



Jaelyn Benson pitches one in for a strike en route to a Garretson victory over Watertown last Sunday.

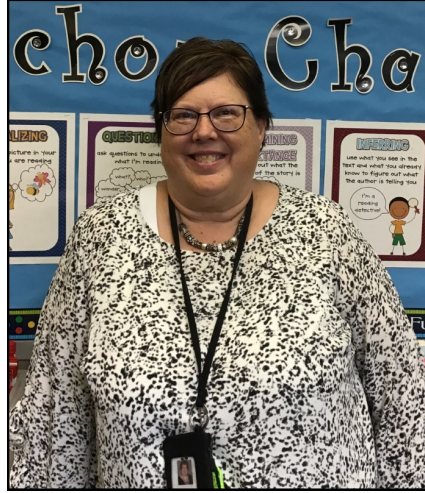
Blue Ink



Miss Mac makes her mark

by Nika Sapunar
staff writer

Mrs.
Macziewski
takes over
as Title
teacher



Q: Why did you come to tech to Garretson?

A: My husband got a job in Sioux Falls so we were searching for a small community. I saw an opening job here and came for a job interview; I liked what I saw and when I got the job we decided to stay here.

Q: What are some good and bad sides about Garretson?

A: I cannot think of any bad sides. We moved here in June, I've been happy with all the people and students.

Q: What are 3 things that people need to now about you.

A: I love reading, which is good in my position because I love helping kids who struggle with reading. I love to see when that light just turns on and they get it, it's really fun. I never give up on anybody and third thing, I really love teaching; I have been teach-

ing for 35 years and I am not ready to quit yet.

Q: Why did you decide you want to be a teacher?

A: It's been so long ago I cannot even remember, but I think because I had such great teachers that I wanted to be a teacher too. I think everyone needs a safe place and supportive person who will always be there and I want to be that person.

Q: What's your favorite thing about teaching kids?

A: I just love being around kids. I like to get to know them, to know what they are interested in, I like to talk about a football with boys.

Q: What do you do when you are not at school, what do you do at your free time?

A: I love to read, and i love to make crafts. I am always doing something to fix my house no matter what it is. I just like making something come back to life, give it a purpose.

Q: What would you be doing if you weren't a teacher?

A: I am trying to figure that out for the past couple of years and there is not really much that i wanted to do besides teach so that why at 36 years of teaching i am still teaching, still love it.

Q: Describe your teaching.

A: I love to what they are learning relevant and i want them to be able to use that what they have learned. I love to teach them with some music, movement or something fun.

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Multiple shows debuted on this day in history: *The Flintstones* (1960), *The Cosby Show* (1984), *Who's the Boss* (1984), *The Flash* (1990), *Law & Order: SVU* (1999)

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Put lost items back where you first looked for them, not where you found them.

CROATIAN WORD OF THE WEEK:
Sick = bolesna (female)
= bolestan (male)
= bolest (root)

JOKE OF THE WEEK: How do you know when a bicycle is thinking?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK:
Solve this rebus puzzle. **JANOB**

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

- Friday, September 20**
- FB @ Flandreau (7:00)
- Saturday, September 21**
- Soccer v. Groton (1:00)
- Monday, September 23**
- JV FB @ Flandreau (4:30)
- VB @ Flandreau Indian (6:15/7:00)
- Tuesday, September 24**
- JH FB @ Flandreau (4:30)
- Soccer v. Dakota Valley (6:00)
- JV Soccer v. Dakota Valley (7:30)
- JV Soccer @ Vermillion (6:30)
- 7/8 VB @ Dell Rapids (4:00/5:00)
- C/JV VB @ Dell Rapids (5:00/6:15)
- VB @ Dell Rapids (7:15)
- Wednesday, September 25**
- XC @ Dell Rapids (2:00)
- Thursday, September 26**
- Marching Band @ Arlington (10:00)
- JH VB @ Chester (4:00)
- C/JV VB @ Chester (5:00/6:15)
- VB @ Chester (7:15)
- Friday, September 27**
- Marching Band @ Beresford (TBA)

Garretson volleyball pounding the competition

The Blue Dragon netters are currently ranked number one in region 3

by Mason Hofer
senior writer

The Lady Blue Dragon netters continued their success Saturday at the Big East Conference, that was held here in the Dragons Lair. Garretson started off the day with a tough opponent in #1 ranked McCook Central/Montrose (9-3). MCM swept the floor with a 2-0 victory against Garretson, winning both sets 17-25.

