



Lucas Fitzgerald took control of his LHS opponent. More on yesterday's meet in Worth Mentioning.

Photo by Jacob Schmidt

Blue Ink



Garretson School District celebrates 100th day of school

Over halfway done with the year already, the 100th day of school quickly approaches

by **Jaden Braaten**
staff writer

Although it may seem that we have been in school for a while, we are nearly at our 100th day. As most of us know, it's usually the elementary that celebrates for this day. But why doesn't GHS or GMS celebrate?

Many of the elementary teachers have been celebrating this for years, especially Mrs. Leister, who has her students bring 100 pieces of a snack, such as marshmallows, animal crackers, etc. so that way they can make a trail mix.

She also commented how they will be celebrating this event all week, "We're going to have collec-

tions day; we're going to do some team activities; we're also going to have pajama day and game day.

They all voted on what they would like to do to celebrate on this special week. Many of Mrs. Leister's kindergartens are very ecstatic about this upcoming week.

High schoolers and middle schoolers seem to care less about the 100th day of school but what if there was a few incentives? Such as hiding random \$1 bills all over the school that add up to \$100? Or get to watch movies in class that are 100 minutes? These are just a few ways that the upper classmen can get involved.

Junior McKenzie Decker had some

input on the 100th day of school, "I guess it's probably not as important in high school because when we were younger we kept track everyday with straws or popsicle sticks" Decker stated.

Even though high school and middle school don't keep track, many students would probably enjoy some of the incentives and have plenty ideas on how to celebrate.

Decker also commented, "We don't really keep track of the days in high school, we just complain about having to go to school and can't wait until the last day."

With that being said, we only have about 17 weeks of school left!

Trump's first actions in office

One week under his belt, President Trump has already signed into action a few executive orders

compiled by
Victoria Lippert
staff writer

The election in the previous year is thought to be pretty surprising and controversial, but not boring so stated Senior Abriana Scholl, "I believe that this presidential election is one that will be remembered for years as the most chaotic and laughed upon. In the years to come, we don't know what to expect with Trump as president."

It's only been one week since Trump took the oath of office and became president. In the last seven days, he signed a couple of executive orders. His ideas reach from getting rid of the Affordable Care Act, better known as "ObamaCare", defund planned parenthood, start the building of a wall across the Mexican border, end the Trans-Pacific-Partnership "TPP", a free trade agreement, before it has even started.

One of his big campaign promises was to build a wall on the US-Mexican border, which Mexico should pay for. But the country refuses, like Mexico's President Enrique Peña Nieto stated, "It is evident that we have differences with the new United States government on some issues, such as a wall that Mexico absolutely will not pay for."

But it's not just the money which seems to be an organizational problem there is also the time, which just might be too short to get this substantial project done.

It's going to be interesting to see, how Trump will realize his promises. Another point many people are curious about is how President Trump is going to negotiate with other coun-

try's leaders, especially with those, who criticized him or favored Hillary Clinton. Even the opinions of the American people about Trump are controversial and it doesn't often seem like Trump wants to unite them.

In his inauguration speech, he talks about making America wealthy, proud and safe AGAIN. It will be interesting how he is going to do this since the crime rate is at a all-time low and the standard of living higher than ever before. But when facts don't work try it with emotions, think about the "good old days", then it should come clear to you that things used to be so much better.

When we look at Trump's speech it's also remarkable how he is going to "Make America great again", just like Ronald Reagan in 1980, a time when Trump was too young to run for president and probably too busy too with opening the Grand Hyatt in Manhattan.

One thing is for sure, even if Trump's inauguration speech wasn't as offensive as some things he said during his campaign, it was far away from being moderate so said social studies teacher Mr. Steckler, "I was disappointed in President Trump's comment and tone. I thought his speech was divisive, rather than a speech to unite our country, which was not surprising, but still disappointing."

But not everybody is disappointed in Trump "I feel like Trump is definitely going to be a better president than Hillary Clinton would have ever been for our country. He is controversial, but it seems like he just wants to get attention," said senior Matthew Gustafson.

No matter what your personal view on Trump is, he is going to be America's president for the next four years and has already taken steps to realize his vision "make America great again."



Trump signing one of his executive orders during his first week in office.
Photo via @realDonaldTrump Twitter Account

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: If you run out of dryer sheets, aluminum foil can serve as a replacement. Ball it up and throw it in with the wet laundry.

GERMAN WORD OF THE WEEK: the election = die Wahl (dee vall)

JOKE OF THE WEEK: How does a mathematician plow his field?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: I am not alive, but I have five fingers. What am I?
Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Friday, January 27**
 - GBB @ BEC Tourney-Sioux Valley (6:30)
- Saturday, January 28**
 - Wrestling @ Wagner Tourney (10:00)
 - GBB @ BEC Tourney-TBD (2:00)
- Monday, January 30**
 - Band Contest
 - JH/JV Wrestling @ Brandon (4:00)
- Tuesday, January 31**
 - JH BBB v. Baltic (4:00)
 - BBB v. Baltic (6:15/7:00)
 - Wrestling @ Alcester (5:00)
- Thursday, February 2**
 - Groundhog's Day
 - JH GBB v. MCM (4:00)
 - GBB v. MCM (6:15/7:00)
- Friday, February 3**
 - JH BBB @ MCM (4:00)
 - BBB @ MCM (6:15/7:00)



Scan for a look at the district activities calendar.

