

G.T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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Hilger's Gulch: Keep it Green or Save Money?

By Austin Lentsch

Running, longboarding, and sledding are just a few attractions of Pierre's Hilger's Gulch. One of the most popular green spaces in the capital city, recently the gulch has become the talk of the town; it is in the process of being reverted to a more traditional prairie setting. While it seems like everyone has an opinion, few know the facts of the matter.

The gulch, while used by the citizens of Pierre, is part of the Capitol Complex, and the state manages upkeep.

Each year, the costs of irrigation and maintenance are anywhere from \$60,000 to \$70,000.

In an attempt to cut this budget, Governor Dugaard and the South Dakota Bureau of Administration have put a plan into action which will remove the Kentucky bluegrass on the inside of the main "loop," and replace it with native grasses, wildflowers, and trees.

While this would lower the costs of caring for the space by as much as \$50,000 each year, it would still keep the sledding hill and the

Governor's Grove intact.

Residents, however, have had many concerns about the upcoming changes. From a Facebook page, to a protest, to a half-dozen articles and letters to the editor in the Capital Journal, the frustration has been clear.

The first point of view is that many feel that they did not have the chance to provide input before the announcement of the plan. On the actual results of the project, the overarching concern has been one of safety.

The consensus among

the protestors is that the native habitat will turn into a breeding ground for unwanted wildlife.

With all of this concern, at this point the plan is in full effect. The grass was killed last week, and several willows have already been planted. Whether the worries will come to fruition is yet to be determined, as work on Hilger's Gulch will wrap spring of 2017.



Photo by Austin Lentsch

A sign put up by a protestor of the potential plan.

G2G Off to a Strong Start in its First Year

By Marcella Lees

With the Governor 2 Governor (G2G) program being completely new this year, there are a lot of questions as to what it is, what it does, and what it is supposed to accomplish.

"G2G is a peer mentoring program and it's kind of a twofold mission," Wade Kippley, head of the G2G program, said. "One, it's to help our freshmen both in academics and just helping them become acclimated to our school. The other [mission] is to benefit our mentors

as much as we can."

As for what the program does, Kippley elaborates: "There are four different elements that the program does. One is tutoring where juniors and seniors are in classrooms throughout the day. Then we also do seminars where myself and a handful of mentors will go into a freshman classroom and give a brief presentation. We are basically taking our experiences and giving that knowledge to the freshmen so hopefully they don't make the same mistakes we did. The third thing

[G2G does] is activities where we take a freshman teacher's classes for the day and bring them down to the gym to play games and do activities. There are two things we want to accomplish with those: one is just simply to have fun and get away from stress; and the second is to build relationships between the freshmen and the mentors. The fourth thing is volunteering and community service. If I had to sum up G2G's purpose in one sentence it would be 'We're here to help others.'"

While this sounds great, the real question is if the fledgling program has been effective. While G2G hasn't been around very long, already the reactions to it have been positive across the board.

"It's [G2G] helped older students be able to share some of their experiences with younger students and kind of show them the ropes," freshman Ethan Hill said.

"I definitely have seen an increase in the number of [freshmen and sophomore] students that are feeling more comfortable talk-

ing to upper classmen [as opposed to last year when there was no G2G program]," freshmen/sophomore English teacher and Oral Interpretation teacher/coach Ashley Boone said. "We're learning things that are beneficial and I think it's had a positive impact on us [thefreshmen]," Miranda Cedillo, 9, said.

"I think that the Gov 2 Gov program is going to be a really strong one at our school and I want to see more of it," Boone said.

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Don't Wait to do it Later

Procrastinators unite! We are smart and strong and awesome and will take over the world... tomorrow.

Let's talk about procrastination. It's a very real problem that afflicts the majority of us school goers. School is still on its first leg and yet this disease is already wreaking havoc on our

lives. It's not that you don't want to get everything done early and not have to stay up late cramming the night before, it's just that it's so difficult to make yourself do something that's not due tomorrow. It's a problem. Plus, the teachers keep piling the homework on, so I personally am struggling to get everything done at all let alone getting

it done ahead of time. Want to know when I wrote this article? The night before, and I'm one of the editors!

So, I think we can all agree to diagnose ourselves with chronic procrastination disorder, but what is the cure? How can this ailment be re-

EDITORIAL

lieved? I'm still not really sure, but I'm going to try anyway.

