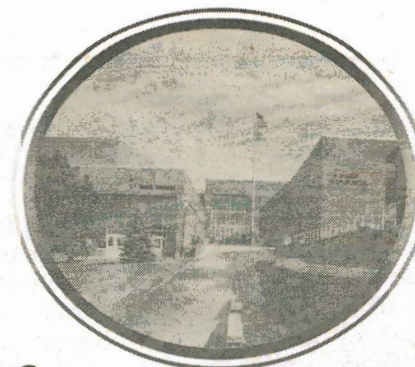


G.T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

VOLUME 72 ♦ ISSUE 1 ♦ SEPT. 27, 2013 ♦ PIERRE, 57501



Student groups attend national conferences

By Lennixx-Rodney Lee

Many students opt to spend their summer vacation away from home. Several Riggs students involved in Teen Court and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) were able to do just that with trips across the country.

Six members of Pierre's Teen Court traveled to Washington, DC, to attend a summit about youth juveniles in the court system.

The attendees, mostly consisting of Teen Court advisory board members, were accompanied by Teen Court coordinator Kellie Shuman

and advisor Melisa Forest. In attendance were Riggs students Daniel Voita, 9; Renee Gallagher, 10; and Chauncey Trapp, 12; Riggs 2013 graduate Jasmin Fosheim; Stanley County senior Nate Cronin; and Stanley County 2013 graduate Katie Lehrkamp.

The Teen Court attendees were able to see landmarks such as the Capitol and the Smithsonian Institution.

The conference hosted visitors from all across the country. Attendees learned how differently the juvenile court system works in different parts of the country.

Pierre's FBLA chapter attended Nationals in Ana-

heim, Calif. To attend, the students had to test in the top three in the state.

The attendees were Hannah Becker, 10; Austin Lentsch, 10; Wyatt Trapp, 10; Hayley Ketteler, 10; Alex Wester, 10, Samantha Beck, 12; and Riggs 2013 graduates Casey Bethke and Andrew Leiferman.

The students, accompanied by FBLA advisor Cheryl Ulmen, not only participated in multiple workshops but also visited surrounding areas of Anaheim, including Catalina Island, Pacific Park, Universal Studios and Disneyland, a student favorite.



Photo by Cheryl Ulmen

Haley Ketteler, Samantha Beck, Hannah Becker, Alex Wester, Wyatt Trapp, Casey Bethke, Andrew Leiferman, and Austin Lentsch attended FBLA National Leadership Conference in Anaheim in June.

ACT scores exceed state, national averages

By Marcella Lees

Despite the fact that South Dakota teachers have the lowest average pay of any state in the country, teachers at Riggs are turning out students with an average ACT score of 23.7. That is nearly two points above the state average and more than two and a half points over the national average.

Kevin Mutchelknaus, Riggs principal for the past three years, says there are several key reasons for the high scores.

"We have a com-

munity of parents who have very high expectations. We have kindergarteners who come in ready to learn and are already five years into their education, thanks to parents who take the time to sit them down and read," Mutchelknaus said.

He is the first to point out that he and the Riggs staff cannot take all the credit. Preschool, grade school, and middle school teachers lay the groundwork for later academic success.

Riggs's scores are high because Pierre parents, teachers and students have very

high expectations for student performance.

Another factor that may relate to Riggs' high ACT scores is that a large percentage of Pierre's adult population is well educated. Parents who pursued advanced education may be more likely to push their children forward along the same path.

The ACT is a college entrance exam designed to measure college readiness. This test is obviously a big deal, but Mutchelknaus says that it is not the ultimate measure of intelligence. The truth

is that not everyone is a good test taker.

"It's really just one test, on one day, and although our students do well, it isn't the only measure of academic success," Mutchelknaus said.

While a number of factors contribute to Riggs' high ACT scores, how does teacher pay fit into this picture? Does relatively low teacher compensation affect students' education as a whole?

"Obviously it doesn't impact our scores significantly. It could in the future though," said Mutchelknaus.

He points out that the number of applicants for open teacher positions is getting gradually lower as time progresses. It used to be that schools would have to wade through dozens of applications for each position, and now they may get as few as six.

