

Johnson, Ulmen win mayor's race



JOHNSON AND ULMEN . . . give their winning campaign speech. (Photo by Potter)

By Rob Miller

Seniors Todd Johnson and Michelle Ulmen emerged the victors in the mayoral race held Jan. 7.

Elections for second semester Mayor and Vice Mayor were held after a short debate between the two tickets. Opposition to Johnson and Ulmen was led by Mark Gran and

Stephanie Hiatt, who offered a few solutions to the dance problem in their campaign platform.

Johnson and Ulmen campaigned on the promises of more dances, improved prom and coronation, and more Student Council meetings.

The first issue they will have to tackle as they take office is that of

finding chaperones for dances they plan to have. At present, many faculty members are reluctant to chaperone at a dance because of poor student conduct they have seen.

The duo plans to have some type of special day on the last Friday of each month where the students would dress in costume relating to the specific theme of the day. They would later come to a dance held that night, bedecked in costume.

Johnson and Ulmen plan to solve the problem of poor student conduct by having a police officer on duty at the dances.

"I think if we have a cop sitting there people will not do anything that could get them in trouble," remarked vice mayor-elect Michelle Ulmen.

Ulmen also feels there should be an increased punishment for those caught drinking at a school function.

"I'd like to see the people who get caught be banned from the next five school activities in addition to suspension," said Ulmen.

Mayor-to-be Todd Johnson echoes his counterpart.

"If people drink they shouldn't be at the activities." However, Johnson feels the recent punishment of sophomores will be enough to deter future rule breakers.

Johnson and Ulmen also promise to use the Student Council fund to benefit the students in a more direct fashion than in years past.

"Last year they bought a flagpole with the Student Council money. We want to do things for the students," stated Johnson.

They plan to spend the money to bring in a professional disc jockey for a dance. In addition, they would like to bring entertainment in for the student body such as "Freedom Jam" which performed several years ago.

Perhaps the most important goal of their administration, according to the team, is to change coronation.

"The tradition of coronation is not meaningful to our school," according to Ulmen.

The pair plans to completely abandon the Indian theme. A Governor and First Lady would be elected according to their plan. Candidates would wear Tuxes and Formals. A "Campaign Week" would be planned for the week leading up to coronation. Rounding out the week would be an "Inaugural Ball" homecoming dance.

Outgoing mayor Steve Schwartz had advice for the new office holders.

"You can do whatever you want to do as long as you start it—and starting it is the tough part," said lame-duck Mayor Schwartz.

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One-acts ready for Regional, public performances

By Ronnie Sines

Riggs thespians will present their one-act play at regional contest and to the public the same day when curtains go up for the performance of *The Girl in the Mirror*.

For the last month, 20 students have been preparing for the upcoming regional and state one-act play contests. They will perform the Bruce Jacoby play as their regional entry Jan. 31 and again at 7:30 that evening for the public in the Riggs Theatre to open a three-day run.

The story frame is built around a young girl who has attempted suicide. The audience learns her reasons for the attempt through a series of flashbacks which make up the major portion of the play.

Tracy Deis plays the girl. Her boyfriend is played by Mike Olson and her best friend is portrayed by Shannon Schneider. Tom Black, Chrissy Post, Dawanda Pesicka, Chad Weber, and Scott Searls have important roles also.

The play is narrated by Rhodes Fishburne. Michelle Deyo, Terri Ulmen, Steph Hiatt, Angie Hansen, Cathy Pohlman, Paula Graves, Tara Adamski, Chris Ward, and John Robertson are other supporting cast members.

The Regional One-Act Contest will be held in Riggs Theatre, and the three top acts will advance to the State Contest. This will also be held in Riggs Theatre on Feb. 6, 7, and 8, with the top three entries from every region in the state competing.

A second one-act play, *The Cave*, by Jim Kelly, has also been prepared by Riggs students. It is an interesting and amusing story about the various roles people play in society. Cast members are Mike Olson, Michelle Deyo, Terri Ulmen, Tom Black, Steph Hiatt, Angie Hansen, Chad Weber, Cathy Pohlman, Paula Graves, Tara Adamski, Chris Ward, John Robertson, and Tracy Deis.

Both one-acts will be performed for the public on Jan. 31, and Feb. 1, and 3, at 7:30 p.m. in the theatre. There is no admission charge.

The actors are directed by Bill Henjum and assisted by Kris Becker, stage manager; Doug Potter, technical director; and John Cass, who will serve as an essential coordinator for both contests.



PERFORMERS POSE . . . Participating in the one-acts will be: (back) Chad Weber, Rhodes Fishburne, Shannon Schneider, Mike Olson; (front) Cathy Pohlman, Chrissy Post, Tracy Deis, Dawanda Pesika, and Tom Black. (Photo by Potter)

Riggs hosts AFS Flag Exchange

By Marie Garrett

Riggs High School will be hosting the South Dakota Foreign Exchange Students Feb. 10 in the theater. They will be coming here for the AFS legislative weekend, and Riggs' traditional Flag Exchange program.

Special guests at the ceremony will be Riggs AFS students Mia Wittanemi, Finland, and Marit Rolland, Norway, who will both present flags to the Riggs Student Body.

Mr. Mickelson, AFS adviser, will emcee the program and Mrs. Hilding will be playing the National Anthems of Finland and Norway. Also on stage will be other visiting AFS students.

"We will give the United State flags to our foreign students. Because of their stay here, they will always be part American," said Mr.

Mickelson. "We hope by becoming friends with the foreign students and receiving their flags, we will also be part Finnish and Norwegian."

The AFS students will have lunch at Riggs following the ceremony.

The exchange students will visit with State Constitutional officers. They also will be going to the museum and the Capitol where the students will be introduced to House and Senate members.

The day before the ceremony they will go swimming, visit the dam, and will be attending a banquet.

"We want them to remember us in the United States, and to learn about our country," said Mr. Mickelson. The exchange students will be staying with a Pierre host family. If anyone is interested in hosting an exchange student please contact Mr. Mickelson.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today	Riggs One-Acts Regional One-Acts
Feb. 1, 3	Riggs One-Acts
6-8	State One-Acts
6	PTA Council
8	ACT Tests
17	President's Day— No School
25	NHS Tag Day

Open forum might solve problems

Once again the controversy over student conduct has been brought to the limelight here at Riggs High. The controversy continues to be the student consumption of alcohol at or before school dances and other school-sponsored activities. The latest incident occurring at the recent school dance rekindled an old problem.

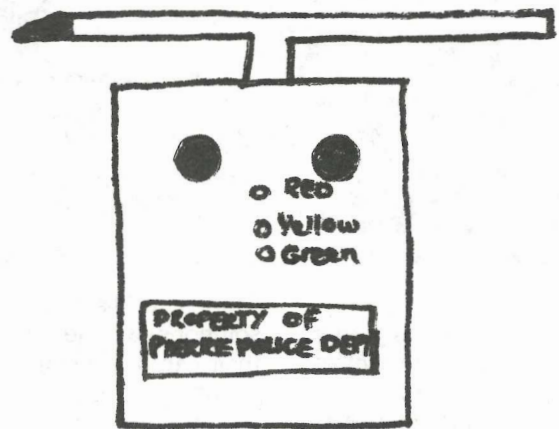
The administration is responsible for students while they are on school property or school time; therefore, they are forced to follow accepted procedures which are not newly implemented, but which have been school policy long before any of us moved up to Riggs.

Of course, there are two sides to the issue; if there weren't, there wouldn't be a problem. There have been a few suggestions made to curb this problem, but most of them have come from the administration.

We feel it would be more effective if the alternatives were derived from the student body. The students themselves are divided on the issue, so perhaps we should schedule some open forums. These forums could be for student suggestions to the problem and also to inform the students exactly what the administration has in mind. It would be more productive if the administration's thoughts were presented directly to the students as a whole because this would reduce the number of rumors circulating.

It is the right of the student to get a factual account of what is being decided upon. We feel these open forums may be a start to bringing the students and administration to an understanding on an issue that concerns us all.

