the lunch program. Over the summer a new kitchen extension was built and a new food service director was hired.

According to principal Mike Fugitt, the changes were made in hopes of increasing student participation in the lunch program and to enhance students' options in what they eat.

Fugitt mentioned that in his time as principal at Riggs, this is the only major expansion to the lunch program. The cost of this expansion is estimated to be \$600,000 or more, according to assistant principal John Lakner.

"When it's in place, some benefits will be more choices for the students, more nutritious items to choose from and more efficiency in eating," Fugitt said.

Fugitt said that the program is new and exciting but also has some weaknesses. Scheduling conflicts with the construction company, little preparation

time, lack of training and students' unawareness of procedures are drawbacks mostly due to construction delays and also the late arrival of equipment, Fugitt said.

Although problems with the program do exist, Lakner said that the food staff has been working to fix these problems.

"The hard work of the food staff, especially new district-wide director Darrell Davis and Riggs High Food Director Jean Hillmer, should be noted," Lakner said.

Although juniors and seniors have the option of leaving campus for lunch, both Fugitt and Lakner gave reasons for them to stay.

Some students have found that they enjoy eating in the cafeteria.

Freshman Paul Menning said he thought the food selection was great and that he got plenty of food with the school's lunch.

"I like it because of the enhanced food selection," sophomore Amber Nail said.

Others, however, were not as pleased with the new lunch program.

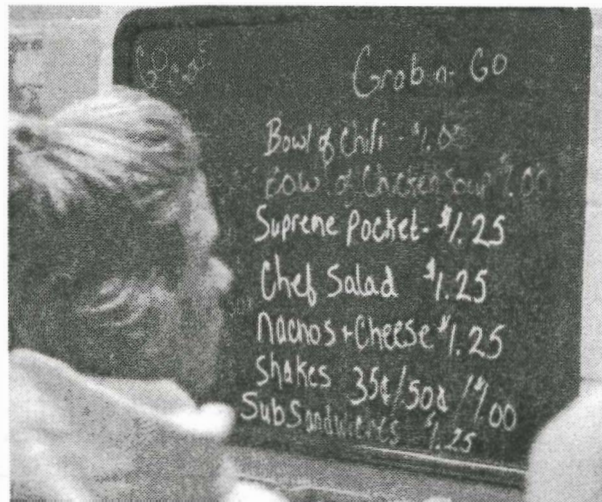


photo by Dirk McGrane
The new lunch menus include a main meal and other "Grab & Go" options for students to choose from at an additional charge.

"Everything about it—the lines, the prices, the food—is bad," sophomore Matt Geffre said.

"I think that it isn't as good as it was expected to be," sophomore Sonja Christensen said.

"I have noticed an unreasonable increase in prices, with not enough difference [in the food]," sophomore Natalie Nagle said.

Students have found that the lunch line can be frustrating.

"We need two lines, since it takes about fifteen minutes to get through, eliminating our time to eat,"

junior Josh Breske said.

"I don't know that much about the new program, since I always bring my own lunch," computer teacher Cheryl Ulmen said.

Fugitt believes the expansion hasn't yet achieved its potential and goal. He said it will be a process of continual improvement with many different things looked at as time goes by.

Fugitt said that a group of student senate members are meeting regularly with the food services staff to discuss options and other similar issues. He also added that if block schedul-

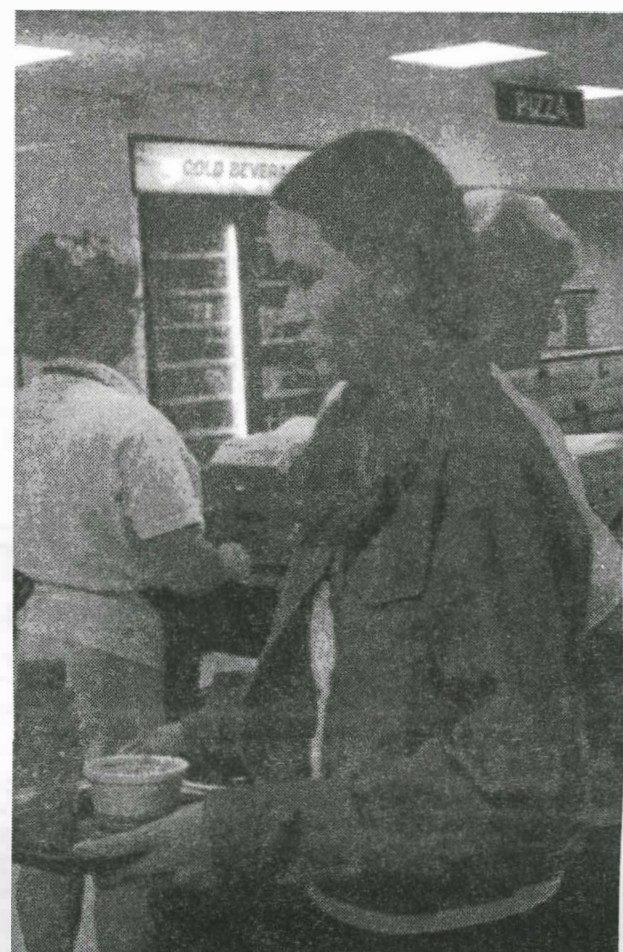


photo by Dirk McGrane
Sophomore Samantha Gaetze chooses from the new lunch options.

ing is implemented at any time in the near future, the lunch program will be unaffected.

Lakner feels the lunch

program is hectic but positive. Both principals stressed student participation as an important part of the lunch program's future.

The good, the bad, and the ugly: new rules take effect

By Laura Marsh

Students faced many changes this fall when returning to school.

Unlike last year, backpacks are no longer allowed to be carried between classes. When brought to class, they created clutter. Backpacks were also considered a security issue.

"There was no way of knowing what students were carrying in [their backpacks]," said principal Mike Fugitt.

Not only were drugs or weapons considered but food and beverages as well. Carrying a heavy backpack

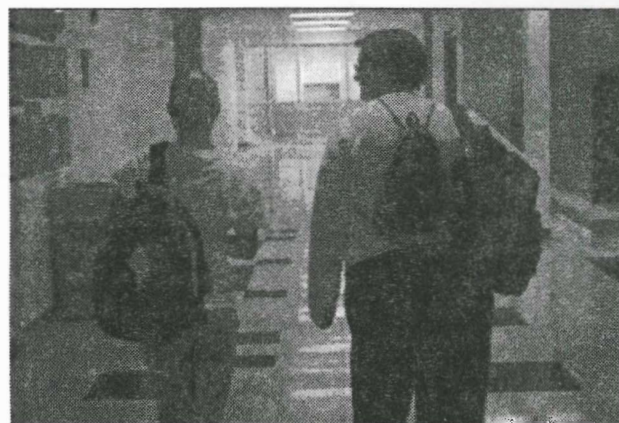


photo by Dirk McGrane
Students may carry backpacks only before and after school.

all day has also been found to be damaging to students' backs.

However it does make a difference in the amount of

school materials students can carry at one time.

"It's not that big of a deal, but it was easier with a backpack. I used to keep

everything for my classes in it," junior Kerri Morris said.

Channel One will no longer be shown before second period, resulting in a schedule change for students and teachers.

"The administration had been debating whether to keep [Channel One] for three years. Students weren't watching, and teachers agreed there was a better way to spend those minutes of class time," Fugitt said.

Removing Channel One from the schedule added an extra minute between class periods, helping to cut tardies.

"The extra minute helps, especially if a teacher lets class out late," junior Kristen Anderson said.

The dress code at Riggs hasn't truly changed but is now being more strictly enforced and holds different consequences. Last year, too many students were exposing too much skin.