Riggs teachers, however, are genuinely helpful, which surely contributes to the continued academic improvement among student here.

Another way Mutchelknaus thinks the school has helped students succeed is by

moving back the morning start time to 8:15. This change allows students extra time to get help from teachers and is a lifesaver for teens who need 10 hours of sleep a night.

Mutchelknaus doesn't think there are any major changes the Pierre community and Riggs' staff need to make to help student improve their academic performance.

Average ACT scores have improved four years out of the last five.

"We like to see the next class do better than the last year," Mutchelknaus said.

Remember what is important

The last year has been a hard one for this school and for our community. It seems that one cancer diagnosis has followed another in the last twelve months. It is great to have senior Conrad Adam back, but two high school teachers are now battling cancer as well. English teacher Shane

Cronin and Latin teacher Jay Mickelson are both facing battles with cancer.

The community has stood together with those fighting illness, but we are not done fighting yet. That's why now, more than ever, is the time to remember what is most important.

It's easy, this time of year, to get swept up in perfect grades and new

shoes and sports teams. But in the end, those are not what truly matter. It may sound cliché, but as this school year starts, take time to appreciate what is often taken for granted.

It's natural to want to be our absolute best, but remember to take a step back and keep

things in perspective. Upset at your performance on the sports field? At least you are able to play. Stressed about a hard class? Be thankful that you're receiving an excellent education for free.

Remember to thank the most important people in your life regularly, because tomorrow will always be a mystery.

Take life as it comes,

Cronin's Crew wristbands Available for purchase in rooms 202, 222, 223, and 224

and always take advantage of every opportunity. The struggles this community has faced in the last year is a reminder that we never know what roads life will take us down. So this year have fun, spend time with people you enjoy, work hard, and don't regret anything, because time is too precious to spend wishing something had been different.

Don't waste time on trivial things. Let the events of the past year remind us of that.

Mr. Cronin is fighting a long and difficult battle right now, and we want to continue to send our well-wishes to him and his family. Hopefully, he will be back in the classroom again soon.

But in the meantime, it's important that we reach out and support him in every way possible. Write a card, buy a Cronin's Crew bracelet, or find another way to show your support. Because, as we learned last year, no one fights alone.

GOVERNOR STAFF 2013-2014

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

Wyatt Rumrill
Micah Howard

Photographers ♦
Samantha Beck

Adviser ♦
Elizabeth J. Vogt

Editor-in-chief ♦
Samantha Beck

Assistant editor ♦
Lennixx-Rodney Lee

Sports editor ♦
Micah Howard

Columnists ♦
Lennixx-Rodney Lee
Justin Oakland
Lydia Kanz
Tatum Richards

Reporters this issue ♦
Lennixx-Rodney Lee
Marcella Lees
Samantha Beck
Sedona Kintz
Gabby Vizcarra
Chris Rumrill

The policy of the Riggs High *Governor* is to report the news accurately and objectively and to provide a forum for the expression of its readers' views. Views expressed in the editorial reflect the concerns and opinions of the editorial board and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the individual reporters, editor, adviser, faculty or administration. The staff encourages signed letters to the editor but reserves the right to accept or reject letters and to edit for length, grammar or libel.

Thumbs

What's hot and what's not this month

...to homecoming week
...to hanging with the team
...to finally being a senior
...to the new season of *Big Bang Theory*
...to Big Tom's
...to powderpuff--let's go seniors!
...to Gov football being ranked #1
...to owning O'Gorman
...to Rollercoaster Road
...to pumpkin malts at Zesto
...to open periods
...to dressing up for homecoming
...to Chai tea lattes
...to lazy Saturdays

...to the end of summer
...college applications
...to misbehaved professional athletes
...to college bio quizzes
...to missing our friends from the Class of 2013
...to hard classes and too much homework
...to parking far away
...to Fort Pierre hooligans
...to not being allowed in the commons
...to *How I Met Your Mother* being almost over
...to twerking
...to Miley Cyrus in general

Hall Talk:

What was your favorite part of homecoming (so far)?