THE NEW WAY TO PLAY THE GAME



RED LIGHT — GREEN LIGHT^{dv}

What the people say: cleaning up activities

By Sarah Adam

Student misconduct at extracurricular activities has recently been subject to much discussion and controversy in Riggs hallways. However, proposed solutions of administrators and students seem to conflict. Yet, one obviously needs to be found.

Hoping to hit the different aspects of school life, we asked: What would your solution be to rid the extracurricular activities of alcohol?

Darla Eisnach (Sr.): That is a very good question, but a solution is going

to take cooperation on both sides—faculty and students.

Rod Anderson (Sr.): I think the breathalyzer would deter the use of alcoholic beverages by students.

Todd Johnson (Sr.): I think a show of force by administration and police would be a solution.

Anonymous: Lower the drinking age to 17.

Deron Strofus (Sr.): No matter what you do, people are going to drink, so I don't think there is a solution.

Michelle Ulmen (Sr.): It's unfair to stop having dances or other activities as a punishment because of a few people. I think a breathalyzer is out of the question, but maybe if we have a cop outside of the dances, troublemakers won't get out of hand.

Miss Graney (teacher): Whatever it ends up to be, it should be a solution for both sides—something all students are subject to, not just a few.

Kim Knightser (Jr.): Making decisions is a big part of being a teenager. We have to learn from our mistakes. If kids want to take the chance of someone figuring out their "state" then that is their mistake and they will have to deal with the consequences. But no one can make those decisions for us. The breathalyzer is a waste of time, money, and pride.

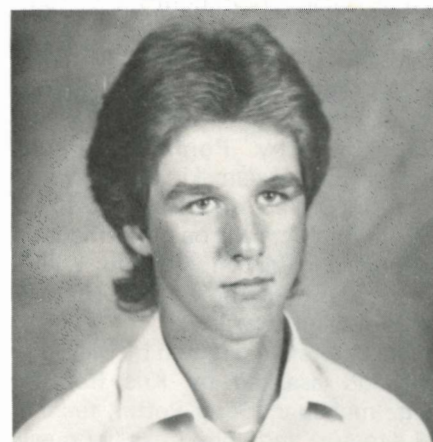
Shane Ellwein (Sr.): There can not be a solution because people will disguise their condition much better; therefore, they will not get caught.



Angie Hanson (Soph.): I don't think that it's up to the school to solve the problem. I think it's up to the kids to solve the problem. They should at least know it's not right.

Mr. Townsend (teacher): I think that people should be presented with the problem as a section of the curriculum such as the SADD program (Students Against Driving Drunk) so they know what it means.

Cheryl Whiteaker (Sr.): It's not a problem if you can handle your liquor. Only a stupid goat would come to a dance puking-drunk.



DeLoren Krieger (Jr.): There's no solution because people will continue to find ways around it.

Letters to the Editor

A few years ago the Board of Regents decided to add more curriculum needed to get into a South Dakota State college. Among the requirements added were two consecutive years of a foreign language. They stated that only 10 percent of the world population uses English and that people should know a foreign language.

Bogus. Although 90 percent don't speak English, English is rapidly becoming the universal language. You can see this in European countries such as Germany, Finland, Sweden, the Netherlands. Also, in two years you usually can not learn enough of a language to speak it with someone who is fluent in it. Let's face it guys, two years of foreign language just doesn't cut it. Any teacher could tell you that. Maybe that is why we should have teachers on the Board instead of lawyers.

Roger Cutshaw

I think that we should have a longer lunch break. If we want to go out for lunch, we have to speed to get back to school on time.

If we had a longer lunch break, we could do our homework if we needed to, and it would be better for everybody.

Tom Disburg

I think that we give so much credit to the sports department that we sometimes forget about all the work the annual staff does.

We are always hearing how good or bad we did in one sport or another, but how often do we hear about our annual staff? Maybe one pep rally a year. So I would just like to say that I think our annual staff does a great job.

Scot Vogel

Dusk to Dawn

By Dawn Jackson

Crying because you're sad, thinking because you're lonely, or staring into the darkness because the thought is suddenly lost were the feelings I felt the day we said goodbye.

I don't know how many other people have experienced the emptiness when someone they know goes away, but sometimes it's a lot of emotion to deal with. I guess that's why it's sad when so many kids go off to college or to start their career out on their own.

When you are used to a person, the separation leaves a big space, and it's hard getting used to. In a sense, it's the same way when a friendship splits or you and your boyfriend break

up. That's why Valentine's Day is special. It's a day to share yourself with someone else by giving them a card or candy.

In the encyclopedia, Valentine's Day is referred to as a day to send cards expressing love and affection to others. It also says it's named after two different Saints named Valentine, and February 14 is used as the feast day on which they are honored and celebrated.

But to us, Valentine's Day is thought of as the day Cupid invented the idea of "love". I think Valentine's Day is simply an exciting event to give everyone a chance to ask that special girl or guy to "Be a Valentine". It's thought of as a 'love

day' or 'sweetheart's day' and everyone seems to have their eye on someone. It's known as a fun, cheery, and special day that keeps most people smiling. It's the time when we'll find out just who likes who!

But what if that "sweetheart" is miles away? No matter how far away he/she is, or why the separation is there, Valentine's Day keeps him close at heart.

Valentine's Day is special for everyone. It's not a national ordeal, but it's a special occasion for everyone. We all enjoy the cards or candy, or even flowers sent by a secret admirer. It's the 'romance' day being fulfilled and giving everyone a chance to be a Valentine.

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Student drinking at Riggs: Is it a problem?

By Nan Hofer

Music drifting through the walls of the bathroom stall go unnoticed by 17-year-old Riggs High student Suzy-Q. Suzy is feeling the effects of too much alcohol. She is about to be caught. What will happen to her?

School policy on alcohol is three to five days suspension, a phone call to the parents, someone must come and get the student, and possibly, police intervention, according to Principal Roger Lonbaken.

If the police intercede, the records are written up and are sent to the Hughes County states attorney's office. He reviews them, and if they are not serious, the records are sent to probation.

"If policy doesn't penalize students for drinking, it encourages them," said probation officer Jerry Parkinson. Still, probation operates with the policy "we all make mistakes."

Probation officials write a letter to the parents requesting at least one parent and the accused to come to their offices. They go over the law and explain about formal and informal court proceedings.

If the accused chooses to go informal, he/she must admit to being guilty of the charge, and have counseling in the probation offices at Court Services. The formal hearing is utilized only in severe cases.

In many cases, the early records are destroyed when the youth reaches age eighteen.

If arrested at age 18, the individual is tried as an adult in magistrate or circuit court.

Parkinson said 75-85 percent of all incidents which his office comes into contact with are alcohol related. The incidents may be caused by the parents or the juvenile drinking.

Said Circuit Court Judge James Anderson, "Parents should be more concerned and involved in their children's lives and activities and make children more accountable to them for their time."

Principal Lonbaken's personal thoughts on the causes of drinking are "The access to alcohol is readily available to all and is available in homes."

Where do students get their alco-

amount of it that is going to occur."

Police officer Greg Swanson said the drinking problem isn't getting any worse, but that the police are "... making more arrests for it now. More are getting caught."

One senior responded to the possibility of being caught at a school activity. Gene Bircham said, "I'd face the consequences, since it was my fault."

A student who was involved said, "It didn't affect my grades, and it wasn't that bad."

Currently the question of continuing school dances is a concern to some of the school board members

specific number of hours to teach about alcohol and drug abuse, and the committee will write a complete drug and alcohol curriculum, he said.

Still, the school cannot solve the problem alone. Officer Swanson said, "Parents should change their ways of thinking and develop a different philosophy on alcohol."

Other school districts and groups across the state are also working on programs to help with drug and alcohol abuse. In Spearfish a parents, rather than high school, group sponsors dances for students, thus eliminating the responsibility of the school for student behavior at dances.

Across the river in Ft. Pierre, the Stanley County School Team Approach has been established. According to teacher Shirley Swanson, who is involved in the project, it "improves self-esteem, and gives students in the Stanley County School System an alternative means of getting 'high' ". For example, students were recently involved in an all-day ski trip to the Black Hills.

The School Team has developed a Youth Yellow Pages to inform students in grades 7-12 about resources and helping agencies.

The problem is obvious. The solutions are less obvious. It will take a combined effort for society to undo what it has spent decades and generations reinforcing.