The first step to recovery is admitting that you have a problem. I am a procrastinator. I am also now one step closer to not being one. Congratulations self, now let's reward ourselves by going on BuzzFeed instead of finishing this article.

Now that I have suc-

cessfully killed a couple hours on the internet in order to put off writing this, I really do need to finish. It's the nature of the deadline beast. My best advice for learning to deal with this truly debilitating disorder is to learn to work with it rather than fight it. When you are writing an assignment in your schedule book, put the due date as a day or two before the actual deadline, and then when you do the assignment at the last second, it will actually be early. This is even more effective if it is something due quite a while in the future, giving you enough time to forget the actual due date. Sometimes forgetfulness is actually a good thing.

Another idea is to set aside a specific time of

the day just for homework. Do it in its own spot (so not in your bed where you watch Netflix) and work it into your schedule. That way the work is just done instead of hanging over your head while you are trying to enjoy yourself.

Ultimately, there isn't a cure all for chronic procrastination disorder. You probably won't ever completely get rid of it, but you can learn to deal with it. How you do so is a very individual thing and you should probably have a heart-to-heart with yourself to brainstorm what will work for you. Keep being strong procrastinators you can do it... today!

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Thank you to all that made this issue possible!

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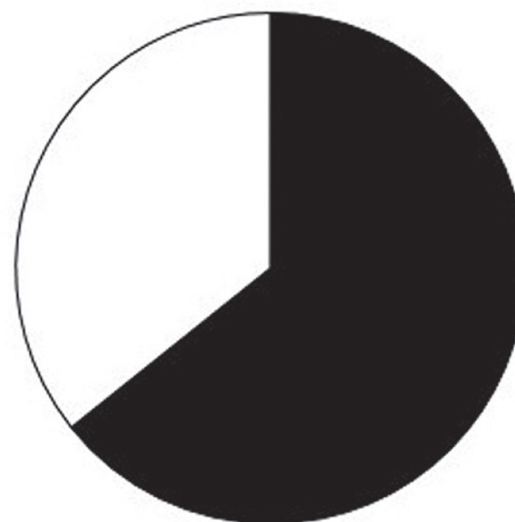


What's hot and what's not this month

...to Friday night football.
GO GOVS.
...to HOMECOMING WEEK:)
...to our bomb volleyball and football crowds
...to the new 2016 seniors!
WE ROCK
...to intermural wiffle ball games
...to the new lunch lady
...to Nicki roasting Miley in at the VMA's
...to breakfast pizza
...to netflix and chilling
...to the zesto workers because not all heroes wear capes
...to Courtney and Murdoch winning homecoming

...to great pals leaving for college
...to 2015 summer being over
...to sad 9/11 videos
...to making future plans
...to fall allergies and being sick
...to marrying your mother and killing your father
...to Kanye 2020
...to hard classes and way too much homework
...to Mondays
...to social media drama
...to Ft. Pierre kids ruining gov mobiling
...to ugly nails
...to early morning government reviews

Who knew it was Governor and Lady Governor and not King and Queen?



■ Did Know □ Did Not Know

COMPILED BY GRACIE JONES

Kenedi and Kendal Twice the Fight

As many of you know, our community has been struck with a terrible tragedy, which is a set of 3-month-old twin girls, Kenedi and Kendal, and their heartbreaking cancer diagnosis.

Two months after giving birth to the girls, mom and dad noticed strange spots appearing on the both the girls' skin that eventually lead to a malignant biopsy that confirmed the twins both had acute myeloid leukemia.

Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is a type of cancer of the blood and bone marrow with excess immature white blood cells.

AML progresses rapidly, with treatments include chemotherapy, other drug therapy, and stem-cell transplants.

The cancer is extremely rare, especially in children, affecting about 20,000 to 200,000 people in the world.

The girls and their mom Abbey are at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota undergoing rounds of chemo treatments. Their dad and big sister Teagan will continue to make trips back and forth from

Pierre to support these infant twins as they battle cancer.

Not only is this a heartbreaking thing for this family to undergo, but also our community.



Miranda Rockwood

REFLECTIONS

The amount of support the family has received is amazing. Businesses all over Pierre are holding benefits for the girls and there

is also a Go-Fund-Me account set up that has raised more than \$29,000.