Worth Mentioning

Blue Dragon Wrestlers hosted a triangular with Sioux Falls Lincoln and Parkston yesterday which doubled as Parents Night. They lost a tough one late in the matches against Parkston, who went on to beat Lincoln as well. However Garretson grapplers bounced back with a strong win over Lincoln, 50-30.

Droppin' that straight fire mixtape

Things falling to the wayside in today's society

by **Sylvia Larson**
staff writer

As the years wear on, trends and aspects of popular culture shift and change with the input and output of new entertainment and technology. Our daily activities and routines change with the tides as the things we use and are exposed to advance and morph.

Things becoming virtually obsolete due to technology is not an abnormality these days. Hand-written letters, postcards, dropping that straight fire mixtape, and even listening to the radio in the car have been slowly making their way out of the daily routine for the last decade or so.

People prefer to text instead of

write, create Spotify playlists instead of mix tapes, and playing Pandora via the aux cord instead of listening to endless radio ads. Technology is slowly nudging paper books and movies on DVD out of business, in favor of Audible and Netflix. Although it's nice to have everything handy on a portable device, writing out a letter has a certain je ne sais quoi.

It seems like people don't go on cool, fun dates these days. Roller skating may still be a popular activity at Skate City in Sioux Falls, but rinks are hard to track down in other places. Luckily there are enough frequents to keep it open. Places like bowling alleys, laser tag at an arcade, and even museums have seen a dramatic drop in business recently. Con-

tributing factors include a higher percentage of the population working, loss of interest, and favoring more technologically advanced activities. Hipsters, the talk of the nation partially known for enjoying 'retro' activities, have semi-brought-back some of these activities.

A lot of people are too busy these days to do many leisure activities, especially outdoors. Picnics in the park, hiking, and casual walks are among some nature activities that nobody has time for.

Another thing working class citizens may find tedious and unnecessary is needlework. Knitting, crocheting, cross-stitch, embroidery, making your own clothes, quilting, etc, isn't necessary in this day of low-price home décor and Rue21's sorry

excuse for fashion. The slow process of needlework for pleasure has nearly put the craft out of circulation. Of course, hipsters and people with who are really close to their grandmas may partake in the activity, but knowledge of the skills needed are slowly losing traction.

Honorable mentions: writing in cursive and driving a stick shift/manual transmission vehicle.

There's not much we can do to stop the downhill roll of the already massive snowball of technology and the future. It's sad to see the days of the past be left in the dust, but at least there's hope that hipsters will bring back all of the outdated activities we actually like enough to put effort into.

Teacher Feature

A close up with Mrs. Blok—Computers and Accounting Teacher

by **Sam Gonzalez**
staff writer

Kelly Blok, resident from Brandon, has decided to grace Garretson with her presence as this year's new computer teacher. She teaches computer applications, advanced computers, personal finance, accounting and 7th grade computers.

Mrs. Blok is married and has five kids. Two of which are in college, one in high school, one in middle school and one in intermediate school. Though not her first show, Mrs. Blok

will hopefully have a great journey ahead as a Blue Dragon.

Q: Did you have any other teaching jobs?

A: "Yes, I taught high school for four years in Iowa, and I've taught at the college level and technical school."

Q: Why did you decide to teach at GHS?

A: I like the small town; I like the idea of having k-12 under one roof. I grew up in a small school, so I like teaching in one.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: I like to play the piano; I like to go for walks, and I like to bake.

Q: Where are you from originally?

A: "I'm originally from Volga, Iowa. A small town in northeast Iowa. We moved here about 11 years ago to Brandon for my husband's job."

Q: Do you have a favorite computer class to teach?

A: I can't say that I have one, I like all of them equally.



Cabin Fever Week gets no attention

Lack of participation evident during last week's Cabin Fever Week

by **Tabi Klingenberg**
staff writer

Cabin Fever Week, formerly known as I Hate Winter Week, used to be a time where students would show their ebullience for the tradition by dressing up throughout the week. However, as the years have passed by, participation for the week has rapidly diminished.

Senior, Kindra Clark believes, "I think we had a lot going on that

week, so it was hard to keep on top of what day it was. Also I don't think we had enough advertising so people were apprehensive to dress up because they didn't know if anybody else would."

Lack of advertising, likely a major contributing factor to the lack of participation. As the week began, few students even knew what the days were. In addition, many students felt like they might need something else to get excited for the week. For ex-

ample, there are rumors about a Winter Dragon Olympics coming back next year.

Clark continued, "I think if we get the word out there sooner and make a bigger deal of it, then people are more likely to participate in it. It wasn't really made up to be a big deal and maybe we need to evaluate more interesting and fun days instead of the days we had."

Something else that also might help the students participate more in

the week would be days where the students really need to think about the theme and get more creative with it. Days like character day and G-day are excellent examples of this.

Was this year just an anomaly? Will next year be any different? Will Cabin Fever Week be worth the effort for the following years? Should Cabin Fever Week just be eliminated? These are the questions that surround this once beloved tradition.

Senior Spotlight

Hailey Steffes

Senior Project:
Cookies & Canvas

Activities:
Volleyball

Who/What Will You Miss the Most:
My dog
Mrs. Buchholz
Mrs. Granberg
Being unproductive with my homegirl @Shalyssa

Next Year's Plans:
South Dakota State University



Senior Spotlight

Mataya Lines

Senior Project:
Baking and Decorating Cakes

Activities:
Work @ Lil Dreamers
Choir
Yearbook

Who/What Will

You Miss the Most:
Going to miss being able to ask teachers for help
Also my mum, friends, and my cat

Next Year's Plans:
Undecided for Radiologic Technology

