



Volleyball opens up BEC tourney play (on page 3)

Blue Ink



9-11 altered the face of the United States

The terrorist attack, although fifteen years ago, still resonates strong with Americans and their culture

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**
senior writer

"9/11 was the most horrific attack on American soil ever, thousands of innocent lives were lost because of the faceless cowards, who's deluded self justification led them to commit this horrendous act. It left a scar that will last forever," stated senior Matt Gustafson. September 11th, 2001, a day that will be remembered forever.

Early on September 11th, four planes were hijacked by members of Al-Qaeda and were then redirected each to their assigned target. Three of the four were able to complete their mission flying into the North and South Towers of the World Trade Center, the other plane crashed into the Pentagon.

The terrorist attacks killed 3,000 people and left over 6,000

people badly injured, it also ended up costing over 3 trillion dollars. The costs ranged from physical damage to war funding and veterans care.

Since the incidents in 2001 America has drastically changed. We have added new security measures, worries about immigration are greater, and military interest saw a spike in enlistment.

Many Americans like to say that we came out of 9/11 stronger than ever. After the events that took place, many adults say that the general attitude of Americans was much more gracious and kind. Patriotism was at a peak.

Sophomore Kyley Greenhoff remarked that it brought out nation together and transformed America forever.

On the other side of the spectrum, some would argue that the changes we have made in our

everyday life to feel safe are the true point of terrorism thus giving Al-Qaeda a partial victory.

Previously our country was an escape for many people in the world. The U.S. is now divided on whether to keep our traditional views and accept those suffering under unjust governments or to limit immigration to help prevent terrorism from happening on our own soil.

9/11 was the first significant terrorist attack on U.S. soil, but since then many more have happened even with our added security.

Overall the events that took place on September 11th will forever be remembered by Americans. We will never forget those who perished on that day and the heroes who risked their lives to save countless others.

Second Saturday set to celebrate improvements

After impressive inaugural event, community looks forward to tomorrow's experience

by **Samantha Gonzalez**
staff writer

Friendly faces, great food, and a feeling of home is what you can expect from our own town's Second Saturday event. "The goal of Second Saturdays is to promote our local Garretson businesses. We want people to think of Garretson businesses first before they drive to Sioux Falls," Shelly Hofer, the main leader for this event, said. This is a unique way to get people of all ages on to Main Street and in local stores.

Second Saturdays start around May and ends in October. Our local businesses like Annie's Café, the Sports Cabin and more stay open late and have plenty of specials.

There will be live music by Dayne Versteeg, balloon creations, and the Sioux Empire Paddlers Kayak group giving demonstrations, pontoon rides and more!

There will be a raffle tickets for sale. This month's raffle prize is a kayak plus other bonuses such as

a life jackets and a free lesson from the Sioux Empire Paddlers. Proceeds of this raffle will go to the Blue Dragon Academy, a new daycare being built to help with the demand of infant through pre-school care.

"It gets very busy and the business keeps you on your toes, but I enjoy the Second Saturdays. It's something new for our community," said Keara Beck, a volunteer at Annie's Café.

It's not just something that's new community but also helps it. This activity helps our town grow business wide. "If we want to attract other businesses, the best thing we can do as a community is show support to the businesses we already have. We want prospective businesses to look at Garretson and say 'wow, they have a thriving local business community. Garretson loves their local businesses so maybe I should bring my business to Garretson,'" Hofer explained.

"Our local businesses are at the heart of our community - they are the ones who sponsor

our little league teams, donate prizes for fundraisers, help put on Jesse James Days, etc. etc. We have to make sure we are supporting local business in order to keep the community viable." said Hofer.

This Saturday, Sep. 10, the beginning event will start at 3:00 p.m. which will be our "Big Dam Party" at the Split Rock Park to celebrate the work on the dam being completed.

Then at 5:30 the party will move down to Main Street with a mobile escape room and a poker walk! The poker walk has over \$75 in prizes and gift certificates.