After that devastating loss, the Lady Blue Dragons were shifted over to the consolation bracket to face off against Sioux Valley (3-5). Garretson proceeded to cruise right past Sioux the Cossacks winning the first set 25-15 and the second 25-16.

After their win against Sioux Valley, Garretson was competing for 5th place in the tournament, but had to go through the #3 seed Parker Pheasants(5-2). The Blue Dragon netters knocked down the giant by once again winning both sets right away; first game 25-22, second game 25-19.

"I think this year was so much better than last year because we didn't get so frustrated with ourselves like we used to. We pick each other up all the time, and we're a lot more focused on what

we are doing," stated senior volleyball player Aftyn Heitkamp.

Garretson volleyball has been on a steady ride to success for the last two years now, after going winless not to long ago. With a record of 8-5 the Blue Dragons were briefly ranked number one in the region. But last night's loss to Adrian shuffled the tight top of region three.

"I think the reason for our success is we've been more disciplined by our coach and ourselves, and he is really pushing us to what we are becoming. As a team we are finally seeing that we can win more games then we think, and it's showing in our performance," said Heitkamp

On Tuesday volleyball faced up against the Flandreau Fliers (2-9) in

Garretson. The Dragons came out a little rusty losing the first set 18-25. Garretson was not going to lay down in their house. Garretson then came around and won the next three sets by a large margin.

Then last night Garretson traveled to Adrian (13-0) to take on this monster of a team. Garretson ended up losing all three sets but definitely held their own in the first two only losing by three in each. But the Lady Blue Dragons just couldn't find an answer to Adiran's impenetrable defense, losing the last set 14-25.

"Our students should be ready for many exciting games, a couple more major upsets, and hopefully a longer season then past years," stated Heitkamp.



Mattea Fiegen (#15) and Aftyn Heitkamp (35) go up for the block against a big MCM offense. The Blue Dragons dropped their sets against the Cougars but were able to recover and go 2-1 on the tournament taking the consolation championship.
Photo by Rian Smidt

JOKE: When you see its wheels turning

BRAINTEASER: An inside job

Worth Mentioning

COUNTDOWN TO BREAK: 14 Days

Thrive lunch program tanking

Thrive program driving students to new measures

by Nobel Nothstine
senior writer

The Garretson school has enough on its plate with hoco, privs, and now complaints about lunch. But, is this really something we can just scrape aside? Students have been having issues with the lunch for years, but as of late, the mood around lunch has just gotten worse.

More students than ever are bringing their lunch, and kids are eating excessively during their snack period so they can skip out. Why is this? If you haven't been keeping up, Garretson school switched lunch source programs this year. It's our first year with locally based and three year old company, Thrive Nutrition, over last years competition, Luncheon Solutions.

The *Blue Ink* reached to students to get their take on the school lunch program change. Senior Jacob Schmidt shared his thoughts.

Q: How do you feel about the quality of the schools lunch food?

A: I think it's mediocre and pretty bland. It could definitely use some more flavor or spice.

This isn't an unpopular response, as students were interviewed during a lunch period this week and asked for a short description of their experience that day. With common statements being made like, "Gross", "Disappointing", and "Horrible", it's hard to not wonder what's gone wrong.

Q: What do you think about the range of options and the main entrees?

A: I think the lack of options is disappointing, and it's hard because even though they increased the number of choices, they're running out of each choice faster and freshmen are hardly getting to choose what they want to eat.

Q: What are some things students, or you specifically, would like to see back on the lunch menu?

Personally, I want the spicy chicken



sandwich back. But, lots of students miss some salad bar and a la carte items, the ice cream cooler, the stand days where each month a new caterer would come in, salt/seasonings, malts, certain entrees, and the peanut butter and jelly sandwich cart.

Q: There's been a rumor circulating that you called the health inspector over a smell in the lunch room, and lo-and-behold, he was there the next day. Can you confirm or deny this rumor?

A: Yes, I did. There was a certain...odor coming from the lunch room which I will be discussing with Mr. Johnson later in the week.

Q: Do you any ideas/plans of action to work on fixing this?

A: Well I called the health inspector, and I've been in contact with the manager of Thrive Nutrition to discuss the lunch situation. The plan right now is to just voice our opinion. I've also contacted the head of the school board, Shannon Nordstrom, and he says the school is investing money into fixing it.

Q: What do you think the school should do to fix this?

A: There's really not much that the school can do, it's more issues with the Thrive program.

Q: Is there anything students can do?

