

# G T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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## State tournament provides band memories

By Lennix-Rodney Lee

People of all ages tend to have some appreciation for music, including the presence of the band at sports games. The absence of a band would be like the absence of a cheering crowd.

Band members went with the basketball team to play at the state tournament this year. While attendance was a requirement, most band members agree that it was not too much of a hardship.

Allie Knofczynski, 11, who has been in band since the fifth

grade, plays percussion and went to state with band the past two years. "I think it is a great opportunity for band students to attend the state tournament and be recognized for playing fun pep band tunes. Also, it is more laid back than performing in the contests we usually attend," she said.

Previous experience gave Knofczynski an idea of what to expect.

"I was looking forward to performing with the Pierrecussion drum line at our half-time show because we have worked very hard



Photo by Hyrna Zakahi

Juniors Dagne Ode and Riley Bren perform in the Pierrecussion Drumline at halftime of the Pierre vs. Huron game at the State Basketball Tournament last Friday.

on it, and playing in the drum line is my favorite part of being involved in band," she said.

The state tournament not only gave band members a chance to play the music they love but also a chance to make memories with friends and classmates, which is what Knofczynski enjoyed the most.

Ashley Grambihler, 12, has a similar view of playing at state. Grambihler plays the clarinet.

Grambihler has gone to the state tournament four times in the past for pep band. She was looking for-

ward to hanging out with friends and maybe making a few more.

"State is absolutely amazing. I love going to state to hang out with my friends and going shopping," Grambihler said of making memories with friends. She says that friends are what really make the trip worthwhile.

Whether it is playing an instrument in band or listening to the newest hits, music can prove essential in life. For many people, it helps build connections with others and within themselves.

## Junior class prepares for upcoming Prom

By Allie Knofczynski

It is that time of year again, when people ask each other that important question, "Will you go to prom with me?" Heck, they made an entire Disney movie about prom, so it must be important, right? Few people, however, really understand what it takes to create those classic high school memories.

Junior class officers and their parents have been planning a great formal and post-prom party for several months now to give students

the best experience possible, with the theme this year being Casino.

McKenna Halverson and Marie Zander are class officers and leaders, along with the teachers of junior homerooms, of each committee that create each aspect of prom.

Halverson, the class president, has been helping with the Grand March. "As a part of the Grand March committee, we have to decorate the stage, organize the procession, arrange the videotaping, and find a master of ceremonies," she said.

Zander, the class vice-president, is head of the photo booth committee. "In order to make the photo booth happen, we need to find a photographer, obviously, some props, and a nice backdrop. I also have to make sure everything is passed by administration, and actually get all the supplies ordered in time for the big day," Zander said.

Both juniors are also making their own preparations for prom. Besides finding a dress and date, they both have other responsi-

bilities to organize the event. "I am talking to different business for prizes for the post prom party and helping to set up the whole event from the overall scheme to the small details," Zander said.

"I am just focusing on getting everything prepared and ready so hopefully everybody can have a great time," Halverson said.

For juniors, the first year going to prom can be both exciting and overwhelming. Joni Willoughby, 11, said, "I'm getting myself ready, and I'm help-

ing all my friends ask their dates in creative and thoughtful ways."

Louis Mehlhaff, 11, like many other students, is a little behind in the planning of prom. When asked how he is preparing for the big event, Mehlhaff said, "Well, I probably need to find a date first..."

Other juniors are just going with the flow and hoping everything goes smoothly. "I'm just winging it and hoping for the best," Morgan Shaffer, 11, said.

As juniors busily set up prom and get ready for this special expe-

rience, seniors do not have to worry about setting up their prom night. Tori Byer, 12, cannot wait to see how the Casino-themed decorations look and just enjoy the evening. "My friends plan to get together, go out to eat, and just have fun," she said.

In addition, the post-prom party will again be taking place at Lariat Lanes after the formal. "There will be great food, a hypnotist, and plenty of prizes and games to keep everyone entertained," Zander said.

# Celebrate all extracurriculars

Letter to the Editor:

I have a trivia question for all of you. Can you name all the activities that fall under the title 'extracurricular activities'? Most people can't. Believe it or not, extracurricular activities include more than athletics.

I am not writing this article to take away from the accomplishments of our athletic teams or individuals and the recognition they have received over the last few years. But, I can tell you we have students who might not be on an 'athletic team' who put in just as much practice time, travel time, fundraising and ev-

erything else that goes along with competing, and few people realize it. So, here is some trivia for you:

Did you know that we have had three Out-

standing Performers at the state One Act competition the last few years and four Outstanding Performers this school year alone?