So let's find our way out of this article and into a great function on Saturday Night.



This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: The earth gets 100 tons heavier every day due to falling space dust.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What is red, has claws, and has a messy room?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: Before Mount Everest, what was the highest mountain in the world?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, September 9

- FB v. Alcester-Hudson (7:00)
- Parents Night for Football, Cheerleading, and Cross Country

Saturday, September 10

- XC @ Nike Heartland Meet (9:00)
- VB @ BEC—Volga v. Flandreau (2:00)

Tuesday, September 13

- JHFB v. Alcester-Hudson (4:00)
- JHVB @ Flandreau (4:00)
- VB @ Flandreau (6:15/7:00)
- Soccer @ Vermillion (6:00)

Thursday, September 15

- XC @ Chamberlain (2:30)
- JHVB v. West Central (4:00)
- VB v. West Central (6:15/7:00)
- Soccer v. West Central (6:00)
- Soccer Parents' Night

Scan for a look at the district activities calendar.



Worth Mentioning

Junior High Football routed their opponents on Tuesday night. They traveled to Deuel and made the long trip worth it securing a decisive victory. Their next game is Tuesday at home against Alcester-Hudson.

The academic eligibility policy has also changed. Now students will have grades checks weekly, starting Monday, September 12. Students must be passing all classes to participate in school activities for the week.

Cross Country team continues to perform well

Despite small numbers, the cross country runners push each other and improve throughout each

by **Jaden Braaten**
staff writer

Cross country is still working hard as they have now reached their third meet.

This Tuesday, cross country had their first and only home



The Garretson Blue Dragons (left) set off on their 5K trek in recent action.

Photo by Isaiah Miles Mader

meet this year.

Jack Konechne, one of the runners at Tuesday's meet, said, "There were a lot of people who came and supported us even though there was soccer the same night."

"We did well, ran fast, and got

some medals," Konechne mentioned.

Carmen Bohl also thought the team did very well. "I feel like both teams did their best at the meet, and I hope we keep it up throughout the season."

Bohl finished Tuesday's meet with eighth place. "I think both teams want to get top three at each meet in hopes to make it to state," Bohl said.

The team will have their next meet this Saturday in Sioux Falls for the Nike Heartland.

Even though the team isn't very big they still work hard and stay strong. They hope to keep up their good work and determination for this upcoming race and bring in even more medals and



Carmen Bohl paces the group during Tuesday's home meet.

Photo by Isaiah Miles Mader

strong finishes. The team has set goals for themselves and try their best to continue to work hard to hopefully have yet another successful year.

National Park Service celebrates 100 years

The NPS has grown to oversee more than 1200 national locations including parks, recreational areas, and monuments

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

This summer the National Park Service commended commemorated 100th year anniversary on August 25th with a celebration. They started off their second century with recreation, conservation, and historic preservation curriculums.

The founders of the National Park service programs were Horace M. Albright, John Muir, Stephen Mather, and presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson.

It all started with the Act of March 1, 1872. Congress established Yellowstone Park in the territories of Montana and Wyoming. The founding of Yellowstone started a national park movement. Now there are 1,200 national parks across the United States!

On August 25th, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill that would create the National Park Service. The purpose of this was to protect all, at the time 35, national parks and monuments.

The United States mint collaborated with the National Park Service by making three limited edition coins. The coins are a five dollar gold coin, a silver dollar, and a fifty cent coin. The designs feature pioneers in the National Park foundation as well as the logo and scenes from some of the national parks.

Also the United States Postal Service joined in on the fun by issuing 16 new stamps. The designs were released earlier this year in April.

The National Park Service also oversees monuments, recreational sites and historic places and trails.