A: Contact people! Reach out to the manager of Thrive Nutrition if there's something you'd want to see on the menu. Braydon Beaner emailed him, and he very easily got back crisps for us! Don't be rude about it though, or nothing will be settled. It's best to approach things in a civil and respectful manner when we're asking for perks for our lunches.



Cougars prove to be too much for Dragon defense

Garretson gridiron gang falls to 2-2 on the year

by Preston Bohl
staff writer

Garretson (2-1) faced the Fighting Cougars of McCook Central/Montrose (3-0) last Friday for the first time in around five years. The Cougars ranked third coming into the matchup with the Dragons ranked twelfth among the 11B class.

MCM outsized the team coming into the game and came into the Dragon's house full speed ahead, scoring 34 points to Garretson's 14 for the final score.

The first half was all McCook, with them scoring three times and up by 20. Blue Dragons couldn't find a rhythm in the first half and were left scoreless.

But when it came to the third quarter, Garretson shaped up and played to their potential. After a

quick Cougar touchdown, the Dragons marched up the field and scored on a 31 yard run by Parker Schlenker leaving the score 28-7.

The Dragons were not done. Chains were constantly moving until quarterback Dylan Kindt finally hit Cole Skadsen in the end zone for a 17 yard reception to make it a 28-14 game.

After a hard fought battle in the fourth, the Dragons were shutout again and gave up one Cougar touchdown. Thus left the game at 34-14, moving the Cougars to 4-0 and snapping Garretson's two game win streak, leaving them 2-2.

Garretson will play in Flandreau against the Fliers (0-3) tonight at 7:00 pm, but without Hayden Olofson, Rave Uhlich, and Matthew Rattenborg due to injuries.



Quarterback Dylan Kindt (#12) steps back in the pocket and hits receiver Cole Skadsen for a big reception in the first quarter of last week's game.
Photo by Morgan Pierret

Cross country competes half way across state

The Garretson harriers have reached the midpoint in their season and are starting to hit their competitive stride.

Yesterday the Blue Dragon runners traveled to Chamberlain and made the long drive worth it as the girls team came away with a fourth place team finish. All of the girls who contributed to team scores this year were running the junior varsity track at this time last year.

Mikayala Heesch paced the Lady Dragons with a 5K time of 20:54, earning 14th place. Jordyn Williams was 35 seconds behind her, finishing in 19th. Rounding out the team scores were Payton Campbell in 24th (22:09) and Kylie Christensen in 27th (22:22). There were 70 girls running this varsity meet.

Eighty three boys took to the course in Chamberlain. Freshman Preston Bohl topped them all, shaving

over a minute and a half off of his time from last year. Bohl ran the course in 16:51, taking top honors.

Junior Devon Leedy also improved his time in Chamberlain over last year by 30 seconds. Leedy finished in 46th (19:25) and Sam Schleuter finished in 19:42.

The Blue Dragons return to competition Wednesday at Dell Rapids.



Are your personal belongings being rummaged through?

by **Oliviyah Thornton**
staff writer

Last week there was an uproar among Garretson students who felt that personal belongings were being looked through without their consent, but looking into the matter further, this was not the case.

Students believed that Mr. Long, the principal of Garretson High school, was going into students' lockers and going through their bags looking for their phones. If this was the case, he does have the right to look in our lockers, but if he doesn't have a legitimate reason for looking through a students' bag, then he cannot.

Mr. Long explained more on what he can actually look through and for what reasons.

"While it's important to remember that locker are the school's property, but we don't make it a practice to look through student's bags of other property unless we have a specific reason. Determining if there is a phone in their locker or not would not be a reason for us to look through any of the student's personal items."

There are other reasons for having to look through students locker, Mr. Long continued, "The random checks of lockers could be done for a couple of reasons. One could be to make sure we don't have soda or drinks other than water or food in the lockers or another could be that we have information that there could be something in the locker that would violate school policy."

To your relief he only scans your locker seeing if he sees your phone, and moves on. But should he even have to check? When it comes to Garretson rules it clearly states phones are supposed to be kept in the lockers at all times and even the teachers have been informed that students found with their phones on them will have their phones taken away until the end of the day when students can get it back. If this happens again, parents are contacted and must come get their child's phone.

Even with these rules, there has already been five accounts of students phones being taken away. This begs the question, if the phone issue begins to get out of hand, will there be stricter rules on the phone restrictions? Does the school even want to make the rules

on phone stricter?