Said Adam, "I don't think the solution is one that one or two people are going to come up with overnight—it's going to have to be some sort of combined student/faculty effort so that both sides have a fair say."

"We have to find something to get our activities alcohol free."

hol? Judge Anderson said, "I suspect there are no problems finding someone over the age of 19 to buy them beer. Some parents don't keep an inventory of alcohol."

What about people who contribute to minors? Principal Lonbaken said, "People who have licenses have a real responsibility to make certain the product isn't distributed illegally. If it is, strong measures should be taken to revoke licenses."

An opinion expressed by Stanley County States Attorney, Bernard Duffy was, "I don't encourage it, particularly if it involves driving, but I know there is going to be a certain

as well as the faculty, because of the alcohol abuse by some students who attend, Mr. Lonbaken noted.

"In order to totally keep alcohol away from school events, the school is going to have to find a deterrent severe enough to make people not drink before attending," said Governor co-editor Sarah Adam.

The school plans to instigate an alcohol and drug program in all events, not just athletics.

"We have to find something to get our activities alcohol free," Mr. Merkwon, vice-principal, told teachers earlier this month. The suggestions being worked out will recommend a

Eight take part in Close Up

By Steve Rasmussen

Pierre Riggs High students and faculty will be participating in the Close Up week in Washington, D.C. this year for the first time.

Close Up is a week long government studies program for high school students which runs April 6-12. The program reflects the belief that a "close up" look at our government encourages students to formulate their own ideas and opinions.

During this week Paul Robbennolt, Jason Cool, Steve Rasmussen, Roger Cutshaw, Ingrid Schmidt, Michelle Meyer, and Rhonda Buhl will attend seminars with representatives, senators, lobbyists, media personnel, and representatives of the judicial and executive branches of government.

Reasons for participating in Close Up vary from learning how the federal government really works to getting the opportunity to meet famous people. Senior Steve Rasmussen says "I have seen how state government operates, and now I want to see how

the national government compares to that."

Senior Paul Robbennolt said, "I am interested in the educational benefits that I will receive from this trip."

Although this is an educational experience, fun is also part of the agenda. Students will be given a guided tour of the Washington D.C. area. Also they will be given free time during which they may visit historical monuments or go to one of the many shopping malls.

To meet the cost of this program, which is \$846 per student, the Close Up students along with their adviser, Mr. Skip Kurth, have been involved in several fund raising activities. Early in January they sponsored the "I Hate Winter" dance which raised over \$300.

Later they made, sold, and delivered close to 240 pizzas which raised around 430 dollars. Also, they have received close to \$900 in donations from the public and private sector.

Future fund raising ideas include a plan to raffle off a color television set and another pizza sale.



PIZZA TIME . . . Close Up participants make pizzas to raise money for their trip to Washington, D.C. (Photo by Doug Potter)

Debaters face busy month

Riggs debaters are in Aberdeen today and tomorrow for the Northern State College Debate Tournament and will travel to Mitchell next weekend as they continue a successful season.

The Champ team of seniors Paul Robbennolt and Brian Weiss placed first in debate at the Mitchell Conference Tournament with a record of 3-0.

At varsity level, affirmative team sophomore Sharla Cass and junior Brian Hemmelman were 2-1, and the negative team seniors Steve Maxwell and Tammi Volmer were 3-0 for a 5-1 record and second place.

Sophomore Jenny Joens and freshman Chad Wagner were 2-1 on affirmative, and sophomores Paula Graves and Chris Ward were also 2-1

on negative for a combined record of 4-2.

In individual events, Robbennolt took first place overall in extemporaneous speaking.

At the Sioux Falls Lincoln Silver Bowl Jan. 17 and 18, Robbennolt and Weiss were 2-3 at champ level. At varsity level, the affirmative team of Hemmelman and Cheri Bartlett was 1-4. The negative team of Maxwell and Volmer was 3-2.

At novice level, Joens and Cass were 3-1 and Graves and Ward were 2-2 for a combined 5-3 record. On affirmative, sophomore Rebecca Gooding and Wagner were 3-1, while the negative team of Brad Fischer and Lori Schryver were 1-3.

In individual events, Paul Robbennolt placed fourth and Steve Maxwell placed seventh overall.



DEBATERS VICTORIOUS . . . Pierre debaters show off the trophies they received from their January tournament appearances. Top row, left to right, are Heather Duggan, Brian Weiss, Sharla Cass, Jenny Joens, Paul Robbennolt, and Steve Maxwell. Bottom row are Tammi Volmer, Brian Hemmelman, Chad Wagner, and Chris Ward. (Photo by Heath Tope)

Survey reveals student pet peeves, fo

By Michelle Podhradsky

"No romance in Riggs High," complained one high school student listing her pet peeve. This is only one of many tabulated from a student attitude survey taken earlier this year.

The survey asked Riggs students three major questions concerning school: What they liked best, their biggest pet peeve, and what things they would like to see changed.

Over a third of the student body responded. Best responses came from the sophomores with 77 percent responding. Seniors followed with a 67 percent; and 30 percent of the Junior Class responded. A remaining 12 percent of the comments came from surveys without class designations.

Although this is by no means a formal survey, it does reveal some interesting information on student viewpoints dealing with life at Riggs high school.

Of course, there are many things which are appreciated at Riggs, but let's first concentrate on a multitude of issues which are wrapped neatly, tied in a bundle, and classified as student "pet peeves."

Student comments on pet peeves about school, came in a wide variety. They ranged all the way from "everything," as one lost soul remarked, down to "nothing," an opinion shared by 59 students.

A number of students seem to agree on the aggravation of hallway passes. However, only one person actually said he would like to see this rule changed. Four people shared the same pet peeve dealing with crowded hallways, but no one said anything about changing the problem.

Homework, homework, give us a break! Twenty-eight students felt that the homework assigned to them this year has been too heavy. As sophomore *Tanya Huck said*, "All of my teachers act like their class is all I have to worry about homework in."

Other pet peeves about classes have developed too. Five people said their biggest pet peeve was the new requirements, which begin with the Class of 1987. One person's pet peeve was pop quizzes, and another's was a class based on a lot of L.B.L's, alias long, boring, lectures.

What about the teachers? Five people said that the teachers at Riggs were their biggest pet peeve. The major problem seems to stem from teachers who show favoritism or have "teacher's pets."

One pet peeve dealing with teachers (not to be confused with the students whose pet peeves are the teachers) has

been mentioned by a sophomore at Riggs. In his opinion, teachers who are also coaches are shown favoritism.

"My pet peeve is when a person works hard to become a teacher, and they're treated second best to coaches who also teach. Just when did we start taking sports more seriously than learning?"

Most students look forward to lunch. The time everyone can just push aside the books, and maybe have a bite to eat. However, one problem arises during this time. According to nine students the 20-minute lunch period is too short!

"By the time you stand in line to get your lunch, you have maybe five minutes to gulp it down," says senior Tami Volmer. The short lunch does seem to present a problem, but only three students said they would like something done about it.

Speaking of lunch time, how's the food at Riggs? Three students agreed their pet peeve was the cafeteria's food, and that it was "terrible." Two students said they would like to see a change.

Lunch time isn't the only pet peeve students have concerning food and drink. Two people said they didn't like the fact that the pop machines don't run during lunch. Some changes that others would like to see accomplished are: pop inside classrooms, snackbar time extended later into the day, getting Coke machines back in the lobby, and sending Pepsi on its way.

For a long time the senior lounge has

been referred to as a pet peeve. People disagree on the fact that a room with a cement floor and some tables and chairs is called a lounge.

Our survey revealed 12 people who had the following ideas for changing for the senior lounge: decent carpet, murals, a couch, and a stereo.

It seems a bad feeling has risen between the student body and the school. Some people feel that the school doesn't give student viewpoints enough consideration.

"Riggs tries to be 'the best' school but it doesn't listen to student opinion," said senior John Cass.

Two, four, six, eight, who do we appreciate? Our school athletes? Possibly not. Two people share the same pet peeve that everything in school is based on sports. There was no beating around the bush for one student who said that his biggest pet peeve was the "jocks."