"Seeing everyone else dress up and Coronation."
-Sheila Kastner,

12



"Dressing up as a Roman maiden."
-Alex Hillestad,

11



"I'm looking forward to the Olympics."
-John Schueller,

10



"Dress-up days. Class color was the best."
-Nolan Ortbahn,

9

Do not waste time, choose movies wisely

Feeling stressed? It might be time to take a break and disappear into a great book. However, nowadays "ain't nobody got time for that," so a movie will have to suffice.

World War Z is a bit of an oddball. While the computer-generated zombie herds were

abit off-putting, they also added to the visceral-horror feel of the movie.

A surprisingly ingenious film is *Now You*

See Me. It showcases four magicians who band together and pull off bank heists during their own live performances. Think *Ocean's Eleven* but take out seven and add a pinch of magic.

This is the End follows several actors struggling to survive the apocalypse. The film holds an obvious moral lesson. Seriously, when you're on James Franco's guest list but not on Heaven's, you may need to do some reevaluating.

The hilarious movie is filled with some shocking cameos thanks to *End's* unrelentingly raunchy nature.

In the fittingly-named *Rapture-Palooza*, a couple struggle to live in a post-

Rapture world. Cue wraiths terrorizing the world's citizens, fiery rocks falling from the sky, locusts demanding everyone to "Suffer!", and Anna Kendrick trying to get out of a date with the anti-Christ.

What sounds interesting turns out to be more like the poor man's *This Is the End*. Watch it for Anna Kendrick anyway.

The

Conjuring was entertaining and filled with chilling moments. It also proves that nothing increases a movie's scare factor more than a devilishly creepy doll.

Insidious: Chapter 2 is a different beast than what came before it. It ditched the haunted house format in favor of more backstory and mythology. Whether that was the right choice is debatable, but the makers sure accomplished one thing: they obtained the most obnoxiously loud baby walker in the history of cinema.

So kick back and start off the new school year with a good movie because, honestly, life is too short to be wasting time watching bad ones.



Lennix Lee

MOVIES

Taste tests reveal Pierre's best hamburger

Many of us are familiar with popular Food Network shows such as *Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives* that showcase some of the best foods in the country. We have decided to express our own take on food competition shows at a local level.

Each month we will choose a category of food and collaboratively select, rate, and judge three establishments famous for such food.

This week we have begun with a classic favorite: the original hamburger. We decided to test out the standard burger with a side from the Pub 34, Big Tom's Diner, and Jake's.

Pub 34 features \$2 half-pound burgers on Tuesday night, which is

major-plus for students on a budget! The burger was thick and juicy

but moderately overdone.

The buns on which the burger is placed are number one on our scale, not being too soggy or bland. But

there's one downside to this inexpensive meal: the sides are either fries for extra cost, another grease trap.

Our second stop on this grease train is Jake's Good Times Place. The meat used for Jake's burger is rated fairly well. Accord-

ing to our meat expert, Blake Dean, the burger patty is "... a perfect meat to fat ratio of 80 to 20.

When you squeeze this burger, the juice just comes rolling out..."

Though the flavor and quality of the meat exceeds other burgers,

what Jake's lacks is a variety of side orders. They have two options, both being fries; however, their homemade fries take home the prize for best side.

The more recently established Big Tom's Diner was the last stop

on our trek. The Big Tom burger featured a flat, rather burnt burger on a disappointing bun. But where Big Tom's excels is with their variety of sides and barbeque choices.

And now, for the final verdict: Pub 34 third place, for being affordable but lacking a memorable experience. Big Tom's Diner second place, for lacking notable burgers but kicking butt with the sides. Finally, Jake's Good Time Place first place, for juicy burgers, the best homemade fries, and a friendly atmosphere perfect for any social gatherings.

We'll see you next month with our ratings on hot wings!



Lydia Kanz and Justin Oakland with Blake Dean
GOOD EATS

Enjoy high school while it lasts

School is just started, and the chaos has already ensued. Another crazy year has begun, and the challenge to keep up with grades, friends, and other activities is in full force. I just want to remind everyone to embrace every second of it.

For seniors especially, the struggle is real. Working up until this point has been a challenge in itself, but keeping up with everything this year is going to be rough. Just remember to enjoy every second we have left here with these people.