"The hope would be no, that students just understand that phones need be in lockers and they can check them between classes and at lunch," stated Long.

But then there's the problem if parents do not care if their child has their phone on them. "Our intent is to make sure that the discussion at home after the second offense is to leave the phone where it is supposed to be because it's not a difficult expectation. Parents will need to meet with me and get the phone. if they don't, the student will be without it until they do. We understand it's a burden for these parents, but it's also a burden on teachers, other students and the student violating the policy. Just leave it in your locker and this wouldn't even be an issue we would be discussing."

But there are only punishments it seems like for having your phone on and no rewards. What's to persuade students to keep their phones in their locker? I mean other than the punishments and just not wanting to get distracted by your phone. Mr. Long emphasizes on this and checking in lockers for phones.

"Not to a wide extent yet - just for a couple of issues regarding food or for students that have been asked to make sure they leave their phone in their locker after their first violation of the cell phone policy. The plan is random checks of lockers and if we see a phone visibly in the locker (perhaps on the top shelf) that we will be leaving a certificate of appreciation as some sort of reward for following expectations," said Long. "We won't be looking through bags or coats, etc. So, if you're following the rules regarding your phones, leave them where they are easily visible and you may have a surprise waiting for you in the locker as well."

With the staff not wanting to make rules stricter on the phones and trying to give awards to those who respect and follow the restrictions, it seems that it just lands on the students to take it upon themselves to not keep things in their lockers that don't belong there and keeping their phones in their locker.



"They can't stop all of us" maybe

by **Kylie Uhl**
staff writer

Today is September 20 and as many have heard over the summer, today many people are planning to raid Area 51.

In late June, Matty Roberts, a 21-year-old from Bakersfield, CA posted the Facebook event: *Storm Area 51 They Can't Stop All of Us*, as a joke but later, Roberts got a visit from the FBI. The U.S. Air Force has also warned it is ready for anything.

The first couple days after posting, the event went unnoticed and then mid-July rolled around and the event went viral. With 1 million Facebook users planning on attending the event.

The authorities later heard about the event and they however, weren't amused. It wasn't long before Roberts began regretting the post. When interviewed by ABC news, he said to the many who planned on attending "Please don't."

Earlier this month he was asked by the *Today* show about the event and he simply said "That the event is no longer a wholesale raid on Area 51 but instead a gathering called "Alienstock."

Many of the "Alien fanatics" have already settled into the town's right outside of Area 51, Rachel and Hiko and are preparing for the mass raid.

According to the CIA, the name Area 51 comes from its map designation. It was also previously referred to as "Paradise Ranch" in order to make the base sound more attractive to those that would be working there.

"Paradise Ranch" was then shortened to "The Ranch." Other nicknames include "Watertown" and "Dreamland."

On Tuesday Air Force spokesman, Laura McAndrews, gave a statement to the *Los Angeles Times*, "The United States Air Force is aware of the Facebook post. The Nevada Test and Training Range is an area where the Air Force tests and trains combat aircraft," she said. "As a matter of practice, we do not discuss specific security measures, but any attempt to illegally access military installations or military training areas is dangerous."

Then came this ominous warning: "Law enforcement will be overwhelmed and local residents will step up to protect their property. It will get ugly."



Hands on experience working in government

What is Girls State

by **Noel Johnson**
staff writer

This past May Garretson had eight then-junior girls attend an event in Vermilion, SD called Girls State sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. The girls that attended were Aftyn Heitkamp, Aliah Lymon, Angel Larson, Jayden Clark, Madi Nordstrom, Noble Nothstine, Rachel Kindt, and Riley Altman. These ladies attended the five day program that engages the interest of our government and what its like from their prospective.

All of the ladies listed above attend the University of South Dakota with other girls from the state. They were sectioned into cities mingling with other girls in attendance from different schools. Along with that they ran for various positions that contributed to the government.

Speakers such as Kristi Nome, Dusty Johnson, Mike Rounds, and John Thune lectured and just gave first-hand information on how the government works. The girls even ran their own campaigns and elected each other to set up a government as well to give a more realistic example and experience.

Many of the ladies talked to about Girls State all pretty much had the same answers explaining how bad the food was, how they made new friends or what their

favorite part is like and here is some of what they had to say.

"A major pro [of attending] was all the people I met and having a better understanding of how our government works," said Clark.

"Yes I would do it again in a heartbeat. I think if any girl has the opportunity, you need to take it," said Altman

"I had a really good experience; it just comes down to how much you put into it," said Nordstrom.