Did you know that Chamber Choir has received Superior ratings at state level competitions three years in a row and are shooting for their fourth?

Did you know that the band brought home three gold medals from the Heritage Festival in Chicago and eighteen Superiors from small group competition?

Did you know that Oral Interp had Superiors in Reader's Theater competition and one of our students has received six state medals over their career here at Riggs?

Did you know that the Pierre Swim team is the state champion, dethroning Sioux Falls (who has held that title for 22 years)?

The list can go on and on: FBLA competing at the state and national level, Teen Court winning a state award, the Robotics team going to Sacramento to compete, and the students who represent us at the Lakota Nations Invitational Knowledge Bowl.

Extracurricular activities encompass more than just athletics. Students who rep-

resent our school and community take great pride in working toward excellence. Many practice before school, and then again after school. The satisfaction of competing and challenging oneself to continually improve is not limited to the court or field. It transcends into all passions.

Congratulations to all of our students who strive for excellence in the realms of their passions. This all might sound strange coming from an 'athletic coach,' but just so you know, I missed a day of basketball practice every week all through high school to travel 50 miles round trip for piano lessons.  
-Kim Bierle, basketball coach and history teacher

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## Thumbs

What's hot and what's not this month

...to state tournaments  
...to March Madness  
...to Bo's mullet  
...to Spring weather  
...to Special Olympics  
...to Zesto opening  
...to 4th quarter  
...to Mr. Fugitt  
...to road tripping  
...to Tanner winning state  
...to "Promposals"  
...to Class of 2k14  
...to Kait & Con cause #adorable  
...to well-dressed guys  
...to paging  
...to Cash going out in style  
...to Kade coming back  
...to 7th place swag

...to rigged penny wars  
...to bad reffing  
...to iPhone battery life  
...to crowded hotel rooms  
...to roaches  
...to Mondays after state tournaments  
...to Brianna not coming to school  
...to Mondays  
...to graduation stress  
...to soliloquies  
...to bipolar weather  
...to Nate shaving his beard  
...to Malaysian airlines  
...to Coop getting food poisoning  
...to registering for college classes.

## Hall Talk:

What's your favorite part about state tournaments?



"Getting drop-kicked in a brawl with Dobs,"  
-Brandi Ziebart

12



"Being with the guys & being part of the team,"  
-Brittnei Faddoul

11



"Hanging out with friends,"

10



"Slaying"  
-Adam Reiss,

9

## Books come to life

### onscreen

What is the significance of the month of March? Is it St. Patrick's Day? Is it the beginning of the last quarter of school? Is it movies (doubtful) or books (maybe)?

Nothing very significant is happening (in the movie world). Well, that probably depends on perspectives and all that jazz.

"Divergent" is going where every single book series has gone before. It is now a movie with a low chance of success. It is another in a long line of

"Twilight"/"Hunger Games" wannabes, not because it has the same story but because it will probably try to become a "phenomenon" and whatnot.

If it is in fact successful, and the next two "Divergent" books are made into movies, it would be no surprise if the last one were split into two movies. The split would not be for the enrichment of the story but because of money (which buys happiness and all that).

Not too far away is the release of "Captain America: The Winter Soldier." As most know, Captain America is more or less the grandpa of all the Avengers. This movie will probably do well in terms of

rolling in dough, but some people might just be in it for those mysterious end credits.

"Divergent" is based on a young adult novel, "Captain America" is based on a comic book character, and "Noah" is based on a story from another (very) popular book. Most people know what that story is. Seriously, saying "spoiler alert" before talking about it is unnecessary (because of course we all say "spoiler alert," right?)

"12 Years a Slave" is a film that highlights a part of the history of slavery that some may not find familiar. A free African American man is kidnapped and put

into slavery. The movie, also based on the book of the true story, recounts the horrors of those twelve years.

"Dallas Buyers Club," based on a true story (though there was no book about it), highlights the struggle of early HIV/AIDS drug treatment. Then there is "Blue Jasmine," which, well, hey, if you're a fan of Woody Allen movies, go for it.

Honestly, when I hear "March," I think of marching towards May when the school year ends and summer blockbusters arrive.



