

# Pep Club chooses Miss Holiday

by Sarah Adam

Senior Anita Oehlerking was recently chosen by the Pep Club to represent Riggs at the 25th annual Miss Holiday pageant, Dec. 27-28 in Huron.

Miss Holiday is sponsored by the Huron Daily Plainsman and will be held in conjunction with the Daily Plainsman Holiday Basketball Tourney. Awards for the winner include a \$3000 scholarship to Huron College, a large engraved trophy for the girl, and a \$100 award to the activity fund for the sponsoring school.

Anita is active in Pep Club, Gumbo Staff, and Art Club and is employed at the Total Look in the Pierre Mall. When asked her reaction to receiving the honor, Anita said she "felt honored being nominated and surprised to receive it."

Miss Holiday contestants will be judged on physical appearance, personality, and poise. The winner will be sponsored by the Daily Plainsman in the Miss Huron-Miss State Fair Pageant next summer, which is a preliminary to the Miss South Dakota Pageant.



Anita Oehlerking

# Annual Riggs financial aid meeting set

By Brian Weiss

Financial aid information night is scheduled Tuesday Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. in the chorus room (Room 200). The annual event is co-sponsored by Riggs High and the South Dakota Financial Aid Administrators.

Information night is recommended for all high school seniors and their parents who will need assistance in financing their post-secondary education.

Bill Jones, financial aid administrator from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, will lead the program as he has done for the past few years. Mr. Jones will explain financial assistance programs, procedures, and answer any questions people may have.

According to Mavis Booze, Riggs guidance counselor, about one hundred usually attend, mostly parents of seniors, but "anyone is welcome who wants to attend."

Mrs. Booze also says that the meeting is good not only for learning how to finance college but also for learning how to budget students' money while they are there.

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# GOVERNOR

RIGGS HIGH GOVERNOR

PIERRE, S.D. 57501

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# Mayor election set for early January

By Rob Miller

Mayor and vice mayor elections will soon be held at Riggs as the second quarter and the semester draws to a close.

The election is slated to begin the first week after Christmas vacation according to the Student Council Constitution. Students who wish to run must have valid petitions filed with the school administration. Actual dates have not yet been set. The petitions must have signatures of five percent of the student body.

The Student Council and mayor-vice mayor positions have been a part of student government at Riggs for several years. The elections themselves have also gone unchanged for some time.

Riggs voters have often seen the candidates engage in funny antics of all kinds to win the election. Assistant Principal Merkwan feels the elections should be more serious.

"It is very important to be serious. I don't think it should be a joke," he

said. Merkwan says the students usually elect sound candidates despite the jokery. He also feels that

grade requirements should not be necessary to make good leaders.

"Just because a kid is a straight A student doesn't mean he has the common sense to be a leader," Merkwan added that good discipline is important to a good leader. "I don't think someone can be a leader and be in detention," he said.

Every campaign sees a volley of promises made by all tickets in the race. The current mayor and vice mayor have fulfilled some of their pre-election promises. Schwartz and Cass were instrumental in the administration's decision to allow students to sit in the theatre without a seating chart. This privilege was later removed because of student abuse. Both also brought a live Christmas tree into the school lobby.

"I like the ones (mayor-vice mayors) who have done something

and want to do something," according to Mr. Merkwan. He tries his best to help them get what they promised.

Merkwan remarked that this was one of the most important duties in

dealing with the duo. "I like to help them get what they promised," he said.

An integral part of the mayor's duty is presiding over the Student Council. Despite this, the Council has had little power in the past. The Council did make several far-reaching decisions this year. It altered the coronation ceremony to appease area Native Americans who voiced their protests. Members have been denied the right to reinstate the "painting of the feet" tradition as well as numerous other things.

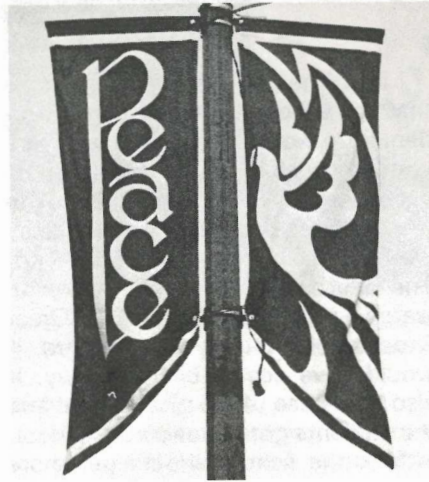
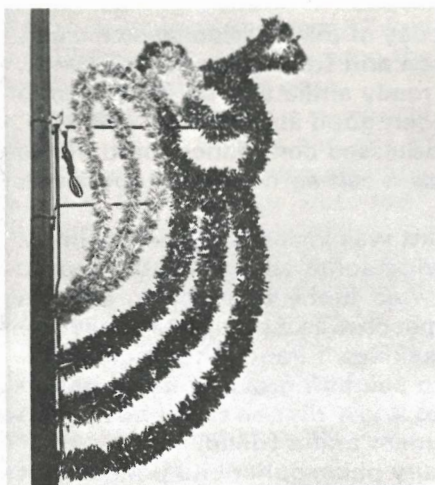
Every Student Council and mayoral decision is "subject to approval by the Riggs High School administration," according to the Student Council Constitution Article III Section IV.

# Community buys Christmas decor

When venturing downtown, Pierre residents are met with the traditional decorations of the season. This year new life was added to the streets as the Pierre area merchants and businessmen donated funds for new decorations.

The old decorations were moved to the mall parking lot. An array of white lights was also donated by the businessmen to beautify the area in front of the capitol.

This move to improve the Pierre area is another accomplishment Pierre residents can be proud of. Another example of "Pierre Pride"! (Photos by Doug Potter)



# Voters approve building project

By Sarah Adam

A widely publicized elementary school bond issue culminated successfully with ease Dec. 11, when 77 percent of participating voters cast yes votes for the \$4.85 million school construction project.