South Dakota has seven places marked as a national park, monument, historic site or trail, or recreational site. The two national parks are Badlands and Windcave. The Lewis & Clark historic trail runs through South Dakota as well as 10 other states. Minuteman Missile is a national historic site located in southwestern South Dakota. The Missouri

river serves as a national recreational river. What South Dakota is best known for, Mount Rushmore is one of two national monuments. The other is Jewel Cave in Custer, SD.

The National Park Service is a strong organization that has been very successful and hopefully it continues to be for as long as possible.



Protect your windows, it's sabotage season

Recent string of vandalism has gotten town's attention

by **Peyton Sage**
staff writer

'Twas the night before Labor Day when all through the town, a couple of teens were stealthily roaming around. The stores were all closed, the doors locked with care, in hopes that in the morning, the windows would still be there.

On Sunday night, two unknown suspects were said to be breaking the windows on the doors of Jesse James Country Store and Garretson Food Center with hammers. Although it was storming when the vandalism happened, that didn't stop the

perps.

"I yelled 'Hey!' when they hit the window and then they ran off," an anonymous witness recounted.

After breaking the window up at GFC, there wasn't any further documented damage done to any other buildings around town. Even though the culprits managed to avoid all of the security cameras, their chances of staying under the radar without being caught are slim to none, especially in a small town like Garretson.

"They easily did at least \$500 of damage for the glass and what it is to replace it. This would probably be a Class I Misdemean-

or," Officer Aanenson, the school's resource officer, stated about last weekend's destruction.

"I think less of this would happen if people would sit back and ask themselves what would happen if their stuff was to get damaged or vandalized, how would they feel when they place themselves in someone else's shoes?"

According to Aanenson, there have been plenty of vandalisms and thefts throughout the summer months. Earlier this season, there was some damage done up at the pool that consisted of chairs being thrown into the water, gates broken, and things thrown into the kiddie pool.

There was also an incident uptown that included some inappropriate words and images painted onto the side of a building.

Whether or not these events were linked, the major question is why people are drawn to partaking in these devious acts. No matter if it's just an act brought out by extreme boredom or just by the mere pleasure of breaking things, if people would just stop and think before they do disastrous things, not only would Garretson be a better place, the world would be a better place.

New faces, new beginnings

The Garretson Blue Dragon volleyball team lost their starting core from last year but still find ways to be competitive

by **Tabi Klingenberg**
staff writer

With the start of the new season, comes a new opportunity for our brand-new starting six on the volleyball court to alter their reputation and record of their team in previous years.

The team has shown noticeably different routines and attitudes which has been extremely beneficial to their performance out on the court. Unfortunately, they haven't won any of their games, but the season has just begun with only two games and two tournaments under their belt.

Saturday, August 27th, they started off the season strong at the annual Canton tournament where they faced off against Canton, Sioux Falls Lincoln JV, and West Sioux in pool play then later Dell Rapids in the bracket.

First, they played Canton where they lost the first set 25-10, but finished strong in the second set, scoring 23 points against Canton.

The fans got another taste of

game against SF Lincoln JV 25-19, but were unable to take the second set as well.

The Blue Dragons played West Sioux, afterwards, and scored 19 points against the opposing team, once again, in the final set.

Finally, they played Dells in the seventh place game where they fought hard, but lost both sets 25-15 and 25-14.

The following week, they faced Sioux Falls Christian where they lost all three sets to last year's state champions.

That Thursday they traveled to Baltic to go head-to-head against Garretson's arch-rivals, losing 25-10 in the first set, 25-19 in the second, and 25-8 in the third.

The Blue Dragons put up a good fight in the second set with a late game run, but couldn't keep it going long enough to make up for the deficit that started the match.

The girls are still in the process of adjusting to a new line-up where only one player, Emily Schleuter, has had any significant experience on the varsity court.

In addition, the team was missing



Emily Schleuter pops up a dig against a Sioux Valley attack. Hailey Steffes (#12), Alyssa Bunde (#4), and Rakell Gnadt look on, ready to take the second hit.

