

T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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Holiday Shopping Made Easy

By Sophia Stueven

Buying gifts can be stressful. Not only can it be expensive, but thousands of gift ideas are available to buyers just by tapping an app. With such a wide array of options, the question isn't what to get friends and family, it's what not to get them. Websites like Amazon and Etsy have countless gift ideas ranging from gorgeous wall hangings to books about how to survive a zombie apocalypse. Choosing the perfect gift is all about knowing the receiver and

weighing the gift options. Of course, the option of making a gift further adds to the multitude of choices available, and it might help save a few dollars in the end. Making a tie blanket or a thoughtful candy basket can mean just as much or more to a close friend than ordering an expensive gift off of Amazon. These handmade gifts are not only inexpensive but also meaningful.

If you're stuck on buying a gift for someone, the first thing to do is make a list. What does that person like? Do you share

any inside jokes? What's your favorite memory with that person? This list will be a guideline, helping you select a gift with significance.

An experience is one type of gift you can give. Does your friend like snowboarding?

Take them on a trip to your favorite spot to shred. Is your friend interested in painting? Take them to a painting class in town. A gift of an experience will make new memories and be enjoyable for everyone involved. Some experiences can get expensive; for example, front row

tickets to your friend's favorite band. If you are short on money to spend, consider making a memory jar. Memory jars are essentially a jar filled with trinkets, inside jokes, your favorite moments, concert tickets, pictures or anything that signifies how this person is important to you. Making a playlist for your sibling or friend is a great way to show that you care, and it is free. "Coupons" or "IOU"s are another good way to show some love during the holidays. Your parents surely are stressed

out during the holidays. Offer them a coupon for a free home-cooked meal. They will appreciate it more than any store-bought gift. Your coupons could be for massages, a breakfast in bed, a hug, a movie night, or a night of babysitting. Gift giving does not have to break your bank, but it should be meaningful.

Hopefully, this guide will help you sift through the litter of products the holiday season brings. Remember: no tangible item is more important than the memories made during Christmas.

A Holiday Fantasia

By Maegan Walsh & Claire Koenecke

T.F. Riggs's band and choir never fail to impress with their musical ability, especially when it comes to the holiday season. The T.F. Riggs's band will open this year's concert with the choirs ending the program on Monday, December 17, at 7:00 PM. Together the Symphonic band and the Concert band will play "Bashana Haba 'Ah" and "Christmas Eve". The Concert band alone will be playing "Silent Night". Symphonic Band alone will be performing their tra-

ditional holiday song, "Sleigh Ride" and many other interesting pieces.

The choir will be following the band's performance, starting with the Treble Choir. The Treble choir will be performing some festive songs, such as "Betelehemu", "In The Bleak Midwinter", and "Dashing Through the Snow; A Jingle Bell Spectacular". Next, the Chamber Choir will be singing "What Child (is This)", "Winter's Night", and "Ding Dong Merrily on High". Concert Choir will be the last choir performing. They will be performing a difficult trio

of songs including, "See Amid the Winter Snow", "Fum Fum Fantasia", and "Lo' How a Rose E'er Blooming". Closing

the concert our band and concert choir will come together to perform "Be Thou My Vision". This concert will put you in a great Holiday mood and give you an early taste of Christmas. Be sure to catch this year's Holiday concert,

M e r r y
C h r i s t m a s !



Photo by Capital Journal
The Riggs Chamber Choir sings at the state capitol

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How to Survive Semester Tests

It's that time of year again! The time when panic, stress, and fear consume every thought and action because semester tests are creeping closer. Have you started studying yet? Did you do enough throughout the semester to feel prepared? Do the tests even matter? Where

do you even start? Never fear, however, because we're all freaking out. Nobody knows what semester test week will bring, but a simple guide can help ease the stress. Settle back and grab your notebook because we're bringing Semester Test 101 to you. 1. Sleep. Make sure you are getting

plenty of sleep each night. Studying late into the night is actually worse for you than studying smaller portions and sleeping on the new information. Our bodies are incapable of absorbing the information we've stud-

EDITORIAL

ied if we don't give our brain the proper rest it needs.

