

# G.T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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## Christmastime is the perfect time to give back

By Jenaleah Block

**C**hristmas, for most high school students, brings thoughts of giving and receiving presents. They look forward to days filled with plentiful meals, a variety of cookies, leisure times of munching, and their home filled with numerous holiday decorations. Although the giving and receiving of gifts is welcomed, in truth, most aren't essential for our well-being.

Not everyone, however is wishing for "extras" this holiday season. Instead, some people are hoping for warm clothes, boots, mittens, or a hat. Other—children, teens, adults and entire families—hope for something most of us simply take for granted: enough food to keep from being hungry.

Many students at Riggs are concerned about those

in need, and they are taking action to help others have a Christmas filled with good food and memories and will last longer than just this holiday season.

The Student Senate is having a blanket drive to collect new or gently used blankets. If you have a blanket or blankets you can spare, bring them to your English classroom. These blankets will mean others will be warmer, not just during the holidays but for months to come.

Donations are also needed for the Food Pantry. Items especially needed include hot cereal, pancake mix and syrup, canned meats, spaghetti sauce, powdered milk, saltine crackers and cooking oil. The coming holidays mean items for baking, such as flour and sugar, are also needed. Any of these items can be dropped off

at the food pantry between 4:00-5:30 p.m. on Monday - Friday. You can also drop items off at the office of Catherine Mercer, Executive Director of Pierre Area Referral Service.

A backpack food program is another way to help. This program helps el-

roni and cheese and fruit rollups are examples of what is needed. Anyone interested in helping with this program can contact Mercer at 224-8731.

The backpacks are filled every week during the school year, with different organizations helping out. They

tor Don Block said.

Volunteers to host a cap and mitten drive are also needed. If there is a school group or a church group that is interested in helping, it should contact Catherine Mercer for more information.

Mercer is also looking for volun-

The Angel Tree Project, coordinated for many years by the Department of Social Services, is a community endeavor now organized by Kathy Gengler. The Angel Trees are a way for people needing help with presents to anonymously receive help.

Angels are hung on Christmas trees located at the Pierre Mall and at Wal-Mart. Each angel has the first name, age and desired Christmas present. You simply take an angel and buy the requested gift on it. Next, you bring the gift to the mall wrapping center or to Wal-Mart's wrapping center. If you bought the gift at Wal-Mart, tape the angel onto the present.

Church groups or business can adopt a whole family if they would like. In this case they would be given a family with

the first names and ages of each member. The Angel Tree Project helps about 150 area families.

Tomorrow, holiday food baskets will be filled with ham, pies, sweet potatoes, and other items for making a Christmas dinner. Help is needed to package the food and to deliver it. To help out with this project, contact Mercer.

First Baptist Church's youth are also collecting pennies for the Penny Project. This is a national project. Money will be collected through March. Last month First Baptist Church collected \$100 which went to Missouri Shores Domestic Violence Center. Local organizations that can be helped include the Boys and Girls Club, the Backpack Program, Southeast Community Center, and the Pierre Alternative School.



Juniors Sam Leidholt and Kayla Pochop pose with all 182 blankets that were brought by students for the Student Senate blanket drive.

ementary students have food for the weekends. The backpacks supply food for students in Pierre and Fort Pierre schools. Child-friendly foods such as maca-

roni and cheese

fill about 200 backpacks each week. "About ten items are given out in each backpack. They are distributed through the four elementary schools," Lutheran Memorial Pas-

teers to help ring bells for the Salvation Army. Bell ringers work in one hour increments. They prefer that you do this with a friend so that two people are always present.

Photo by Layne Duvall



# Give to receive this Christmas

This Christmas you may have high hopes for an iPod, new clothes, or maybe even a new car! There's nothing wrong with all those things, but there is something wrong with being too greedy.

Christmas can easily turn into a mentality of "what's in it for me?" The whining begins with "Why did mom give him better presents than she gave me?" or "Why didn't I get the newest video game?"

Don't set yourself up for disappointment! Try not to worry too much about what's under the tree on Christmas and focus on what you can give to others.

Read page one for some inspiration; then get out and do something! Your parents would drop over dead

if you do some chore for them that you never normally do. Shoveling, washing dishes, and taking the dog on a walk are all great things to do — without being asked!

Be nice to your siblings, no matter how annoying they might be, and be nice to your relatives that come and never leave. Bring some Christmas cheer to a nursing home or

your elderly shut-in neighbor.

Start a new Christmas tradition with your family. You can all get a cup of hot chocolate and drive together at night, checking out the house decorations around town.