I cannot even begin to

guess how many times I've heard, "High school goes by so fast!" However, that's the truest statement I've ever been told. Don't go through

high school wishing it away, regardless of who or what is outside the school. Make the time to go to the football game you wouldn't normally attend. Hang out with the group of friends you wouldn't normally see on the weekend.

Yes, grades and academics are important, but high school is all about the experience.

Have fun with it! Don't go to school every morning with

an "I-hate-everyone-Get-me-out-of-here" attitude. If everyone just tried to make the best of it, we'd be having a lot more fun! Be open-minded about the shy kids who sit in the corner of one of your classes. They're prob-

ably really cool if you just talk to them and give them a chance.

Get to know as many people as you can! How many kids so you pass by in the halls that you can't name? Take an effort to go out of your way to talk and be friendly with them.

Go out on the weekends and embrace your youth. Don't be in too much of a hurry to grow up.

Don't wish away your high school years. These are some of the best times you'll have with your friends. Be outgoing and don't be afraid to have some fun.



Tatum Richards
REFLECTIONS

Student Senate pulls off homecoming

By Samantha Beck

Almost all the students at Riggs and throughout the school district have been enjoying homecoming this week, and all thanks to a select group of Riggs students.

Student Senate works hard each year to put on a spectacular homecoming week, and this year is no different.

"Student senate plans all the dress up days for the school, we make posters to promote homecoming, we talk to the newspaper and radio to get this out to the community, and we do other activities that students can get involved in and boost their school spirit," said junior Student Senate member Marie Zander.

Beginning before school even starts, Student Senate meets and

chooses the theme and dress up days for homecoming week. As

September approaches, students begin to plan activities like the parade, the Olympics, and coronation.

Committees design t-shirts to sell at lunch and plan decorations for the school.

Several Student Senate members were at the school for hours this Sunday, painting windows, hanging streamers, and chalk-ing the sidewalks of the school, all to make sure that Homecom-

ing 2013 is memorable.

Students pick the decorations themselves, then get together to put them up. Members of the organizations also ran the bingo social after coronation Tuesday and the Spirit Breakfast this morning.

Senior student senate member Justin Oakland says that his favorite part of planning homecoming this year was coordinating the Homecoming Olympics with his fellow senior class representatives.

"Now that I'm a senior, we get to kind of dictate the events [at the Olym-

pics]. Stay tuned for some of your favorites like frozen t-shirts and gross food," said Oakland.

In addition to getting to "dominate" the junior class this year, Oakland said he enjoys the Olympics because they are a great time for the entire student body to come together and have a good time.

Student Senate members agree—homecoming is an important week for the entire student body.

"It's a fun week where we kind of unify. It's a fun week for us can sort of express ourselves. It started off as kind of a football tradition and now it's grown," said Oakland.

Student Senate is a fundamental part of why homecoming is the great tradition that it is.

"We have the best interests of the students in mind. We know how to keep things entertaining," Oakland said.

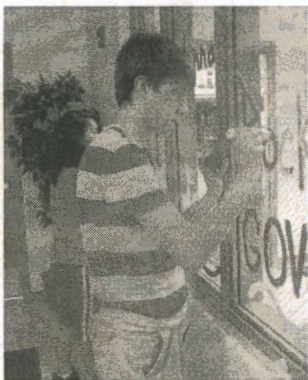


Photo by Samantha Beck

Seniors Justin Oakland and Gabby Vizcarra paint windows in preparation for homecoming week.



Photo by Samantha Beck

Sophomore Mariah Fuchs, freshman Tayia Kierstead, and sophomore Nikki Farnsworth create a "School of Rock" sign for the lobby.



Photo by Samantha Beck

Sophomore Austin Lentsch decorates the school for homecoming week.

SCHOOL Homecoming week



Juniors Riley Bren, Allie Knofczynski, Abbie Nold, Emily Wald, Jolee Smith, and Samantha Merrill show off their Class of 2015.

Band provides ho

By Sedona Kintz

This time of year, students coming into the building before school do so with the sound of music in their ears.