2. Study. This is a no-brainer, but a lot of people study in unhealthy ways. Cramming for tests might work sometimes, but do not take that chance. Start studying a little bit each day. Some students find it useful to write down in-

formation, like certain formulas or facts, over and over until they are memorized.

3. Plan ahead. Set aside time in your day to study certain subjects. You will more likely study efficiently if you have both a topic and a time to study.

4. Take breaks. Do not break your brain. Keep a healthy schedule, especially during stressful times like the semester tests.

5. Don't procrastinate. Start studying yesterday. Or even better, start studying the day you learn new information. If you understand the information thoroughly, you will not have to worry about teaching yourself again. All you will

need to do is brush up on some facts.

6. Take the tests seriously. They do affect your grade, and teachers won't pity a student who did not take their test seriously. Show your teachers you care and work hard for your grade.

As long as you work hard and try your best, semester test week should go by without a hitch. Freshmen, remember that these tests are important to your final grade and your grades matter for the future. Everyone needs to remember that, while it may be a stressful week, it will all pay off in the end because Christmas break is within reach.

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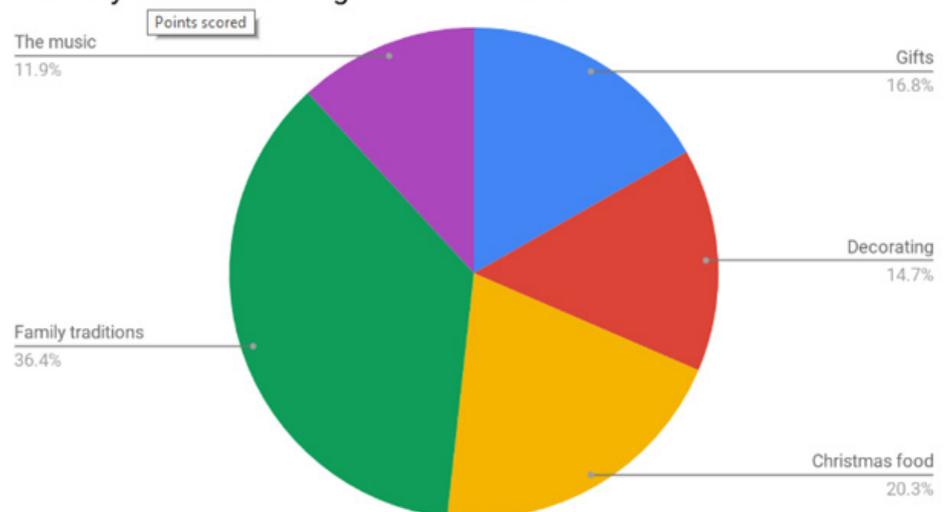


...to Christmas break!
...to Christmas lights
...to hockey games
...to basketball games
...to warm baths
...to gift cards
...to secret Santa
...to pretty snow
...to giving back to those in need
...to the santa on top of the school
...to no snow since November
...to ugly sweaters
...to Caribou Coffee opening
...to fire places
...to family time
...to Christmas movies and music #tistheszn

...to semester tests
...to no study guides for semester tests
...to cold cars
...to the horrid crackling speaker at lunch #whytho?
...to broken ornaments
...to icy roads
...to burnt out lights
...to burning your tongue with hot chocolate
...to broken gingerbread houses
...to school stress
...to the eight-page chemistry packets
...to fallen pine needles
...to boring and hard books
...to rude comments

Compiled by Hattie Shaffer

What's your favorite thing about Christmas?



COMPILED BY MAEGAN WALSH

Remembering President H.W. Bush

In November America lost the 41st president of the United States. George H.W. Bush was president from 1989-1993. Bush was born in June of 1924. Bush postponed his studies after the attack on Pearl Harbor and enlisted in the United States Navy. He then went on to study at Yale University. Later in his life, he served as the Vice President to Ronald Reagan. Bush then went on to run for president, he only served one term until he was beaten by Bill Clinton in 1993.