You can also follow the Twins' Facebook page called Twice the Fight, and their Caring bridge site.

KenediandKendal's Go-Fund-Me website:

<https://www.go-fund-me.com/ykevad4w>

Kenedi and Kendal's Caring Bridge site:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/kenediandkendal>

How to Stay Looking Fabulous in Fall

With homecoming over, the season of fall is officially upon us. This means Ugg boots, sweaters, big scarves, and pumpkin flavored everything for the next couple of months. As a wise teenage girl on Twitter once said, "The colder it gets, the more fashionable and powerful I become." This may be true for some; but others of us dread the colder months not only because here in South Dakota we hardly get above freezing during the winter, but also because it is difficult to know how to dress. No one wants to come to school all bundled up like the abominable snowman, although the weather sometimes seems to demand that

for mere survival. That doesn't mean that you have to sacrifice your fab outfit though. Here are some tips for staying fierce and fabulous as the cold weather sets in. First of all, layer like crazy. Everything looks better in layers in the fall. It makes you feel extra cozy and comfortable while still looking marvelous.

Carrie and Charlotte
Your Common Counsel Couple
ADVICE

Multiple layers are not only cute, but also very practical when it comes to the changing temperature throughout the day. Second, tone down the brights, please! Don't be afraid to put away your staple bright pink sweater and go for something more

neutral. I know, you're thinking "borrrring," but neutrals are so much hotter in the fall. Bright colors pop against tan skin and look better in the summer sunshine. And who tans year round anyway? (Hello, skin cancer!) So maybe save the bright colors for the spring sunshine.

Also, to fake glowing skin year round, go for bold lips this fall. This will not

only help combat the paleness that afflicts all of us in the winter months, but it is also totally on trend and being sported by the hottest supermodels on runways around the world. This also livens up the

same daily makeup routine that all of us fall prey to. Finally, wearing sandals in October is seriously not ok, by any means. We know, your flip flops are totally cute, but frostbite on your toes is a serious issue. Boots are a topnotch way to boost your fall fashion game. They are easy to match and go with practically everything in your closet. So it's time to kick your flip flops to the curb until next summer. From layers to boots, whatever your fall style is, the best accessory is always confidence. So whatever you're wearing, always remember to rock it and never look back.

Recognize the Good Old Days before You've Actually Left Them

It goes by so fast. You'll blink and you'll have graduated. I never really believed anyone when they said it because how does four years go by "fast"? Well, as it turns out, everyone was right. I feel like yesterday I was going to my first homecoming Olympics and falling on my face in front of the entire student body during the spin-clothing relay-- Yes, it still haunts me. But with three years down and not even an entire year left, I sometimes stop to wonder where all the time went. It's like day to day you don't notice

anything different, then you look back and realize you're not a "little freshman"

any more. I just finished my senior homecoming, I'm applying to colleges, I'm planning my career, I'm setting myself up for the rest of my life, but I'm only 17. Life's getting scary for us seniors, but I think a lot of us are ready

for that. I'm ready for life after high school, but I'm not ready for the things I'm going to leave behind. I'm not ready to leave my amazing friends, the teachers that made tough classes easier, the home cooked meals by

my mom, the spur-of-the-moment Zesto runs, the walks on the bike path, and so much more. My main advice for underclassmen is to try something new.



Macy and Maddie

Do something people would never expect you to do. Join a new club, or get an unexpected job. Whatever you do, work hard at it. Get good grades early, because your GPA stays with you. Be nice to everyone, because you never know who's just having a rough day. High school can be hard, but find the people that will make it just a little bit easier. Those are the people you'll be really glad you have when you're in my spot now. Do the things you want to do because in the end, it's your life.

GOVS 31 Riggs Homecoming: Back to the 80s Bucks 0



Freshmen girls pose for color day on Monday of Homecoming week. Freshmen wore pink; sophomores wore yellow; juniors wore red; seniors wore black; staff wore blue.



Senior girls (and boys in the background) perform their 80s dance routine during the Olympics Friday afternoon.



The Class of 2015 showing off their patriotism for America Day.