With homecoming right around the corner, the Riggs marching band and Pierrecussion drum line has been working hard to make the parade and field show the best it can be.

The theme of this year's homecoming is School of Rock, and with songs like "We are the Champions", "We

Will Rock You" and "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen, the band will show just how much a school of rock we are.

"The songs we are playing are pretty fun, but they were a little hard to memorize," says Ashley Slama, senior.

The band has been working really hard to prepare for homecoming this year.

"The band has been at school pretty much every day at 6:55 a.m. starting the second week of school working on their drill and memorizing music. We have been tak-

OF ROCK

Week a 'rocking' success



Photo by Samantha Beck
Renee Keuter, pride in red.



Photo by Samantha Beck
Members of the Riggs High Emerald Regiment show their spirit and lead the homecoming parade Monday, playing the song "We Will Rock You."

homecoming entertainment

ing class time to work on music, marching music and pep band music. They have been practicing a lot," says band teacher Mackenzie Block.

I'm very excited to see how it [the field show] turns out, it's starting to look really good from where I am standing," said Block, who is new to Riggs this year.

Morning practice is just one of the many things band members have been doing to practice for homecoming.

"I've practiced my music a lot and went over the drill in my spare

"The field show is fun, but can be hard work as well."

—Kori Coldsmith,

12

time," says Kim Gramblier, sophomore, "I think learning the drills was pretty hard sometimes."

It's not only the band members that put a lot of time and effort into the field show, the flag corp members work just as hard.

"The field show is fun,

but can be hard work as well," says senior Kori Coldsmith, "The hardest part is getting our flags on the field in time before the band starts to play."

The band puts in a lot of hard work and time to make the field show and every aspect of homecoming as perfect as possible, and it shows. Not only does the community love the watching the field show, so do the students.

"The field show is really cool, I think, and you can tell the band tries really hard to get it to look good," says senior Betsy Eschen.

Royalty candidates enjoy event-filled week

By Gabby Vizcarra

Ever wondered what life would be like as a member of royalty? Or how awesome it would be to inherit great riches and automatically be treated with respect by everyone?

Well, ten seniors were able to have their own little experience as royalty, but they did not inherit their positions.

Instead, they were chosen by their subjects to become the royalty candidates for this year's Homecoming King and Queen. Abbie Wieseler was one of the five candidates chosen for Homecoming Queen, and she was greatly pleased when she heard the news.

"I was very excited," she said. "It's an hon-

or to be a candidate. The candidates are selected by the senior class, and it means a lot to me to be chosen by them."

Graham Protexter, a candidate for Homecoming King, expressed similar feelings about being nominated.

"I think it is an honor because it tells you that your classmates look at you as a leader and a role model," Protexter said.

The candidates' families were proud of them, but some members were so surprised that they had some interesting responses.

Eileen Leong was amused by her brother's reaction: "Are you kidding? Was it a pity vote? Well darn, congrats little sis."

Being honored as a royal candidate and making their families proud

was only the beginning for the ten seniors. They had a lot of activities coming their way, and Cash Anderson thought it would be fun doing the activities together.

"Being with the other candidates is what I'm looking forward to," Anderson said.

Anderson was not disappointed as the royalty got together for a "royal" barbeque dinner, rode in the in the homecoming parade, and spent time with the middle school students during lunch.

Jennie Palmer was really enjoying all the special treatment. "I get a free T-shirt and two free meals, so any way I come out on top," she said.

Conrad Adam and Kaitlyn Severyn were crowned Governor and First Lady at Coronation on Tuesday night.



Photo by Bob Gill
Nathan Blaseg, Jennie Palmer, Graham Protexter, Abbie Wieseler, Governor Conrad Adam, First Lady Kaitlyn Severyn, Garrett Pochop, and Carney Knecht participate in the burning of the letters after Coronation on Tuesday night.

Senior soccer stars snare national championship

By Chris Rumrill

Seniors Garrett Pochop and Ethan Case took their talents onto the national stage when their South Dakota United team, Barcelona, won a national soccer tournament this past July.