Claire Rydberg
POLITICS

the 43rd President. Later on his other son, Jeb Bush ran for president in the 2016 Republican Primary. George H. W. Bush visited South Dakota numerous times. One of the more memorable was in 1991 when he visited Mt. Rushmore. He was there to address the rededication of the famous monument. George H. W. Bush died on November 30th, 2018 at the age of 94. Funeral service for President Bush was at the Washington National Cathedral in Washington D.C.

His legacy and true dedication to the United States of America and the American people will be remembered for years to come. Bush led the American people with class, dignity, and respect for all.

"America is never wholly herself unless she is engaged in high moral principle. We as a people have such a purpose today. It is to make kinder the face of the nation and gentler the face of the world."

- George H. W. Bush 1924-2018

Earlier this year his wife Barbara passed away. Barbara Pierce Bush was very highly respected as the first lady. Some of her accomplishments were being an activist for literacy. A quote from Barbara on literacy was, "The most important issue we have."

Bush was very highly respected throughout the Republican party and most Americans. Bush's approval rating was at its peak in 1992 with 80% approval. The Bush dynasty was continued when his son George W. Bush was elected

Christmas Music Done Right

As there haven't been many new hits that were released in December, here is a special Christmas edition of trendy music. Many artists have remade different Christmas songs in their own Christmas albums. Michael Bublé's album Christmas is a classic album to listen to, with his renditions of songs like "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "I'll Be Home for Christmas." Also, the song "Mistletoe" by Justin Bieber has been a hit each year since it was released. Songs from Pentatonix's various Christmas albums have become popular again, like "Hallelujah" and "Mary, Did You Know?" Another classic since it was re-

leased in 1994 is "All I Want for Christmas Is You" by Mariah Carey. This song continues to climb the iTunes charts as we are getting closer to Christmas.

Some Christmas movie soundtracks have many great Christmas songs to listen to. The soundtrack from the movie "Elf" has many great songs.

Carly Bowman
MUSIC

"Sleigh Ride" is on this soundtrack and is sung by Ella Fitzgerald, along with one of the many renditions of "Baby, It's Cold Outside," sung by Zoë Deschanel and Leon Redbone. Another Christmas movie is "How the Grinch Stole Christmas",

which produced songs like "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch." Lastly, "A Charlie Brown Christmas" has a classic soundtrack with "O Tannenbaum" and the classic piano song "Linus and Lucy."

Finally, there are many older Christmas songs to listen to, like the 1984 classic "Last Christmas" by Wham!. Also, "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" by Brenda Lee has been popular each year since it was released in 1960. Lastly, "Jingle Bell Rock" by Bobby Helms was released in 1957 and has been well-liked since then. All of these songs have

been remade countless times, but these recordings are the real "classic" Christmas songs.

Top 5 Christmas Songs of 2018

1. All I Want For Christmas Is You- Mariah Carey
2. It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year- Andy Williams
3. Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree- Brenda Lee
4. A Holly Jolly Christmas- Burl Ives
5. Jingle Bell Rock- Bobby Helms

Trends of 2018

2018 has been a long year. You know it. We know it. It is hard to believe 2018 had the Tide pod epidemic and the Yanny vs Laurel debates. Although, 2018 has seen a lot of good too.

Movies like A Star is Born, Avengers: Infinity Wars, Incredibles 2, and To All the Boys I've Loved Before exploded. If you're searching for a new movie or some stress relief during semester tests, go to the State 1-2-3 theater to watch the new movie Instant Family. If you would prefer to curl up on the couch with

your fuzzy socks and some hot chocolate, Netflix's The Princess Switch featuring Vanessa Hudgens is a sweet movie that will get you in the Christmas spirit.

We have had a surprising lack of snow for December in Pierre, but I'm sure it will come when we least expect it. On the other hand, students will be looking like the surprised Pikachu meme when you unexpectedly see what is your semester tests versus what you actually studied. It is

easy to say, teachers and students alike are ready for Christmas break. Maybe when we come back Fortnite will be a game of the past... well...we can hope.

Jordan and Sabrina
TRENDS

To get your last-minute Christmas fix, the classic movies like Elf, The Santa Clause, Polar Express, and The Grinch are all great options to deck the halls. After you get done watching your Christmas movies a warm shower with some awesome holiday music is al-

ways a good option. Jingle Bell Rock, All I Want For Christmas, It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas, and ANY Justin Bieber Christmas music will definitely get you in the holiday mood.