Structural, programmatic, and recreational improvements are the main areas of focus on which funds will be dispersed for the grade schools' improvements.

The voting breakdown showed an overwhelming 77 percent for the

bond, with 2451 yes votes, to 23 percent against it with 747 no votes.

Vern Brakke, chairman of the Elementary School Need Committee, felt the victory was an investment for the future of Pierre.

"People in Pierre take a great deal of pride in Pierre, and they also take pride in their kids. The issue was a

kids' issue to begin with, and we felt if people understood the issue they would vote for it."

School Board of Education presi-

dent Patricia Adam, felt the outcome was "... Outstanding. The people of Pierre met the challenge of continuing the excellent educational program of the Pierre schools." She congratulated the the Needs Committee for an informational and positive campaign.

Bids on the construction of the project will be let in spring 1986. Proposed construction dates are tentatively projected for early summer, with a 1987 target date for completion.

# Hunting mishap claims student

Sophomore Scott Hunsley died late Friday morning Nov. 29, the victim of a hunting accident.

Hunsley, who was fifteen, died from an accidental gunshot wound while hunting north of Pierre, according to the local sheriff.

Hunsley was involved in Future Farmers of America, 4-H, and speech and other classes. According to ag instructor Jerry Thelen, Scott was an active member of the Pierre Oahe FFA. As a ninth grader he participated in poultry judging and competed at the State FFA Convention in Brookings. This fall he was a member of the land judging team.

"Scott was more than willing when called upon to help with FFA activities," Mr. Thelen said.

Funeral services were held Dec. 2 at Ss. Peter and Paul's Catholic Church. (See a teacher's tribute, page 2)

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**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**



## Elections are popularity contests

The mayor and vice mayor have been an important part of student government at Riggs for many years. But the question remains, do these students represent the best leaders at Riggs, and do these people possess any real power?

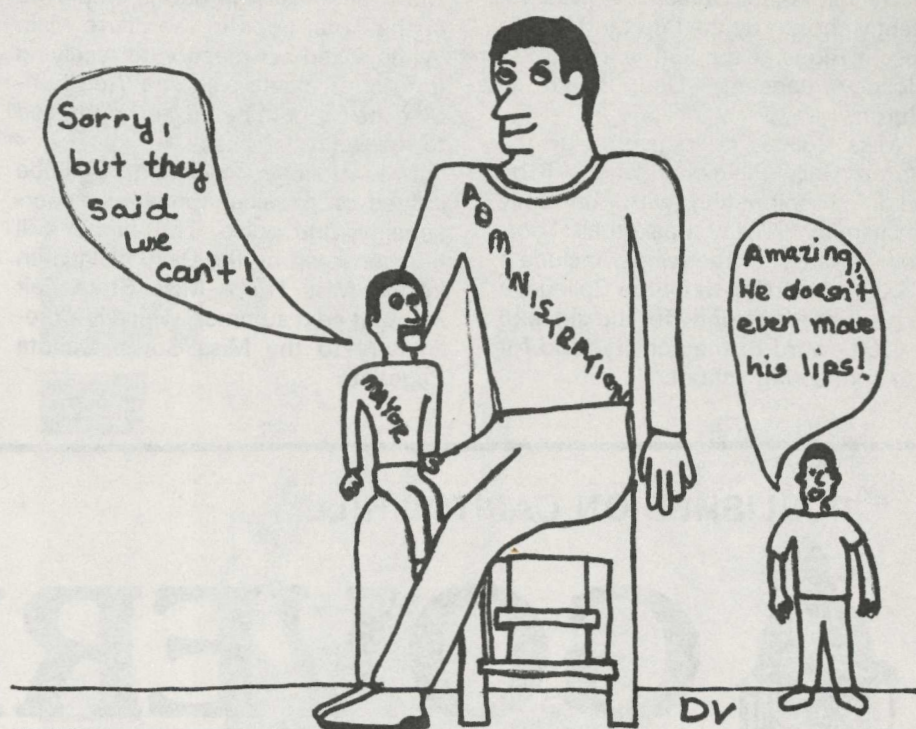
In the status quo, the mayor and vice mayor have little impact on policy and issues concerning student life. The office's powers are severely limited.

Past elections have been characterized as mere popularity contests. The craziest and funniest candidates have emerged the victors. However, leaders elected by mere popularity have not been adequate in solving student problems.

The procedure must be changed to have more competent and serious candidates. If the elections were more serious, the best leaders would emerge. Perhaps a GPA requirement would yield better candidates. There is no present requirement for eligibility of candidates save for a rule stating they must be passing in all subjects.

In an advisory position, the mayor and his vice have no real power. If the officers could govern more aspects of student life, more serious leaders would be found because their jobs would take on a new importance.

As it stands, student government is simply a trivial and unimportant aspect of Riggs. If something is not done to change this trend, student government as we know it will cease to exist.



## Dusk to Dawn

By Dawn Jackson

When you hear the word "Christmas", what's the first thing you think of? Vacation? Presents? Parties? or Winter? Whichever, I'm sure everyone agrees this time of the season has to be one of the best!

When ever December rolls along, I remember one Christmas (when I was just a tot) that someone dressed as Santa Claus came to our house. I was so excited—I couldn't believe it! Santa was really standing in our doorway! How could it be? I remember he brought me my first bike along with lots of other gifts. Just seeing him made that the best Christmas ever.

Now, as I look back, I have to laugh as I remember how happy and

amused I was. I can't believe that I actually got that excited about Christmas. But I did, and in some ways—I still do.

I know I still **have** to spend one night (usually around December 20) staying up all night halfway opening all my gifts so I can find out what I'm getting. I don't think there's been a Christmas yet, where I've been totally surprised to get something.

What about New Years? That's the holiday most teenagers look forward to. It's a great night to **celebrate** the New Year.

So enjoy it, have fun and have a Merry Christmas! And, until next year "Happy New Year!!" See ya in '86.