If you have to entertain your younger siblings or younger cousins, try having



fun with it! Do Christmas crafts or make a gingerbread house.

Gingerbread houses are a great boredom buster when you're with your friends. Have fun and treat yourself to some candy and frosting.

There are many community activities that need your help not only at Christmas time but all year long!

Volunteerism is

a great way to keep the Christmas spirit alive all year long.

Keeping a positive, giving, and caring attitude will go a long way to making this Christmas one of the best! Give it a try and see what happens. You surely won't be disappointed when you open your presents. Merry Christmas!

## GOVERNOR STAFF 2009-2010

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## Thumbs



...to winter wonderlands  
...to eating Christmas goodies without feeling guilty  
...to winning sledding races  
...to igloos  
...to straight hair on Taylor Swift  
...to having a Christmas Break  
...to yuletide carols being sung by our choir  
...to octopi being some of the cutest underwater creatures ever  
...to un-motivational posters  
...to anonymous shoveling  
...to making New Year's resolutions and actually keeping them  
...to extraordinary scents in Mrs. Vogt's room

...to research papers  
...to running out of gas  
...to yucky skin infections  
...to crime in nursing homes and the tragic outcomes  
...to hot-headed drivers  
...to red skin from the biting cold wind  
...to icy road conditions causing unfortunate accidents  
...to scumbag cheaters like Tiger Woods  
...to Taylor Lautner no longer being single  
...to mommies having affairs with Santa Claus  
...to AP Calc assignments being nearly impossible  
...to semester tests being just around the corner

## Hall Talk:

### What do you want for Christmas?



"To see my family and for all of my students to have a safe holiday."  
—Principal Mike Fugitt



"An iPod Touch."  
—Korey Nystrom,  
12



"A reindeer for my farm in Farmville."  
—Brian Long,  
11



"A long scarf."  
—Kat Schuetzle,  
9



## Teachers tell tales

Maybe it seems like awkward things only happen to you (and us of course!) ... Well, you will be pleased to know that your TEACHERS have these moments too. Some of our beloved teachers have given us some stories.

**Bruce Venner, social studies teacher:** "As a small child, around the age of two, my neighbor shot Santa Claus. I lived out in the country with a few neighbors in the surrounding area. One of our neighbors, "Bob," also had children. It was almost Christmas, and excitement and cheer filled our little hearts: Santa was on his way here to bring presents for the good boys and girls (I was at the top of that list). Bob thought he'd have some "fun" with his children; he ran out onto his porch, shot his gun a few times, and exclaimed, "I see Santa! There! I got him!" Who shoots Santa? His kids were bawling and screaming, and word spread quickly. Panic ran through our minds. After seeing how much he upset the children, the neighborhood adults "fixed" it by claiming that a woman found Santa and gave him a Band-aid. Though I was relieved he was going to be all right, I held a great dislike for Bob. Eventually, as I

grew older, I saw some humor in what "Bob" did, but he will always be remembered as the man who shot Santa."

**Amy Boutchee, math teacher:** "When I was around the age of ten, all my relatives came over for Christmas. There was this perfect sledding hill near our house, so all of us cousins would always have sledding parties. This year my dad had made a sled for his calves. It was about 50 lbs, and we thought it would be a great sled for going down the big hill. My sister, cousin, and I piled on and down we went. It was great. All the snow on the hill was hard and icy; we were going so fast! It was a blast! Then when we hit the soft snow towards the bottom of the hill, the sled stopped immediately but we did not stop with it. My dad felt horrible. Maybe it was because of my sister's bloody nose? Or maybe my two black eyes? I guess it could have been my cousin's broken arm. Nevertheless, it was a very memorable Christmas."

So, if you wish to avoid problems this Christmas, remember this few things: Don't be too gullible, use store-bought sleds, and don't lick any flag poles. Merry Christmas!



Regan Duvall, Dacey Beck, Becky Plumage

MY AWKWARD LIFE

## Christmas movies bring holiday cheer

Christmas is a great time of year for watching movies. Everyone loves to wrap up in a blanket, sip a cup of hot chocolate, and pop in a favorite holiday film. Who cares if you've seen it 54 times? We asked a few students what their favorite Christmas movies are.

**Elf**, starring Will Ferrel, was the crowd favorite. Loveable elf/human Buddy provides smiles and giggles for all ages with his hilarious antics and

unforgettable phrases (cotton-headed ninnymuggins...classic).