To reminisce in your past music this year, check your Spotify Unwrapped to see what was on your personal list of hits. 2018 has been long; 2019 is coming, but we are ready :-). This has been Jordan and Sab, and we are saying "thank u, next" to this year.

December



State Oral Interp

By Jordan Thompson

Speaking eloquently and giving a performance to die for is just what T.F. Riggs's Oral Interpretation team does best; although the state meet came with a few bumps and blunders along the way. A couple of hours before your state oral interpretation participants (Jordan Thompson, a senior in Poetry; Kayla Peplinski, a senior in Serious; Sarah Hancock, a junior in Non-Original Oratory and Reader's Theater; Levi McKinley, a sophomore in Storytelling and Reader's Theater; Chase Uecker, a junior in Reader's Theater; Morgan Reiser, a junior in Reader's Theater; Ruben Bowen, a sophomore in Humorous and Reader's Theater; Jordan Morley, a sophomore in Duo; and Eli Houdyshell, a junior in Duo) were set to leave, a notification was sent out saying that the state festival had been postponed. South Dakota was to experience severe snow storms, and the roads were going to be too dangerous for many teams to travel home. So, for the safety of coaches and participants, Watertown decided it would be best to postpone the competition until the following weekend. This postponement, however, came with a lot of stress and pressure for students all across the state. Students were grappling between picking the state meet and the ACT and the other prior commitments they have made.

To add to the stress, after school that day, Pierre found out we would be hosting the state festival....and we had a week to plan it...yay. Thankfully, our coaches Mrs. Boone and Ms. Hoff took the news like champs; they stayed positive and remained calm regardless of the new responsibility of hosting 88 schools for this major event. A lot of planning was needed to ensure everything would flow smoothly, and Mesa Winder was happy to help. In the end, state oral interpretation went extremely well. No major hiccups occurred, and from chatter that I heard from other schools, people were completely happy with the event, location and all. G-O-V-S WE OWN THE ROOM!



State oral interp competitors

Photo provided by Eryn Jordan T.



Trees at the state capitol Photo provided by Phil Adam

Christmas at the Capitol

By Eryn Louis

Pierre is widely-known for always being in great Christmas spirit as soon as Thanksgiving rolls around! One of the main reasons we are known is because of our iconic Christmas at the Capitol events. Now, it just isn't the trees that bring people statewide into our capitol, it's the history and events as well! The very first year Pierre had with Christmas at the Capitol, we only had 12 trees to begin within 1981. Currently, we have just over one hundred trees lit in our beautiful capitol! Tons of businesses in Pierre have been decorating a tree that has been presented in the capitol since 1981, and they always have a recurring theme. Keep your eye out for those ones! There was actually a particular lady who started this popular event of bringing Christmas trees into the capitol and her name was Dorothy "Dottie" Howe. It has been said that she began this annual tradition by showing Governor Bill Janklow sketches of Christmas trees lined up in the capitol. She quickly became known as "The Christmas Tree Lady," around town in Pierre. Dottie has had interviews explaining where her love for Christmas trees began; her simple hometown Christmas when she was four years old growing up with her older brothers. Her marvelous ideas have carried on, year by year, even after she passed away in her home at the age of 86 in 2015. Till this day, people remember the "Christmas Tree Lady," and the wonderful event she marveled up. Happy Holidays, Riggs!

Student Buzz

What Is Your Favorite Part Of Christmas?

Miriam Thompson - Junior

"I love worshipping Jesus during Christmas ."

Ruth Howard - Junior

"My favorite part is spending time with my family."

Spencer Letileller - Freshmen

"My favorite part is presents!"

Ethan Hill - Senior

"I like all the food and singing Christmas songs in the shower."

Jasi Kroll - Sophomore

"My favorite part is eating."

Elise Skjaevestad- Senior

"I'm excited to experience my first American Christmas."



