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## "Play Ball!" exhibit at Cultural Heritage Center to close on Sept. 18

PIERRE, S.D. – Visitors have just a few more weeks to view the successful exhibit "Play Ball! The National Pastime in South Dakota" located in the Hogen Gallery of the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

The exhibit has been open for the past two years and is scheduled to be replaced soon by Museum staff. The last day to view the exhibit is Sunday, Sept. 18, and after that date it will be officially closed to the public.

"We will be especially sorry to close the baseball exhibit," said Jay Smith, director of the Museum of the South Dakota State Historical Society. "Many of us are especially fond of the baseball exhibit because of the fun we had building it, and our own feelings about the sport. Nearly 30,000 people visited the exhibition and the feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive."

The next exhibition to open in the Hogen gallery will be announced by museum staff in September.

"We have a great deal of work to do to get the gallery ready for future exhibitions," said Smith. "We have to replace the carpet and repair the walls, while building new cases and other exhibit furniture. We are very excited about the future, and I can't wait to make some announcements about upcoming exhibits in September."

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## About the South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.