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“Hägar the Horrible” Cartoonist to Discuss new Children’s Book from State Historical Society

PIERRE, S.D. – Syndicated cartoonist Chris Browne will tell about the first book he has written and illustrated for children during a program that will be available at three locations in South Dakota.

Browne will discuss “The Monster Who Ate the State,” published by the South Dakota Historical Society Press, at 7 p.m. Central Time on Wednesday, Nov. 5, from his home city of Sioux Falls. The program will be broadcast via the state’s Digital Dakota Network to Pierre and Rapid City. People attending at any of the locations will be able to see, hear and talk to Browne. Browne will be speaking in person at Room 145, Administration Building, South Dakota University Center, 4801 Career Ave. in Sioux Falls. The program will be carried live to the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre and to Classroom Building Room 109 of the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in Rapid City. Everyone is welcome to attend the free program.

“Many have enjoyed Browne’s work writing and drawing the comic strip ‘Hägar the Horrible,’” said Michael Lewis, president of the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation. “They will enjoy ‘The Monster Who Ate the State’ and learning more about Browne’s work and life. The program is offered at three locations throughout the state because we wanted to give people statewide the opportunity to learn more about Chris Browne.”

The foundation and the South Dakota Historical Society Press are sponsoring Browne’s talk as part of the History and Heritage Book Club.

“The Monster Who Ate the State” opens with scientists working in an underground laboratory awakening a slumbering creature. Soozy the dinosaur emerges from the Black Hills looking for food and a new place to call home as she makes her way across the state.

Browne was born in South Orange, N.J., and grew up in Wilton, Conn. His father, Dik Browne, created the comic strip “Hägar the Horrible” and teamed up with Mort Walker on the comic strip “Hi and Lois.” Chris assisted his father on “Hägar the Horrible” and “Hi and Lois” and now draws and writes “Hägar the Horrible.”

For more information about the program, call (605) 773-6006.

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Editor’s Note: Dik Brown does not have a “c” in it.

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism. The Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council and the State Historical Society. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen. 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.