"Students have done very well so far this year. We've had very few problems with dress," Fugitt said.

Now students are provided with clothes to cover up with if their dress is deemed inappropriate.

Some students have no

problem with the new rules.

"The dress code isn't any more severe than rules your parents should make for your dress to go to school," said Meghan Larson, senior.

The parking lot has been leveled and resurfaced. An additional entrance and exit has made the traffic flow much smoother and faster.

"It's a lot nicer—I actually use the parking lot now," junior Brittany Lowery said.

Fugitt believes the renovation of the parking lot was necessary. "It was definitely time for it to be fixed up. There aren't more spots; it's just more organized."

Out with the old, in with the new

School year should challenge students to change attitudes towards others

New clothes, school supplies and schedules mean the start to a new school year. At Riggs, the new school year especially means a stricter dress code and more rules in general. With so much emphasis on students' outside appearance, it seems that Riggs has forgotten about our inside appearance as well.

Though clubs exist for volunteering and community service, reaching out and lending a hand can be done within the classrooms and halls of Riggs as well. This can be as simple as smiling at someone in the hallway or talking to the "new kid" in a class.

Regardless of students' grade, this is a year for meeting people and branching out. For seniors, this is the last opportunity to become reacquainted with class-

mates they may not have talked to since elementary school. Sophomores and juniors have the chance to get to know more members of their class. Freshman, once they overcome the initial shock of so many new faces, can find that diversity is good in friend-

ships.

High school is a time for close friendships, yes, but students shouldn't be afraid to invest in an unexpected relationship as well. To become more interesting, it is important to become interested in others' lives as well. In learning

more about others, students may learn more about themselves.

This year, students should be challenged to make their inside appearances shine brightly. Reaching out and lending a hand in the smallest of ways will make for a great 2003-2004 school year.



Thumbs Up

...to Student Senate and its advisers for organizing the September 11 ceremony. It was fitting to take a moment out of the school day and to have the student body outside honoring the flag and remembering those who died on September 11, 2001.



Thumbs Down

...to the use of styrofoam plates and plastic silverware in the lunchroom every day. It's an environmental hazard to waste hundreds of plates and plastic knives, forks and spoons every day. Certainly if students' trays are being washed, their plates can be washed also.

Guest columnist

Summer ends with a whack for student as school begins in fall

By Drew White

Somewhere in the darkness, you hear a sound, but you're not sure what it is. So you continue to do nothing since summer is still strong and it will never end.

Until WHACK! Just like the unfortunate insect who crosses the highway at the wrong time, you are slammed with a depressing, undying truth...school will and does start up again, every single fall.

Sure, some students may say that they are excited about the upcoming school year, but this journalist knows that this is simply a lie. Every single student in the entire known universe would much

rather be sitting on a couch, munching on cheese puffs and watching old reruns of *Three's Company* instead of sitting in a classroom and learning about the difference between carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide.

Now, don't get me wrong; school is an excellent way to make friends, and you will see those friends a lot more than you sometimes will during the summer. However, all I'm suggesting is to give the students a week or two more of summer, just wait until Labor Day, and have the first day of school be on a Friday, so that the first day and all of its stresses can be relieved immediately with a weekend.

Governor Staff 2003-2004

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1010 E. Broadway
Pierre, South Dakota 57501
Telephone: 773-7350

Editor-in-chief ♦ BryAnn Becker

Junior editors ♦ Jessica Callahan, Robin Hinesh and Laura Marsh

Sophomore editor ♦ Dirk McGrane

Columnists ♦ Jenny Badger, Andrew Berreth, Andrew Kightlinger, Chris

Mangan, Tyson Nafus, Maggie Schultz and George Summerside

Art/graphics ♦ Samantha Nielsen, Karen Van Camp

Photographers ♦ Tara Dieken, Dirk McGrane, Megan Wellner

Reporters ♦ Jennie Badger, Kimberly Bartels, Brittany

Burnett, Will Butler, Kim deHueck, Sarah Fuoss, Allen

Goodman, Cleo Hilding, Kelly Johnson, Maggie Schultz,

Emma Waack, Ursula Waack and Drew White

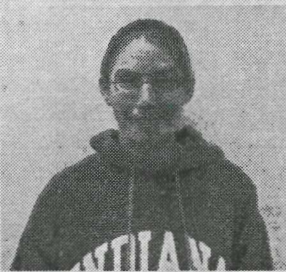
Adviser ♦ Elizabeth J. Vogt

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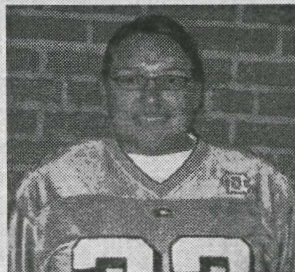
HALL TALK: DO YOU THINK THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM CHANGES WERE NECESSARY?



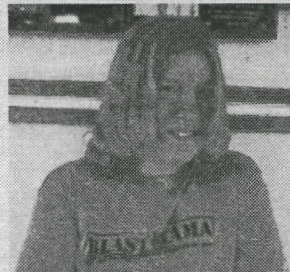
"No, because they didn't really change the food that much." — **Samantha Hestdalen**, senior



"No, because we don't get open lunches." — **Kelsey Dunwoody**, freshman



"No, there is a longer line, the food tastes the same and they took away those good cookies." — **Vanessa Sevier**, junior



"Yes it's nice to have better variety but the food is too expensive." — **Winter Nicholas**, sophomore



"No, it costs more for less food, it takes longer, and where are the cookies? They make you pay for the dumbest things, like cheese or a too full fruit cup." — **Alice Scharnweber**, senior



"No, I don't think they should have paid for a new lunch system when the old one worked fine. And no block scheduling!" — **Bret Graves**, junior

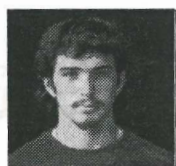
photos and quotes by Megan Wellner

Columnist: 'glorious start' to new year

Well, the school year is off to another glorious start. As every year, the students complain about the changes made over the summer, and staff patiently waits it out.

Granted, this school year has seen some drastic changes since the time I fled the building in May. Old faces are gone, new staff has arrived, the snackbar is closed, the pop machines have gotten their eviction notice; all of this will take some getting used to.

For instance, lunch. I'm sure the mile-long lunch line has caught your attention by now, and I agree it needs some change. Even the most skilled of diners find two and a half minutes a tad rushed for a hamburger. At least for the upper classmen, they



**Columnist
Anonymous
Tyson Nafus**

can now spend this blitz lunch in relative quiet in the new upper classmen dining hall.

The second largest change would have to be the introduction of the Super Hallway Patrol Squad, consisting of science teacher Jon Gonsor, to keep the now-trapped freshmen and sophomores to the lobby, as well as those upperclassmen who stay behind. His badge and uniform must still be in the mail, so you can look forward to that in weeks to come.

The lunchroom capacity is starting to prove insufficient for the large populous of underclassmen as well. Students are lined up against the walls, eating off the tray balanced precariously on their legs. The noon hour should be a relaxing meal, not an attempted circus stunt.

Another new feature at mealtime is the larger prices/smaller portions policy. It seems gas prices aren't the only victims of

inflation. Is a greater selection worth the makeshift math of your lunch's cost? It's strangely similar to the concept of a slot machine.

I've had some of my sources look into this, and they have come back with the claim that Burger King is the better buy for quantity. Perhaps their fried variety can be unhealthy, but it proves ultimately more filling than the cheesesticks with dabs of pizza sauce on top found in our cafeteria.

The last issue I'll address is the loss of chocolate milk from the program. Thankfully, this grotesquely unhealthy liquid does have a replacement: fat free chocolate skim milk. That's right, our school now carries chocolate-flavored water, not only cheaper, but life-prolonging as well.