The 1983 classic, **A Christmas Story**, was another favorite. This movie tells the amusing tale of Ralphie Parker, a nine-year-old boy who wants one thing for Christmas: "an official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot range model air rifle with a compass in the stock, and this

thing which tells time."

Between run-ins with his younger brother and the school bully, Ralphie doubts he will



Molly Burke and Alexi Gusso  
MUSIC, MEDIA AND MORE

phie is quite the character!" says sophomore Clay Kusser. Other favorites includ-

ed **The Polar Express**, **The Santa Clause**, and **How the Grinch Stole Christmas**. Our favorite is **Home Alone**.

The **Blind Side**, starring Sandra Bullock, is the inspiring true story of Michael Oher, a homeless African-American youngster from a broken home. Michael is taken in by a well-off family who help him achieve his potential. **The Blind Side** is a must-see movie that is perfect for any time of year.

## King of Hearts dates rely on creativity

Ask your KOH date in a funky way!

Can't think of a good way to ask someone to King of Hearts this year? Well, your problems are solved! We have some unique and interesting ways to ask if you're stumped.

1) If you have some spare cash lying around, get two plane tickets to Asia, take the person you're asking

all the way to the top of Mt. Everest and ask him there. It's a super cute idea, and it will take their breath away, literally!

2) Feeling rebellious?

Write KOH on a giant brick, throw it through their window, and run like mad. Wait anxious-



Charles Gageby and Morgan Finley  
THE 411 ON EVERYTHING COOL

ly for your phone to ring with their answer!

3) If you happen to live on a ranch, train your cows to

form a huge KOH formation. Then take your date up in a helicopter to see the

view--not very practical but memorable.

4) Last but not least, persuade T-Swizzle to come and serenade your guy. She's a true romantic at heart and might even do it for free. Just make sure Kanye West isn't lurking around!

Remember, be creative. It's not necessarily the thought that counts; it's the money you spend to impress!

## Stay away from fatty foods this holiday

It's okay to splurge a little during this holiday season. Being surrounded by delicious foods makes it hard to resist the temptations.

Instead of indulging in foods high fat content, try a candy cane or eggnog. These foods will help to keep off some of the calories if you are watching them. Watch your portions and try not to overeat.

It is okay to eat some of your favorite treats as long as you don't eat too much. Here are helpful tips in eating less: Try to eat as slowly as possible because eating

slower makes you feel fuller with less food. The worst thing to do after eating a big



Michael Lindbloom and Laura Severyn  
HEALTH BEAT

meal is to lie down, so try to stay up and running for as long as you can.