## Student conduct examined:

# What the People Say

By Connie Ingle

Recently there has been controversy about student conduct at dances. Going to the people, the *Governor* asked students their views and feelings about the issue. Here's what they said:

**Jolene Mews (Sr.):** Overall, I think it's pretty good. People have fun dancing and getting together.

**David Ellenbecker (Sr.):** I think it's great to see kids out having a good time and getting a little crazy.

**Robert Williams (Sr.):** I think dances are supposed to be fun. If they weren't supposed to be, then we shouldn't have them.

**Bridgette Banks (Sr.):** I think if people can't control themselves, then they shouldn't be there because they ruin it for the rest of us.

**Debi Mathews (Jr.):** It's O.K., but not enough people dance. They

just sit around on the bleachers.

**Ray Klinger (Sr.):** I feel there isn't really that much drinking. There are just a select few. I also think it's stupid to lock the doors at ten.

**Charmion O'Day (Jr.):** I think it's going to happen, and I don't think everybody else should have to pay for it.

**Lisa Hyde:** I never really thought about it, but it could be better I guess.

**Karla Palmer (Soph.):** Everyone has a tendency to be a little more obnoxious other than that, it's not out of the ordinary of what you would expect at a dance.

**Dee Theobald (Soph.):** I think it's pretty good, considering it's a dance.

**Tani Keenlyne (Soph.):** Other than those who drink and spoil it for the rest of us, I think it's fine. I think there should be more dances though.

## Letters to the Editor

The school newspaper is bad news! When you get your school paper and you look at it, what do you see? Nothing but JOCKS. For example on the editorial page where the "What the People Say . . ." section is, it is almost always jocks. You very seldom see someone like John Griffith or Bill Stephens, or Kristi Muzzy. I'm not saying that you should put one of these people I've mentioned in it, but it would be nice to see someone like them in it. I like to hear about these people and what their ideas are. I would appreciate it if you would consider what I have mentioned.

DeLoren Krieger

You are to be complimented on a job well done. Our employees read your paper and are constantly amazed by the quality and insight you exhibit in your articles. Just another reason for Pierre Pride!

Mary Kay Carter  
Marketing Officer  
American State Bank

I liked the plays and presentations that the school arranged for the students to watch. I think they were good because it gave all the students a chance to watch something with more class, like plays, that they would have had to pay to get into. The students are pretty lucky to watch a professional play, like "Great Expectations", for free, where it would have cost a bit of money. It also made use of the nice theatre and the students got a break from school. I think the school should get more plays and musical presentations planned for during the school year.

Brad Gall

I feel that our extracurricular activities should include a wider variety of sports to choose from. I feel that many students are interested in sports but don't try out for the ones you offer because they either feel inferior to better athletes or feel that the same select group is chosen every year.

I personally would like to see more choices for athletics, and maybe you might see some more athletes crawl out of the woodwork that could boost Pierre Pride even higher than it is now.

Name withheld by request

12/10/85

### A TRIBUTE TO SCOTT

I remember like yesterday the first day of third-period speech class, and I remember Scott both from then and from more recent times. He was a quiet young man, with a ready smile and an air of gentle kindness about him. Others in class felt good about being with him, and he felt at ease with them. He possessed confidence, bred of the success he had experienced in life as a self-sufficient outdoorsman and farm worker.

I'll never forget his speeches—Scott was visibly shaking at times. Once during a speech he was showing some shark's teeth, and he shook so hard the teeth rattled. It was funny to us both, and we laughed about it together. His last speech was a complete success—he had mastered the process of speaking . . . and it took considerable work to do it. It felt so good to see him growing in his understanding and ability. It feels so bad to know that he won't be in class any more—it is so hard to lose a student and a friend.

John Donne, an English 17th Century philosopher and poet, said it best: "Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind . . .". I know that all of us who knew Scott Hunsley will miss his presence.

What do we do  
with his empty chair?  
Scott is no longer  
where we saw him  
His voice no longer  
fills the air  
His smile no longer  
brightens the room  
we used to share . . .  
A void exists  
Our lives are bare . . .  
His laugh is missing  
and how we care!

Mr. Larsen

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# Student behavior draws criticism

Student behavior at school functions has recently drawn criticism. Three main areas seem to have problems: dances, sports activities, and school assemblies.

Students attending sports activities and assemblies sometimes behave poorly by not acting respectfully or by treating sports officials incorrectly.

The problem at dances is different. Vice-Principal Gary Merkwan says the two main problems are students drinking elsewhere and coming in, and people forgetting that once they leave they can't come back in or students trying to come in after the doors are closed.

These problems have caused some concern for the administration. If

something would happen, both the supervising teacher and the administration could be held liable.

Another concern is the fact that supervising teachers get no reimbursement for dances and are doing it on their time. Mr. Merkwan says, "Teachers who supervise are on their own time, and they don't want any hassles."

Some students blame the teachers for the problem. Senior Steve Zwemke says, "I see nothing wrong with the behavior of Riggs students. It depends upon the way a certain teacher reacts to a situation in most instances. On a lot of occasions the teacher is the one who goes overboard."

Teachers disagree. "Dances are extra time for teachers, with no reimbursement," says teacher Myron Bryant. "Students don't appreciate teachers' efforts. We don't discipline students just for fun."

Most people agree that the problem is only caused by a small number of students. Mr. Bryant says, "Ninety-five percent of the students are no problem. It's just a few who are."

Students agree. "I believe student behavior as a whole is good, and there are only a few individuals who do anything," says senior Tammi Volmer.

Things are being done to correct these problems. There have been as-

signed seats in assemblies, and students who misbehave at games can be stopped from attending. Dances are a little more difficult.

According to Mr. Merkwan, the school has considered having a policeman at all extra-curricular activities. Mr. Bryant believes that would help. "The legality aspect could be turned over to the police," he says.

Whatever is done to solve the problem, the consensus is that dances should not be eliminated. Mr. Bryant says, "We need something, and the majority of students are good."

Whether the problem can be corrected or not remains to be seen.