Lennix Lee

### MOVIES

## Country Kitchen sandwich tops the stack

As the wave of St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage subsides, it's about time to get back to normal, American food. And nothing screams "normal" and "Murrica" like a sandwich. Whether you work in a coffee shop, make sexist jokes, or have a hectic schedule, sandwiches are part of an American's daily life. With such flexibility of ingredients, it's no wonder the sandwich dominates modern food culture.

Historically, the sandwich acquired its namesake from John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich because of his claim of being the eponymous inventor of this food combination though, according to

the *Wall Street Journal*, the sandwich is "Britain's greatest contribution to

gastronomy." This month, we will be ranking sandwich quality of three different restaurants on a scale of one to ten, one being

worstandtenbeingbest. Outside of your home kitchen lies a world of possibilities, even in the town of Pierre. Aside from the commercialized meals of Subway, many places in town offer quality options to satisfy

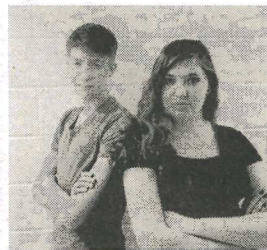
your pallet. Pier 347 on Pierre Street downtown comes to mind when thinking of high quality sandwiches. Due to its famous bagels, Pier 347 has made a name for its lunch variety. You can get one of their set sandwiches or make

your own! Even with slower service, the outcome is well worth the wait. The bread and bagels are homemade, the vegetables are fresh, and the meat is flavorful. We give their sandwiches a 7/10.

Some places you may not think of im-

mediately for having great sandwiches are the Country Kitchen and Tom's Diner. The Country Kitchen has a Reuben that is "to die for." The meat is warm and flavorful and the bread never soggy. Our sources give it an 8/10. Now, having reviewed Tom's before for their bodacious burgers, we felt the need to once again fulfill ourselves with its deliciousness. Tom's has proven itself with great meat despite somewhat hard bread and less authentic vegetables. We give their sandwiches a 6/10.

That completes our culinary countdown for this month! Tune in next month for graduation party food ideas! G'day!

Lydia Kanz and Justin  
Oakland  
GOOD EATS

## Win or lose, the Gov bus rolls on

It's that time of year again, when the roads leading out of Pierre are flooded with a caravan of cars sporting 36 license plates.

Students, parents, and fans young and old pack up their cars and take off for one of the most celebrated weekends in the community. Hundreds of fans leave the town desolate as they abandon home for the state basketball tournament.

No matter the location, ranking, or players, Pierre people will always treasure the fun-filled, tradition packed weekend. Undeniably, all sport state tournaments are attended with

crowds that cheer just as passionately and loudly as any other.

Pierre always has been and always will be a 'basketball' town. We pride ourselves on packing the gym in green, and that has never been any different at the state tournament.

Few will ever be able to forget the echoes that will forever remain in the halls of the Sheraton hotel at last year's state tournament as "GO BIG GREEN" chants

continued into the late hours of the night. Gov pride was displayed on

a large scale as Pierre residents hung over the balconies in a scene that was described as a "sea of green."

With a championship trophy in hand, the team walked into a building that had literally been taken over by Gov fans.

Regardless of what place we finish, the school spirit and Gov pride shown at the state basketball tournament

every year is something I'm proud to be a part of. From the kids running around with green streaks in their hair to the high-schoolers decked out in outrageously themed outfits, it's a fan base that few other schools can say they have.

The hype leading up to the tournament begins weeks before and the energy continues throughout the weekend. The Gov fans at the basketball state tournament are always loud, proud, and rowdy. Win or lose, the town treasures the fun-filled weekend of supporting the Govs.

Tatum Richards  
REFLECTIONS



Photo by Samantha Beck

Senior Eileen Leong works at Papa Murphy's outside of school. "My favorite part of work is jamming to Michael Jackson with my girls and giving people delicious, calorie-filled pizzas," Eileen said.

# On the

## Part-time employment allows students to save money, p

### By Marcella Lees

Today, it seems like almost every teen has a job. Best friends work at Taco Johns, Walmart or McDonalds. It is so common to see teenagers working that people don't even give it much thought anymore.

According to the United States Census Bureau, 28 percent of students hold down a part-time job during high school. Why do so many students choose to work?

For many, that answer won't go beyond "money," but there are other reasons to work. There are many advantages and disadvantages to working as a teenager. Students who are employed have the chance to learn accountability and develop work-ethic in a real-life setting.

"It allows you to go out and diversify with other age groups," Joshua Voigt, 10, said. Voigt previously worked as a

dietary aid at a retirement home. "You get to meet new people. It teaches you how to do more than one thing at a time and teaches you life skills."

