

Three Attend Honor Band

by: Taylor Voegele, senior editor

On December 5 and 6, a small group of band students traveled to Aberdeen to attend the North Area Honor Band that was hosted by Northern State University. Usually it is held at the Johnson Fine Art Center, but since there is still construction on the building, the North Area Honor Band was held at Aberdeen Central High School.

The first day of practice started at one in the afternoon and went to about nine at night. During



Kaley Schweitzer, Taylor Voegele, and Billie Moeller before their North Area Honor Band performance on December 6.

that time the band got to know a little information about the guest director. The Guest Director was Dr. Rolf Olson from University of South Dakota. Dr. Olson is the Director of Bands at USD and teaches conducting, trumpet, and conducts the Symphonic Band and Brass Choir. He performs in the South Dakota Symphony, South Dakota Brass Quintet, and U. Jazz Quintet. Back before he started his first teaching job, he joined the Circus for a year and a half.

The students who attended also ran through all of their music and

figured out the order for the concert. The first piece was “The Spirit of Thanksgiving” arranged by Robert Sheldon; after that it was “Liadov Fanfare” written by Brian Beck and based on the themes of Anatoly Liadov; the next piece was called “Prelude, Siciliano, and Rondo” written by Malcolm Arnold and arranged by John P. Paynter; next was “March Diabolique” written by Brian Balmages, the second to last piece was “Curtain Call” written by John Wasson, and the finale was “Circus Days” written by Karl L. Kin and arranged by Loras Schissel.

On Saturday, the day of the concert, the students started practice at eight in the morning and went to about four in the afternoon. The students had a two hour break to relax before the concert that night. The concert started around seven o’clock that night and had a short intermission for the band directors to hand out the North Area Honor Band pins. This was the third year for both Moeller and Voegele to receive that pin and it was Schweitzer’s first year. Moeller and Schweitzer also received a pin, but they also received recognition for playing a solo during some of the songs that were performed.