So, as you sit there enjoying your four dollar meal consisting of a barbeque, tater tots, charred cookie and milk substitute, just remember that it can only go uphill from here.

How to entertain yourself at the Pierre mall

We all know the mall is not fun 12 hours a day, six days a week. So we decided to make your mall experience more enjoyable. We have painstakingly compiled a list of entertaining activities that you and your friends can try the next time you find yourself bored at the mall.

1. Buy a camera or film from K-mart and immediately take pictures of you and your friends having overly enthusiastic fun in K-mart. Then develop your film

at K-mart.

2. Sit in the middle of the mall and play "Duck, duck, goose," and as people walk by, ask them to join in.

3. Give random people your thoughts on the product they are looking at. Then wait to see if they still buy it.

4. See how far you can slide underneath a bench.

5. Ask the sales clerk a



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

million and one questions about nothing. For example, Have you ever wanted to be a rocket scientist? Do

to look at clothes, jump out at them and yell, "I FOUND YOU!"

7. See exactly how many

you like penguins? Approximately how long ago did you start working here? What kind of car do you drive?

6. Hide inside the clothes racks that are round, and when someone comes up

friends you can fit into the kiddie rides for a quarter. (Be careful not to break them.)

8. Go into the larger stores and play Marco Polo with a lot of friends.

9. Walk behind someone, and when they pick up a item, very loudly blurt out, "I WANTED THAT ONE." And walk away pretending to be mad at them.

So go out and have a excellent time at the mall. And we'll see you in the clothes racks.

Many things to ponder about Riggs, life

Caution: This article may be considered explicit to some and may cause nausea, stomach cramps, stupidity, headache, muscle cramps, hives, facial swelling, asthma, and chafing. Anyone who is pregnant or may become pregnant should not read this article.

Ingredients: Cornstarch, artificial and natural flavors, Red 40, gelatin, sorbatin monostearate and polysorbate 60.

NOW THAT YOU ARE WARNED AND INFORMED, HERE IT IS (Boy Scouts be prepared):

Things to ponder about Riggs High: 1) After you use the bathroom and are about to leave, take a good and nice long look at the door handle on the way out. Then think, how many people washed their hands before leaving? 2) You go through the lunch line. You get double lunch, you also get tator tots, then grab a piece of pizza, decide to put the tator tots back, add the 50



**The Two Angry Crackers
Andrew Berreth & George Summerside**

cent lettuce, take a hot ham and cheese, put the pizza back, and get one milk, no two. How much does it cost? 3) 50 cent lettuce? 4) Two fire drills in one day? I hate to hurt anyone's feelings, but a school will only burn down once. 5) The School Board? 6) People have eaten fish from the fish tank in the biology room while the teacher is away. I've seen it happen. They do it for money. You know who you are. 7) James Berreth's WIF selections. We

think that a freshman could have picked a better team. 8) The people who let us write this article and put it in the *Governor*. 9) If a freshman/sophomore is not present for lunch then he/she will be forced to eat lunch in the lunch room for 20 days. 10) The weekly coyote or jackrabbit that gets tossed from vehicle to vehicle during the winter. Who is strange enough to run something over or shoot it and leave it in the parking lot to toss around? 11) What we understand about the "no backpack" issue is that it is not for our safety but for our lower back-health. Don't you think that if your back hurts than you would stop wearing your backpack? No, how about we let the school board tell us not to wear them? Instead, now we can only hurt our backs to and from school.

Now that you have read this article, we will let you ponder our words. I hope you are feeling all right and are not harmed by any of the common side effects.

Movies: best, worst of 2002

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



**Cinerama!
Andrew
Kightlinger**

ADAPTATION*****

The BEST movie of 2002 was not "The Two Towers" but actually "Adaptation." Most of you have probably never heard of this little film from the creators of "Being John Malkovich" (another film you've probably never heard of.)

"Adaptation" was bewilderingly brilliant, entertaining and confounding (confusing in layman's terms) movie about orchid thieves and screenwriters, elegant New Yorkers and scruffy Florida swamp rats, truth and fiction. (You may want to read the previous sentence again.) "Adaptation" is a film that is nearly uncategorizable, because it has no specific genre. That's what makes it so original! It stars Nicholas Cage as a writer trying to write the script of the very same movie you are watching. Meryl Streep is the coked-up journalist on whom the script is based, and the guy from "Office Space" is in it too. I give "Adaptation" a perfect score. P.S.: "Two Towers" is awesome, though.

ATTACK OF THE CLONES*1/2

The WORST movie of 2002 was "Star Wars: Episode 2" Attack of the Clones." I've seen this movie at least four times, and its first two hours never cease to bore me to death.

George Lucas (the guy who made the first two hours) should have hired George Lucas (the guy who made the last half hour) to make the whole movie.

The acting was wooden, which is sad for a cast including Haden Christiansen and Natalie Portman...oh, never mind. Plus, there are visual effects in every single shot of the movie. Sure it's cool, but you can stay home and play Xbox and be more entertained than this.

And the love story would have been great had I been a 13-year-old girl. I would avoid "Star Wars: Episode...zzzzzz" at all cost or just watch the last half hour.

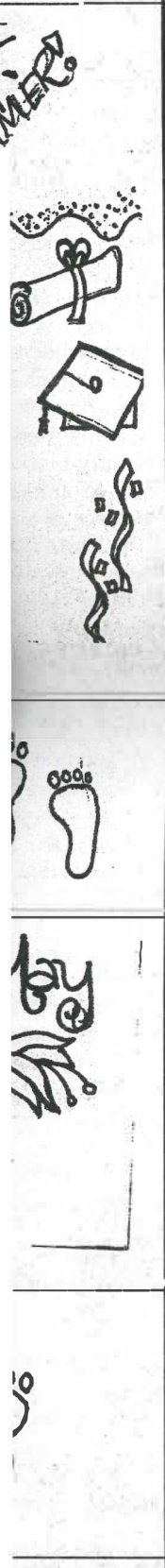
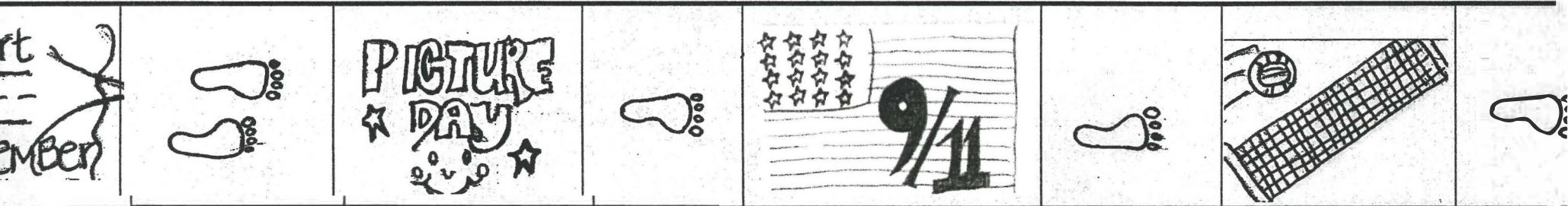
P.S. I enjoyed the original "Star Wars" movies.

TOP OF THE HEAP 2002:

"The Two Towers," "Punch-Drunk Love," "About Schmidt," "Gangs of New York," "Minority Report," "Rodger Dodger," "Auto Focus," "Harry Potter 2," "Bowling for Columbine," "One Hour Photo" and "About A Boy."

BOTTOM OF THE BARREL 2002:

"XXX," "Showtime," "The Ring," "Feardotcom," "John Q," "Eight Crazy Nights," "We Were Soldiers," "Jason X," "Sum of All Fears," "Blue Crush," and "Scooby Doo."