According to our survey, it appears that three sophomores share the complaint of being called "goats." However, only one student said they would like to see this nickname changed.

Winter is here, and so is the flu and cold season, waiting to attack helpless students. Junior Debi Matthews has a legitimate complaint which very definitely fits the season. "My pet peeve is people sniffing in the winter-time, instead of using a kleenex!"

Students were told in the beginning of the year, that instead of making fun of, and excluding people, they should "fill



NO ROMANCE? . . . Senior Shane Severny and a friend are hanging around during free time. (Photo by Potter)

their buckets." Have Riggs students lived by this request? According to one student the answer is no. Their pet peeve is that many people in Riggs are prejudice towards others. Three other people said that the "cliques" are what bothered them the most.

Some other pet peeves that are all time favorites were: not being able to use the gym entrance, poor heating and cooling systems, detention, parking, walking to the Ag room in bad weather, and just plain boredom. The last complaint acknowledged was one student's pet peeve of school surveys.

Moving out of the bad and into the good, the remainder of the survey results are focused on what people like best about school.

Seventeen people commented on the good qualities their classes possessed. Students particularly like the variety of classes that are offered. Some favorites that were mentioned are: aeronautics, music, biology, and foreign languages.

Several students like the extracurricular activities and school functions, but they also said they would like to see some things changed. Students thought there would be a paved track around the football field, more access to the weight room, more pep assemblies and more dances.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU . . . Students agree that meeting friends is a major plus point for school. Above students socialize during the January I Hate Winter Dance. (Photo by Potter)

Don't like the weather? . . . wait

Weather makes winter conversation

By DeeAnn Gohl

Editor's Note: South Dakota's infinite variety includes a smorgasbord of weather offerings throughout the year. Governor reporter sophomore DeeAnn Gohl sought help from the National Weather Service in Huron to give readers the facts.

"Br-rr." This is South Dakotans' way of saying "Hi!" when winter comes rolling in.

With the mention of winter, most of us think of skiing, sledding, and ice skating, the fun activities of winter.

Blizzards, shoveling and pushing cars out of the snow are things that we would rather not even think about when winter comes, but they are very much a part of life in the Midwest.

Because we live in Pierre we experience many forms of winter. Pierre's climate is the continental type and may be considered homogenous over the country.

The temperature has a large variation from winter to summer at Pierre and oc-

asionally from day to day as the National Weather Service has indicated. Temperatures usually drop to 20 degrees below zero or lower in winter. Twenty degrees below zero or lower may be expected on the average a little more than once a year with January as the month of most likely occurrence. Don't forget to bundle up on those cold winter mornings.



The temperature drops to zero or below on the average, 25 days per year and fails to climb above zero during the day twice a year.

The average date for last frost in spring is May 5 and first frost in fall is

October 6. However, snow as late as May 28 has been reported.

Snowfall averages about 31 inches each season, but as much as 82 inches fell in the 1951-52 season and as little as 13 inches fell in the 1938-39 season.

Snow cover of one inch or more averages about 53 days per year. Strong winds often accompany snowfall making it harder for travelers to get to their destination.

Winds in Pierre average about 10 to 11 MPH with prevailing direction from the northwest during winter months.

The Pierre area receives about 68% of possible sunlight. July has the greatest percentage of sunshine with about 77% possible. The lowest percentage of sunshine occurs in December when it is about 50% possible.

The topic of weather brings up many subjects so, if you're ever at a loss for words just talk about the weather. If you don't like the weather—wait a while because it will change.

FRIDAY OUR BENEVOLENT

by Heather

January is a time of resolutions, reflection of the previous year's successes, and a time of hope, and anticipation.

Reflecting back over this past year, with a caring family; good times, as well as hard times; and above all, supportive, caring friends.

In the spirit of reflection and gratitude to the people who radiate warmth to our lives, let us take a moment to reflect on the forming bonds that develop portions of our lives. The people he has met and who has experienced; the people he has met and who has experienced.

Our friends act as a backbone in our lives. They support us during times of stress, give us a boost when we are confused or disillusioned, and hold us together when we are sad. They are the ones who make our happiness and diminish our sorrow.

Emerson once stated, "to have a friend is to have a life." The last time you took a moment to reflect on the people you appreciate them, how special are they? (Adding the antithesis to this thought, all we have to do is to take the time to reflect on the people we appreciate them.)

Maybe in a time of change, new beginnings, let us take a hard look at the many positive influences in our lives. Maybe in a sense of gratitude and appreciation, let them know that we sincerely care about them.

—Hey guys—for all you have been,

avorites



Karen Higgins smile for the camera while clown-

Ten people said that the teachers were what they liked most about Riggs. One student in particular said that they liked the respect teachers showed the students. This is a noticeable change compared to the five students who said teachers were their pet peeve.

Most people would probably agree that a fun part of school is meeting all the different people and getting together with friends. Our survey showed that 50 students liked school the best for this reason. A total of seven people said they liked school because that's where they found their girlfriends or boyfriends.

Lunch time is a major "like" among students at Riggs. Thirteen sophomores said they really like the fact that lunch is open. More food favorites included snackbar, pop machines, and the privilege of chewing gum.

Open campus is a privilege given to seniors instead of assigning them to study hall. Twenty-two seniors shared the opinion that open campus was an essential part of their day.

There are a few remaining accomplishments that Riggs students would like to see here at Riggs. They include: developing a Riggs radio station, getting the SADD chapter rolling again, changing the homecoming theme, and being allowed to wear sweats in school.

ENTS: ENT BACKBONE

r Duggan

tions, and changes. It is a time of evaluation, mistakes, and memorable moments. Janu- tion, a time of new beginnings. I feel very fortunate. I have been blessed as bad; warm clothes; an excellent edu- friends. How often we take the latter for

de, I wish to pay tribute to those special

ve wander into and out of relationships, ourselves. Man is a combination of all he t; and applying these, what he makes of

skeletal system of every day events. They structure and guidance when we are con- ther when we fall apart. Friends exagger- ws. They replace tears with smiles, frus- ith hope.

nd, you first have to be one." When was ach out and let your friends know how l they are to you, how much you care for ough) Lincoln continued, "to lose our em for granted."

ginnings, and reflection we could take a es our friends have had upon us. Then, eciation, we could dare to reach out and bout them.

for all you are — THANKS!!!

Director stars in summer theatre

Editor's Note: The man behind the scenes is Bill Henjum, Riggs drama instructor, director, theatre manager, and the one responsible for the organization and the details involved in hosting the Regional and State One-Act con- tests.

By Michelle Ulmen

Stepping into the spotlight the past summer, Riggs teacher Bill Henjum, played opposite his normal role as a di- rector.

By joining the "intense" Prairie Rep- ertory Theater at South Dakota Univer- sity, he not only gained five college credits, but a "greater compassion for acting students."

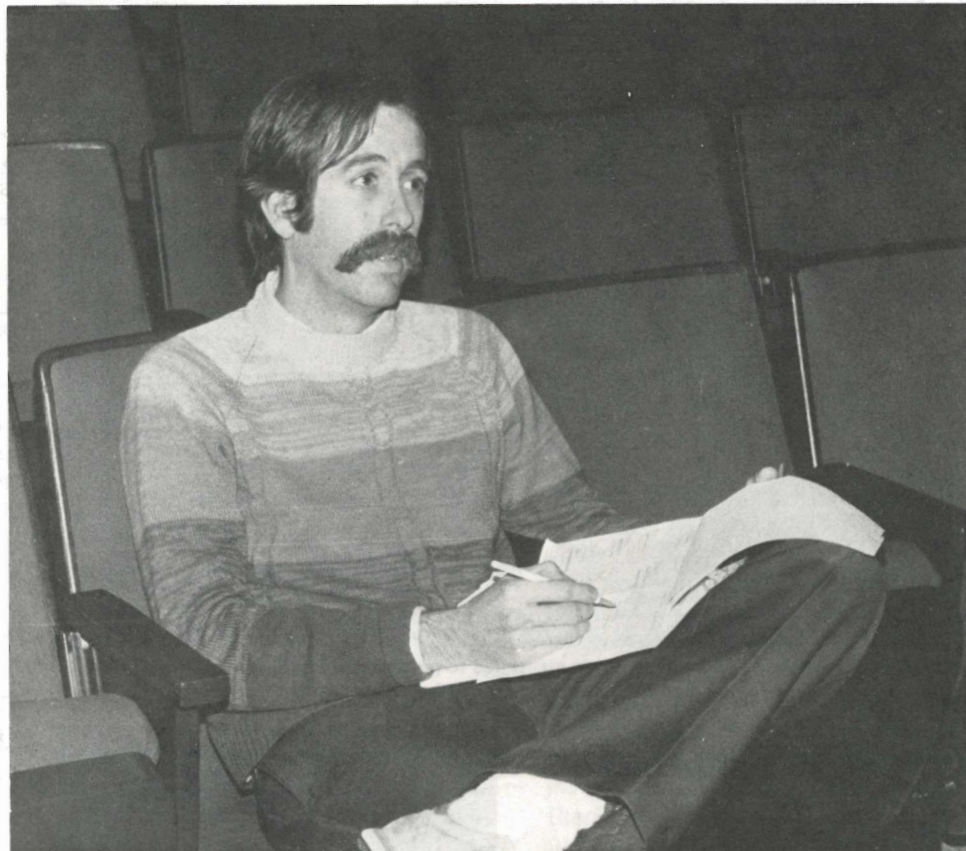
Henjum sacrificed eight weeks nor- mally spent with his family to experience new roles as Sky Masterson and Victor Valesco.