**WINNERS . . .** Winning at a Rapid City Stevens debate tournament are (front row) Tammi Volmer and Steve Maxwell, first place in B debate, (back row) Brian Weiss and Paul Robbennolt, second place in A debate, and Brian Hemmelman, second place, B debate. Not pictured is Robbie Miller.

## Debaters win BHC meet; anticipate January travel

Pierre debaters won second place at 'A' level and both first and second at 'B' level in a conference tournament held at Rapid City Stevens Dec. 7.

The team will face a tough schedule in January. After traveling to Brookings on Dec. 20 and 21, the team will attend the Midwest Tournament at Augustana College on Jan. 3 and 4. Jan. 17 and 18 will see the squad at Sioux Falls Lincoln for the Silver Bowl.

Seniors Steve Maxwell and Tammi Volmer were 4-0 at 'B' level for first place at Stevens, beating out juniors Robbie Miller and Brian Hemmelman,

who ended up second with a 3-1 record. Seniors Paul Robbennolt and Brian Weiss were 2-2 at 'A' level for second place.

The novice team of sophomores Jenny Joens and Sharla Cass was 3-1 on the affirmative, while their negative counterparts, sophomores Brad Fischer and Cheri Bartlett, were 2-2 for a combined 5-3 record.

The other novice team was 3-5, with sophomores Chris Ward and Paula Graves 2-2 on affirmative, and freshmen Chad Wagner and Collette Pogany 1-3 on negative. Senior Heather Duggan was 0-4 in her first tournament at Lincoln-Douglas debate.

## School names November, December students

By Heather Duggan

Seniors Paul Robbennolt, Darla Eisnach, Jennifer Woster, and Mark Schneider were awarded November and December Students of the Month honors. Each senior is recognized for his/her personal integrity which has enabled him to excel as a positive leader in Riggs High.

"I feel the most important function of secondary education is to develop an individual in all aspects of life, as well as foster basic knowledge," said Paul Robbennolt who is among the top five students of his class.

He is distinguished as a member of National Honor Society and one of the top one percent of the country's National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists. Other Academic endeavors include Paul's effort in last year's knowledge Bowl and many state-wide math contests.

"Debate has most influenced my academic endeavors, as well as other facets of life. It has developed my social relations, communication skills, and researching techniques."

Paul's abilities have elevated him to the championship level in state-wide debate. He also participates in original oratory and extemporaneous speaking.

Paul's extracurriculars have included track, Foreign Language Club, and Governor staff.

Senior Darla Eisnach attributes her family as the greatest positive influence in her life. "They help me set and achieve my goals."

Among Darla's many goals, top priority is given to her education. "I feel the greatest lesson that I have learned in high school is of the importance of education and the ability of organizing limited time." Eisnach is involved in band, chorus, swing choir, basketball, cheerleading, Gum-

bo, Pep Club, Foreign Language Club, Letterwinner's Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and AFS Club.

Darla is also one of the three valedictorian seniors who has attained a cumulative 4.0 grade point average. Her intellectual includes her membership in NHS, Century III Leadership Award, and participation in math contests.

Darla's active involvement and hard work have defined her leadership skills. She was awarded DAR Good Citizen, a Girl's State Representative, a homecoming candidate, and Outstanding Sophomore in band.

Darla intends to major in biomedical engineering in college. She feels that if she could accomplish anything, it would be to raise a loving family and to excel in a demanding career.

"Looking back over my high school years, I would advise the upcoming seniors to take advantage of the many things our high school has to offer. There is something for everyone. Through involvement, your horizons are broadened," Darla said.

December students are Jennifer Woster and Mark Schneider.

Jennifer Woster is a member of NHS and has qualified as a National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist. She feels that the greatest lesson she has learned in high school is "that whatever you want to accomplish is really up to you. You have to organize yourself to allow time to get the work done if you want the results."

Jennifer's aesthetic love for the arts has contributed to her participation in band, chorus, swing choir, ballet, and jazz. Jennifer esteems the value of expression and feels that "everyone's fear to truly express their personality is one of the greatest



**STUDENTS OF THE MONTH . . .** From left are Paul Robbennolt and Darla Eisnach, November students, and Jennifer Woster and Mark Schneider, December students.

problems among teens today."

"My advice to upcoming seniors is to get involved! You'll appreciate your education a lot more that way." Jennifer is active in cheerleading, Gumbo staff, FCA, and Catholic Youth Group. She plans to attend SDSU to earn a major in English in preparation for a possible teaching career. "I would like to be a teacher who could really communicate with my students."

Mark Schneider is another valedictorian with a 4.0 grade point average. "I most take pride in the fact that I still have all four of my WISDOM teeth," Mark said. "If I could describe myself as a book, I think that I would describe myself as a Harlequin; everyone just loves me."

Mark's affable nature is a major contribution to the character of "Moonglow" on KCCR's night-time

goldie oldie tune broadcast. "Mr. Romance" was also chosen as Outstanding Citizen at Boy's State, Senior Class vice-president, 1985-86 homecoming candidate, Hugh O'Brian Leadership delegate, and a member of the distinguished YMCA Board.

"I feel America's greatest hope is Rambo. I believe that he poses a greater threat to Russia than Reagan's Star Wars antiballistic missile program," Mark said.

Mark has been involved in football, track, IBA's, Catholic Youth Group, CCD, and he was once an editor on the Governor staff. If Mark could accomplish anything, he would sell his soul to be starting quarterback for the Green Bay Packers.

Mark intends to go to college and major in electrical or aerospace engineering.



# Governors face Brookings today

By Steve Williamson

Pierre Governors play ESD conference rival the Brookings Bobcats tonight at home.

Pierre; 3-0, and 1-0 in the ESD; plays one of the conference favorites in Brookings. "Brookings has lots of ability and is the team to beat in the ESD," says Coach Bob Judson.