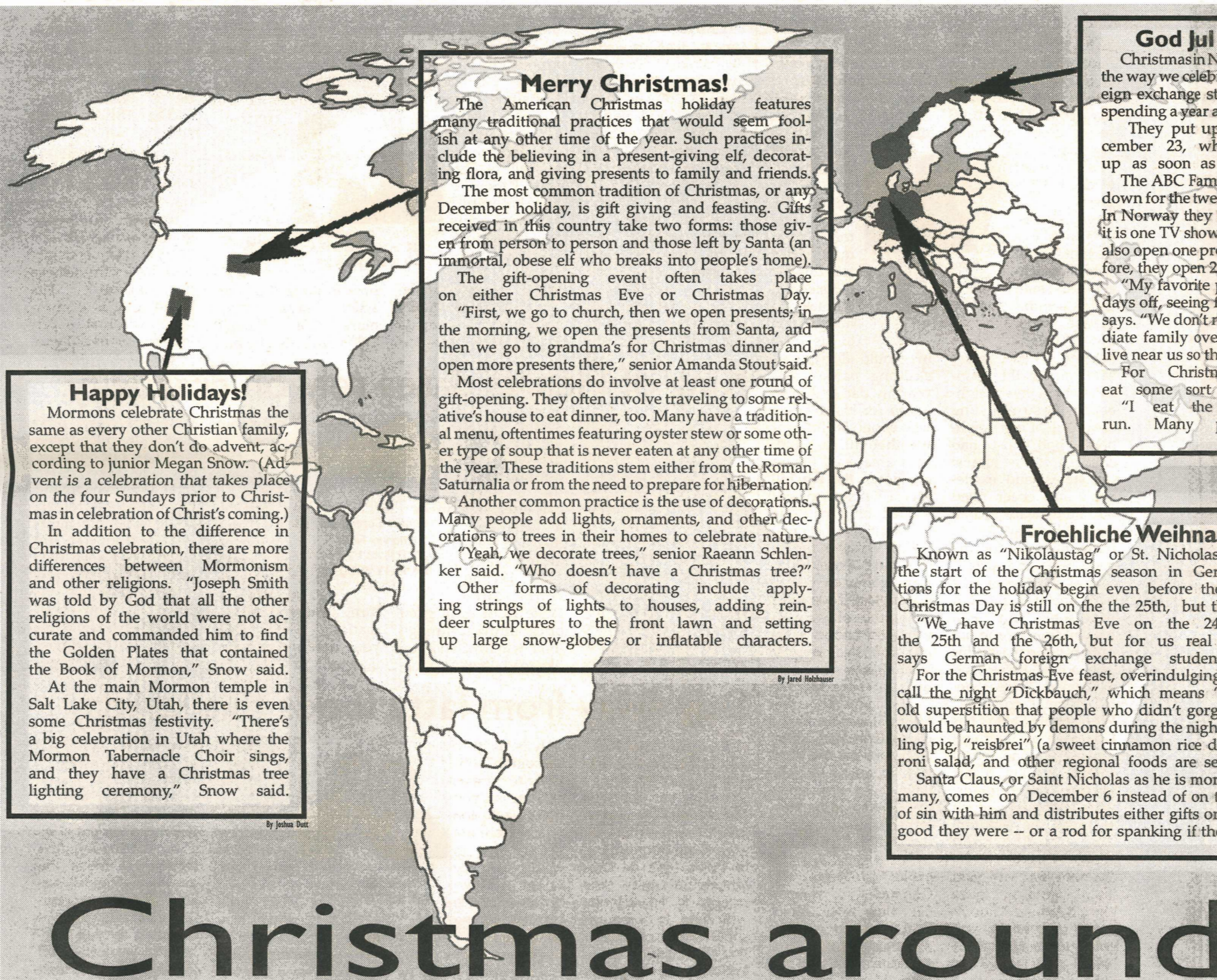
After the holidays, you

may feel like you've added a couple pounds. Walking is a fantastic way to burn calo-

ries. Go to the YMCA or gym and work off some of those excess calories. Even working out for a half an hour is better than not at all.

So, for the holidays, try to eat foods that are not so high in sugar. Eating your regular diet will help to maintain so you don't have to work it all off. Have a Merry Christmas and happy eating!





## Merry Christmas!

The American Christmas holiday features many traditional practices that would seem foolish at any other time of the year. Such practices include the believing in a present-giving elf, decorating flora, and giving presents to family and friends.

The most common tradition of Christmas, or any December holiday, is gift giving and feasting. Gifts received in this country take two forms: those given from person to person and those left by Santa (an immortal, obese elf who breaks into people's home).

The gift-opening event often takes place on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

"First, we go to church, then we open presents; in the morning, we open the presents from Santa, and then we go to grandma's for Christmas dinner and open more presents there," senior Amanda Stout said.

Most celebrations do involve at least one round of gift-opening. They often involve traveling to some relative's house to eat dinner, too. Many have a traditional menu, oftentimes featuring oyster stew or some other type of soup that is never eaten at any other time of the year. These traditions stem either from the Roman Saturnalia or from the need to prepare for hibernation.

Another common practice is the use of decorations. Many people add lights, ornaments, and other decorations to trees in their homes to celebrate nature.

"Yeah, we decorate trees," senior Raeann Schlenker said. "Who doesn't have a Christmas tree?"

Other forms of decorating include applying strings of lights to houses, adding reindeer sculptures to the front lawn and setting up large snow-globes or inflatable characters.

By Jared Holzhauser

## Happy Holidays!

Mormons celebrate Christmas the same as every other Christian family, except that they don't do advent, according to junior Megan Snow. (Advent is a celebration that takes place on the four Sundays prior to Christmas in celebration of Christ's coming.)

In addition to the difference in Christmas celebration, there are more differences between Mormonism and other religions. "Joseph Smith was told by God that all the other religions of the world were not accurate and commanded him to find the Golden Plates that contained the Book of Mormon," Snow said.

At the main Mormon temple in Salt Lake City, Utah, there is even some Christmas festivity. "There's a big celebration in Utah where the Mormon Tabernacle Choir sings, and they have a Christmas tree lighting ceremony," Snow said.

By Joshua Dutt

## God Jul

Christmas in Norway is celebrated the way we celebrate it here, except for the foreign exchange student who spends a year abroad.

They put up the Christmas tree on December 23, which is the day after Christmas, and up as soon as possible.