"I think that Girls State is a great opportunity for underclassmen if you are willing to step out of your comfort zone and to meet new people, along with looking for a good time where you can learn some stuff you should definitely capitalize on the opportunity," said Kindt.

Overall the ladies explained how their experience was different in a good way but also very awakening on how the government actually works. Girls State provided lots of knowledge about life in general for these young women and how important it is to know how our government systems are being run.



Annual blood drive draws in community

by Grace Panning
staff writer

Many are given a high-five after donating to the blood drive. On Wednesday morning, the FFA brought the Sioux Falls Community Blood bank to Garretson. They usually do this every year and anyone who was older than 16 could've donated blood.

If you were 16 you would've needed to have your parents sign a consent form before participating in the donating process.

If you were 18 or older, you could've given blood without parents consent.

The FFA teacher, Mrs. Kientopf, had a lot of great feedback about the other rules to follow and experiences she had and has seen.



Garretson staff, students, and community members all showed up to the school on Wednesday, September 18 to donate blood when the Community Blood Bank visited Garretson schools. It was a busy, active day for the BloodMobile.

Q: Why have you chosen to donate blood?

A: "I have chosen to donate blood because it's for a good cause, and I think that it's important to be able to give back to those that need it now. If one day I need it I hope that people would want to do the same for me."

Q: How does the blood donation process work?

A: "When you get there you go to the check in desk and sign in right outside the school office. With your ID of some sort, and then they will take you on the bus and put you in a private room. Ask you a list of questions take a few different vital signs like your blood pressure and temperature to see if your healthy enough to donate blood. Once your ok you get to sit in the chair and they will get you all set up. Then they will go through the blood donation process sometimes it takes other people longer than others, it all depends on how fast you blood flows to fill the bank. They wrap you up and you sit until your comfortable and ready to go."

Q: What should people do after donating blood?

A: "After donating blood make sure you drink plenty of fluids throughout the day before and after make sure your eating good quality meals not just a bunch of junk food. A lot of protein and good carb filled meals to keep your blood pressure up. Also vitals just to make sure that your healthy and have a positive experience as well."

Q: Will it hurt when they insert the needle?

A: "It's kind of like someone taking a little thumb tack and poking you it's not anything totally drastic. If you talk to a diabetic, it's nothing. They're used to it everyday, if they have to take their blood sugar and things like that. It's really nothing to be afraid of."

Q: How long does a blood donation take?

A: "It varies on who you are as a person like how fast your blood flows and how long it takes to find your vein. I've seen people get in and out within 10-15 minutes. And I've seen people there from more than an hour."

Q: How often can you donate blood?

A: "You can donate every 6 weeks"

Q: Where does the blood go?

A: "The blood is distributed through the blood bank to local hospitals and facilities to help those that need different types of blood transfusions and for when people get in accidents or other health issues such as cancer"



If you didn't stop by to give some blood that's ok, there is another chance second semester. Maybe next time just remember some people need different types of blood to survive. If you haven't ever donated blood before take a test drive over at the Sioux Falls Community Blood Bank.

Problems in Pittsburgh

by Parker Schlenker
staff writer



With the few scandals we have early, there is definitely a few interesting ones. First off Britney Taylor accused New England Patriots new wide receiver Antonio Brown of sexual assault. Britney said Brown committed this crime back in 2017 in Brown's home in Pittsburgh.

The accusations and charges have been completely wiped and the Patriots head coach will not punish Brown. As of now Brown is not guilty and research has been dropped for the most part. Some people believe he is innocent and the accusation started because of the controversial move to get Brown on the Patriots but then again others believe he did do it.

Not only was Brown accused of inappropriate relations, Pittsburgh's all star closing pitcher, Felipe Vazquez, was charged with attempting to have sex with a 13-year-old girl. Vasquez also sent nude photographs and videos of himself committing sexual acts to the young girl. He was arrested last Tuesday and charged with six accounts in Pittsburgh and Florida including other sexual charges with a 16-year-old girl in Florida.



Vazquez told police he drove the 13-year-old girl home in Scottsdale and attempted to pull the girls pants down and make sexual contact while they were in his car. The final punishment hasn't been decided yet.

Garretson Guessing Game

created by Kylie Uhl

See how good you are at identifying these Garretson staples.

Where is this?



WHERE IS THIS:
Warning sign: Mr. Steckler's classroom

WHO IS THIS:
Shoes: Greg Arana



Who is this?



WHAT IS THIS:
Water drain at the water fountains

What is this?