Appearing in lights at the SDSU Stu- dent Union was a list of main characters including Henjum starring in **Guys and Dolls**. After auditioning he had only ten days to perfect two roles, one of which was the lead, Sky Masterson; and to learn how to work lights and curtains for two other productions.

"The schedule was rough on me per- sonally," said Mr. Henjum. "The time commitment kept me away from my wife and kids."

After performing each of the plays, **Guys and Dolls**, **Barefoot in the Park**, **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**, and **A Bed Full of Foreigners**, twice at Brookings, the company moved to Madison. Throughout the summer they staged 30 performances.

Along with "stardom" came new ex- periences and hard work. Henjum learned staging techniques, worked on a lighting crew, changed sets, and devel- oped more familiarity with new plays and characters. "It was a tremendous



DIRECTOR . . . Mr. Henjum concentrates on student performances during a one-act play re- hearsal in the theatre. (Photo by Potter)

amount of work, because we had to stay up until 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning changing sets. Tough—really tough," he said.

Henjum felt it would have been a bet- ter experience if he were younger. Most of the performers were college kids with more free time. This experience gave him a greater compassion for perform- ers.

"Being the director we distance our- selves from actors, being one of the

grunts, as we called ourselves, showed me how to carry my spears."

The Prairie Repertory Theater is open to anyone interested in acting. Partici- pants stay at the dorms on the SDSU campus, and rehearse at the theater there. Five college credits are earned through the program and can be used at other colleges besides SDSU. Mr. Hen- jum recommends the program for any- one interested in "college theater ma- jors."

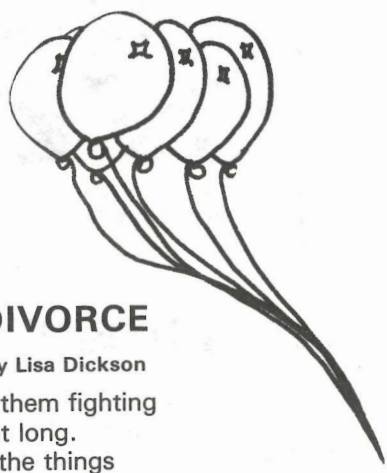


Poetry Corner

DREAMSCAPE

By Shannon Weber

As everybody has a dream
Only few can come true,
Like the chicness of the moon
Or the torrent of the sea.
But for whose dream did it become?
The earth's?
Nature's?
God's?
Or could it just be fate?
As everybody has a dream,
Mine is yet to become.



DIVORCE

By Lisa Dickson

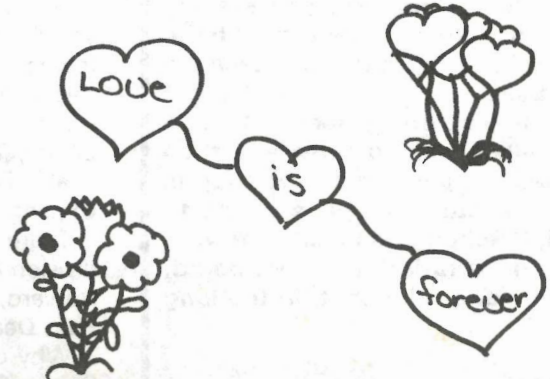
I heard them fighting
All night long.
I knew the things
They said were wrong.
I love my parents
With all my heart.
The decision is made
They're going to part.
I packed my bags;
With my mom I'll stay.
I really don't want to
Remember this day.
Went to bed and
There I did weep
Until I cried myself
To sleep.



FOREVER FRIENDS

By Meg McCloud

Forever friends.
that's what we'll be.
forever means
through eternity.
I may be leaving,
I may be gone,
but our memories together
will linger on.
I remember the good,
I remember the bad,
the happy,
the sad
and the wild sort of mad.
This promise I make,
a promise I'll keep;
to stay in touch
from week to week.
You've been a friend,
the best I've had.
For leaving a friend
is always sad.



SEASONS

By Tina Kiner

Summer was our time of love
You were tender and understanding
Someone I could turn to.
The days we spent together in the
sun
Were a dream come true.

Fall came soon
Pulling apart everything we had.
You didn't glance or smile at me any
longer.
I felt empty and lonely without you.

Now it is Winter,
With all its bitterness.
I stare out the window and think of
you.
As memories gush by and tears roll
on
And I faintly remember,
The summer of love
Which seems so so long ago.

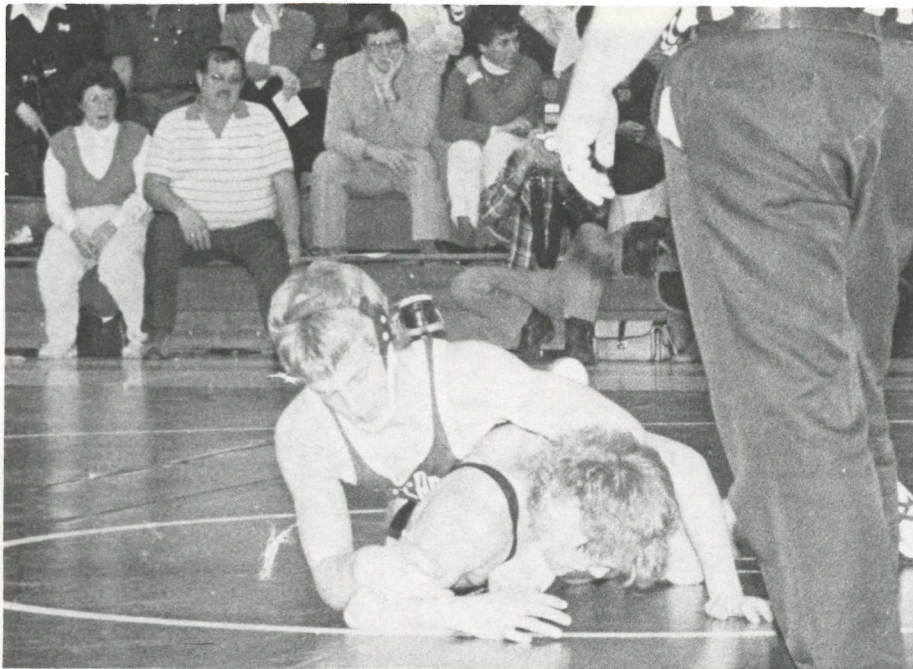


By Kim Nagel

It happened
On a cold winter day
The snow flakes,
Heading our way
The children outside
Were making snowmen in May
But out came
A big golden ray
And melted
Our little snowmen away



Wrestlers compete against Yankton



GOING FOR A PIN . . . Mike McGuigan struggles to gain control over his opponent during a Jan. 17 wrestling match against Mitchell. (Photo by Tracy Smith)

Gymnastic season begins

The Pierre Gymnastics Invitational was Saturday, Jan. 18. Nicki Barker received an 8.95 and fifth place on vault, the only Pierre gymnast to place in the meet. Sioux Falls Lincoln won the Invitational with Rapid City Stevens in second place and Brookings in third. The team score for Pierre was 119.