Time management key to balanced life

By Brittany Burnett

With extracurricular activities, homework and jobs, time is a precious commodity for students. Time management is key for students to keep their lives balanced.

There are quite a few ways to manage time. Planning a consistent time to do homework can be important in making homework a priority.

"I would set a consistent time to do homework. If you do not have a consistent time, then you can easily forget about doing your homework," counselor LaDonna Zellmer said.

Zellmer also suggests that students do homework at the time given in most classes at the end of the period and use their study hall wisely.

"I suggest you have a planner and use it habitually. Lots of plan-



photo by Tara Dieken

ners have guides in them, so use them if you don't understand..

You could also go to websites such as www.mydiscoveryzone.com," counselor Bobbi Brown said.

Some students like to organize all aspects of their lives.

"I enjoy making schedules and I follow them to the T," junior Stephanie Wells said.

That, however, may not be the answer for everyone. Some people just hate to do school work out of school.

"Time manage-

ment gets more difficult throughout high school, so a planner is key," Brown said.

"I try to get as much homework done in school as I can so that I have time later in the day for other, funner stuff," junior Josh Breske said.

"You should mark your most important assignments with a star, asterisk, or other symbol to prioritize," said Brown.

Students should do what's best for them, but they should do something. It's in their best interest.

How (or how not) to impress a teacher

Do

- ❖ Give your teachers cookies.
- ❖ Compliment them on how young they look.
- ❖ Tell them your real name.
- ❖ Paint a nice picture and name it after them.
- ❖ Sit nicely in class.

- ❖ Ask questions about the subject you are in.
- ❖ Raise your hand when you have a question or answer.
- ❖ Do what the teachers ask of you.

Don't

- ❖ Ask if they taught your grandparents.
- ❖ Skip class to go get donuts. (Unless you

get them some.)

- ❖ Throw spit-wads at them. (They might spit back.)
- ❖ Jump up and down yelling "Pick me, pick me."
- ❖ When the teachers ask you to do something, tell them to do it themselves.

by Maggie Schultz

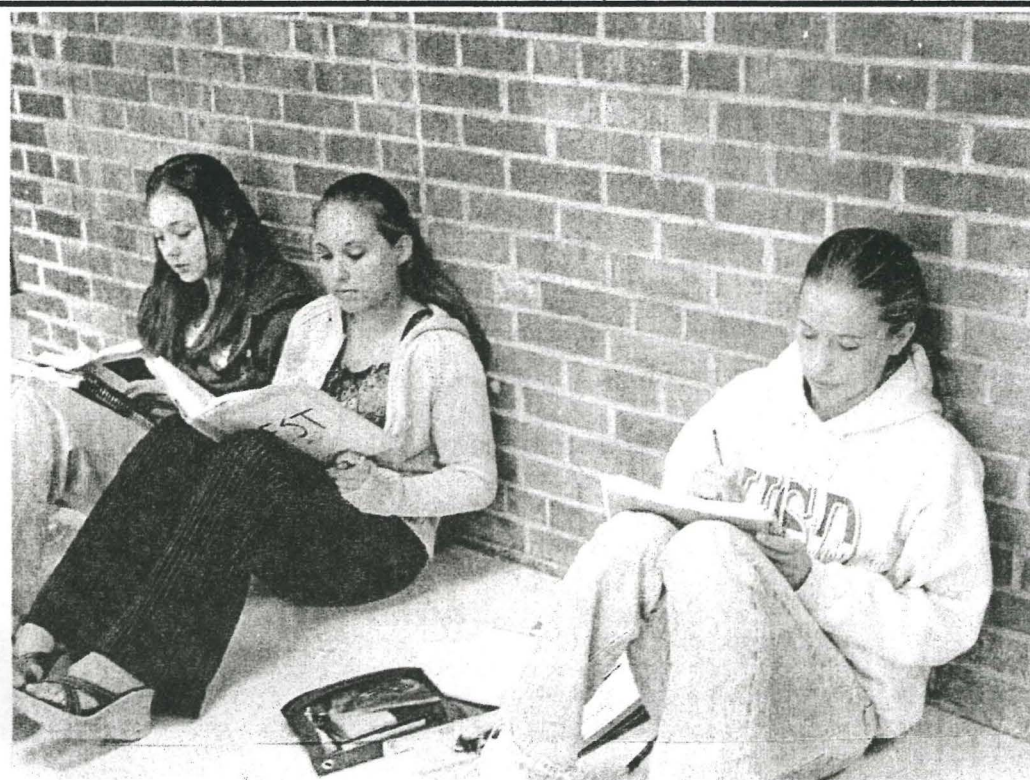


photo by Tara Dieken

(Above) Seniors Whitney Barnett, Christy Sobolik and Christee Stauffer study in lobby during their third period open.

(Above left) Senior Amanda Harsin receives help from secretary Joan DenOuden.

Ten ways to study more efficiently

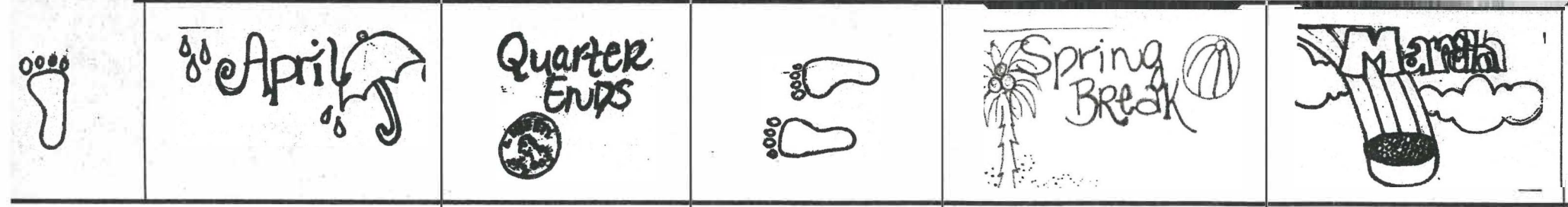
By Sarah Fuoss

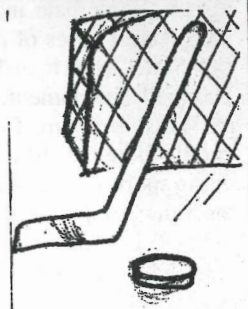
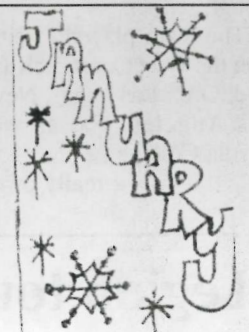
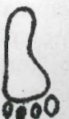
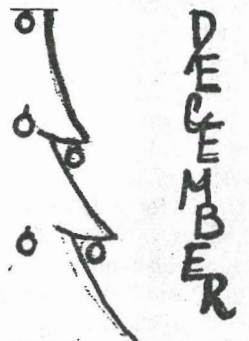
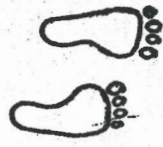
1. **Make a list.** It all starts with 'planning.' Make a list of all the things you have to do. Break it down into smaller chunks. Then check off your accomplishments as you go.
2. **Do the hard stuff first.** When you have less energy or your brain is tired, you can then tackle the easier tasks.
3. **Proper study space.** When you use the same place to study, day after day, your body becomes

- trained. You will focus your concentration more quickly.
4. **Snack.** Don't try to study on an empty stomach. If you're hungry, you'll be distracted. Grab an apple or some carrot sticks but avoid dairy products or turkey, which tend to make you tired.
5. **No distractions.** Turn off the stereo, TV, or radio. Silence is the best environment to study in.
6. **Study buddy.** Don't overlook the value of a study partner. Quiz each other, compare

- notes and practice testing. You can also keep one another from becoming bored.
7. **Write it down.** Experts agree that the more senses you use to absorb information, the better you'll remember it. Don't just read about what you're trying to learn...write down a few of the key facts.
8. **Rest.** Avoid mental or physical exhaustion. Take short breaks during study sessions and get plenty of sleep once your studying is

- through.
9. **Take the test.** Find out what kind of exam it will be...don't panic. Read your notes, practice your problems, then relax. If you've done your best to study, you'll do your best on the quiz or exam.
10. **Learn from your mistakes.** If you don't achieve your grade goals, learn from it. Review your incorrect answers. Don't be afraid to discuss mistakes with your teachers and/or parents.