Many teachers would agree that learning responsibility and time management are a big part of why working can be a good thing for students.

"I think time management is definitely one of the benefits of working in high school. Getting out in the real world and seeing what the world demands," social studies teacher Kim Bierle said.

"[Students who work] learn a little bit of responsibility and have a little more pride in what they've accomplished. I think a lot of times students who work are more successful because they learn to manage their time and they have more self-confidence," physics and chemistry teacher Kelly Brandt said.

There are also other benefits to working while

*"Time management is definitely one of the benefits of working in high school. Getting out in the real world and seeing what the world demands,"*

*-Kim Bierle*

in high school. Keeping a job looks good on resumes and college applications. Teenagers who work also receive the benefit of a paycheck each month. Some students use their income for spending money; many, however, use it as a way to save up for postsecondary education, a car, and other elements that will prove important in the future.

"I learn skills that will help me the rest of my life. I've learned how to maintain a good job and also communication skills," sophomore Re-

nee Gallagher said. Gallagher works as an administrative assistant.

Working teaches students life skills, but there are also potential negative aspects of holding down a job and attending school at the same time. Reduced time to spend on schoolwork, sports, extracurricular activities, and social activities is a concern for students, teachers and parents alike.

"This isn't just because I'm a teacher, but school needs to come first. There are benefits to working, but for teenagers most of those benefits are down the road and an education will be important. Overall I think we spread ourselves too thin. Working takes away time for just being a kid. Some kids handle working really well and some don't. It really just depends," Bierle said.

"Working can cut into your personal time. There will be times when I can't hang out with friends because I'm chilling at the drive-through

*"I learn skills that will help me the rest of my life. I've learned how to maintain a good job and also communication skills"*

*-Renee Gallagher, 10*

window. Being employed is still important though; it teaches you future skills," Nicholas Boudreau, 10, said. "Honestly, I would probably be a slacker if I didn't work. I do

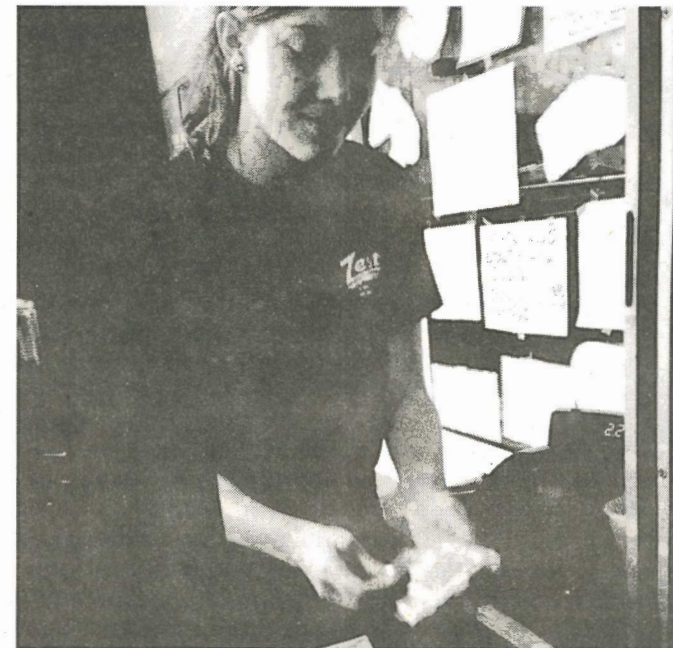


Photo by Samantha Beck

Junior Sammi Merrill works at Zesto on evenings and weekends.

# JOB

## ows high school prepare for future

my homework when I get to work," Larissa Diedrich, 11, said.

"Some students may overdo it and their grades can slip, but overall I think working is a good experience for students," Brandt said.

"Working does cut into my social life a lot. I go to school every day and then I work every weekend and that doesn't leave much time for friends. I don't work on the same days as school though so I have time to do my homework," Kelsey Collier, 10, said.

"Working means I can get my own school supplies and with the money I earn, I can save up for college and to eventually be on my own. If you plan on going to college, working in high school is the most ideal plan because if your parents don't pay for it, who will?" Collier said.

"Working probably makes my grades better because I don't want to disappoint my bosses," Gallagher said.

*"You get to meet new people. [Working] teaches you how to do more than one thing at a time and teaches you life skills"*

*—Joshua Voigt, 10*

Overall, most people at Riggs agree working as a student can be a good thing. It teaches life lessons, responsibility, time management, and helps prepare students for the future.