Last year the Gobs were 9-10, and 3-9 in the ESD conference. They lost Darrel Lingle (Augustana), Jeff Merkle (USD), Scott Raue (Wayne State), Steve Cordts (St. Thomas), Gene Nelson (SDSU), and Pat Saffel (Mankato State).

Returning lettermen from last year's team include Dave Ellenbecker, Shane Ellwein, Shane Severyn, Brett Stewart, John Forney, and Monty Schaefer. Promising prospects look to be Chris Shaw, Ward Judson, and Peter Thompson.

Senior guard Dave Ellenbecker said "We're very hard working, 'scrappy', and most importantly, we work well together."

Shaw said, "Because our team does not have the physical advantages of most of the teams in AA, our future holds many challenges, but with hard work we can overcome these challenges."

"Our ball handling, outside shooting, and quickness look to be our strengths while our lack of heighth could lead to problems against taller teams," said Coach Judson.

Pierre started out the year right with a 67-54 win over Todd County. Ellwein led the team with 21 points. A 55-51 win over conference power Yankton, found Severyn pouring in 19 points. In a 55-52 win over Mobridge Ellwein, Severyn, and Stewart all had 11 points.

Sophomores also have been impressive beating Todd County 72-40, Yankton 67-35, and Mobridge 73-48. The sophomores have been led by their version of the twin towers, 6'3" freshman Heath Schneider and 6'4" sophomore Doug Mikkonen.

The Junior Varsity is 1-1 after a loss to Stanley County and a win over

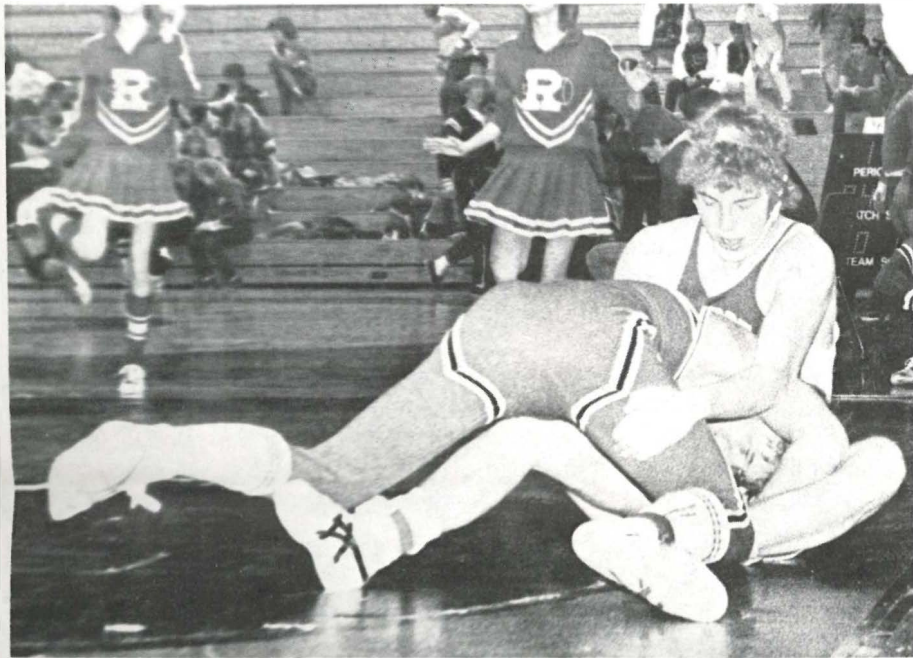


TIPPING OFF THE SEASON . . . senior Shane Severyn skies upward in the home opener for the Governors. (Photo by Heath Tople)

Harrold with a balanced scoring attack.

Varsity and sophomores play Watertown tomorrow night, then

break for Christmas when they will refine all the offenses and defenses. Back from vacation, they will be playing Aberdeen on Jan. 3 in Aberdeen.



WORKING FOR A PIN . . . senior Steve Schwartz grapples with an opponent at the Rapid City Stevens Invitational Tourney Dec. 13-14. (Photo by Eric Lundeen.)

## Lady Gobs finish season

By Rich Birhanzel

Pierre Lady Governors ended their season with a heart-breaking 42-40 overtime loss to Rapid City.

The team finished the season with 10 wins and 11 losses. Key injuries and close losses hurt the team towards the end of the season.

When asked about the bright spots this season, head Coach Don Shields replied, "The improvement of Jolene Mews was rewarding for her. Also, the development of the juniors."

He felt the general "lack of experience" was the main cause for so many losses in close games.

A key injury occurred just before the last game of the regular season.

Sheli Bowers went down with appendicitis. This was a major loss for the Ladies as Shields attests: "Sheli was our floor leader. She signaled our offenses and defenses. She is a take charge player, and her hard work was contagious."

This year's team had only two seniors on the squad. About these girls Shields commented, "I am very proud of the way Sarah Adam and Jolene Mews took charge and led by example. They are two very fine young ladies." He added, "I am looking forward to next year. If the sophomores and juniors will work hard between now and August, we could have a fun and rewarding year."

## Wrestlers host tourneys

By Ingrid Schmidt

Pierre wrestlers look forward to hosting their next two tournaments. Jan. 3 is a dual with Aberdeen. The other upcoming event is an A&B Quadrangular on Jan. 4.

Junior Varsity wrestlers went to the Stanley County Invitational on Dec. 6-7. "The competition was tough," said assistant coach Larry Lundeen. Three wrestlers placed eighth in the invitational — Charlie Moore at 98, Todd Moore at 126, and Travis Christoffer at 132. The J.V. team score was 18.5.

The first varsity competition was on Dec. 7 in Mobridge. Todd Dilley and John Cass, at 119 and 185, went undefeated (4-0) with Todd pinning all his opponents. Other winning wrestlers for the Gobs were Jim

Keyes at 98 and Mike McGuigan at 138, each 3-1. Heavyweight Craig Smith split his four matches.

The Gobs were beaten by both Sturgis and Spearfish before winning their final match 36-25 over Lead. Coach Schlekeway said, "Now that we have wrestled, we have things that we can work hard to improve."