Slacker, leader or overachiever?

Find out what type of student you are

Every student has a different type of style. Whether you're laid back or spend every moment studying, find out what type you are.

1) It's the week before school starts. You are busy

- a. Trying to read some of the material you may be asked to read this year.
- b. Making posters to advertise your school club's first meeting.
- c. Thinking it's about time you buy some school supplies.
- d. Shooting some hoops at the YMCA with your buds.
- e. Waking up at noon every day.

2) Your English teacher asks you to write an essay on a learning experience you had this summer. You

- a. Have no idea what to write about. You learned to sleep-in this summer; does that count?
- b. Think it's a stupid assignment and throw it together the night before it's due.
- c. Write your essay after your sports practice.
- d. Hand in your good copy after it has been proof-read by your mom, dad, aunt and uncle in a binder with a cover page.
- e. Write about the two weeks you spent on a missions trip in Mexico.

3) On a typical Friday night you can be found

- a. Trying to get a group of

friends together to go to a movie but finding out they already have plans.

- b. Spending time with a troubled kid.
- c. Partying until Saturday morning.
- d. At home watching baseball on TV.
- e. Studying for your history test that's on Monday.

4) Your parents come back with this comment from teachers after parent-teacher conferences:

- a. "S/he has wonderful organization skills."
- b. "The student has lots of potential if s/he would just apply her/himself."
- c. "Goes beyond the call of duty on all assignments."
- d. "Needs to make a conscious effort to come to class on time."
- e. "The student needs to spend more time on assignments."

5) In your future career you would like to be

- a. A pediatric neurosurgeon.
- b. Rich. You'll go to college for a couple of years before you decide exactly what to do.
- c. A professional basketball or baseball player or a coach.
- d. What future career?
- e. The next mayor of New York City.

6) You are assigned a major report on ancient Egypt. You begin by

- a. Focusing on how they built the pyramids.

b. Getting a group of your friends to come up with ideas together.

- c. Doing nothing. You'll start thinking about it the night before.
- d. Trying to injure your writing hand so you'll have an excuse for not doing the project.
- e. Spending an hour each day at the public library, another hour at the school library and researching online after school. You also decide to make a scale model of a pyramid.

7) You study

- a. Never, even if you're told by your teacher to study because everyone flunked the test last year.
- b. While watching TV.
- c. In your bedroom and during your study hall/open at school.
- d. When you're not helping out with the food pantry or doing some other volunteer activity.
- e. In the locker room.

8) When you spend time with your friends, you usually

- a. Play football.
- b. Study or debate.
- c. Make plans to start a new club at school.
- d. Just hang out.
- e. Try to see how you can get tickets to a sold-out concert in Sioux Falls.

9) You would most like to be like

- a. Mother Teresa.
- b. Eminem.

c. Einstein.

- d. Someone cool, you just don't know who right now.
- e. Barry Bonds.

10) In your room, you are most likely to find

- a. A TV, Xbox, computer and dirty laundry.
- b. Books and newspaper cluttering the floor.
- c. An abundance of sports trophies and magazines.
- d. The latest information on fundraising ideas and a pile of names of people you should call to just say "hi."
- e. Empty Doritos bags, Gatorade bottles and pop cans.

11) Every day after school you usually

- a. Change into your gym clothes and head to practice.
- b. Volunteer at the nursing home.
- c. Hang out with your friends at free parking.
- d. Try to remember what homework you have.
- e. Study.

12) Your worst school memory is

- a. Spraining an ankle playing Wiffleball.
- b. Getting an "A-" on your report card.
- c. Losing the election for student body president.
- d. Getting called down to the principal's office and finding your parents there.
- e. Forgetting your research paper at home the day it's due.

How do you score? Add up the number of points for each answer and find which category you're in.

- 1) a. 5 b. 4 c. 2 d. 3 e. 1
- 2) a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 5 e. 4
- 3) a. 2 b. 4 c. 1 d. 3 e. 5
- 4) a. 4 b. 3 c. 5 d. 1 e. 2
- 5) a. 5 b. 2 c. 3 d. 1 e. 4
- 6) a. 3 b. 4 c. 2 d. 1 e. 5
- 7) a. 1 b. 2 c. 5 d. 4 e. 3
- 8) a. 3 b. 5 c. 4 d. 1 e. 1
- 9) a. 4 b. 2 c. 5 d. 1 e. 3
- 10) a. 2 b. 5 c. 3 d. 4 e. 1
- 11) a. 3 b. 4 c. 2 d. 1 e. 5
- 12) a. 3 b. 5 c. 4 d. 1 e. 2

12-17 points: Slacker

You would rather sit around doing nothing than have to do anything. You need a major attitude adjustment.

18-24: Procrastinator

You may feel so overwhelmed with schoolwork that you leave everything to the last minute. Try to break this habit....now.

25-36: Jock

You love playing sports and are good at it too. Make sure you don't become so involved that you forget about schoolwork.

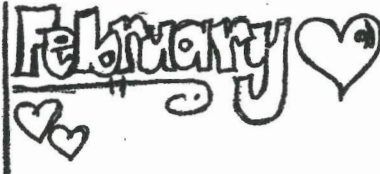
37-48: Leader/Activist

You are at your best with your whole life organized and attempting to help everyone else. Try to leave time for yourself as well.

49-60: Overachiever

You have great study habits, but be careful to enjoy other aspects of your life as well to become a well-rounded person.

By BryAnn Becker



Student shoots hoops on West Coast

By Robin Hinesh

While most teenagers spent the summer working at summer jobs, hanging out with friends or kicking at the beach, senior Seth Waitman had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel all along the West Coast playing on an elite basketball team.

According to Waitman, he got a phone call from Rapid City Stevens teacher Scott Tubs.

Tubs had spotted Waitman when he had played basketball at a game at Rapid City Stevens and he wanted Waitman to participate in an Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball team during the summer.

Tubs had also gotten recommendations for Waitman. Tubs has been involved with AAU since 1995, Waitman said.

Waitman was gone with the AAU team for three weeks in July and August.

"It was an honor to be selected for this team," Waitman said. "I was very fortunate to be on this team doing what I love."

The team consisted of eight members: Waitman, three other players from South Dakota, two players from North Dakota and two players from Iowa. All members were either juniors or seniors in high school.

The team played in cities all over the West Coast such as Portland, Ore.; Las Vegas, Nev.; and Los Angeles, Ca, as well as Loyola College.

"It was a really awesome

"It was an honor to be selected for this team."

—Seth Waitman, senior

experience," said Waitman. Waitman said that, given the opportunity, he would definitely travel with another AAU team.

Waitman said that AAU basketball league taught him how to play better with different people in new and different surroundings.

Waitman learned that the basketball style was different on the West Coast than it is in the Midwest.

On the West Coast the defense is not as tough as it is in the Midwest but the offense is tougher on the West Coast than it is here, Waitman said.

The best place to play was Los Angeles, although Waitman also said that he also enjoyed Las Vegas.

