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Contributors:

Michael Forinash is a writer, and teacher of writing at Sioux Falls College. He received his MFA in creative writing from Wichita State University, where he studied with James Lee Burke, whose novel he reviews on page 26. His book reviews will be a regular feature in Tempest.

Georgia native Kenn Robbins is the former chairperson of the University of South Dakota's Theater Department, where he continues to write on his experiences in the Midwest. His review appears on page 27. One of his Midwest memoirs will appear next month.

The final installment of Tim Casady's metafiction novella, Ask My Author, appears on page sixteen. (Earlier installments are still available from the Tempest offices). Tim has been a regular contributor, and currently lives in Sioux City, Iowa. His poetry will appear in next month's issue.

Toby Rappolt is a poet from San Francisco who currently lives in Sioux Falls. His translation of a Mao Tse Tung poem appears this month. An original poem of Mr. Rappolt's will appear next month.

Why, Thank You Even More Cacti

My congratulations on giving Sioux Falls an answer to the *Village Voice*. Your newspaper is brisk, upbeat and clever. In addition, you are providing a real forum for the Arts.

Tempest sparkles with enthusiasm and optimism. It proves that our State's greatest resource is, indeed, keeping our young people in South Dakota.

Catherine V. Piersol
Sioux Falls

I recently read the February issue of *Tempest*. T. Cactus Jackson's article is especially appealing to me. The way he jumps from political & economic issues to personal dreams makes me wonder who his girlfriend is and if their fantasies are the same.

Good luck in the future. Hope it brings you "Billions" of fan letters.

Barb W.
Des Moines

education available. Dollar for dollar, colleges deliver the services that students well as, if not better than, public col-

Bill Mangan
Aberdeen

City-Pages-Li Thing

Yo! Tragically hip entertainment publishers:

I am in desperate need of a suit to your city-pages-like thing. Being a special house-body mo fo that I am, I need to any of the fine businesses which *Tempest*. Thank you for helping to end and for just being you! (No, I'm not to you, I'm just desperate for reaction.) Take care! Good luck!

Corey Ward
Sioux Falls

From New York...

While my husband, 25 year old son and I were seeing America First last month, we visited Sioux Falls, which I vaguely heard of once. Very nice little city and I'd have loved staying a few days to see everything of interest. Even tho I'm a native born New Yorker, I realize the world doesn't end past New York's borders (even tho we don't really believe there is life out there in New Jersey). So I liked Sioux Falls, and picked up a copy of *Tempest*. I'm reading it, home in Brooklyn. David A. Fryzell's article is humorous and I passed it on to others to read. New York City is made up of a lot of neighborhoods, and people loyal to their area. We are all in a hurry and life is expensive and pressurized, so we have no time to be civil. Everyone's busy making money, since this is the place to make it. I try to be helpful to various tourists who are constantly underfoot, with cameras and maps. They never see the real New York, to be sure! There's a lot to enjoy, and this is a great shopping and sightseeing city, but for certain, a vastly different place than it was in the '40's and before. My unasked-for advice is not to come. Now New York is dangerous, polluted, and very expensive. Low-life and human trash have been permitted to proliferate till the Apple has a worm that is destroying it. Them are the facts, kiddies. Wall-to-wall derelicts and drug addicts and winos, muggers and human garbage. No more the great metropolis I remember growing up in. Schools are a jungle. No one's out after dark. Rents are astronomical and all our taxes go for welfare checks to the sewage of everyone else's country. So enjoy your lovely small city Sioux Falls, and stay put.

Marion Goldberg Saulig
Brooklyn, NY

Private Support

It was with great interest that I read the February 1990 issue of *Tempest* for two related reasons. One is that my friend from college, Pat Lalley, is Managing Editor. The other is his editorial, "South Dakota Needs Junior Colleges." Pat believes that South Dakota needs a literate and highly-trained work force for the future of the state's economy. His contention is that South Dakota supports too many institutions of higher education, specifically institutions at the college and university level. Pat's solution is that the state of South Dakota should adopt a junior college system. I agree with Pat's belief and contention, but I propose a different solution. South Dakota currently has a system to deal with the education of its populace apart from the state-supported schools. The answer to many of the woes of higher education in South Dakota is private higher education.

As a staff member at Presentation College in Aberdeen, I see the many benefits that private schools in South Dakota offer students. We offer one-year certificates, associate degrees, and baccalaureate degrees (some even offer graduate degrees). We run budgets that are lean and student-oriented. Our financial aid packages for students are generous, so much so that, at least at Presentation College, our average financial award exceeds our average cost of tuition. Our faculty are on a par with any instructors anywhere, as their primary concern is where it should be: teaching. Finally, when one considers the positive impact that private colleges have on non-traditional students, handicapped students, and learning-disabled students, there is no question that our private colleges do a first rate job in providing educational services to the people of this state.

Before we ask the state to fund a whole new higher education structure, perhaps we should look to the most efficient form of edu-

Rock The Boat

To all future Siskel and Ebert. In response to various *Tempest* letters which seem to flutter into this monthly publication—v problem?

Think about it—for me—oh criticize? The staff is doing something different, for Sioux Falls, that it merely want the e pluribus educating—take up a comp. class; or if you: for the community calendar ev always OWLT.V. Don't strain your ing a paper you dislike and then j Critic.

The staff knows their paper and not everyone will get "what's it."

So why not cool the 'ol rush y the negatives on your own I.D. If y those hound letter to the editor they published—well they probably it for you. So... put it down. Who gains the right to make you read T complain. Who's makin' ya now?

And staff members—as Lori so well in February, "Don't be af the boat."

Melanie Erickson
Sioux Falls

...to Sibley, Iowa

Thank you to Steve Wick for his article "Flooding the Pond" in February's issue. I, too, grew up in that same small town and spent many winter nights and weekends "cracking the whip" at the skating rink across the street from Steve's house. His story about our hometown has flooded my memory with thoughts of my childhood at the county fair, swimming pool, the sandpit, besides those times at our city park.

I look forward to your future issues and mostly to Steve's stories, hoping to catch another piece of that hometown feeling

Darla (Greve) Erb
Sioux Falls

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