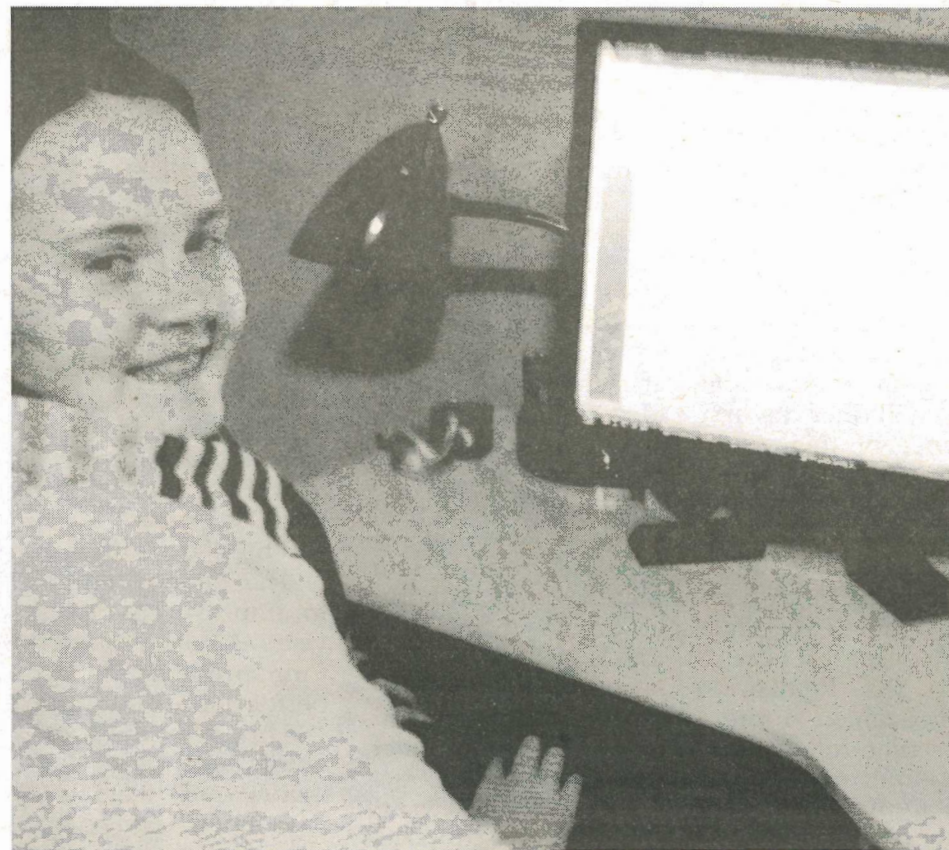


Photo courtesy Renee Gallagher

Sophomore Renee Gallagher works as an administrative assistant after school and during the summer. Gallagher says that working in an office has taught her customer service skills, given her the chance to see how an office is run, and allows her to save money for college.



Photo by Samantha Beck

In between schoolwork and track practices, freshman Kylie Light teaches children swimming lessons at the YMCA.

### Hunting for a job?

Many area businesses hire after-school workers!

Check out some of the resources available in our community to find the job that is right for you.

- The classified section of the Capital Journal has various job listings. Find it at [capjournal.com/classifieds/job](http://capjournal.com/classifieds/job)
- Representatives from the Department of Labor and Regulation visit the school once a month. Stop by and see them in the Guidance Office.

# Track team looks to attack year's first meet

by Chris Rumrill

The track team will open their season tomorrow at John Huth Invitational in Aberdeen. With a new head coach and a strong lineup of returning competitors, the meet will offer the first glimpse of this year's Governor track team.

This year the boys track team will have our individuals return who placed in individual events at the State Track Meet last year in senior Shay Reinke, senior Graham Protexer, senior Riley Sears, and junior Cody Kuehl. Shay Reinke placed in the 110 meter hurdles, Graham Protexer placed in the shot

put, Riley Sears placed in the high jump, and Cody Kuehl placed in the triple jump.

The Governors will hope to build off last year's third place performance at ESD and 9<sup>th</sup> place performance at state with their solid core of returning state placers, as well as a few new athletes.