The ABC Family has a Christmas special down for the twentieth year. In Norway they have a Christmas show, but it is one TV show a year. They also open one present a day. Before, they open 24 presents a day.

"My favorite part of Christmas is the days off, seeing family and friends," says. "We don't have a direct family over here, so we live near us so the family can visit."

For Christmas, I eat some sort of food.

"I eat the same food as everyone else. Many people..."

## Froehliche Weihnachten

Known as "Nikolaustag" or St. Nicholas Day, the start of the Christmas season in Germany. Celebrations for the holiday begin even before the start of Christmas Day is still on the 25th, but the 26th is also a holiday.

"We have Christmas Eve on the 24th, the 25th and the 26th, but for us real Christmas is on the 25th and the 26th," says German foreign exchange student.

For the Christmas Eve feast, overindulging is called the night "Dickbauch," which means "fat belly." An old superstition that people who didn't gorge themselves would be haunted by demons during the night. The pig, "reisbrei" (a sweet cinnamon rice dish), roni salad, and other regional foods are served.

Santa Claus, or Saint Nicholas as he is more commonly known, comes on December 6 instead of on the 25th. He is a good man and distributes either gifts or a rod for spanking if the children are bad.

# Christmas around



## God Jul og Godt Nyttår!

Christmas in Norway isn't much different than we celebrate it here in America, says foreign exchange student Eirun Nyberget, who is living a year away from her home in Norway. They put up their Christmas tree on December 23, when we normally put ours up as soon as we can after Thanksgiving. The ABC Family channel has a movie countdown the twenty-five days before Christmas. They have a similar program except it's a TV show which shows one a day. They even have one present a day in December; there are 24 presents before December 25.

One favorite part of Christmas is having the family together, seeing family and the food," Nyberget says. "We don't normally travel. We have immediate family over at our house. Most of them live near us so they don't have to travel too far."

Christmas meals many people eat some sort of meat, mostly meatballs. They eat the rice pudding," says Eirun. Many people also eat lutefisk.

By Eirun Nyberget

## Veihnachten!

Nicholas Day, December 6 marks the beginning of Christmas in Germany, although preparations begin before the beginning of December. On the 5th, but there are a few differences. On the 24th, and Christmas is celebrated. "For us real Christmas is the 24th," says student Michelle Worthmann. "Indulging is very encouraged. They mean 'fat stomach,' due to the fact they didn't gorge themselves that evening during the night. Hence, dishes like suckling pig (roast rice dish), white sausage, macarons are served throughout the day. He is more commonly called in Germany as on the 25th. He carries a book of gifts or straw, depending on how good the child was especially bad!

By Kelly Curtis

## Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan!

Jian Li "Wendy" Li, a senior, moved to the U.S. from China when she was young. In China there are no Christmas traditions; however, there is a large New Year's celebration that includes a big feast.

"Our tradition on New Year's is that the older people, like grandparents, uncles and aunts, give the younger people money. I have actually gotten over \$1,000 before!" Li said.

Now that her family is living in the U.S., Li says that they carry on New Year's traditions, but not typical American Christmas traditions. However, they do put a Christmas tree up in the restaurant that her parents own.

"It's a nice day," Li says of Christmas. "All I do is eat and get money!"

This year she plans to put her money toward college. "Unless I find something really cool to buy!" Li added.

By Layne Durrall

## Last minute gift ideas

### mother

Snuggie - \$10

Digital picture keychain - \$15

CD of her fav music - \$10-20

Birthstone necklace - \$48

### father

baseball cap with his favorite

team's logo--\$15-30

money clip--\$20-30

watch--\$30

tools and toolbox--\$90

### boyfriend

sweatshirt--\$15-40

cologne--\$30

leather wallet--\$20

DVD--\$20

### girlfriend

necklace--\$30

zip-up sweatshirt--\$20-40

"Ugg" boots (or lookalikes)--\$10-100

season DVD's of her favorite show--\$30



# d the world



# 'Bowling' cures winter blues for sports columnists

The college football season is coming to a close as the bowl season is about to begin. There has been much controversy over the five Bowl Championship Series (BCS) bowl games. The regular season has ended with five undefeated teams in five of the top six spots. The other spots belong to Pac-10 champion Oregon, Big 10 champion Ohio State, SEC runner-up Florida, Big 10 runner-up Iowa, and ACC champion Georgia Tech. Here are our predictions for the upcoming BCS bowl games.