"Our beam was weak in comparison to the other three events. But, the team is doing well so far this season," said Coach Nancy Mundt.

The Lady Govs gymnastics team competed in their first invitational in Brookings on Saturday, Jan. 11. Coach Mundt commented that the team did "respectable in the meet, considering the fact that this was only their second meet of the year."

The team placed third, just seven-tenths of a point behind second-place Watertown, and four points behind first-place Brookings. Nicki Barker did well, placing seventh in the all-around competition.

On Jan. 14 the team competed in the Pierre-Chamberlain duel. The meet was an easy victory for the Lady Govs. Team scores were Chamberlain, 101.4, and Pierre, 124.4



KEEPING HER BALANCE . . . Emily Vanderziel poses on the beam during a routine at the Pierre Gymnastics Invitational, Jan. 18.

Bonnie Jorgensen received first place on floor by scoring a 9.3, setting a new school record. She also won the all-around competition scoring 33.0, just one-tenth ahead of second-place finisher Nicki Barker. Lori Zwemke had a good vault worth an 8.0, which helped her to place third all-around.

By Chris Shaw

"We needed this tournament to see if we had the ability to place individuals into the top places," Riggs wrestling coach Jerry Schlekeway said of the Jan. 25 Winner Invitational.

It appears Governor wrestlers have the ability. Senior John Cass and Sophomore Craig Smith both placed first overall in the tournament.

Senior John Cass leads the team, improving his record to 16-3. He is now wrestling at 167 pounds, dropping from the 187 pound class. Other team leaders include senior Mike McGuigan with a record of 14-6-1 placing third, junior Shane Gutenkauf also placing third with a record of 9-7, and Craig Smith now at 7-5-1 after placing 1st in Winner.

The tournament was won by Mobridge with 157½ points. They were followed by Mitchell, then Redfield, Valentine, Winner, and Pierre, with 69½ points.

The Governors are to face Yankton tonight following the basketball game. Yankton is one of the top teams in the state and another ESD rival. Next week the team will go up against Brookings at home.

Viewing ESD competition, Coach Larry Lundeen stated, "ESD looks extremely tough if you look at our first three duals and realize that we still have the tough ones coming up."

Sectionals are three weeks away and senior Cass is optimistic and feels that Pierre is going to be a "tough competitor" for sectional.

Intramurals begin season

By Michelle Olson

Intramural Basketball Association (IBA) games are currently underway at Riggs with Team 2 in the lead at 4-0.

IBA consists of 47 junior and senior boys divided into six teams. They play Thursday night with two games occurring at 7 p.m. and one game 8 p.m.

Having completed five of their ten regular season games, the teams and their standings are as follows:

Team 1, at 3-1, Captain, Shane Schaeftbauer. Team: Todd Johnson, Bob Krier, Jeff Smith, Clark Gregg, Mark Terwilliger, Pat Gakin, and Kurt Kruse.

Team 2, at 4-0, Paul Williams, Captain. Team: Jim Benham, Ray Klinger, Mark Gran, Darren Chase, Scott Woster, Tom Maher, Robbie Krogstad.

Team 3, at 1-3, Captain, Lorne Lawrence. Team: Forest Lidel, Troy Kayser, John Flax, Gene Bircherm, Mike Cass, and Todd Jones.

Team 4, at 3-1, Captain, Craig Howard. Team: Kelly Koistinen, Brian Merrill, Stuart Stofferahn, Chris Clelland, J. D. Ries, Jerry Peta, and Tom Disburg.

Team 5, at 0-4, Captain, Jason Kaul. Team: Bob Williams, Tom

Askew, David Cordts, Jon Wald, Todd Christoffer, Chris Oestreich, and Doug Potter.

Team 6, at 1-3, Captain, Mark Schneider. Team: Scott Rounds, John Hersrud, Dave Farries, Shawn

Searls, DeLoren Krieger, Terry Nelson, and Dan Lerew.

Play-offs are scheduled for March 11 and 13.



QUICK MOVES . . . Jim Benham is guarded by Lorne Lawrence as he shoots for two during an IBA game. Scott Woster and Gene Bircherm wait for a rebound. (Photo by Randy Dalton)

Girls Intramural volleyball begins

By LeAnn Holmes

Intramural volleyball has started with over 130 high school girls participating every Monday evening in the gym.

There are 12 teams currently involved including six upper-classmen teams and six sophomore teams. Team captains for the upper-class division are Shannon Brooks, Bridget Libner, Teresa Pesicka, Esther Sandoval, Darla Schofield and Terri Ulmen.

Team captains for the sophomore division are Heather Boocock, Renae Howard, Tani Keenlyne, Rosemary Parr, Deanna Seager and Chris Ward.

Why do so many girls participate? Shelly Schlekeway says, "It gives

you something fun to do with your friends." Tani Keenlyne agrees, saying, "It is fun because it's not really serious."

Debi Matthews adds, "It's something for the girls to do instead of just watching the guys on Thursdays (intramural basketball)."

Advisor Carol Pickering says the number of participants is up this year. She also says, "Intramural volleyball gives 130 girls a chance to play an organized sport in a recreational capacity during high school. It's enjoyable, relaxing and the girls have a good time playing."

The teams play a match every Monday night, with a tournament scheduled in March.

GOVERNOR PRIDE

Over the past month there has been a great amount of controversy about the breaking of rules and the possibility of new rules. I think that we have to keep one thing in mind. Most of the rules talked about have always been here. It is not the rules that are bad, but the breaking of the rules. The rules never apply unless they are broken.

I am sure you have heard the old adage: "Rules were made to be broken." If this is true, then what purpose do rules and laws serve? They keep order and protect the innocent. We are fortunate indeed to live in a country with laws such as ours.

There was earlier mention by people of a breathalyzer at dances. I don't know the truth behind it. Nevertheless, one should compare our situation to that of schools in big cities, where drug searches and policemen in hallways are commonplace. I think you can see my point. We are lucky that these restrictions are not necessary here. However, by violating our present restrictions and rules, we force the administration to make new, stricter rules.

The concept of abiding by the rules is part of the feeling behind Governor Pride. Pride is not intentionally breaking rules and then becoming upset when you are punished. This is not to say that all rules are good rules. We, nevertheless, as students, have a duty to abide by them while we are at Riggs High School. So I challenge you, the student body, to be proud of an administration, a school board, and a community that cares enough to make rules that, in the long run, will make your life better for you.

rb

Govs expect tough game against Yankton

By Steve Williamson

Governors take on the very tall Yankton Bucks at home tonight. This will be the second meeting of the teams with Pierre winning the first one 54-50.

Height is going to be a problem, according to Coach Bob Judson, who started at 6'3" and worked his way up to 6'8" as he described the Bucks' starting line up.

Judson said the Govs handled the ball well, especially from the perimeters and played very, very well against the Bucks in Yankton. "We'll have to do the same thing, plus we learned that Jay Smith is the biggest part of their offense and we are going to have to shut him down, or at least make it rough on him Friday night," Coach Judson said.