The path to this accomplishment began with an invitation to play at a Midwest regional tournament in Illinois. At the regional tournament, Barcelona won two games and tied one game in preliminary play. That record put them through to the finals, where they won 4-1. Their next stop was an exciting one: the U.S.

Club Nationals Cup.

Barcelona's first game at nationals provided them with a routine 3-0 win that pumped up the team and kept their hopes of a national championship alive. Barcelona's next game proved to be more of a challenge when their opponents scored an early goal to put Barcelona down 1-0. However, Barcelona would rally with five goals to make the final score 5-2.

"My favorite moment during a game was in the second game when I scored two goals," Pochop said.

On the third day of the tournament, the Barcelona team stum-

bled slightly with a 6-1 loss, but the score didn't change the fact that they were going to the finals at Nationals. The team had already clinched a spot in the finals and would be playing for a championship regardless of the game's result.

The championship game proved to be the toughest, according to both Case and Pochop. This was expected; however, no one outside of the players' families and close friends could have predicted the result before the tournament.

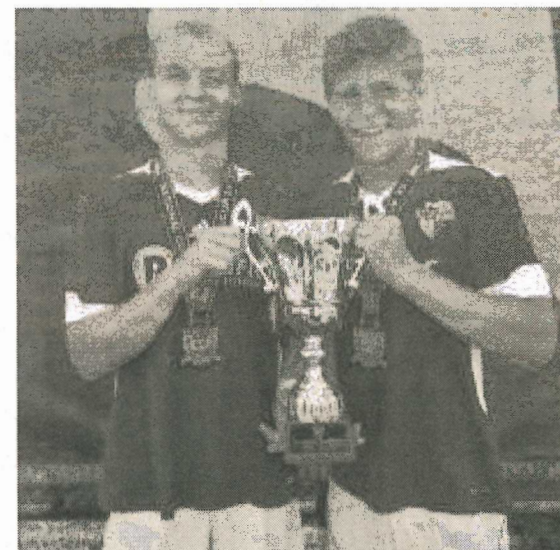
In the first half, Barcelona struck first and then held strong for a 1-0 halftime lead.

The second half proceeded similarly to the first half with Barcelona scoring an additional goal and played shutdown defense to win the national championship game 2-0.

Case and Pochop's favorite moment occurred when the referee blew his whistle, signaling that they had become national champions.

On top of winning a national championship, the Barcelona players learned a lot from their journey. This journey had taken them all around the country over the past four years and created memories to last a lifetime.

"I learned that in or-



Courtesy Gndi Pochop

Seniors Ethan Case and Garrett Pochop helped the South Dakota United Soccer team take first this summer.

der to get to where you want to be and achieve your ultimate goals, you must never give up and work as hard as you can. Everything won't always go how you want it to, but it's how you react to those situations that make you better," Pochop said.

Volleyball

Record: 3-5

Last game: last night here against Watertown

Next Game: Saturday in Harrisburg

Player comment: "I love the competition of it."
-junior Emily Wald

Boys Golf

Last tournament: Monday in Watertown

Next tournament: Saturday ESD in Pierre

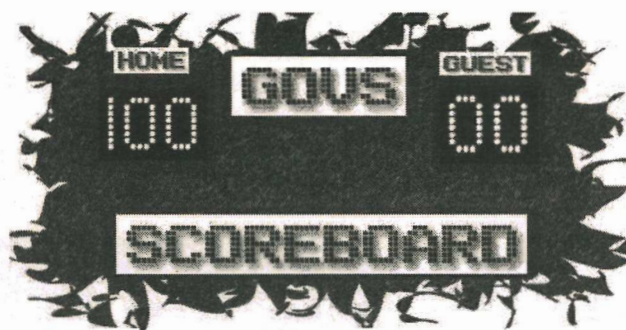
Player comment: "Golf is just too easy and way too much fun, and it doesn't frustrate me." -senior Cash Anderson

Girls tennis

Last match: Aberdeen on Saturday

Next match: Today in Pierre

Player comment: "This year is a good year for rebuilding and showing the girls what it's like to not only win but be a true teammate." -senior Eileen Leong