In the Fiesta Bowl, undefeated WAC champion Boise State is making its second BCS bowl appearance against Mountain West cham-

pion Texas Christian University (TCU), who is making its first BCS appearance. These two teams faced each other last year in the Poinsettia Bowl as TCU won 17-16. Both teams are returning many of their starters on offense and defense and look to be matched up well again this year. A key match-up to watch for in this game is between TCU defensive end Jerry Hughes and Boise State offensive line giving time to quarterback Kellen Moore.

In the Sugar Bowl, the undefeated Big East champion Cincinnati is up against the SEC runner-up Florida. Cincinnati has a nearly unstoppable passing game with quarterback Tony

Pike, who will look to keep his team's season unblemished. Florida will again be led by former Heisman-winning quarterback Tim Tebow. Florida is coming off a loss against Alabama in the SEC championship and will look to bounce back with a Sugar Bowl win. Look for how Florida responds after a big letdown losing the SEC championship game.

The Orange Bowl matches up the triple option attack of Georgia Tech vs. the Iowa Hawkeyes and their undersized defensive line. Georgia Tech has flown under the radar this year with quarterback Josh Nesbit leading the old school attack of the triple option. The Iowa team was a surprise this year in the

Big 10. Iowa's chances of winning the Big 10 game took a blow this year when starting quarterback Ricky Stanzi got hurt, but Mitch Vandenberg has filled in well for the injured Stanzi. The match-up to watch is how Iowa adjusts to the rarely seen triple option.

The Rose Bowl places the classic Pac-10 champ vs. Big 10 champ. Neither team has been to this bowl since the 1960's. The Oregon Ducks have recovered after the now infamous LeGarrette Blount punching incident. They have lost only one game since that opening day. Ohio State also recovered from an early season beatdown by USC Trojans. Winning big games against Penn



Taylor Becker, Kyle Brees, Stephen Bollinger

State and Iowa led by Terrelle Pryor en route to the Big 10 title. The matchup to watch for is the spread option run attack of the Oregon Ducks, led by Jeremiah Masoli against the highly touted Buckeyes run defensive.

The last and most anticipated game pits football giants Alabama and Texas together in an epic battle. Both of the teams won their conferences--the SEC and Big 12 respectively. Each team will rely heavily upon its defen-

sive play, as well as its Heisman candidate on offense. For Alabama, the offense will look to star running back Mark Ingram, who leads the SEC in rushing yards. Texas will look to two-time Heisman candidate quarterback Colt McCoy. The key for Alabama will be Greg McElroy's ability to keep the defense honest so that Ingram can run. The key for Texas will be to protect Colt McCoy so he can throw to star receiver Jordan Shipley.

## Gymnastics

**Last match:** Tuesday here

**Next match:** Tomorrow in Mitchell

**Player comment:** "The team is performing well, and we are excited about the season."--senior manager Taylor Sherwood

## Boys basketball

**Record:** 0-2

**Last Game:** Loss to Brandon Valley last Saturday

**Next Game:** Today here against Watertown

**Player Comments:** "We are going to have to work harder in fundamentals in practice to become a threat."--senior Graham Schuetzle

## Girls hockey

**Record:** 1-6

**Last Game:** Last weekend in Brookings

**Next Game:** Today against Brookings here 8 p.m.

**Player comment:** "We are working hard and having fun."--junior Holly Stewart



## Girls basketball

**Record:** 1-1

**Last Game:** Last Saturday loss against Brandon Valley

**Next Game:** Today in Watertown

**Player comments:** "We are shorter than most teams, but we have speed to make up for it. We just need to practice hard every day just like in a game."--senior Amanda Stout

## Wrestling

**Record:** 3-1

**Last Match:** Thursday against Aberdeen

**Next Match:** Tomorrow in Valentine, NE.

**Player comment:** "So far, at least, the season has been going by pretty good. The wrestling in Watertown looked pretty, and we could be in for a great season. We could definitely have a few state placers!"--senior Sean Snyder

## Boys hockey

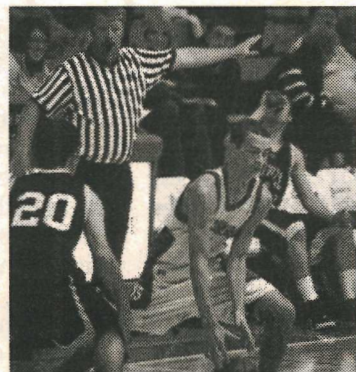
**Record:** 9-3 overall and 3-0 in regular season

**Last games:** Last weekend in Fargo

**Next games:** Tomorrow in Watertown

**Player comment:** "If you think the senior Powder Puff hits harder than Chris Brown, you should come check us out at the rink."--senior Kris Hewlett





Photos by Bob Gill

Referees are always in the background, working hard to make sure the game is fair.