Photo by Sylvia Larson



The Blue Dragons celebrate after winning the point on a long rally. Garretson went up early in the set but then later stumbled, dropping the set and match against the

what our team is capable of when they finished off the next

Blue Dragons squared off in the first two round of the Big East

half of their seniors due to injuries for the first few weeks of the season. It wasn't until yesterday that they finally were able to get back onto the court and help their team.

Conference tournament yesterday. Drawing the #8 seed, they had to face #1 Parker. The Pheasants sent out a tough, tall line-up on the court. Despite some great rallies and scrappy play by the home team, the Pheasants took the match.

That set up a face off against #4 Sioux Valley. Garretson pulled out a strong start to the first set, jumping to an 8-4 lead and holding that lead for over half the set. However, a few mental errors on the Garretson side and solid plays on the Cossack side contributed to a reverse in the score. Sioux Valley ended up sweeping the Lady Dragons.

Garretson will play in the sev-

enth place game against #7 Flاندreau at 2:00 in Volga on Saturday.

Although the Blue Dragons lost six strong players when they graduated last year, they also gained six freshman and one senior who had just returned from a small hiatus. This has added a different dimension to the team.

After seeing our players in action for the first time this year, we've seen that the team has begun to learn to harness their competitiveness, focus on teamwork, and put up a good fight. They still have a long way to go, but the team has proven to have the potential to get there.

Soccer comes up short during match against West Central

A tough Trojan team stunts Garretson's bid at third win of the season

by **Sylvia Larson**
staff writer

The Garretson Blue Dragons Soccer team (2-4-0) astounded the public with not one, but two wins at the beginning of the fall season. In a game against Vermillion, the Blue Dragons battled fiercely and was able to put a late-game penalty kick into the back of the net. In the game against Mitchell, the girls managed the same feat as their first win and added another victory to the history books.

With high hopes for their new record, they Blue Dragon girls waited in eager anticipation to see what would become of the match against West Central (4-0-3).

"We played a pretty good game, especially in the first half. We communicated. We did a lot of the fundamentals that we haven't been doing," commented senior Kindra Clark, who is a forward on the team.

"The second half was a little bit shaky but they're a good team. They haven't been beaten

yet, so we played a good game considering."

The girls went beast-mode during the first half, improving on a lot of the things they've had a difficult time with in the past, keeping the game within reach.

"As a team I think we played really well. West central is very aggressive and we did all we could to hold our own against them," stated junior mid-fielder Peyton Sage.

Unfortunately during the second half of the match the girls couldn't quite match West Cen-

tral's skill level, and they sadly lost with a score of 0-3.

The soccer team isn't letting this loss get to them, though. They're treating every game like a new opportunity to show off their skill and pull off another win.

The Blue Dragon soccer team is back in action on Tuesday at Vermillion in a rematch of the opening game of the 2016 season.

Flanagan gets chance to serve at a statewide level

Minnesota State 4-H Ambassador selection is a long careful process but the rewards make it worth it

by **Emily Malsom**
staff writer

What does a goat, partial marching band, and cookies have in common? Minnesota State Fair of course! From Sweet Martha's Cookies to 4-H activities, the state fair is always an exciting time, especially for State Ambassador Moriah Flanagan.

For those of you that aren't familiar with the 4-H organization, a state ambassador is one of the greatest accomplishments one could receive. State ambassadors serve as the face of 4-H all across Minnesota throughout the year.

Their duties at the state fair included greeting fair-goers as they entered the 4-H building, selling Minnesota 4-H merchandise at the Clover-Mart and helping with livestock and performing art shows.

"While I was greeting, one of the most asked question was where's the bathroom?" stated Flanagan.

Ambassadors also had the honor of meeting with prominent

guests and sponsors, such as the Minnesota State Fair Board and president of The University of Minnesota.

After the twelve day state fair concludes, ambassadors continue to stay busy planning BLU (Building Leadership and Understanding) and YELLO! (Youth Exploring Leadership and Learning Outloud!), regional and state leadership conferences.