The girls' track team will also have four individuals return who placed in individual events at the State Track Meet last year, in senior Eileen Leong, senior Tess Johnson, junior Sydney Palmer, and sophomore Courtney Dowling. Eileen Leong placed in the 400 meter dash, Tess Johnson placed in the 100

*"I have incredible teammates that never fail to give one-hundred percent, and we have a substantial amount of fun doing it." -Kelsey Schmitz, 11*

meter hurdles, Sydney Palmer placed in the shot put, and Courtney Dowling placed in the 100 meter dash, the 200 meter dash, and the 400 meter dash.

The girls will hope to improve upon last year's 2<sup>nd</sup> place ESD performance and 5<sup>th</sup> place performance at state.

This year the Governors and Lady Governors track team will have a new head coach, Greg Starr, who has been the assistant coach

for the past few years. He hopes to keep all of the athletes healthy this year to be as competitive as possible when it comes down to ESD and state track.

Coach Starr is looking to the many athletes who have run at the State Meet and at ESD to provide strong leadership to hopefully lead the boys and girls teams to a top-three finish at ESD. Starr is also looking to the field events to help both teams score

as many points as possible at ESD and state.

The Governors and Lady Governors track teams will benefit from being an extremely tight knit group of athletes and coaches as they head into the season. Senior Eileen Leong can attest to that closeness.

"My favorite thing about track is the people! I love spending time with my girls and the team and come on, it's basically 6 days out of the 7 that I get to have quality bonding time with The Mr. Starr," Leong said.

Junior Kelsey Schmitz also values the quality of her teammates. Schmitz ran in

the 4x400 meter relay a strong event for the Lady Gobs last year.

"Running the 4x400 is definitely one of the best things about track. I have incredible teammates that never fail to give one-hundred percent and we have a substantial amount of fun doing it," Schmitz said.

The boys track team is also a tight knit group of athletes.

"My favorite thing about track is the buddies with my friends. All the guys hang out and have a great time," senior Graham Protexer said.

Having fun leads to fast racing, and this year the boys and girls track teams are both ready to set the track ablaze.

## Swimming

**Last Meet:** State championships at Spearfish

**State meet finish:** 1st place for overall highpoint

**Athlete comment:** "If being half-naked wins me a state championship, then I'll take it, by golly!" -senior Blake Dean

## Girls Basketball

**Final Record:** 13-9

**Last game:** at Spearfish

**Player comment:** "My favorite thing about basketball would have to be getting better as a team and figuring out how to beat our opponents." -junior Mariah Kessler

## Boys Track

**Next meet:** Tomorrow in Aberdeen

**Athlete comment:** "The part of track I'm most looking forward to is getting better every day and getting closer to making it to a varsity meet." -junior Josh Hawk



## Boys Basketball

**Final Record:** 21-6

**Last game:** 7th place game at the State Tournament against Sturgis

**State tournament finish:** 7th place

**Player Comment:** "My favorite part of state was how we all rallied around each other to end the season on a win and a high note. That will give the returning players momentum going into next season. Starting didn't hurt either." -senior Cody Somsen

## Boys Tennis

**First tournament:** April 8th, in Pierre

**Player comment:** "My favorite part of tennis is the warm smell of the big-old tennis balls." -junior Payton Jones

## Girls Golf

**Last tournament:** Last Friday at Rapid City

**Next tournament:** Thursday at Stanley County Invite

**Player comment:** "I'm looking forward to being able to get out and golf more than last season and win all the JV meets." -junior Alli Hedman

## Girls Track

**Next meet:** Tomorrow in Aberdeen

**Athlete comment:** "What I'm looking forward to most this track season is making lasting memories during my senior year and soaking in as much Starr

# Govs hit twenty wins in final game

By Micah Howard

Despite a disappointing overall tournament performance, the Governor basketball team was able to cap off their overall successful season with a win.

The Governors entered the tournament as the number four seed and dropped their first game to Sioux Falls Washington, 63-50. Head coach Terry Becker commented that the weekend's struggles were simply the result of missed shots.

"Sometimes the ball just doesn't go in the basket. That's what happened to us all weekend long. We didn't shoot a very high percentage. If the ball goes in a few more times, the outcome a game can change," Becker said.

The Governors' second game put them in

an unlikely, although familiar, situation. Sioux Falls Lincoln defeated number-one ranked Huron in overtime. Becker said that the tournament was clearly an unpredictable one.

"Going into the weekend, it seemed like it could be a really unpredictable tournament. We really didn't know how things were going to pan out. You could play this tournament out again this weekend, and it could have totally different results," Becker said.

The Govs hit the court against Huron in an extremely physical contest. Both teams found themselves in the double bonus at the end of the first quarter.