## Refereeing is no simple feat

By Sarah Moreno

They put on striped shirt, black pants, and shiny black shoes, and they're ready to go. Referees not only do their jobs well, but they look good doing it.

Just how expensive are these notorious uniforms? "Depends on how good your shoes are," jokes referee Quint Garnos of Pre-sho, before the start of last Friday's first home basketball game of the girls season.

"The whole uniform usually costs around \$200," explains Tim Mitchell of Chamberlain, "and you always want to have an extra pair of pants in case your zipper breaks or you split your pants!"

Before the game starts, the refs are hard at work. They have to supervise the warm-ups to make sure the players aren't doing anything illegal.

"They can pretty much do anything...but they aren't allowed to dunk it," says Mitchell. "We also have to make sure the uniforms are up to code. Jerseys have to be tucked in, and the home team has to be white. If someone [on the home team] wants to wear a shirt under the jersey, it has to be a white shirt."

During the game, the ref-

*"The whole uniform usually costs around \$200, and you always want to have an extra pair of pants in case your zipper breaks or you split your pants!"*  
referee Tim Mitchell, Chamberlain

erees are in the zone. Crowds, however, sometimes get in the way of the refs' job. "You get yelled at, but there's not much you can do," laughs Garnos. "One time I threw some kids out for fighting, but other than that, crowd control isn't really an issue."

The referees have to keep up with the players, and Mitchell, 49, Garnos, 45, and Harry Haanen, 59, all agree that they have to work out regularly to stay in shape. Being in their forties and fifties, these guys

are no spring chickens.

"I always say, 'Every year I get older, but the kids stay the same age,'" Garnos explains with a smile.

"I have a treadmill and a Bowflex that I use. It's so much cheaper than buying a gym membership!" Mitchell adds.

Refing isn't dangerous per se, but sometimes the refs can get in the way of the ongoing play. "One time," Mitchell recalls, "a kid just turned around and threw the ball at me, and I actually caught it! But then I dropped it and blew my whistle."

These referees aren't making the big bucks by refereeing high school basketball games. They make about \$70 per game, plus compensation for travel costs. "Since I drove everyone tonight, I'm getting paid for the game and for my gas," says Mitchell.

All three refs agree to refereeing about two to three games per week. They show real dedication to their job.

"I like to referee because it keeps me in great shape. It's not really about the money," Haanen says. "Well, the extra cash is nice," interjected Garnos.

"Me," Mitchell added, laughing, "I just do it 'cause it's fun."

## Skaters perform to poem

By Timmi Lunsford

Not a mouse will be stirring, but there will be skating snowflakes, prancing reindeer, and fairy sugar plums in the Central South Dakota Skating Club's production of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." The theater-on-ice program will be tomorrow at 1 and 7 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m. at the PAYSA ice rink located behind Wal-Mart.

The much-loved children's poem will be introduced by angels skating to "Carol of the Bells." Featuring junior Jenna Carlon, Rylee Hauck, and junior Timmi Lunsford, the skaters will draw a magical scene that sets the stage for furry mouse-skaters skittering across the ice.

As a Narrator tells the timeless story of a quiet house waiting for Santa's arrival, comical reindeer and glittery snowflakes set the stage for Jolly St. Nick. Excited kids will hang their stockings and "Rock Around the Christmas Tree" before drifting off to sleep.

Skating director and coach Tamarah Hooper started rehearsals in mid-November with 46 members of the skating club.

"This is a well-known poem that almost all children recognize," said Hooper. "It will be a lovely celebration of the Christ-

mas spirit," Hooper said.

Solos by Lunsford, Carlon, Rylee Hauck, Haylee Hauck, and Mariah Fuchs are woven into the group numbers featuring basic skills skaters. The show is about one hour in length, and admission is free.

Other holiday activities at the PAYSA ice rink include a special Teen Skate for grades 6 through 12 on New Year's Eve from 9 p.m. to midnight.

During the time off from school, the PAYSA rink will offer public skating on December 29, 30, 31, and January 1 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Drop-in hockey is available; if a group of skaters wants ice for hockey, call 223-3294 or 220-4105. Regular open skate resumes on January 3 from 1 to 2:45 p.m.