"I liked being near the beaches, said Waitman.

Waitman said that his best memory from the AAU basketball league was being able to play in a high school gym one minute and walk out on Venice Beach the next.

Even though the tour was a lot of fun, it was not without its occasional sour spot. Waitman said that one time he rolled his ankle and had to sit out three games.

Nevertheless, Waitman will not soon forget the experiences he had this past summer. He and some of his former teammates still keep in contact through e-mail.



courtesy photo

Fast Facts

Name: Seth Waitman

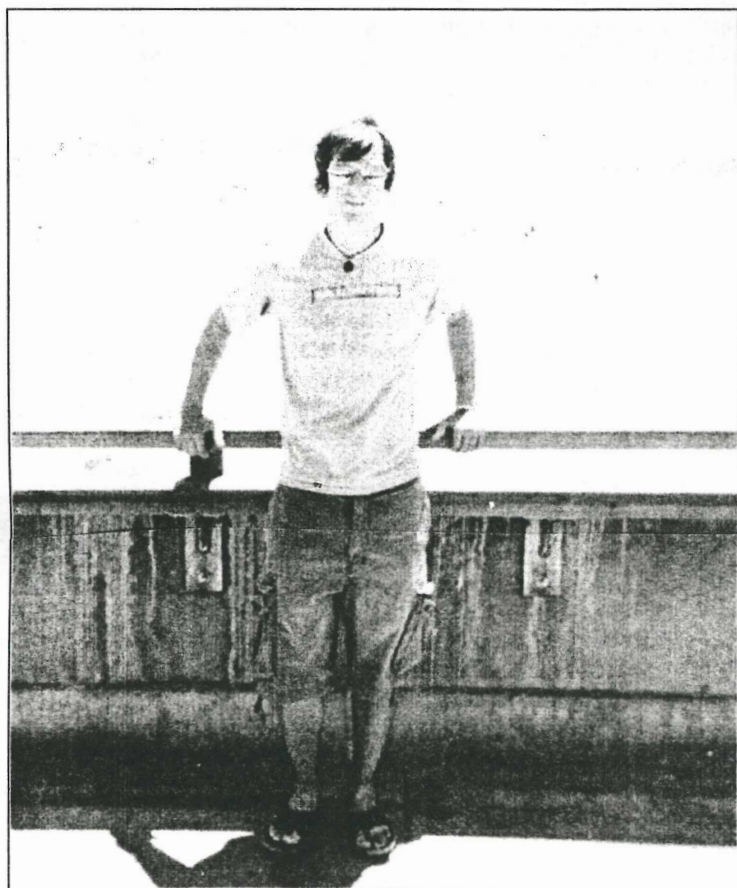
Year: Senior

Height: 5'11"

Position in team: Point guard/shooting guard

Highest number of points in a game: 29 points in a game against Stevens

Basketball hero: "Pete 'The Pistol' Maravich. He revolutionized the art of fancy dribbling and passing. He played with a lot of heart."



courtesy photo

Waitman takes time out from basketball on the Venice Beach Pier in California. (top) Using his free time to his advantage, Waitman boogie boards in the Pacific.

Legion tournament serves as memorable moment in life

This past summer, I was able to participate in one of the greatest times of my life, the State American Legion Baseball Tournament.

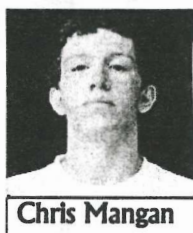
While I'm sure for some people there may be more exciting sports to watch and better things to do at the beginning of a hot August, if you are a die-hard baseball fan like me, nothing beats baseball. Playing in the state tournament, especially when the tournament was played in Pierre, was what many of us had dreamed of.

The state tournament was held in memory of Dan Kelly, who had died earlier in the summer. Kelly was a huge fan of American Legion Baseball,

serving as commissioner as long as I've known him. He was a major reason why we were able to host the state tournament two of the past three years and five of the last ten.

It didn't matter to Kelly who was playing as long as there was a game. He was always at the field no matter what game was going on. It could have been a "B" Teener team playing; he would have been there.

The tournament was exciting for all the fans and players that took part in it. I had a chance to play in the first game against Yankton and playing in that first game was so exciting, yet so nerve-racking. One simple mis-



Chris Mangan

take might not seem so big, but it could end up costing you the game and maybe your shot at winning the state tournament.

It seemed like the whole town was behind us because they realized we had a shot at winning it. People I have never seen at a baseball game in my life showed up. It was incredible. There was so much emotion shown by both the fans and the players, but we had to make sure we didn't get too up or too down because if you got too excited, things could come crashing down around us.

Unfortunately, things didn't turn out the way we would have

wanted it, but I was happy, and most of the team was happy with our performance. We finished in third place and sure, if we had gotten things to go our way, we would have had a shot at beating Sioux Falls and Rapid City.

That's the way the ball bounces, and we didn't get them to go the way we would have liked. But that's baseball.

We will miss a lot of the guys who graduated, but look on the bright side: we had a lot of people, including several Riggs students, step up this year to play well. So things look bright for us next year and hopefully we will be able to do what eluded us this past year—win a state championship.

At a glance...

Sports Scores

Cross Country

Last event: Saturday in Aberdeen

Next event: Tomorrow in Huron

Notable performance: Senior George Summerside and junior Amy Brandner

Coach comment: "We are getting better each week; we are slowly creeping up on teams."

—coach Tory Zeller

Football

Last event: Lost 9 to 13 at

Pierre against Watertown

Next event: Today at Brandon

Coach comment: "Our seniors have been excellent leaders. The entire team has done very well learning the new system. The coaching staff has really enjoyed the team's attitude and way they handle themselves in practice situations."—coach Mike Busch

Boys Golf

Last event: Team score of 339, 8th place out of 15, at Brookings Invitational last Saturday

Next event: Tomorrow at Aberdeen

Notable performance: Zach Vogt was 8th out of 80 golfers

Coach comment: "As we look forward to our big meets, we are looking forward to improving and hope we will play our best at the end of the season." —coach Todd Bohls

Boys/Girls Soccer

Last game: Saturday at Brookings

Next game: tomorrow at Yankton

Notable performance:

Leading players are seniors A.J. Rounds, Chris Fry and Matt Dutt. Junior Carly Feiler was a good goalie against Brookings.

Coach's comment: "We should finish in the top three if we have no more injuries." —coach Chris Derry.

Volleyball

Last Match: Saturday at Philip invitational

Next Match: Here tomorrow against Brandon Valley

Coach's comment: "Our goal this year is to get bigger, louder and 'rowdier' crowds to come watch our matches."—coach Shawna Fullerton

Compiled by Jenna Badger

Williams captures #1 singles tennis championship

By Dirk McGrane

If you drive by Griffin Park after school, it's likely you will see Chris Williams on the courts. His hard work and determination have enabled him to rise to the top and become the high school #1 singles champion in South Dakota.

Williams captured the coveted title of state tennis champion after defeating Eric Sorenson of Sioux Falls 6-3, 6-3 last May.

"He's real tough—he hits the ball real hard, just like the other Sioux Falls players," Williams said. Williams fought a tough battle to get to the finals, including a match against Matt Bittner in the semifinals, which Chris won 7-6 to 7-5.

Winning the championship was at first overwhelming for Williams. "Winning State last year... I couldn't believe it," Williams said. "I felt lightheaded after the match."

Williams devotes much of his everyday free time to honing his tennis skills.

"After school I go to the Y and lift for an hour, then I hit with Matt

Gill or one of the other guys for about an hour, then I'll pick up my dad and we'll practice for another hour, and then I'll call someone else up to play awhile," he said.

This dedication to stay in shape has served Williams well by providing him with foot speed, ball control and hitting power.