"Our first matches showed that we have a long way to go in terms of fundamentals and conditioning. Our inexperience showed up in most of the weight classes," said Lundeen. "I

think that by the second half of the season we should develop into a team. As we begin to adjust to our weight classes and gain experience, we should be able to compete with anyone."

### SPORTS CALENDAR

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| January 3 | Varsity wrestling with Aberdeen<br>Soph., JV & Varsity basketball at Aberdeen        |
| 4         | Varsity wrestling — Quadrangular — Here<br>Varsity basketball with Pine Ridge — Here |
| 6         | 9th and JV basketball with Mobridge — Here   |
| 10        | Varsity wrestling at Huron<br>Soph., JV & Varsity basketball with Huron — Here       |
| 11        | Varsity Gymnastics at Brookings<br>Soph. & Varsity basketball at Sturgis             |
| 14        | Varsity & JV Gymnastics with Chamberlain — Here                                      |
| 16        | Varsity wrestling at Winner  |
| 17        | Varsity wrestling with Mitchell — Here<br>Soph. & Varsity basketball at Mitchell     |
| 18        | Varsity Gymnastics — Pierre Invitational   |
| 24        | Soph., JV & Varsity basketball with Rapid City Stevens — Here                        |

Squad young but skillful:

## Gymnasts expect good season

The Lady Gov gymnastics team is few in numbers and composed mainly of young gymnasts, but Coach Bill Beesley expects a good season.

"It's a little early yet to predict any tournaments," Beesley said. "If we can win a few meets and keep everyone healthy, we'll be off to a good start."

Coach Beesley feels that compared to last year at this time, the team is a little farther along as far as completed routines. But, he comments that the team's skill level, strength, flexibility, and confidence need some work.

The Coach is a little doubtful as to whether or not the gymnasts have the mental toughness required in major competitions.

Returning letter winners for the team are Bonnie Jorgenson, Lori Zwemke, and Tracy Smith.

Varsity members of the team are Nicki Barker, Dawn Howard, Bonnie Jorgenson, Jenny McQuay, Andrea Smith, Tracy Smith, Connie Taylor, Emily Vanderziel, and Zwemke.

The coach noted that all in all the gymnasts have the desire to win that could take them "straight to state".

## GOVERNOR PRIDE

By Christopher Shaw

Riggs students can be rightfully proud. With the recent passing of the school bond election, it is evident that our community takes great pride in education.

This community is concerned with supplying the best educational opportunities it can offer to students. For example, the theater, additions on schools, a new gym floor, and now, new, comprehensive grade schools.

Pierre is a unique town. It is unique because the town is almost completely centered around state government. This has a direct effect on the demands placed on the education of the youth. Enlightened parents insist upon the best schooling for their kids—a demand for education that is superior. We have a pride that no other community in the state can top.



# Students share favorite traditions

By Michelle Podhrasky

Christmas is a special time for everyone, and each has his own personal or family traditions that come with the holidays. Sharing is also a part of Christmas, and Riggs students have shared some of their holiday traditions for Governor readers.

Senior Heather Duggan's favorite Christmas tradition stems back to her roots in Michigan. "Every year our whole family and an 'adopted German grandmother' would get bundled up to go chop down an authentic tannenbaum. We would light real candles and adorn its branches with Dutchland heirlooms. Then we would drink hot chocolate and sing German Christmas carols in front of the fire."

Santa Claus has left presents for all good little children as far back as most people can remember; but, has anyone ever heard about the Christmas Goose? Senior Adeina Brady has.

"We open our presents on Christmas Eve; and, instead of Santa Claus filling our stockings with gifts, the Christmas Goose comes over. My parents created this character when we asked how everyone in the world got presents from Santa when he was the only one delivering them."

Christmas is a time to give and receive, and Senior John Forney's favorite tradition is "to receive"!

Christmas is the best time to be with family and loved ones. Many people have the tradition of traveling out of town and spending the holidays at a friend's or relative's home.

Leslie Linderman and her family start the Christmas holidays by going to her Aunt's home on Christmas Eve. "We have a big steak dinner

Christmas Eve, and then we open our presents. We spend Christmas Day having the traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings at our relatives' home who live out of town."

Food, food, food and more food during the holidays. Many people have their own traditional Christmas meal.

Lisa Stahl goes to her Grandma's house; and either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, their family has a meal of Lutefisk, a Norwegian dish made of fish. This has become a yearly Christmas tradition for the Stahl family.

Todd Johnson's family has a traditional meal of oyster stew every Christmas Eve.

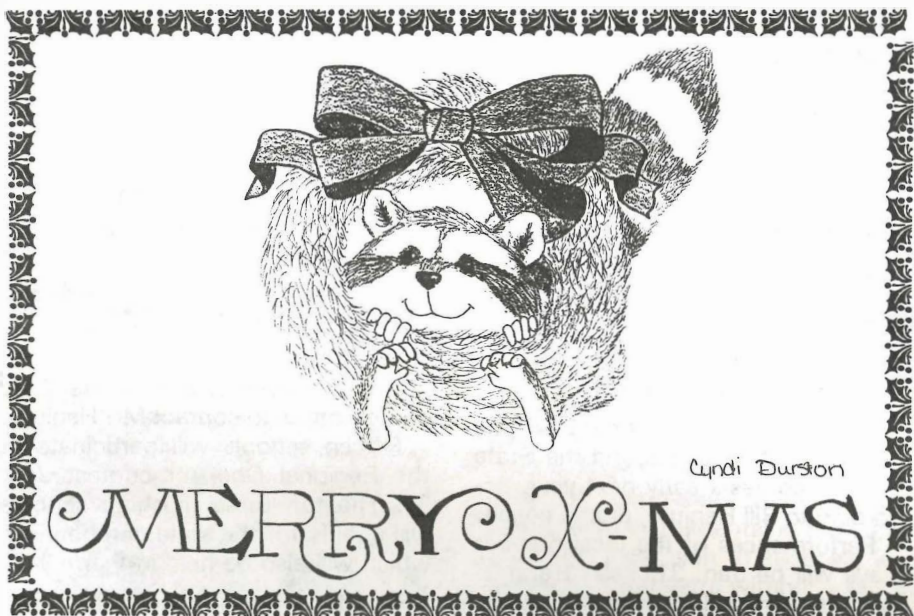
Tammi Volmer commented on her favorite tradition of making Christmas candy. "The day before Christmas our family makes tons of candies, every kind you can think of to satisfy a sweet tooth."