The Govs so far this year are, perhaps, the surprise of the state as they have been ranked as high as fourth. The success goes mainly to the play of five seniors: Shane Ellwein, Brett

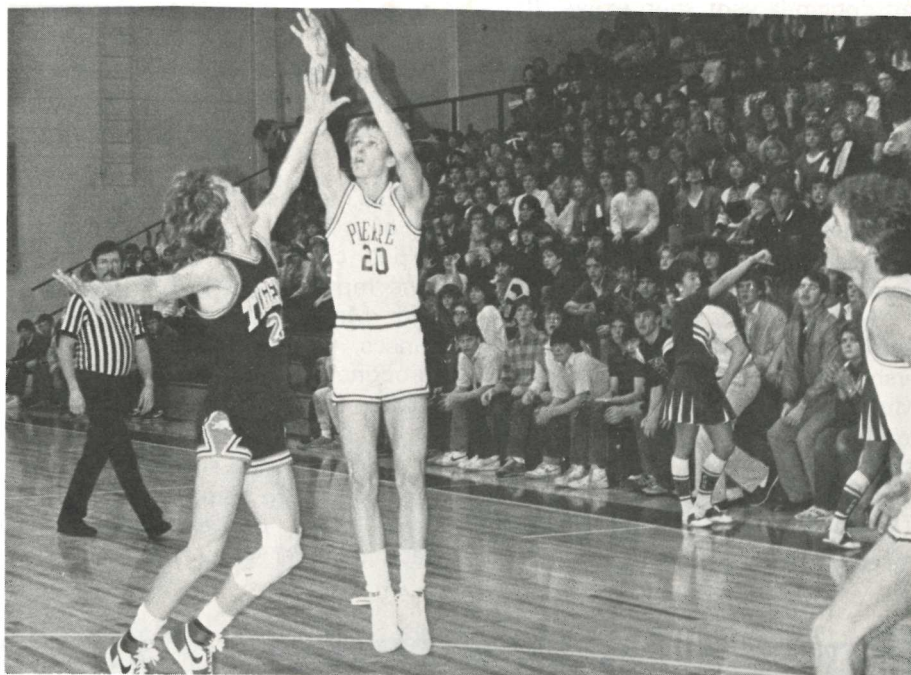
Stewart, Shane Severyn, Dave Ellenbecker and Pete Thompson. These five have lead the team scoring, rebounding, assists and positive points.

"Even though we have lost a few, our overall team play is good enough now that we are going to be a threat to beat anybody at any time," Judson said.

The Govs lost a valuable asset earlier in the year when starting junior forward Chris Shaw sprained his ankle in practice the day before a big game with Aberdeen.

Although Shaw has been missed, Thompson has filled in nicely with help off the bench from Monty Schaefer and Ward Judson. Shaw hopes to be back for this weekend, but if not, is expected to return in the near future.

Tomorrow night the Governors go to Bismarck to compete in the annual Governor's Cup game against Bismarck. This game is an old rivalry between the capitals of the Dakotas.



UP FOR A QUICK TWO . . . Senior Brett Stewart shoots over a Huron Tiger defender for two points at the Jan. 10 game. (Photo by Potter)

Riggs recognizes Borth brothers

By Doug Potter

Two pictures were added to the trophy case in the lobby recently — those of Rollie and Dean Borth, who were honored Jan. 10 during halftime of the Huron-Pierre basketball game.

Rollie was a first team All-Stater in 1970; he played center on a team which included players such as Wood Buach and Steve Robinson. As second leading scorer in the ESD, he led his team to a 22-3 season and third place in the State Tournament. He went to college at the University of South Dakota, where he played forward on the Coyotes' basketball

team.

Dean was a first team All-Stater in 1971. He led his team to a fourth-place win in the State Tournament and a 20-5 season. His team won Pierre's first ESD Conference Crown in 1971. Dean also played for the University of South Dakota Coyotes.

Both Rollie and Dean currently live in Pierre. Rollie is a lieutenant in the Pierre Police Department, and Dean is a surgeon.

Roger Pries, the men's coach during their high school careers, made the presentation at halftime. Pries was named Coach of the Year in 1971, Dean's senior year.



AWARD WINNERS . . . 1985-1986 Lady Govs award winners include (back) Dawn Witte, Jolene Mews, Sarah Adam, Shelly Schlekeway, (front) Keren Higgins, Lisa Hyde, and Sheli Bowers. (Photo by Heath Tople)

Banquet honors Lady Govs

Predicting a "good outlook for next season," girls basketball coach Don Shields presented top players with awards at the Jan. 16 Awards Banquet.

Varsity team awards went to Jolene Mews, the Most Valuable Player; Shelly Schlekeway and Dawn Witte, the Most Improved; Mews and Sarah Adam, Co-Captains; to Keren Higgins, Most Freethrows; and to Sheli Bowers, Hustler.

"We had seven juniors who had the chance to get some experience," Shields said. He commended the varsity team for a "good job" under the leadership of

only two seniors.

The sophomore awards went to Most Valuable Player, Susan Chase; Most Improved, Steph Zastrow and Christi Gors; Captains, Susan Chase and Kayla Korkow; Coaches Award, Kim List. Coach Kurth gave a Team Award for the most improved sophomores he has ever coached.

The junior varsity team was coached by Mr. Marso. Award winners were Most Blocked Shots, Kara Krietlow; Best Shooting Percentage, Keren Higgins; Most Rebounds, Shelly Schlekeway; and Best Field Goal Percentage, Lisa Hyde.



FORMER ALL-STATE PLAYERS . . . Former Riggs teacher and coach Roger Pries presented honors to Rollie Borth, Dean Borth and their parents Mr. and Mrs. Wyland Borth during halftime ceremonies at Governor basketball Jan. 10. (Photo by Doug Potter)

Booster club provides moral, financial support

By Craig Howard

For more than a decade Pierre High School athletic teams have had the advantage of being supported by an independent organization. Other cities look at Pierre's Athletic Booster Club and turn "green" with envy.

The club was established in 1972 and has functioned continually since then. Pierre had one of the first booster clubs in the state and has been used as a pattern for others, according to Dick Howard, club president.

A highlight of the club's activities was the "Sea of Green" which invaded the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City for the 1982 and 1983 State A boys basketball tournaments.

Current club officers in addition to Howard are Jim Smith, vice presi-

dent; Jack Ellenbecker, treasurer; and Danna Bren, secretary. The club aims at actively promoting Riggs High activities throughout the year. "The members have enjoyed the challenge of promoting activities in the interest of good clean competition and sportsmanship," Howard said.

The "Sea of Green" actively sponsors Parents Night programs for the major sports, provides six scholarships to outstanding male and female student athletes, and assists the needs of the school's programs during the school term.

Recently the club purchased a VCR player and camera for the sports department. Last year it provided \$1000 toward the purchase of equipment for the Riggs weight room, and the

year before it provided \$1000 for the purchase of trophy cases in the new lobby.

The club also purchases the state championship banners for all sports. These are displayed in the gym.

The club also promotes Riggs activities through preparation of the Booster Page in the Thursday Capital Journal during the school year. This activity is currently being coordinated with the Arts and Music Booster Club.

According to Howard, the club's current goals are to attain a membership of 650, to raise \$3000 for scholarships and other needs at Riggs, and to provide support and an active following to inspire Riggs High to perform at a high level of sportsmanship at all events.

The fiber of the Booster Club organization is parents and loyal fans who love and support the Govs during good times and bad times. They are always available to assist student athletes in learning from both victories and defeats.

"The Booster Club supports and is proud of our athletic teams based on their high standards of conduct and sportsmanship in participation in good, clean competition," Howard added.

The group meets each Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. at the World of Donuts during the football season and once every two weeks for the remainder of the year. Meetings feature reports from various coaches and a videotape of games.

National Honor Society to tag members

By Paulette Gates

The National Honor Society Tag Day will be held Feb. 18, in the Riggs High Gym. Potential members will receive a letter from the guidance counselors and will be required to fill out a form to be considered for membership.

"Membership is based upon excellence in four areas: scholarship, leadership, service, and character," said Mrs. Mavis Booze, guidance counselor. To be eligible for membership a student must have an accumulated grade point average of at least 3.0. The student must also participate in school activities.

A selection committee consisting of five faculty members will review all applications of the eligible juniors and seniors.

NHS members participate in a variety of projects. "Last year, members helped clean-up the river front to raise money for the Teen Center," said Mrs. Booze. They sponsor dances, work at game concessions throughout the year, and act as guides at the Post High Planning Day.

"This year they are thinking about starting a Big Brother/Sister program," Mrs. Booze explained that each member would be given the

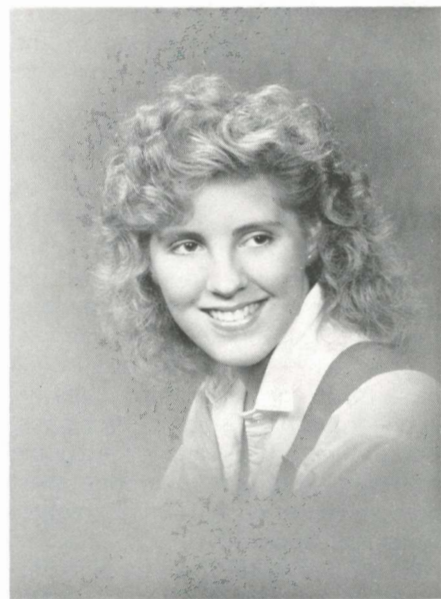
name of a less fortunate child, and the member would be responsible for planning an activity with them every week or two. "These kids would be children who need attention or come from a one-parent home."