The Williams family gives Chris a lot of support. "They take

me to tournaments... and my dad always picks up the balls for me when I'm hitting on the ball machine, even though I hit them all over," Williams said.

"[At the State Tournament] the whole Williams family was there to cheer him on," Williams's dad said. "It's very hard to win at a state championship, and I'm very proud of him, as his father."

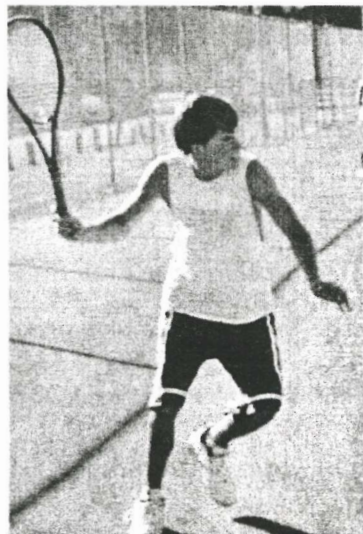


photo by Dirk McGrane

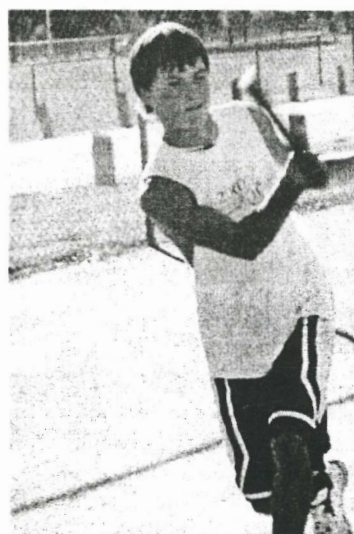


photo by Dirk McGrane

While practicing his groundstrokes, Williams perfects his skills with the ball machine at Griffin Courts.

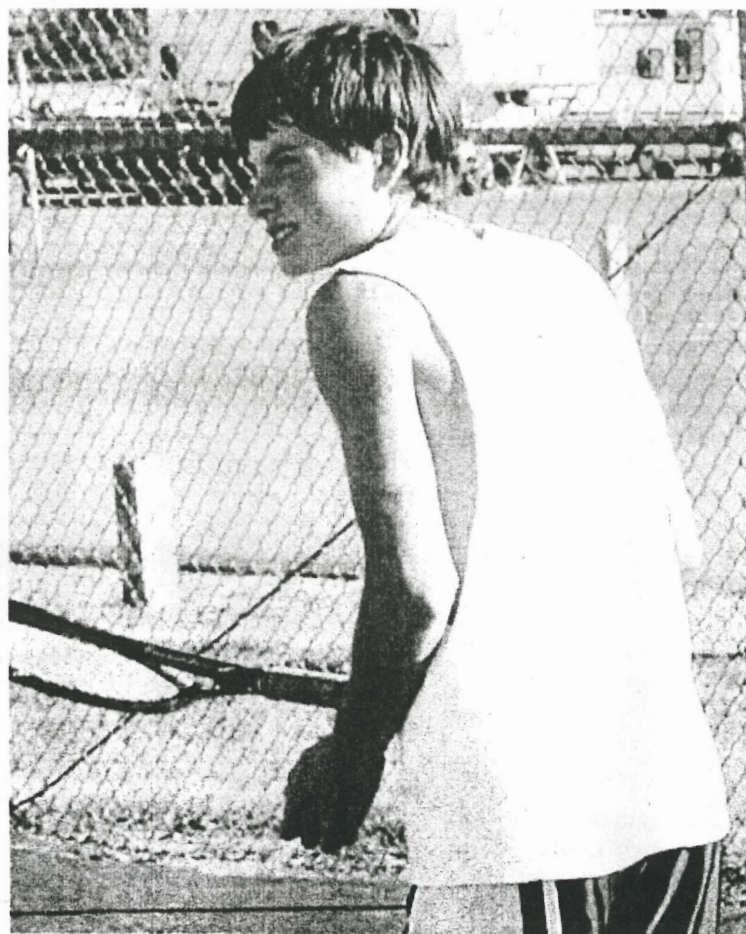


photo by Dirk McGrane

Athletes to watch

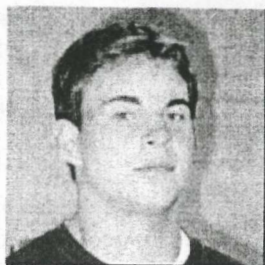
Tony Rislov #10

Position: Quarterback of the football team

Team record: 1-2

Team's strengths: Hunger

Best moment so far this year: Kurth's 80-yard TD reception in Mitchell
Worst thing about foot-



ball this year: Losing close games when we've played well.

Most pleasant surprise on the team: Quincy

Goals for this year: The

ESD Crown and the Dome

Favorite workout in the weight room: Bicep Curls

Emily Goeden #3

Position: Team captain and setter of the volleyball team

Team record: 0-4

Team strengths: Teamwork
Worst thing about volleyball this year: Losing
Something most people don't know



about the Lady Goys: Our record is deceiving because we've played well, and have had close matches.

Goals: Beating Mitchell
Best thing about this year: Beating Brookings there with a huge crowd attending.
by Allen Goodman

Community remembers 'Physical Phil'

By Jessica Callahan

Some people knew him as coach while some knew him as teacher, gentleman, and friend. But no matter how you knew him, you know that Pierre suffered a great loss when long-time tennis coach Phil Trautner died in August. He died at age 77 after battling cancer.

Trautner's service to the Pierre school district stretches over a half-century. He moved to Pierre in 1951 to begin teaching and coaching at the high school. He coached the football team from 1953-1965 and led them to a 72-24-2 record. He coached boys track from 1953-1965 and boys basketball from 1954-1960, compiling a 82-38 record.

In 1953 Trautner became Pierre's athletic director, a position he held until his retirement in 1986.

However, Trautner is perhaps best remembered for his 37 years as the tennis coach. He began coaching tennis in 1965 and continued until 2002, sixteen

Phil Trautner

•National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame, 2003

•National High School Tennis Coach of the Year, Region 6, 1976, 1980, 1991

•South Dakota Tennis Coach of the Year, 1976, 1980, 1984, 1986, 1990



years after retiring from his position as athletic director.

Trautner is, in fact, the most successful prep tennis coach in state history, leading his teams to a 361-61 record in duals, winning 10 ESD conference championships, three state tournament runner-up finishes and four states titles in 1975, 1979, 1984 and 1985.

"Every good thing that was ever said about Phil, he deserved," said senior Kate Wylie, the #1 varsity girls tennis player. "He was an inspiration not only to tennis players but to everybody in general."

"I knew Phil for a great number of years, and he's always shown an extreme

devotion to athletics and kids in general," says Lisa Blake, girls tennis team coach.

"He was a great mentor. He supported the girls tennis team in any way he could. It is a great loss to the community of Pierre and to tennis players across South Dakota," says junior Jennifer Hoscheid, varsity girls tennis player.

"As a parent, I have so much respect for Phil...the way he treated the team but also instilled qualities in those boys which they will carry with them through life," says Dennis Williams, whose three sons Paul, John, and Chris have been outstanding tennis players on

Trautner's teams.

"He was a great coach and he was always positive about any situation," says Matt Gill, junior, who played the #5 spot on the varsity boys tennis team last season.

Chris Williams, who currently holds the state tennis title at the #1 varsity spot, recalls that "Phil always laughed or chuckled when you told him something. He was very positive. He was a great, great coach—probably the best person in my life. There is no one like him."

Trautner's many awards include induction into the following halls of fame: South Dakota Tennis Hall of Fame (1992), Athletic Directors Hall of Fame (1986), South Dakota High School Coaches Association (1987), Pierre Athletic Hall of Fame (1998), and the National High School Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame (2003).

