



Garretson Homecoming Week kicks off on Monday, September 19 (on page 2)

Blue Ink



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Hey crowd? Hey what?

Fans play a crucial role in school spirit, play, and environment

by Peyton Sage
staff writer—editorial

Every fall sport is in full motion, so it's important that everyone in the stands is ready to play their part. Because the lack of energy from our student section has been negatively impacting our teams' performances, it's time to get loud and to get proud.

From a fan's perspective, there are parents and supporters sitting across the bleachers, the team playing aggressively, and, if you're at a football game, the cheerleaders. From a cheerleader's standpoint, there's a team of football players behind them and a crowd of unenthusiastic fans in front of them.

It's the cheerleaders' job to not only pep up the team, but the crowd, too. If the team is lacking energy, there's nothing like a crowd full of loud cheering to pick them back up. Let's say the vol-



Photo by Sylvia Larson

leyball players are down by two points, the soccer team is shooting a penalty kick, or if the football team is on the ten yard line, the fans absolutely need to get hyped.

Since the student section is usually where all of the noise comes from, the cheerleaders are asking that everyone in high school, middle school, and even elementary school fill up the student section at not just football games, but soccer and volleyball games as well. They also ask that when they're doing a crowd cheer, or a cheer that the students may know, that they participate with the utmost positivity and exhilaration.

"We need the motivation because we're playing for forty continuous minutes each half so we need the crowd to be pumped and not just sitting there like, 'Woo-hoo, go soccer!' because that's going to show on us and we're going to be lazy on the field," senior soccer player Kelsie Paul said.

"If the crowd is excited then

we're going to be excited and we're going to play as well as we can. It builds up adrenaline."

Junior Madi Northrup, volleyball player, mentioned, "I would love for more people to come to home and away games and participate. Lots of other schools have big crowds and they get into the game. It makes a huge difference when we have people cheering us on. It makes it more fun for the players and crowd."

Lineman Zeb Johnson, agreed, "Having an energetic student section definitely makes a difference. Hearing the crowd's reactions to what's happening on the field really ramps up the intensity. Playing in front of spectators who are invested in the game makes it feel like the outcome of the game matters to more than just the players on the field."

Now that everyone knows what the teams expect from their fans, when the upcoming games arrive, especially the homecoming games, stand up, give a cheer, and let them know that their fans are here.



The crowd did their part last night being loud and proud, cheering on the volleyball team against West Central.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

Soccer falls short during rematch

The Blue Dragons wanted to sweep Vermillion in the season match ups but the Tanagers had other plans.

by Jaden Braaten
staff writer

The Garretson High School soccer team (2-5-0) limited the Vermillion Tanagers (4-5-0) to only three goals but unfortunately the Blue Dragons did not pull through.

As the team reaches their last few games they know it's time to focus even more than they have in their past games. They close out their schedule at home against teams they have seen be-

fore. The Blue Dragons know what to expect.

Tuesday night's game did not go as expected for the team. They had a rough first half allowing two goals in the first and last ten minutes of the game. The next half they came out and toughened up their game.

"We had more offensive chances and played both sides of the field well." Jazmin Gawerecki, the team's goalie, commented.

"We didn't come there to play and it showed on the field, we

weren't prepared and you could tell by the way we were handling the ball," Peyton Sage, a sprinting side mid, said.

The West Central game last night was cancelled due to weather. The Blue Dragons host Parents' Night on Saturday against Groton.

The team hopes to keep their focus and hard work to hopefully win these next three games in order to make it to the playoffs.

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: The moon moves about two inches away from the earth every year.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Why did the mushroom get invited to all the parties?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: What word in the English language is always spelled incorrectly?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, September 16

- FB @ Viborg-Hurley (7:00)
- Parents Night for Football, Cheerleading, and Cross Country

Saturday, September 17

- Soccer v. Groton (1:00)

Sunday, September 18

- Softball v. West Central (12:30)
- Softball v. Harrisburg (1:30)

Monday, September 19

- COLOR DAY (ES, MS, HS)
- Ruff & Tuff Volleyball (2:15)
- Coronation (7:00)
- Powder Puff (8:00)

Tuesday, September 20

- TWIN DAY (MS, HS)
- PJ DAY (ES)
- JH/JV FB @ Viborg-Hurley (4:00)
- JH VB v. Dell Rapids (4:00)
- VB v. Dell Rapids (6:15/7:00)
- School Board Mtg (5:45)

Wednesday, September 21

- JOCKS V. NERDS DAY (HS)
- FAVORITE TEAM DAY (ES, MS)
- XC @ Dell Rapids (2:30)

Thursday, September 22

- CAREER DAY (HS, ES)
- CAREER/CHARACTER DAY (MS)
- JH VB v. Chester Area (4:00)
- VB v. Chester Area (6:15/7:00)

Friday, September 23

- BLUE & WHITE DAY (ES, MS, HS)
- Game Show (8:30)
- Dragon Olympics (9:45)
- MS Kickball (9:45)
- Parade (1:30)
- Community Pep Rally (2:15)
- FB v. Baltic (7:00)

Scan for a look at the district activities calendar.