Two new winter sports offered at the PAYSA rink are curling and broom ball. Curling league action starts January 8 at 6 p.m. High school students can form a team (four curlers and a sub) or can join an adult team. Generally, the teams will curl four to six ends each Friday night. The rink provides the curling rocks and equipment.

Broom ball is Thursday nights at 7:45. Bring a broom; no special talent or shoes are needed. High school students are welcome for the hour-long game that provides great exercise and lots of fun trying to shoot a modified soccer ball into hockey nets.



Photo by Jana Miner

Coach Tamarah Hooper practices with the mice group before the big show.



## Bachelor of the month

### Quinn Mortenson '11

**Eye Color:** Hazel  
**Height:** 5'8"ish  
**Personality:** fun-loving  
**Favorite Movie:** Star Wars Saga and Lord of the Rings (chicks dig the nerd.)



**Have you ever fallen in love?**  
 If cookies count. Seduction is a powerful tool.

**How short was your shortest relationship?**  
 Megan Fox looked at me once.

**Have you**

**ever broken anyone's heart?**  
 Literally, yes.

**Do your friends have a say in who you date?**  
 Thankfully, no.

**Do you believe in love at first sight?**  
 Didn't I tell you about Megan Fox?

#### Describe your ideal first date.

Taking my date out to the meadow to reveal my pale yet sparkly chest in the sunlight.

#### If your girlfriend cheated on you, would you take her back?

Well, I would sit her down and have a stern talk with her.

#### If you could go on a date with anyone, who would it be?

Double date! Megan Fox and Taylor Swift.

## Other Bachelor of the month

### Taylor Owens '11

**Eye Color:** Gorgeous  
**Height:** 5' 8"  
**Personality:** Confident yet humble  
**Favorite Movie:** Both Tanner's and my favorite is Death Race



**Have you ever fallen in love?**  
 Yep, but I got right back up.

**What attracts you to the opposite sex?**  
 Brains and confidence.

**How long was your longest**

**relationship?**  
 Tanner Wolf and I have been friends since 6th grade.

**Love or \$1 million?**  
 ....Tanner Wolf.

**Who should get the check on the first date?**  
 Tanner and I just split it.

**Do you think**

**everyone deserves a second chance?**  
 Tanner flips a coin.

**Do you believe in love at first sight?**  
 I didn't until I saw Tanner.

**Would you kiss on the first date?**  
 I would not kiss Tanner. EVER.

**Do your friends have a say in who you date?**  
 If Quinn can't decide, Tanner can.

**Pursue or be pursued?**  
 Pursued by Tanner.

## Riggs puts on a jolly good show

By Regan Duvall

It is the most wonderful time of the year! Families are baking delectable treats, buying and wrapping gifts, singing carols, and spending time with family and friends. How could it possibly get better?

Well, for those of you who slept during Geography class, we live in Pierre -- capital of South Dakota and home of the Capitol building! This grand building is full of holiday cheer and events!

For being a small town, Pierre has quite a bit of seasonal events going on right now that you don't want to miss out on.

In addition to the

Capitol, the high school is another happenin' place around Christmas. The December 15 concert, by the band AND choir, was a huge success!

"This is probably the biggest concert of the year for us because it's the only time the band and choir share a concert. All of the students did an excellent job!" choir director Emily Danger said.

The concert featured everything from familiar and traditional Christmas carols to unfamiliar pieces and even some traditional tunes with a new twist.

The choir closed its portion of the concert with the famous "Hallelujah

Chorus" from *Messiah* by G.F. Handel.

In a long-standing tradition of more than 200 years, the audience stood during that piece. The tradition began with King George II of England.

Not only did the audience enjoy it, so did the performers.

"The Christmas songs we sang were the bee's knees baby," senior Jayme Hipple said.

"We pretty much destroy other choirs when we open out mouths and belt out magical tunes, thus turning the audience to liquid," junior Syrena Adams said.

Anyone who missed the concert on Tuesday night can still hear the treble choir and

the concert choir on December 22 at the Capitol rotunda from 12-1 p.m.

According to trumpet player, senior Shane Skaggs, their first Christmas concert was "very intense. There was a lot of deep, emotional music as well as the Christmas classics."

"Symphonic Band blew the Concert band out of the water and made themselves look godly at the same time," sophomore percussionist Alex Roth said.

They will perform again at the winter choral festival on February 19 at 7:30 p.m. The band will perform again at the band festival concert, February 22 at 7:30 p.m.



Photos by Layne Duvall

The symphonic band performed earlier this week at their annual Christmas concert.