Capital Hockey Off To Hot Start

By Phil Adam

The Oahe Capitals Hockey team kicked off their 2018-2019 season with three straight wins. After several pre-season games, the team has built chemistry and has grown as a team. After graduating six seniors, many of the younger players have stepped-up to fill big rolls on the team.

The Caps opened their regular season against

the defending 2018 state champions Rushmore Thunder. After an even start to the game, the Caps scored the first goal of the game in the first period. After strong defense the Thunder found the back of the net as they tied the game 1-1 half way through the first. After the Rushmore goal the Caps responded back with a goal of their

own to regain their lead, leading 2-1 after one period. The Caps went scoreless in the second period, and Thunder tied the game 2-2 after the second period. Strong defense proved to be tough throughout the third period until Adam Ankrum split the Thunder defense to take the lead 3-2 late in the game. The Capitals would win the game 3-2

for their first win against the Thunder in five years.

After the big win against Rushmore, the Capitals played the Huron All-Stars. After scoring two impressive goals in the first period the Caps did not look back and dominated the All-Stars in the game winning 6-1. After two very impressive wins the Caps looked to stay perfect on

the season as they hosted the Yankton Bucks. The Caps opened the game with three straight goals leading the Bucks 3-1 after one period. The Bucks tried to battle back in the game, but the Caps put them away winning 6-3. You can catch the Capitals back in action at Expo Center on January 20 as they will play Brookings. Go Caps!

Lady Gov Basketball Looking For Competitive Season

By Phil Adam

The Lady Governor Basketball team looks to find success in their 2018-2019 season as they opened their season at Sturgis on the eighth of December. The Lady Goves only graduated one senior from last season and look to compete in the ESD and in AA basketball. Four starters return for the team and they look to use that experience to build team chemistry on and off the court. Seniors

Emily Mikkelsen, Kylie Kessler, Halle Gronlund, Mack Rath, and Hannah Lingle will help guide the younger players on the team so they can grow as a team. After the team opened their season losing at Sturgis by one point they look to battle back and get on track as they will travel back west to play Spearfish. The Lady Gov's home opener will be against O'Gorman on December 21 at 7 pm.



Lady Goves Basketball huddles before their game

Photo By Kailee Schultz

Girls Hockey

Last game: Loss @ Watertown
Next game: @ Rushmore Thunder
Record: 0-4



Girls Basketball

Last game: 45-46 loss @ Sturgis
Next game: @ Spearfish
Record: 0-1

Gymnastics

Last match: @ Aberdeen
Next match: @ Mitchell

Boys' Basketball

Record: 0-0

First game: VS Douglas (12/14)

*Published before results

Wrestling

Last meet: @ Rapid City

Next meet: VS Aberdeen

*Published before results



GO GOVS!

Compiled by Phil Adam

Swimming

Last meet: @ Sioux Falls

Next meet: @ Aberdeen

Boys Hockey

Previous game: 6-3 win VS Yankton

Next game: @ Aberdeen (12/15)

Record: 3-0

*Published before results

Intramural Basketball Rundown

Intramural sports are a staple here at Riggs and have been organized by Mr. Snyder for ___ years.

Anyone can make a team and enjoy the sports of wiffleball, ping pong, volleyball, and basketball that happen throughout the school year. Right now, basketball is in season with seven teams participating. We interviewed each team to give an inside look into the competitive world of Riggs' intramurals.

Heiss

Q: Who has the best moves on your team?

A: Avery Davis

Q: What is your pregame ritual?

A: We don't have a ritual; we just show up and ball up.

Q: Who's the hardest team you've played and why?

A: Rancour because they can dunk on us

Swimmers

Q: Best moves: Frank Becker because he's always hitting those threes.

Q: Pregame ritual:

A: Quick change in the locker room after swim team.

Q: Hardest team:

A: Alban because they gave us a run for our money but we still only lost by three

Alban

Q: Best moves:

A: Will Van Camp because we got him to quit wrestling for his raw basketball talent. His wrestling skills carry over to basketball; he's all athleticism

Q: Pregame ritual:

A: Group bible study followed by a pre-game munch fest

Q: Hardest team:

A: None, they're all easy. We're not gonna give them that respect

Gilk

Q: Best moves:

A: Ethan Campea because he's the mantis

Q: Pregame ritual: listening to 90s hip hop playlist on Spotify

Q: Hardest team: A: Swimmers because we showed up late because Snyder switched the schedule on us. "We should be undefeated boys," commented team member Jayden Wilcox on the schedule mix-up.