Football

Record: 4-0

Last Game: defeated O'Gorman Knights

Next Game: Tonight in Pierre against Huron

Player comment: Play smart, play hard, play to win."
-senior Gavin Munson

Soccer

Record: 2-1-4

Last match: defeated the Aberdeen Cougars

Next match: Tomorrow in Pierre against Spearfish

Player comment: I have the easiest job. All I do is stand there for eighty minutes" -senior Riley Sears

Boys Cross-Country

Last meet: Saturday in Huron

Next meet: Thursday in Watertown

Player comment: "I have a had great time running with a great team so far this season. I am looking forward to the ESD Meet." -junior Micah Howard

Girls Cross-Country

Last meet: Saturday in Huron

Next meet: Thursday in Watertown

Coach comment: "I am excited that it is fall. It's crisp. It's Saturday morning. The gun goes off and the bunny rabbit comes running out of the trees. It [cross-country] is still a passion of mine." --coach Keith Christensen

Compiled by Wyatt Rumrill

Govs ready to rock Tigers

By Samantha Beck

The Govs are hoping to top it off tonight with a win over the Huron Tigers.

The Governors football team has been red hot this season, going undefeated in their first four games.

Easily the most memorable game of the season for the Govs so far took place last week when they triumphed against the O'Gorman Knights, defeating the team 16-14. The Govs got ahead early and never looked back.

The combination of senior quarterback Alexander Gray and seniors

Austin Christopher-son, Ethan Case, and Garrett Pochop led the offense. A touchdown catch by Christopherson and an impressive 49-yard field goal by Pochop earned the team a 10-0 lead at halftime.

A touchdown by Gray early in the second half boosted the lead to 16-0.

O'Gorman scored their second touchdown in the last minute of the game, reducing their deficit to just two points. The Knights were just a two-point conversion away from tying the game, but the defense was too strong.

The Govs came away with a win

against a class 11AAA team and an untarnished 4-0 record. The Knights are seeded third in class 11AAA.

"I think it was a great test for our kids. They had to work through a lot of adversity in that game, from the homecoming atmosphere to all the media hype in Sioux Falls and being on TV... Then to come out in the last minute and be able to work through it and be able to get a defensive stand that resulted in our win, I think that showed a lot of maturity on our team's part," said head coach Jayson Poppinga.

Poppinga attributes much of the

success this year to the work the players have put in on the offseason.

"The strength in our team is in how hard they work during the offseason as a unit, as a whole group not as individuals," Poppinga said.

The Govs hope to continue their winning streak tonight as they attempt to "Rock the Tigers" at the homecoming game.

"I expect our players to come out and put in their best performance of the year. We expect perfection; we expect our kids to play fast and play smart, and as a result we will expect to win," Poppinga said.



Ruth Beck

Junior flight two player Jolee Smith hits a serve earlier this season.

Golf, tennis teams head into ESD

By Samantha Beck and Wyatt Rumrill

The Lady Governors tennis team has two meets left in the regular season, including the Pierre Invitational this weekend.

The action is set to begin against Rapid City Central at 3:30 today at the Griffin Park Courts. Saturday the Lady Govs will play St. Thomas More at 9:00 a.m. and Rapid City Stevens at 1:00.

ESD for the Lady Govs will be held in Pierre next Thurs-

day, October 3.

Despite a less-than-perfect regular season record of 1-13, the Lady Govs are optimistic about the upcoming conference meet.

"We are hoping to do well at ESD this year. We have a young team, but everyone has worked really hard and gotten better over the course of the season," said junior Jolee Smith.

The Governors golf team is also heading into their post-season next week.

The young golf team has struggled this season, but they are looking ahead as ESD approaches. The conference tournament will be held here in Pierre tomorrow.

Governor senior Cash Anderson says the team is looking forward to playing for the home crowd.

"We have a lot of young team members this year, and have had some struggles throughout the season but the home course will really help," said Anderson.

Cross country gears up for ESD

By Micah Howard

The cross-country teams have their eyes set on high finishes at the upcoming ESD meet in Harrisburg.

On the boys' side, the Governors bring a strong lineup of sophomores to the table, along with a few upper-classmen. Head coach Keith Christensen has gradually eased his young team onto the varsity scene, from the 4000 meter race to the 5000.