To earn a year-long spot among the selective group of 23 other teens from across the state, There's an application process. "You fill out a typical application with your basic info and why you want the position. From there, there were ten callbacks from each of the five regions," explained Flanagan. "If you were called back, you gave a presentation on 4-H and had an interview following that."

Former Minnesota State 4-H Ambassador and current Garretson teacher Kelsey Buchholz mentioned that the year she was elected, "You were selected as a delegate from your county to run for a state ambassador position.

Each county could send one delegate to run and one more as a voter for your county."

After that, the delegate attended YELLO! and the new ambassadors were elected at the conclusion of that conference. Each person ran for an office such as treasurer or president in their region and if they achieved that office, they would become a state ambassador. "It was pretty much a popularity contest," said Buchholz.

The team that year decided to change the application process to it's current format. "They wanted to represent the whole population of 4-Hers and include the quieter leaders." mentioned Buchholz.

Flanagan's accomplishment of being selected as a state ambassador is not one many can tout. Numbers in the low twenties are selected each year out of the hundreds of applicants and thousands of 4-Hers in Minnesota.

Flanagan is a member of Rock County 4-H.

Meeting new people, connecting with kids in and out of 4-



Moriah Flanagan dons her official state ambassador dress including the iconic green polo and name tag.

H, becoming a leader within the community, and being the person who can answer questions are the most enjoyable experiences so far for Flanagan. As the Minnesota State Fair came to a close this past Labor Day, the group said goodbye until their fall retreat in a couple of months.

NFL season kicks off with Super Bowl rematch

A season of surprises seems to be underway with injuries, suspensions, and protests dominating headlines early on

by **Hunter Carver**
staff writer

The National Football League season started up last night with a solid matchup of last year's Super Bowl between the Denver Broncos and the Carolina Panthers.

In the first half the Carolina Panthers led with a score of 17-7. Without future hall of famer, Peyton Manning, the Broncos could have been in for a major let down.

Early in the first quarter, Cam Newton, Carolina's QB rushed for a touchdown. Breaking the QB rushing TD record. And little did we know that Cam Newton's signature DAB is no longer his TD dance. He surprised us with his new dance right as he broke the record.

The Broncos came charging back in the second half, taking a 21-20 lead with only minutes left. The Panthers looked all but out of the game when a crucial penalty allowed Carolina to erase a fourth and 21 and start fresh on downs.

The Panthers were able to work themselves into field goal position and it looked as if they were going to squeak out the win and get a little redemption.



The Broncos pulled a classic move by calling timeout just moments before the Panthers kicked the game-winning field goal. The kick went up anyway and was good.

However the ploy to ice the kicker worked out for the Broncos as the actual field goal was wide left, leaving the score where it was. A dramatic start to the season.

When asked about NFL opening week, sophomore football fanatic Dakota Johnson stated, "Yeah I think the first game is gonna be pretty lit." And he was right.

The 2016-2017 season will be one to watch as the Patriots play their first four games without one of the faces of their franchise, Tom Brady.

Regionally many Vikings fans were disappointed with the sea-

son-ending injury of quarterback Teddy Bridgewater. After a promising pre-season it left Minnesota scrambling for a replacement. They were able to strike a deal, giving up two draft picks, for veteran Sam Bradford.

There has been some controversy surrounding 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick and the "stand" that he is taking.

Moving south in California, the Rams return to Los Angeles leaving the Midwest short another professional sports franchise.

The big question is whether LA can and will support another major franchise with an already saturated market.

A name synonymous with defense in the NFL today, JJ Watt, had a serious injury and questions still surround a possible return.

Johnson gave us his opinion on a early Super Bowl LI prediction, he said that he believes that the Cincinnati Bengals and the Arizona Cardinals will end up being the participants.

Student Opinion Poll

Which National Park would you most like to visit?