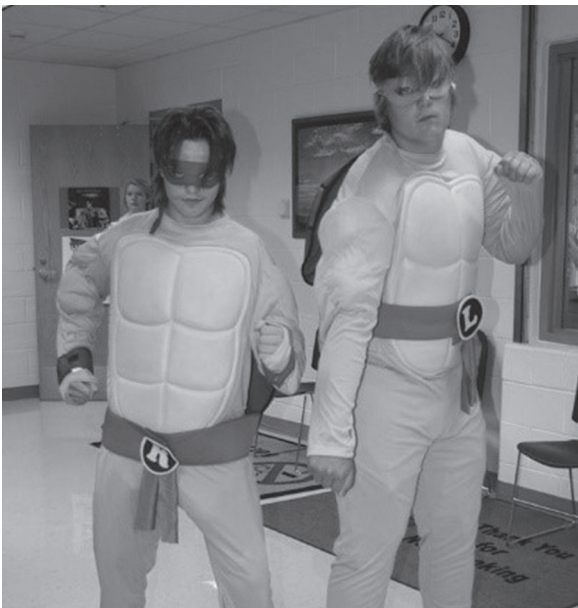
Under the direction of Ms. McKeithan, the Riggs Emerald Regiment marches during the Homecoming Parade.



The Breakfast Club (oh wait, Murdoch Word, Hannah Booth, Carster Mueller, Bailey Regynski, and Austin Lentsch) rock the 80s theme last Thursday.



Riggs royalty stand in front of the burning of the letters after Murdoch Word and Cortney Dowling were crowned Governor and Lady Governor.



Juniors Ivan Blanchette and Tate Johnson dressed as Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles on Dynamic Duo day.

Thank you to all the staff and students at Riggs and the community of Pierre for making 2015 Homecoming a giant success!

Photos submitted by Raegan Winder and Anna Haberman



Designed by a group of junior girls, the Pretty in Pink govmobile shown off to the parade goers.



Sophomores Machal Raske, Kendyl Lyon, Taylor Davis, Maddie Miller, and Britney Hicks feeling the vibe on Monday of Homecoming Week.

By Nathan Bader

A fifteenth place finish at any state meet has the ability to leave a poor taste in any team's mouth. The Pierre Lady Govs tennis team has not, however, crumbled in sorrow or defeat; this year's Lady Govs have taken last year's finish as motivation this year.

"Our goal this year has simply been to get better. We focus on one point at a time, so there is no thinking forward to any event or match. This approach allows us to move past the mistakes, and build on the successes," head coach Wade Kippley said.

Pierre has a very young tennis team.

"We actually have only two upperclassmen on our varsity team. I'm once again blessed with a fantastic group of young women, and they model what the term student-athlete is all about. This group lacks a true #1 player this year. Nothing against our girls, but they are all playing in a position that



Photo by Anna Haberman

Members of the Lady Govs tennis team recognize senior Kim Grambihler after her last match as a Lady Governor tennis player.

is tough for them. We don't have a ton of depth in our junior and senior classes, so we have girls playing in tough spots. This is making them a ton better, and will prove to be extremely beneficial in the next couple of years."

Sydney Larson extends some of the credit to the growth of this young team to the up-

perclassmen on the team.

"Over the years, the upperclassmen have taught me to just go with it and have fun."

Gracie Jones, Larson's doubles partner, has been pleased with how the season has gone so far.

"Honestly, the team has done way better than I expected. I mean I kind

of thought we wouldn't win a match and we have won multiple matches."

Doubles matches have also been productive for Jones and Larson.

Jones says of playing doubles with Larson, "We are stronger in doubles (pretty much all of us) because it's a lot easier to be confident and happy when there is someone out there with you. Also, I absolutely love my doubles partner!"

"The main difference for me between doubles and singles is that I have more fun in doubles. Having Gracie as a doubles partner makes doubles fun and so there's never really any pressure to win or lose, though we do get competitive. I think we work well together because of the fact that we acknowledge that not every play we make is going to be an amazing shot-trust me, we've learned that the hard way," Larson said.

Kippley has high expectations for his team's performance at ESD and the state tournament. "Pierre will be

one of the top respected teams at ESD and state. It gives me a ton of pride when other coaches and fans from other schools/towns give us praise for the way we act on and off the court. This is something I preach to the girls, and I can thank former players for setting the standard for the behavior and effort of the Lady Govs tennis program. I hate making predictions as far as placing, but I'm always honest. If every team plays to the best of their ability, a fifth place finish at ESD would be a great success for us this year. As far as state goes, I'd like to improve on our 15th place finish last year."