"We're young,

We're really young. Our guy's team includes ten sophomores. The 5K is a man's race. We haven't been ready for it," Christensen said.

Christensen commented, however, that all boys with potential to make the team will run on the varsity stage in Watertown next Thursday.

"The top ten runners at the Watertown meet will run at ESD. The kids pick themselves. In what other sport can you do that?"

Christensen said.

Amid some especially tough competition for Brookings, Yankton, and Brandon Valley, the boys' team has set their goal at a top-four finish.

On the girls' side, not a single senior is running on the team this year, but they still feature a strong lineup of ten returning runners.

Yankton and Brandon Valley will both bring tough girls' teams to the meet, along with Aberdeen Central. The Lady Govs are

also looking for a top-four finish, but Christensen says there is a potential for things to go even better.

"Mariah Fuchs (10) and Hannah Shaffer (9) need to have their best races of the year, and we could be in the hunt," Christensen said.

Rachel Propst and Jebben Keyes will both shoot for top five finishes, but both teams will also have to rely on their ability to run in a pack.

Bachelor of the Month



Cash Anderson, 12

Eye color:

Baby blue--you could swim in these eyeballs.

Personality:

Dark and emotional

Hair color:

Sandy blonde

Height: 6'

Favorite leisure activity:

Skating and shooting with a couple bros at the Expo Center

What qualities do you look for in the opposite sex?

A massive heart

What celebrity would you like to go out with?

Mr. Mick

Looks or personality?

Looks draw me in but personality makes me stay.

Pursue or be pursued?

I'm like a trophy animal, you need to pursue me.

Do you have an age preference?

Mr. Mick's age minus 100 years.

What is your ideal first date?

A Gopher hockey game, of course.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Prison or the White House.

Bachelorette of the Month



Eileen Leong, 12

Eye color: big brown and...brown

Personality: spunky, spicy, and super-califragilisticexpialidocious

Hair color: black with bronze highlights

Height: 4'14"

Favorite leisure activity: EATING.

What qualities do you look for in the opposite sex?

Nice teeth – and is able to say “You’re the boss, whatever you want!” and not be sarcastic about it.

Looks or personality?

He can look like Shrek for all I care but as long as he makes me laugh, we’re golden.

What is your ideal first date?

Flying to the North Pole for Polar Bear rides and dinner with my future father-in-law, Santa Claus.

What would your ideal boy be like?

Funny, laid back, patient, and he has got to be able to bust a move with me at any given moment

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Helping Serena Williams with her professional clothing line and surfing Mavericks in Australia--surfs up, dude!

If you could go on a date with a celebrity who would it be?

Michael Jackson, oh wait...

Fresh faces at Riggs

Get to know new staff members this fall



Brittany Green- Algebra I, Acc. Algebra II

Why do you like math? I had a teacher in high school that could make anyone learn math. That really sparked my interest.

Hobbies: Sports such as softball and kickball, hanging out with family and friends.



Justin Kappes- geometry, pre-algebra

Why did you choose to be a teacher? I had a really good teacher/coach in high school who I really wanted to be like.

What do you enjoy about Riggs? It's a terrific atmosphere. I feel like I'm part of a team.



Samantha Peterson-Algebra I and II

Why do you enjoy Algebra? It's very systematic, and I love the aspect of problem solving.

What do you enjoy about Riggs? I graduated here. I feel comfortable and know a lot of the students.



Wes Darby- Intro to Art, photography

Why do you like art? Art is all around us. I'm passionate about art and teaching.

Why do you enjoy teaching? I enjoy being able to encourage and help my students in and out of the classroom.



Mackenzie Block- band

Why did you become a band teacher? I had a really great band teacher, and I had a really bad band teacher, so I decided to become a teacher to stop kids from having that bad experience.

Hobbies: Playing my instruments, playing with my puppy, watching movies, organizing things



John Wayne Kalda- biology

Why did you want to teach science? “It’s a subject that most kids don’t like. I take it as a challenge to get kids interested.”

Hobbies: Fishing, hunting, golf

Watch for more new staff members to be featured in the October issue.