



Blue Dragon volleyball wraps up their season during region play against Madison. On back page

Blue Ink



Teacher feature: Alysha Kientopf

First year agriculture teacher gives insight

by Sam Gonzalez
staff writer



Alysha Kientopf, a Garretson High School alumni, is finally back home to teach some of her favorite high school subjects: Agriculture, woodworking and more. Ms. Kientopf was born and raised in Garretson, South Dakota and graduated from SDSU. She has two older brothers and is an aunt to two nieces and three nephews. As her first year in teaching, this will be a journey for her, and hopefully a great one.

(Q): Did you consider any other majors?

(A): "I actually started my freshman year as a pre-nursing student, and I was just really missing something. Being in 4-H and FFA in the past was a passion of mine so I really wanted to move forward with that and now I'm teaching. I want to be a guide and supporter for kids"

(Q): How does it like to have been taught by Mr. Mueller, and now being the new "Mr. Mueller"?

(A): It's got a sense of pride, knowing that Mr. Mueller was a great teacher. Being a student from his class, it's nice knowing the traditions

and being able to carry them along. Coming up, and being the new Mr. Mueller helps me fulfill and carry out the role that he was. It's a lot easier knowing there's something that didn't work for him and his things that went really well for him and being able to incorporate those changes to make an already good program to an even stronger program.

(Q): What is you're favorite part of Garretson School?

(A): "Having such a strong administration that is willing to help out. It's part of the team, and having that sense of relationship as a faculty in the school to get provided the best care and edu-

cation for students is very positive and great for a small community."

(Q): What is your favorite part of the teaching?

(A): "Working with the kids, and seeing them develop new ideas and coming out of their shell. Obviously with me being new this year, they weren't like this; they were a lot quieter so it's nice seeing the personalities come out."

(Q). What has been your the biggest change while you've been teaching?

(A). "Being an alumni of Garretson, it's been a change to go from being the student that was doing stuff for the teacher to working with them. We're a team, it's been a change from that relationships. With the program, I foresee a lot of changes for it, that I can expand into next semester. For example turning the program around to put independent studies to more of a full class basis and redesigning the classes into a better structure."

Oral Interp: The sport of champions

As the interpretation season kicks off, participation and success continues to climb

by Sylvia Larson
staff writer

Where do you go to find well-dressed teenagers who talk to walls? An Oral Interpretation meet, of course!

Garretson High School's oral interpers have been quite busy this fall. They started the season with a meet at Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, and have since been to Harrisburg, Brookings High School, and -today- Parker. They have two more events to participate in before the region meet.

"I think we've done pretty well so far. It was a rough start but we improve with every meet," commented junior interper Caitlyn Trower, Trower is part of the reader's theater and also has a solo piece, "[The reader's theater] got a superior rating at the Brookings meet so I have high hopes for the future."

Participating acts this year include a Reader's Theater, a duet, a poetry piece, a humorous piece,



The oral interpretation team takes a moment to enjoy the moment before the final results are revealed during a recent meet. The squad has quite a few members and for the first time in quite a few years, a reader's theater ensemble. Participants at this meet were Myranda Folland, Kara Ross, Lana Braswell, Nobel Nothstine, Caitlyn Trower, Tabi Klingenberg, and Sylvia Larson.

Photo submitted by Sylvia Larson

and at least one in pretty much every other category: storytelling, serious prose, and non-original oratory.

"It's pretty awesome," stated junior Clayton Bonte, "I'm kind of excited because so far I've gotten

an excellent - which is a pretty good score - and I'm happy about that."

Despite a few ups and downs, the Garretson speakers are excitedly anticipating their last few meets.

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Leonardo DaVinci invented the scissors.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What do you use to fix a broken jack-o-lantern?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: Name for the four types of days that start with the letter T.

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, November 4

- Oral Interpretation @ Parker

Sunday, November 6

- Daylight Savings Time Ends—turn clocks back an hour

Monday, November 7

- FFA Leadership Contest

Friday, November 11

- Veteran's Day

- Program at 2:30

Scan for a look at the district activities calendar.



Worth Mentioning

The Presidential Election as well as other local elections takes place on Tuesday, November 8.

Other ballot issues include US congressional seats, state congressional seats, five constitutional amendments, three initiated measures, and two referred laws. Visit the South Dakota Secretary of State's office to view a sample ballot.

The World Series was one for the history books as the Chicago Cubs beat the Cleveland Indians in extra innings in a thrilling game 7. The last time the Cubs won the World Series was 108 years ago.

All-State Chorus and orchestra was last weekend. Garretson's choral delegate consisted of Aliah Lymon, Abriana Scholl, Zebadiah Johnson, and Carter Gullickson.

Volleyball finishes season with loss to Bulldogs

Garretson traveled to Madison Tuesday night for first round region play

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

As volleyball season comes to an end, we all start to realize how much we're going to miss it.