A young Lady Govs team is preparing for a good run at ESD and state while already looking toward the future.

The varsity roster includes: Jones, Larson, Chloe Ryan, Cassandra Ryckman, Jesse Jares, Kailee Schultz, and Kara Brusven.

Well wishes to junior Kara Brusven as she recovers from an ankle injury.

Girls' Soccer

Record: (9-1-2)

Last competition: Sept. 26 at Brandon Valley; W(1-0)

Next competition: TBD Playoff Matchup

Player comment: "We spend two hours a day giving 110% at practice."-Brooke Miller

Volleyball

Record: 6-4

Last match: Sept. 26 at Mitchell; Win (3-0)

Next match: Tuesday at Aberdeen Central

Player comment: "We can't overlook any team. Every team can play well."-Macy Halverson



Girls' Tennis

Last meet: Pierre Invite (2-2)

Next meet: ESD Tournament tomorrow in Yankton

Girls' Cross Country

Last competition: Roy Griak Invite; 29th of 56 teams

Next competition: ESD meet at home in Pierre on Oct. 10

Player comment: "We have a young team, but we have a good young team."-Aspen Iverson

Competitive Cheer and Dance

Last Competition: Sept. 22 at Huron; Dance got 7th and Cheer got 11th

Next Competition: Oct. 6 at Brandon Valley

Boys' Soccer

Record: (3-8-1)

Last game: Pierre vs. Brandon Valley; Win (3-0)

Next game: TBD Playoff Matchup

Player comment: "Uniting as a team keeps us motivated"-Cole Cruse

Boys' Cross-Country

Last meet: Roy Griak Invite; 4th place of 56 teams

Next meet: ESD meet at home in Pierre on October 10

Player comment: "We are really excited to do our best and take home the win."-Seth McKinley



GO GOVS!

Compiled by Nate Hill

Football (5-0)

Last Game: Pierre vs. Yankton; Win 31-0

Next Game: Tomorrow at Washington

Player comment: "Winning is good, but you still have to be ready for next week."-Layne Hohn

Boys' Golf

Previous meet: ESD tournament; 1st place

Next tournament: State Tournament, Oct. 5 at Meadowbrook Golf Course

Player comment: "Governor fans should expect a top five finish at state"-Andrew Van Gerpen

Quick Hits with Head Football Coach Jayson Poppinga

Q: Pierre is 5-0. Some people say that is due to an easy schedule. What do you say to that remark?

A: The schedule is something set by the state and not by us, but Yankton and Brookings were both ranked ahead of us in the preseason. Any team, though, that hasn't had a loss is not any easy thing to do. We are just proud of our kids and where we are at right now.

Q: How has the senior leadership helped the team so far this year?

A: You saw it two years ago when we had 20 seniors and had a real special season. This year all nineteen of our seniors worked hard during the offseason. The majority of them were there all the time at lifting sessions, workouts, and when we went on the road to camp. They were there for that. So they are just a great group of guys that have worked hard to build chemistry amongst the team and that shows on the field.

Q: Did you prepare the team any differently for the homecoming game against Yankton?

A: Homecoming is more about the distractions during the week. We don't change anything about what we do. It just impacted the time we had with coronation and the parade. That all impacted our practices, but our day to day doesn't change.

Q: Pierre and Yankton being ranked first and second, respectively, in the 11AA polls have any impact on how you coached?

A: Every week we approach the game like we are 0-0 and facing our toughest opponent. We take it that we must prove ourselves every week. In ESD and 11AA football, any team can beat us if you are not prepared. Our team goals were the same as every other team going into the season of an ESD championship and make the state championship game. For that to happen we had to go through Yankton. After the win, we are one step closer to our

ESD goal of winning the championship. We have one game left against an ESD opponent in Mitchell. Our guys just have to keep getting better because Mitchell is improving every game.

Q: The Pierre defense forced eight turnovers against Yankton. What did the defense do to create those turnovers?

A: Turnovers are a mentality that Shannon does a great job focusing on how to create fumbles and read pass routes. Brevin and Layne, for those five interceptions, were in just great position every time because they did exactly what they were trained to do. The three fumbles were created by guys getting in there and creating turnovers.

Q: What can Governor Football fans expect from the team as the season continues.