One last Christmas tradition many people share that captures the true meaning of Christmas is Midnight Mass. This happens to be Tanya Huck's favorite family tradition.

"Every year I get so tired around 11 o'clock on Christmas Eve, and I even

hate to think about going out into the bitter cold to get to church, but when I get there, I'm wide awake listening to the soft Christmas church songs, and watching the candles flicker around the room. I get a very peaceful feeling. Everything is so beautiful, and I really feel the true spirit of Christmas.

As Christmas Eve and Christmas Day come and go, Randy Dalton points out an after holiday tradition he has. "The after Christmas sales!"



HOLIDAY SPIRIT . . . First and second place winners of the Governor's first annual Christmas Card Contest were Martin Hoffsten (first) and junior Cindy Durston. All entries were very good, and the Governor staff would like to thank everyone for their participation.

## "Spirit of the Season"

By Heather Duggan

What is this hustle, this bountiful bussle, this festive frantic, this holiday hysteria all about? Why are all the little girls and boys mesmerized in their joys of receiving lovable, hugable toys? What does this excitement, this caroling inditement, this mistle-toe seduction, this jolly subjection—simply signify? What is this season of passion, ill-reason, where giving the gift is the ultimate high?

Holiday hysteria has begun. City sidewalks are busy and "dressed in holiday style". Eager shoppers are frantically swept up in the spirit of Christmas giving. "Stockings are hung by the chimneys with care." Strings of streetlights, holy, and evergreen adorn our Winter Wonderland. Time is ticking down to the arrival of St. Nick . . .

Every year the holidays hit us full-blast, sending millions of messages to our jumbled minds. It seems the spirit of gayety and material wonder often inveigle us from pondering the true meaning of the Christmas season.

As Americans we live in a land of plenty. Most of us have a place to live, warm clothes to wear, and ample food to eat. We enjoy the privilege of public education, the freedom of speech, and equality before the eye of the law. Yet in our abundance, we often forget that there are millions of people who aren't so fortunate. Many are homeless, many are hungry, many are dying, and many are desperately lonely.

Maybe, this holiday season we could expand our horizons to encompass the spirit of giving. Our gifts wouldn't have to be limited to the material. We could give the gift of ourselves in reaching out to listen, encourage, care. Look around you. Believe it or not, the words you say, the simple smiles, the words of encouragement could make all the difference. Depression often leads to desperation. The smile, kind word you extend to some lonely soul could be the difference between sending a ray of hope or allowing a death sentence. Think about it.

The Christmas spirit is a product of the heart. If we all pitched in and reached out to one another, there could be peace on earth. Through our efforts we could bring joy to the world, one day at a time.

## Rotary Exchange student spends year in Australia

By Paulette Gates

Although school is very different in Australia, Riggs Junior Angela Gates seems to be adjusting to life "down under".

"The school is quite large and very spread out," said Angela. "It begins at 9:00 and gets out at 3:25. The students assemble outside in the quadrangle (playground-type area) for roll call and announcements."

Australian school days have 8 periods, a 50-minute lunch, and a 20-minute recess at 11:00. The high school includes grades 7-12 and uniforms are required. "School is really slack," Angela said, "and the teachers are so cool!"

On Wednesdays school gets out at 12:00, and they have what is called "sport". Each student goes to the sport of his choice. Favorites include rugby, cricket, net ball, water polo, volleyball, and squash. They don't have wrestling, and usually only girls play basketball.

There is no graduation ceremony for Australian students. Students in Grades 11 and 12 are all Seniors. They keep all assignments from both years and at the end of Grade 12 an H.S.C. Exam (Higher School Certificate) is taken, and that is their diploma.

Summer vacation in Australia is Dec. 12-Feb. 4. Angela's family is going to visit her for two weeks at the end of December. "We plan to tour Sydney, Canberra, and the East Coast for the first week and spend the second week at Angela's home in Parkes which is about 200 miles from Sydney," said Debbie Gates, Angela's mom.

A Rotary Exchange Student, Angela has had the chance to see a lot of things since she has arrived. "I went to the 1985 World Cup Athletics and saw two world records broken. It was great!" said Angela. She has been on tours and has spoken about

life in the United States to different groups in Australia.

The Rotary Club has a lot of tours and events planned for Angela in the spring, also. In March she is planning to attend a **Dire Straits** concert in Sydney. Due to a small population (about 15 million), rock groups play in smaller towns, and Angela has been to see some very big-name Aussie bands.

"The standard of living in Australia is fairly high and most people here have a pool," Angela wrote in her letters. "Canberra is the cleanest, most beautiful city I have ever seen. It was all planned out before it was built."

Commenting on other aspects of life in Australia, Angela noted that all the cars are very small, and that the Australians don't have big pickups, only small ones they call "Utes." People drive on the left-hand side of the road, and "you can't drive until you are 16 years, nine months old, and it is very hard to get a license."

According to the visiting Pierrite, Australians drink wine with their "tea" (dinner). They don't have bars, but people go to hotels, pubs, or clubs to drink. There is no American beer, only Tooheys and Fosters.

As far as food goes, Angela reports that vegemite, a sandwich spread that looks like melted chocolate, is a favorite of the countrymen, and that they eat it on sandwiches and crackers. It smells very bad, and the taste isn't much better. "You have to be born and raised on it to appreciate it," wrote Angela.