Phil is survived by his wife Joan, a daughter and two sons.

Culture shock: German students spend school year in Pierre

By Kelly Johnson

Three diverse students from different areas of Germany have made a long trip across the Atlantic Ocean to embark on an experience of a lifetime in Pierre.

Jonas Launstein, Cristoph Ionescu and Isabel Gander are the new foreign exchange students who are calling Pierre their home for this school year. These students said good-bye to their old routines and are welcoming new experiences.

Residing in Hamburg, Germany, 17-year-old Jonas Launstein is staying with senior Holly Lunde's family.

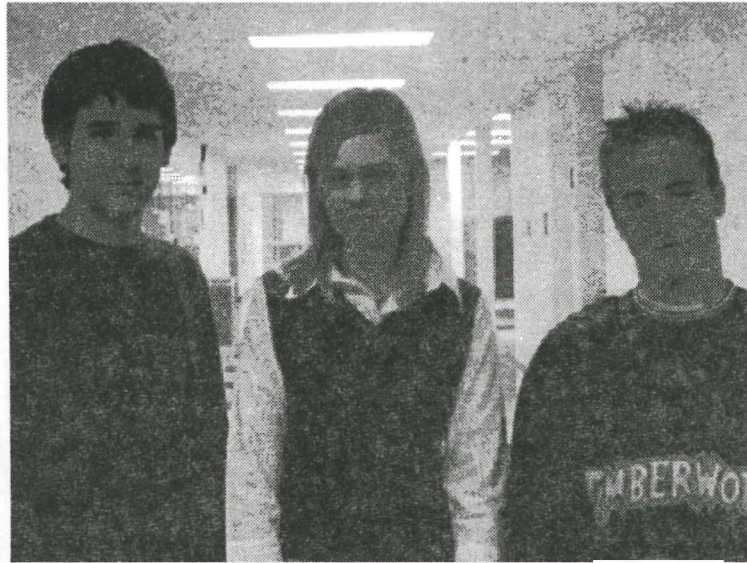
"The main thing I wanted to do was to learn about the American way of life," Launstein said.

When Launstein isn't studying F.S.T. or physics or practicing for speech class, he is looking forward to playing on the varsity hockey team this winter.

Although Launstein says he doesn't miss anything in particular from Germany, he does miss his friends.

Getting his driver's license is something that sixteen-year-old Chrisof Ionescu is looking forward to.

Ionescu traveled to Pierre from his home in Calw, Germany, to be welcomed into Priscilla Williams, freshman, and Isaac Williams's home.



Sprechen sie Deutsch? Christoph Ionescu, Isabel Gander and Jonas Launstein make their presence known at Riggs.

"The main thing I wanted to do was to learn about the American way of life."—Jonas Launstein

"I have one brother and two step-siblings," Ionescu said.

A few of his courses this semester include Latin I, speech and chemistry.

"Chemistry is the subject that I find the most challenging because of the difficult translation," Ionescu said.

Isabel Gander hails from Braunschweig and is staying with senior Meghan Larson's family.

Before coming to South Dakota, Gander spent two weeks in Boston at a foreign exchange student camp.

"I enjoyed traveling to Massachusetts and meeting fellow foreign exchange students," she said.

"The food has been the hardest to get adjusted to," Gander said.

Gander misses traditional German foods such as potatoes, rice and noodles. Spanish, F.S.T. and speech are just a few of the classes that she is taking this semester.

"Most of all this year, I am looking forward to graduation and meeting new friends," Gander said.

No Children Left Behind: Students' scores keep school out of alert status

By Ursula Waack

Riggs students received good news when the results of mandated testing were released last month. Scores were high enough to prevent the school being on alert—this year, at least.

Last spring juniors took a test called the DACS test, or Dakota Step test. This test is required by the No Child Left Behind Act. Areas tested included math and reading.

The goal was that 50% of the students show proficiency in reading and 60% show proficiency in math. Graduation rate is another criteria that the test looks at.

This year juniors will again take the test in March. It takes a total of about six hours and will be administered by teachers of juniors under the direction of guidance counselor LaDonna Zellmer.

"I thought the test was boring and long," commented senior Jenny Lenz about last year's test.

Not all schools in Pierre fared as well as Riggs. Georgia Morse Middle School, Jefferson, Buchanan, and McKinley Schools have all been put on alert.

This means that they did not meet one or more of the goals set forth for them. They have to fix these deficiencies or they will be put on a Level One alert. Thirty-two schools in South Dakota have been put on Level One alert. If they don't fix their problems, they

could lose federal funding.

The test did more than help Riggs comply with the new act. The teachers at Riggs will use the information to rate their performance and adjust their teaching.

"The teachers at Riggs do an excellent job using test results as more than just numbers," Zellmer remarked.

The results can tell staff if they need to work on a specific area that the majority of students are deficient in.

Riggs High did very well compared to other South Dakota AA schools. Mitchell and Pierre were the only two ESD schools not in alert.

But the DACS test isn't the only test being given. Freshmen will be taking two tests as well—a writing test in October and a career assessment test.

The writing test lasts about 40 minutes. Students are given a question and then judged on their writing abilities. Riggs generally scores above average on the writing test. But every year can be different.

"It can depend a lot on what question was kind of question was asked," said Zellmer.

The career test is meant to help the students get an idea of what career they might be interested in and what careers they might be good at. Many of the freshman teachers make projects out of the career tests.

LAN interfaces, internetworks, troubleshooting:

Students pass networking exam

By BryAnn Becker

Routers, switches, LAN interfaces: do any of these terms sound familiar? Ask Seniors Skyler Gallimore and Jesse Bethke and junior Chris Watson, and they can define these terms and others as well.

Gallimore, Bethke and Watson recently took and passed the Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) exam in Rapid City. The certification is prized in the networking field and is the first level of three levels of testing offered by Cisco, a leader in the production of networking hardware and software.

A CCNA certified individual can install and configure Cisco switches and routers, provide Level 1 troubleshooting service and improve network performance and security.

What is it?

- ❖ Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) exam
- ❖ Certification indicates knowledge of networking for small-office and home-office markets
- ❖ First of three levels of testing offered by Cisco

The Cisco program is not offered at Riggs anymore.

"The program was taken away because there wasn't enough money and not enough student interest," said Bethke.

Bethke said he was annoyed the program was taken away; he would be unable to complete the training during the school year.

It usually takes two years (or four semesters) to complete the pre-certification work. However, Gallimore, Bethke and Watson

were able to complete their training this summer with Glenda Woodburn as an instructor after taking the first and second semester of Cisco last year.

"We met two months out of the summer...usually on Tuesday and Thursdays," Bethke said.

Cisco certification ensures an individual's achievement, therefore increasing the holder's professional credibility in technical expertise.

Positions for a CCNA certified individual include a Help desk engineer and field technician.

Gallimore, Bethke and Watson all plan to attend college and major in computer engineering.

Nathan Bishop, who graduated from Riggs last spring, passed his CCNA exam in May. Bishop is now studying computer engineering at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

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

Name: Geoffrey Gross

Born: Mitchell, SD, in 19.... never mind

Grew Up: Mitchell

Family: mother and a brother

Major childhood

events: father passed away when he was young

Education: teaching degree at the University of Sioux Falls

Why teaching?: legacy to fulfill; both parents were teachers

Classes: senior and junior English



Past job history: taught in Winner for six years and in Gayville-Volin for one year before coming to Pierre

Why high school

English?: Positive experience for him

in high school

Life philosophy: Bloom where you're planted.

Activities/free time: coaching football, spending time with wife and kids.

by Cleo Hilding