A: We are going to play hard and play fast. Each week expect us to give 100% each and every time we step onto that field and expect to win.

Riggs Player Profile: Andrew Van Gerpen

Q: How do you feel the season has gone for the team so far?

A: We have had several ups and downs. Overall we've all individually shown what we are capable of doing.

Q: What has set this team apart from teams in the past?

A: The understanding we all have of the game and the amount of tournament experience has set us apart from past teams.

Q: How does Knox's coaching style help the team succeed?

A: Knox teaches us to keep the game simple and avoid big numbers.

Q: How is the team preparing for the state meet at Meadowbrook Golf Course?

A: We haven't done much different to prepare for the state tournament but we played in a tournament there at the beginning of the year and we'll be going a day early before state to play another round.

Q: What should Governor fans expect from Pierre at the state meet?

A: After dominating the ESD tournament Govs fans should expect a top five finish.

Bachelor of the Month



Austin Lentsch, 12

Personality:
Swole, Crunk, and Versace

| | |
|---|--|
| Eye Color: Leaves of the fall | Pursue or Be Pursued? When you're in Cross Country, you don't have a choice, you can't run away fast enough to get away. |
| Hair Color: Light black | Where do you see yourself in 5 years? In the gym. |
| Favorite Pick Up Line? You wanna ride in my Malibu? If I quit flexing there will be enough room for the both of us. | Pet Peeve of the opposite gender? When they comment on my stripes with plaid... I know I have a problem. |
| What do you look for in the opposite gender? A spotter | |

Bachelorette of the Month



Macy Halverson, 12

Personality:
Bubbly...

Eye Color:
Dark Brown

Hair Color:
Dark Brown

| | |
|--|--|
| Favorite Pick up Line? If you were a vegetable, you'd be a cutecumber. | Pursue or Be Pursued? Pursue |
| Pet peeve about the opposite gender? Definitely un-organization | Where do you see yourself in 5 years? CEO of Cinnabon |
| Ideal first date? Netflix and Chill ;) | Congratulations to Macy and Mariah Fuchs on being crowned the very first Lip Sync Battle Champions! |
| What do you look for in the opposite gender? Height | |

The Time to Sing is NOW

By Arden Koenecke

Choir could be considered a popular class at Riggs. Over 68 students take the course, which is actually sectioned into two different choirs. These choirs are under the direction of Mr. Bauck, who also teaches music theory classes. The first of these is treble choir, which takes place during 2nd period. Treble choir consists of freshmen and sophomore girls. During 5th period, concert choir meets. Concert choir members include all boys, and senior and junior girls. Choir has four concerts every year, along with other various commitments throughout the year, such as small group contest where members can perform solos and duets.

Some members choose to dedicate their time outside of class to choir as well. Riggs also has an a cappella choir called chamber choir. A cappella means to sing without instruments, using the voice to make any noises that an instrument might make in a regular arrangement of a song. To become a member of chamber choir, you must be entered in a regular choir course and perform an audition. Chamber choir practices for two additional hours every week on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

This year at Riggs, four seniors chose to take choir class for the first time. "I needed a half credit and I can't draw, paint, photograph, or do pottery. I also had friends in the class. Choir is my favorite class of the day. There's no pressure to it; it's just singing and hanging out with friends," senior Jim Barnett said.

Choir is a commitment for sure, but without a doubt, it's enjoyable and worth the time.

You can see all three choirs in action at Riggs Theatre on October 23 at 7:30 p.m.



September Sibling Rivalry
Maddie (11) & Gracie (10) Jones

Q: Who in the family is the favorite?

A: Gracie: "Trevor likes Maddie and Wendy likes Payton. And nobody likes Gracie."
Maddie: "Wendy loves Gracie a lot more than she loves Maddie."
Gracie: "No, Wendy loves all her children equally – except Payton."

Q: Do you fight over sharing clothes?

A: Maddie: "Depends. There are days where it's a problem and days where it's not."
Gracie: "Most of the time it's a problem when I borrow from her."
Maddie: "Because you don't give it back. Where's my red shirt that you never wore?"

Q: Who starts the fights?

A: Gracie: "Maddie about clothes every day."
Maddie: "Gracie about anything ever. She cannot be wrong."
Gracie: "No, Gracie is wrong all the time!"