"It was a rivalry game. It was the fourth time we had played each other. We were definitely familiar with

each other. I think the intensity of the game just made both teams play a little more physical," Becker said.

The Govs fell to the Tigers 72-63 but nonetheless kept their heads up.

"There was obviously disappointment, but the team was able to get over it and get ready for the next game, which is really important. You go to the tournament to play three games, and you can't let a loss ruin your whole weekend. Our guys did a good job maintaining their focus," Becker said.

The Govs headed into their final game with the same mentality as the first game of the tournament. Seniors Travis Barton, Garrett Pochop, and Cooper Walton all made key contributions in their final games as Governors. After a hard-working career,

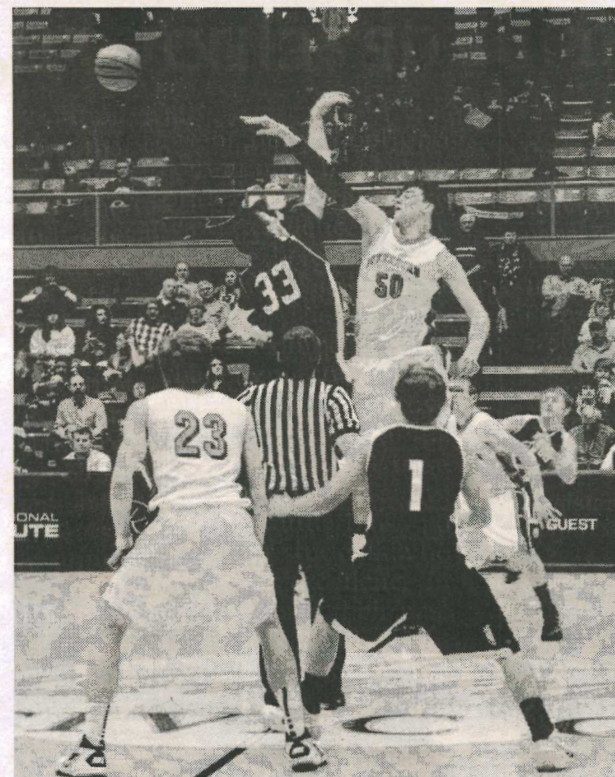
senior Cody Somsen made his first career start in his final game, in which the Governors defeated Sturgis, 77-73.

The win ended the season on a high note and moved the team into the twenty-win club for the second consecutive year. Overall, Becker was pleased with team's performance this year.

"I thought we had a great season. Back-to-back 20 win seasons is something to be proud of. I thought we did a ton of things really well, [at the tournament] but the ball just didn't go in the basket."

The Govs will bring back an experienced crew for the 2014-15 season and hope to return to the tournament.

"I think we'll have a lot of guys who got some valuable experience last weekend. I'm



Courtesy Photo

Pierre senior Cooper Walton tips the ball to a teammate in the opening seconds of the Governors' win against Sturgis.

excited about the experience they were able to get. They're hungry to get back to the tournament. They're going to

be motivated to get back in the gym and improve their skills so we can make another run at it next year," Becker said.

# Experienced Lady Govs look to defend state golf title

by Samantha Beck

The Lady Govs golf team is coming off two strong seasons, back-to-back ESD titles, and a state title in 2013. The Lady Govs will face the upcoming season without one of their strongest players from last year, Hallie Getz.

"Losing Haley changes the dynamic of the team. Someone else will have to step up and play that number one spot, and others will be expected to score lower than they did last year, but they all have the skills to do that," assistant coach Todd Palmer said.

Despite the pressure, each member of the team is focusing on improving and being at the top of her game this spring.

"Of course there's a little bit of pressure on us because of last year's championship, but we have the mindset that whatever happened last year no longer matters," senior golfer Tatum Richards said. "We know we have to prove ourselves again this year, and it's starting from square one."

They return a strong team with depth and experience.

"Our biggest strength this year will be our experience. We have five girls

who have played varsity for many years and other girls who have been in the program for a number of years who will be vying for a place on varsity," Palmer said.

"Our team as a whole is pretty strong. We each have different parts of the game that we excel at that will play to our individual advantages on certain courses," Richards said.

Palmer and Richards agree that the team has high hopes for the season but believe that their goals are attainable.

"Everyone has high expectations after the year we had last year," Palmer said.

"We want to defend our state title, but we just never know exactly what is going to happen, and we have to focus on doing our own thing and not get distracted by those expectations."