With their final record at 0-23 the Blue Dragons had a pretty rough year for volleyball if they focus only on the wins and losses. Only winning five sets but improving skills set and gaining valuable experience throughout the season.

Garretson earned the #7 seed in Region 3 which paired them up against #2 Madison Bulldogs. Despite strong efforts, solid swings, and good serving, the Blue Dragons were unable to come away with the upset victory.

Leading the way for the Blue Dragons was senior Allison Longhenry with four kills on the night.

Senior Hailey Steffes (2), junior Madi Northrup (2), sophomore Rakell Gnadt (3), and freshmen Aftyn Heitkamp (1) and Abby Schroeder (3) also contributed to the offensive attack.

Defensively junior Emily Schleuter picked up 22 Bulldog attacks; Northrup and Heitkamp each had 12 digs on the night.

This was the last game of their Blue Dragon career for the four seniors on the team: Alyssa Bunde, Tabi Klingenberg, Allison Longhenry, and Hailey Steffes. Their consistency and hard work will be missed as the Blue Dragon volleyball team begins the transition to next season.

Garretson is in a rebuilding state right now. Giving freshman saw lots of playing time. This is also because of the amount of seniors lost last year. Rebuilding

means that the team is working on success for the future.

At almost every game there are lots of people there to support Garretson. But do we really know how much the crowd effects the players? Junior Volleyball player Emily Schleuter said, "When the crowd was yelling and supporting us, it really made us want to try harder."

The fans also seemed to have a great time in the stands as well. Frequent volleyball-goer Brennan Mudder said, "I really enjoyed going to the games and screaming my heart out every night."

"To succeed next year we're really going to need to work in the off-season to improve," stated Schleuter. With volleyball done a new sport is right around the corner for the Lady Dragons, basketball.



The 2016 varsity volleyball team consisted of (front row) Rakell Gnadt, Molly Houg (second row) Abby Schroeder, Ashlyn Andersen, Aftyn Heitkamp, Kenzie Northrup (third row) Tabi Klingenberg, Allison Longhenry, Hailey Steffes, Alyssa Bunde, (four throw) head coach Amanda Schotzko, Madi Northrup, assistant coach Kelsey Buchholz, and (top row) Emily Schleuter.

The decision just four days away

Election season is almost completed; however the most important day, Election Day, still looms

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**
senior writer

In four days, American citizens will choose which candidate will stake claim to the Oval Office for the next four years. 2016 has played host to one of the most disastrous presidential races ever and leaves many people wondering, is this truly the best America has to offer?

Senior Nick Irvine commented, "On a scale of 1 to 10 on how scared I am about this election: I'd definitely say a solid 9.5." He also added that he does not feel good about the path our country is headed down.

The major heat this year is coming from the huge flaws in both candidates. On one hand,

Donald Trump, who although is a very successful business man and independent in his sense of politics, has many shortcomings. He discriminates against both gender

and race and is very unpredictable which many people feel are not good characteristics of a president in a largely diverse country. He has made comments that are found to be highly offensive, and has time and time again lied about countless actions he has made.

Next, we have Hillary Clinton, who is highly respected around the world and is very educated

and prepared in the political world also has many defects. She is currently undergoing an FBI investigation over her controversial e-mail scandal. The other

event that scares many people is what she would do to the supreme court if she was elected. She could make the court almost all liberal and change the lawmaking in our country for many years.

Senior and first-time-voter Hayden King stated, "Our country is going to go downhill real quick with our two candidates, but if

we vote smart we should still be fine. America is going to drastically change over the next four years, but I still think we can hold it together until the next election."

Through the course of the past few weeks the race for the White House has grown closer, meaning that every vote will count. Although a majority of the U.S. already knows whose name they will be marking on November 8th, a few are still left undecided. But at this point in time, every vote counts and it's time for America to ask the question, "Who do we really want running out country?" This question could be a determining factor of the future and success of the United States of America.



Lunch time fun

Truth or dare or conversation starters to keep lunch time moving

Truth

- What is your favorite holiday and why?
- If you could be any superhero, who would you be?
- What's your best joke?
- Would you rather be a bumble bee or a slug?
- What's the grossest thing you've ever done?

Dare

- Stand on one leg for the rest of lunch
- Balance a spoon on your nose for one minute
- Quack and walk like a duck
- Call a random person and sing them "Happy Birthday"
- Take one piece of food from each person's tray and eat them all at the same time

Conversation starter

- Do you think boys or girls have it easier?
- If everyone at your table but you would be killed would you sacrifice yourself to save everyone else?
- What makes you feel guilty and why?
- What's the luckiest thing that's ever happened to you?
- If you could be any age for the rest of your life what age would you be?

Senior Spotlight

Nick Irvine

Senior project:

Making a Ghillie Suit

Activities

involved in:

Football, Member of Saint Rose of Lima Church

Who/What will you

miss most:

Hanging out with friends on the weekend

Plans for

next year:

Undecided