Tag Day begins a week of NHS activities which includes a potluck Feb. 20 and formal initiation on the 27th.

The formal initiation is a candlelight service in which the members are inducted and receive their pins.

Current NHS officers are: David Ellenbecker, president; Darla Eisnach, vice president; Jennifer Woster, secretary; and Cristin McKeever, treasurer.

Stofferahn runs for Junior Miss



Senior Stacey Stofferahn is headed for the South Dakota Junior Miss contest Feb. 5-8 at Sturgis.

At the competition she will participate in talent, interview, and appearance categories and the group aerobics for physical fitness. The winner of the South Dakota Junior Miss contest will compete in the National Junior Miss contest later this year.

Stacey, who was also a contestant in the Miss Oahe pageant this past fall and the winter South Dakota Snow Queen contest, says she is interested in the contest because of scholarships it offers.

"It also helps my stage presence and helps me to feel more comfortable in front of large numbers of people," she said. "All you can hope for is to do your best, and with that comes confidence."

Stacey is preparing a jazz and vocal selection for the talent division of the contest. She is also "getting in shape," and "reading up on current events" for the contest.

At Riggs the five foot seven senior is active in band, chorus, Gumbo staff, cheerleading, National Honor Society, theatre and oral interpretation. She has also been involved with local Pierre Players performances.

Bonrud selected as third session page

By Shelly O'Day

Senior Paula Bonrud has been selected as one of the 70 pages to serve during the third session of the legislature beginning Feb. 18 and closing Feb. 28.

To become a page Paula obtained an application from the Legislative Research Council and also received sponsorship by a South Dakota legislator accompanying two letters of reference.

Any high school junior or senior may apply to be a page. Paula commented, "I feel anyone who is interested should try to get involved. The

experience and knowledge you get can be very useful in the future."

Paula's duties will include telephone duty, the pages receive incoming calls for the senators and representatives and ensure messages are delivered; elevator duty, pages run the elevators manually. They also deliver bills, journals, calendars, and newspapers to the legislators.

Other duties include running errands for the legislators such as running off copies and bringing them coffee and lunches. Pages' hours begin at 8 a.m. and end an hour after the legislature adjourns for the day or

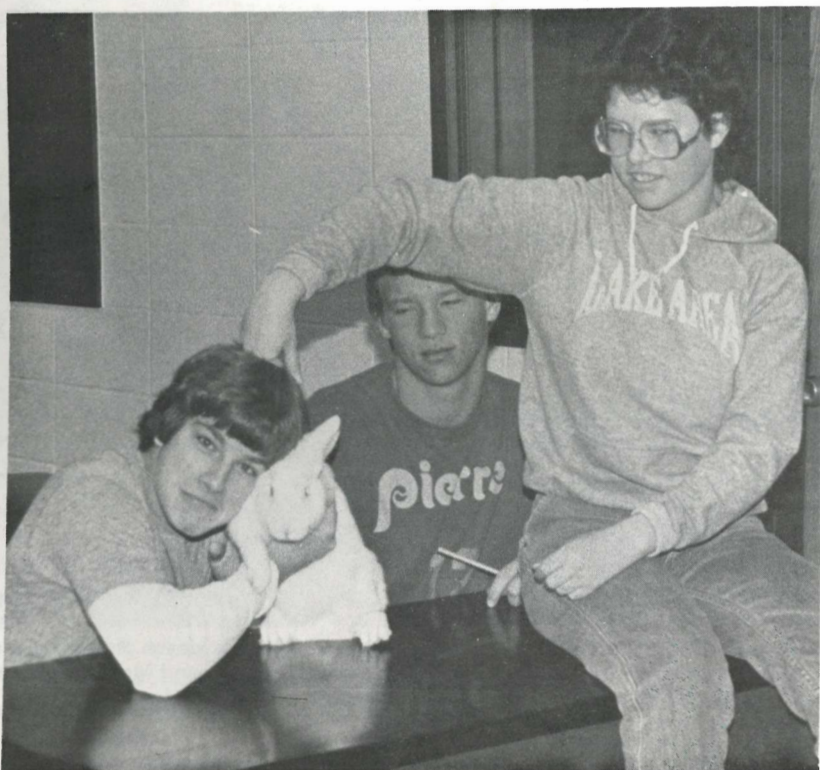
until their duties are complete.

Pages consist of males and females from across the state. Paula thinks, "Being able to meet and work with other students from around the state should be fun."

At the close of their sessions, pages are given a banquet held at the Governor's mansion. Paula feels being a page is worthwhile because, "Being able to watch what really takes place to pass a law is very beneficial. I will become more familiar with the system and how it works."

After high school Paula plans to enter college in the field of business.

Biology bunny arrives at Riggs



THUMPER . . . Mark Schoenhard, Mike Raue, and Kathy Ackley enjoy the company of the Biology bunny.

By Tanya Huck

"Have you seen a rabbit around here?" This is becoming a common question around Riggs halls these days. The rabbit in question is Thumper the biology bunny.

"Thumper was given to me by a student," said teacher Don Shields. He's five months old now, and his diet consists of rabbit pellets, carrots, and lettuce."

Thumper lives in Room 252. He pretty much has the run of the whole class. "He stays in Room 252 on weekends, and over Christmas vacation a student took him home," Mr. Shields said.

Thumper is potty trained to a cat litter box. "He rarely messes on the floor," says Shields.

Although Thumper usually stays in biology, he occasionally ventures into the chemistry or the other biology room to hide if someone leaves the door open.

Thumper is usually a pretty well behaved rabbit, but he does have his times. "He has chewed on our books, and we had to raise them higher." He also chews on students' shoes, and electrical cords from projectors, says Mr. Shields.

Seeing white rabbits? Don't be alarmed! It's just Thumper the biology bunny.

NEWS BRIEFS

NEWS BRIEFS

NEWS BRIEFS

Melcher attends CAP competition

Riggs sophomore Kent Melcher is a member of the Pierre Compsit Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol which recently won fifth overall in the national Cadet Competition.

The squadron competed Dec. 26-30 at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL. Pierre, representing the North Central Region, competed against seven other areas, the Pacific, South West, North East, Middle East, Great Lakes, South East, and North West Regions.

Squadron members competed and placed in six events: volleyball, second place; innovative drill, third place; standard military drill, fourth place; mile run, fifth place; written aerospace test, seventh; and aerospace current events, eighth.

There are 19 drill team cadets in addition to Melcher. Senior members are First Lt. Ron Hamm and First Lt. Bill Miley.

Squirrels achieve first place

The Squirrels, a barbershop quartet composed of juniors Loren Cass, Eric Lundeen and Stuart Stofferahn, and sophomore Sean Califf, won first place in the talent contest held Jan. 9 during the State Snow Queen contest preliminaries in Aberdeen.

As winners, the group brought home a trophy and performed Jan. 11 at the contest finals.

Students stage lawmaking body

By Paulette Gates

Government is a semester class every student must take in order to graduate from Riggs. For a week to ten days the class meets as a Senate body to study the legislative process in depth.

The students decide if they want to be Republican or Democrat. The President of the Senate, Secretary, party leaders, whips and other officers are chosen, and the class is divided into committees.

Each student is required to write two bills and two committee reports. The bills are discussed in class, and the students get the chance to voice their opinions. They debate many issues that concern them such as the drinking age, gambling, and high school requirements.

The students must also attend a real committee meeting or watch one on TV and write a report on it.

"The purpose of the mock legislature is to learn by doing," said Skip Kurth, government teacher. The students are not only graded on their bills and committee reports but also on their participation in the class debates.

A traditional part of the mock legislature is the Ugly Tie Contest. The grand prize for the contest is dinner for two at the D&E.