Palmer added that the Lady Governors are capable of defending the state title but that is no guarantee.

"We have the experience to win state. Golf is a funny and fickle sport in the sense that even the best golfers in the world don't win week after week after week. We have the tools to do it, but whether or not we win state will not define this team," Palmer said.

"We have high standards for ourselves. We want to achieve so much that we just have our focus set and we're ready to go after them," said Richards. "Individually, I want to focus on placing better at state and ESD this year."

"Our team is really excited to just be golfing together again. We have some high expectations for the season, and we love being together and especially competing together," Richards said. "It helps that we're so close as a team too because we can easily rely on each other for motivation or backup if we're having a rough round."

## Bachelor of the Month



Joe Schueller, 12

### Eye color:

Cosmos greenish

### Personality:

Quiet at first but if you are deemed worthy, I open up.

**Hair color:** Dark brown with chlorine accents

**Height:** 69 inches and 3 centimeters

**Favorite leisure activity:** Wrestling crocodiles... Blind-

folded.

**What qualities do you look for in the opposite sex?** The whole shebang-- good looks, great personality, and intelligence.

**What celebrity would you like to go out with?** Katy Perry. I could be her dark horse.

**Looks or personality?** Personality, but both would sure be dandy.

**Pursue or be pursued?** Yes.

**What is your ideal first date?** Some intense skydiving fol-

lowed by a relaxing and casual evening together.

**What would your ideal girl be like?** A girl who makes me as happy as I would be if I were in a room coated with bubble wrap...(or Eileen Leong.)

**Would you ever date someone taller than you?** Yeah I suppose as long as it's not Yao Ming tall.

**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

Either running the country or travelling the world.

## Bachelorette of the Month



Kyla Karst, 12

### Eye color:

Deep sparkly blue

### Personality:

Spunky and dobbalicious

### Hair color:

Blonde with a hint of pancake brown

**Height:** Five feet and nine inches

**What qualities do you look for in the**

### opposite sex?

Must like pancakes and painting my toenails

**What celebrity would you like to go out with?**

Dobby from Harry Potter

**Looks or personality?**

Both

**Pursue or be pursued?**

Be pursued by my one and only bae

**What would your ideal boy be like?**

Someone who is

good at making pancakes

**What is your ideal first date?**

Horseback riding down my backyard beach, holding hands and eating pancakes

**Would you ever date someone shorter than you?**

Doesn't matter as long as they feed me pancakes.

**Where do you see yourself in five**

**years?** Married with 7 children living off of delicious pancakes



Photo by Joshua Penrod

Junior Annie Woodmansey and senior Lydia Kanz pose with Shane Cronin, Riggs English teacher and Oral Interpretation coach. Cronin passed away this month due to cancer.

## Cronin remembered as teacher, friend, and mentor

This month, Riggs mourned the passing of English teacher Shane Cronin. Riggs students share some memories of Mr. Cronin and the impact he had.

"Shane Cronin was an incredible man. My junior year, when he took over as the Oral Interpretation coach, I began to realize what an amazing guy he was. Not only was he dedicated to teaching, but he genuinely cared about our well-being and he was really creative.

I can honestly say I looked up to the man and I strived to make him proud of me and the team. When he was diagnosed with cancer in May, he immediately became a beacon of hope and gave me and the team something to fight for.

I aspired to work as hard as we did this year not only to honor Mr. Cronin but to give him some-

thing to be proud of.

At his wake his wife, Vera, recognized fellow Oral Interpreter Lydia Kanz and me and took the time to sit down and tell us how proud Mr. Cronin was of our accomplishments. It was at that second that I knew he would always be watching over us.

Mr. Cronin was a really great guy, a man dedicated to influencing the children of today to become exceptional leaders of tomorrow. He had a good heart but never missed an opportunity to use his witty humor. He has had such an enormous impact on everybody he's touched, myself included."

-Justin Oakland, 12

"My strongest and happiest memories with Mr. Cronin would be the day he gave us his "bad speech." He gave a speech showing us what not to do, but he exaggerated a lot. After that, it was the students' turn to be the teacher. We made sure to bombard him with criticism but still made sure to be semi-gentle. Mr. Cronin was one of the reasons that I joined the Oral Interpretation team as well. Because of him, I am able to say that I was on an undefeated team doing what I love. He was one of my greatest mentors. I am eternally grateful and impacted by him."

-Annie

Woodmansey, 11