So far, it sounds as though there is only a minor difficulty for Angela. "Everything is completely metric here," she said. "It is very hard for me to cope with that."

Angela left Pierre in August and will arrive home in late July or early August, 1986. Persons interested in writing may do so at the following address: Angela Gates, c/o Paul Flanagan, 69 Clarinda Street, Parkes, N.S.W., Australia 2870.



# 'Unique Enrichment' helps student plan careers

By Paula Paul

Mini courses in stockbrokerage or criminalistics being offer at Riggs?

Well, not exactly, but these could be just a few of your choices if you were to participate in the mentorship program which has been newly established at Riggs this year.

The new plan, officially called Unique Enrichment, is an individualized program which has the main goal of exploring possible career interests. "It's a fun and exciting way to pursue my interests," said student Chris Shaw, a participant in the program.

Classroom studies, independent research, and special activities already meet many learning needs, yet, according to the mentorship committee, it is sometimes appropriate to look beyond the boundaries of the traditional classroom. Committee members believe that Unique Enrichment meets this need and that excellence can be encouraged by bringing students in contact with adult professionals who share their interest.

Mary Jane Nelson, chairman of the committee and coordinator of the program, commented, "Other schools have tried similar programs and have found the situation satisfying to both the student and the mentor."

Unique Enrichment enables a student to be paired with an adult who is an expert in a particular area of study. The adult can come from all facets of the community. Usually, students and mentors agree to work together for a set period of time.

The 1985-86 Junior Class students who have achieved a 94th percentile or above on a standardized achievement test and sophomore students who are currently participating in Project Discovery are eligible for the mentorship program.

"I strongly encourage all who are eligible to participate in this program," urged Mrs. Nelson.

The selection process involves a written application, teacher recommendations, and verbal interviews. The student is required to have clearly expressed interest in the proposed topic and have demonstrated follow through abilities. The application should specify a project goal and will be evaluated by a committee.

One student is currently participating in the program and another will be starting in the spring. A junior, Shaw is presently working with Ms. Helen Wegner, who is an investment broker with A.G. Edwards.

"Chris has a real interest in the stock market area, and, as he studies and works with the stock market, he will learn a lot about our whole economic system," said Ms. Wegner.

Chris, with the help of Ms. Wegner will be working on a project which will involve the hypothetical investments of three different individuals. Chris will act as the financial advisor for the three investors.

In addition to this project, Chris will be taking an Operations Certification Course, which will give him an in-depth study of stock. "You don't get



**LEARNING THE STOCKMARKET . . .** junior Chris Shaw and Ms. Helen Wegner, investment broker at A.G. Edwards, work together under the new mentorship program.

too many opportunities like this in your life," said Chris. "I'm really excited about it."

The Unique Enrichment Program at Riggs is not something that is totally new—programs like it have been (and still are being) established around the state. Last year, the program was pi-

lotted at Riggs with two sophomores, and in June, the Pierre School Board approved an expansion. The long term goal of the program is to include all three grades 10-12 and students who have scored in the 90th percentile and above on achievement tests.

## Riggs to host one-acts

By Michelle Olson

Riggs Drama Department will be hosting both Regional and the State one-act contests early next year, according to Bill Henjum, drama coach.

Performances of the local one-act plays will be Jan. 31, Feb. 1 and 2. Tryouts were held earlier this week, and rehearsals will begin during Christmas break.

"Hopefully enough students will try out to allow Pierre to have two plays," Mr. Henjum stated.

Regardless of the number of plays Pierre produces, a number of additional students will be needed to help

during both contests. Any interested students should contact Mr. Henjum.

Fifteen schools will participate at the Regional One-Act contest Jan. 31. The top three finishing schools will qualify for the state competition, which will also be held in Pierre.

The top three schools from last year's state one-acts will automatically be eligible. Thirty-six plays consisting of Class B, which will be humorous, and Class A, on a more serious mood, will be presented starting Thursday afternoon, Feb. 6, extending through Friday, and ending Saturday, Feb. 8.



**ST. NICHOLAS VISITS . . .** German Class while instructor Jay Mickelson helps to explain the symbolism of the original Santa's attire. St. Nick, Dr. Dick Melton presented the history of the German tradition noting that St. Nicholas was the patron saint of the Catholic Church, fisherman, and thieves among others. The gentle saint traditionally left goodies in children's shoes set by the fireplace on Christmas Eve. German students found their own shoes filled with a gift when they left class.

## Honor roll—hard work pays off

After the first quarter of the 1985-86 school year, 225 students earned a spot on either the "A" or the "B" honor roll.

The seniors led with 51 percent of the class making the honor roll, followed by the juniors with 39 percent and the sophomores with 32 percent.

The seniors and the juniors each had 14 students making the "A" honor roll followed by the sophomores with three students making the "A" honor roll. These students are:

**Senior Class "A" Honor Roll:** Todd Christoffer, Darla Eisnach, Paulette Gates, Craig Howard,

Wendy Knight, Steve Maxwell, Jolene Mews, Paul Robbenolt, Mark Schneider, Darla Schofield, Stephanie Smith, Carrie Venner, Brian Weiss, and Jennifer Woster.

**Junior Class "A" Honor Roll:** Loren Cass, Gina Clemetson, Brian Hemmelman, Rick Gordon, LeAnn Holmes, Darleen Hunsley, Ward Judson, Michelle Olson, Todd Peterson, Lisa Pibal, Monty Schaefer, Chris Shaw, Shannon Webber, and Jonette Wellhouse.

**Sophomore Class "A" Honor Roll:** Maia Lyngstad, Paula Paul, and Stephanie Zastrow.



**STATE CONTEST BOUND . . .** Barbershop quartet members Stuart Stofferahn, Sean Califf, Loren Cass and Eric Lundeen are headed for the talent portion of the state Snow Queen contest in Aberdeen Jan. 9. Under the guise of The Squirrels, the four will perform "Book of Love" and "While Strolling Through the Park." (Photo by Potter)