Thompson

Q: Best moves:

A: Grady Klundt because he gives the height to our team and makes threes like LeBron James

Q: Pregame ritual: A: throwing the ball to Grady so he can practice his threes

Q: Hardest team: A: Rancour because they actually played by the rules and Grady got tired from running

Rancour

Q: Best moves: A: Zane Schuchard because he's tall

Q: Pregame ritual: A: warm up at the Y for an hour

Q: Hardest team: A: Gilk because there were no refs

Mueller

Q: Best moves: A: Tate Mueller because he fights for it

Q: Pregame ritual: shooting half-court shots

Q: Hardest team: Caleb Huizenga



One of the Junior intramural basketball team



One of the senior intramural basketball teams

Bachelor of the Month



Photo By Sabrina

Lee Snyder, 12

Personality:
Outgoing

Hair Color:
Surfer Gold

Eye Color:
Deep Sea Blue

Favorite thing about yourself?
Everything

Pursue of be Pursued?
Be pursued

Final words?
"Headlock of Die."

Favorite pick-up line?

"Is that a mirror in your pocket? Cause I see us together."

Favorite Movie?
Now you see me

Favorite Song?
"BedRock" by Young Money

Ideal date?
Break into Tiffany's at midnight

Bachelorette of the Month



Photo By Jordan

Molly Gross, 12

Personality:
Kinda Funny

Eye Color:
Hazel

Hair Color:
Champagne

Favorite thing about yourself?
My left eyebrow

Favorite Movie?
Jumanji

Pursue or Be Pursued?
Be pursued.

Final Words?
"No really, you have something in your teeth."

Favorite pick-up line?

"Are you French? cause I Eiffel for you."

Ideal date?
Mac and Cheese, a movie, and your dog.

Favorite song?
"The Real Slim Shady"

Lighting of SD Capitol

By Bailey Wagner

The holiday season is filled to the brim with cheer and lights of every conceivable color. In the city of Pierre, people of all ages gather in awe to experience the wonder that is the capitol at Christmas. The Christmas trees have the capability to take your breath away and T.F. Riggs Chamber Choir and the Georgia Morris Middle School sixth grade choir had the honor to sing for the lighting of these astonishing trees on Tuesday, November 20.

Junior Morgan Reiser says of the experience, "The governor was there to watch us perform and it was the biggest crowd we have ever had. It made me anxious, but it made me excited for all these people to watch."

The choirs performed alongside a speech performed by our esteemed governor Dennis Daugaard. The Chamber Choir performed "What Child (is This)" arranged by Ruth Mor-

ris Cray with words by William C. Dix, "The Winter's Night" by Nicholas Myers, and "Ding Dong Merrily on High" arranged by Mark Burrows with words by George Ratcliffe Woodward.

Mr. Rodd Bauck, the choral director at Riggs, expresses the same feelings about the performance as Morgan Reiser, saying, "It was the first time we were invited to sing (there). It was a difficult performance because it was hot, loud, and full, but it was still an honor."

Christmas is a time for love, lights, and music. The Chamber Choir managed to bring all of these elements together while performing at the lighting of the Christmas trees at the Capitol. The Chamber Choir and the entirety of T.F. Riggs High School wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

December Sibling Rivalry

Halle (12) and Kenzie (10) Gronlund

Q: How would you describe each other in three words?

H: Indecisive, a NAF, and competitive

K: RBF, annoying, and always right

Q: What do you guys fight about the most?

H: Her taking my clothes without asking and not being able to make her own decisions

K: Me wearing her clothes.

Q: Who wins most of the fights?

H: Kenzie because she just yells for my mom and can't fight her own fights

K: Halle, she puts me in a headlock and I haven't figured out how to get out of them yet

Q: What do you like most about each other?

H: She is nicer than me and doesn't get mad when I take her clothes

K: Her closet, I wear her clothes more than my own

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