"Leaf"ing summer behind

The push to fall makes everyone realize school there is more change in the air than just the leaves on the trees

by **Tabi Klingenberg**
staff writer

With Homecoming Week just around the corner, the midst of sports season, and, for some of us, the knowledge that we are one step closer to the end of our 12-year sentence at Garretson, hopefully, we can keep our school spirit alive.

There are many ways to take advantage of the multifarious opportunities that present themselves during this time of year whether they're school related or not. If you're a freshman or a senior, think of the new school year as a fresh start, an opportunity to try new things.

Autumn is a creatively invigor-

ating time for many which is most likely due to its fiery colors and the fresh autumn atmosphere.

"I love Halloween decorating and pumpkin carving is so much fun. We usually go to the Flanagan's apple orchard," stated junior, Mikayla Bottelberghe.

As the leaves begin to color and the trees begin to darken, it becomes easier to embrace the changes of fall. Bottelberghe noted, "As of right now, I would like



to change our games won in soccer."

Bottelberghe also wishes to improve her grades and with the start of the new school year and the new season there is a wonderful opportunity to make these changes.

From the steady drop in temperature to the mellow fruitfulness of harvest time, it's a season marked by change. "I think, as most might say, [the best part] is

the change in temperature, it's the color changes, it's the smell of harvest," Mrs. Howe commented.

Those changes, however, may be difficult to get used to. Howe added, "I think for some people, seeing the summer disappear is always kind of sad."

Granted, autumn may be cold and damp at times, but it's the little things that it entails that need to be embraced before the season, then the year, and then the rest of time at GHS passes us by. We need to enjoy it before that autumn tranquility transforms itself into a cold winter's night.

Homecoming dress up days

From jock v. nerd day to class color day to career day, the student body will showcase school spirit

by **Samantha Gonzalez**
staff writer

The fans are cheering; the field shines with the bright lights, and the feeling of exhilaration is what we are looking forward to this homecoming. But not just for the game, but the dress up days!

For those who never pay attention, the dress up days start on Monday, so get your gear ready. For Monday wear your class colors: freshmen - pink, sophomores - green, juniors - orange, and seniors - black.

On Tuesday, find yourself a match or four, because it is Twin Day. The dress code for this year will be a bit relaxed so be classy never trashy. Make sure to find some suspenders or an old jersey

because Wednesday, is the ultimate Jocks vs Nerds Day.

"I think anything that someone thinks they would be into is fine; the sky is the limit. Have fun with what you want to do," said Mr. Long concerning Thursday's Career Day. Even though career choices can take you anywhere, keep it school appropriate.

"We thought they were unique and fun, we also thought the high school would enjoy them" Kindra Clark, senior class president discussed of how the student council felt about the dress-up days.

As tradition and for game day, Friday is Blue Dragon Spirit Day.

We want to be able to blind the Baltic Bulldogs with our school colors. The dress up days are definitely more out there this

year and there are always the fun activities that jam pack the week such as coronation, powder puff football, and the parade. New this year is also ruff and tuff volleyball so the boys get a chance to showcase their athleticism too. With all of these events and dress up days, we are in for a great homecoming week!



Cross country continues gradual improvement

Midway through the season, the harriers are making the right strides to stay in contention for conference and region meets

by **Hunter Carver**
staff writer

With cross country up and running the Blue Dragons have been stepping up the pace with each meet this year. So far the girls and boys teams have had 5 meets: Beresford, McCook Central Montrose, Garretson, the Ni-ke Heartland (Sioux Falls) and Chamberlain.

The first meet in Beresford was ran on our second day of school. The girls team consisted of Macey Bohl, Carmen Bohl, Rachel Kindt. With it being the first meet of the year our girls weren't exactly expecting to run their best, Carmen led the girls with a

time of 20:44 and then Rachel Kindt came after her with a time of 21:31.

The boys team, missing some of their great runners from last year were in for a bit of surprise. Without Evan Fick, the boys didn't have an ace runner. But luckily seniors Elijah Pierret, and Riley Nordstrom decided to take on the responsibility and stepped up to take Fick's place. In Beresford, the boy's team consisted of Nordstrom and Pierret, as the other runners were still getting miles in before moving up to the varsity level. Elijah led Riley and Garretson with a time of 18:17 and Riley came trotting afterwards with a time of 18:56.

The second meet of the year was in McCook Central Montrose, one of Garretson's favorite courses to run at because of the super flat landscape. The girls and boys teams consisted of the same runners, except Coach Bohl allowed Junior Jack Konechne to join with Riley and Elijah. Elijah once again led the runners with a time of 17:24, almost a entire minute faster than in Beresford. Jack came after Elijah with a time of 18:35 and then there came Riley with his time of 18:55.

Just yesterday the harriers made the "long drive" to Chamberlain. In this particular race, the boy's running teams consisted of Riley, Jack, Elijah, and the newest

edition to the team senior Jacob Lester. Riley led the guys this time with his time of 17:40 which could be his personal record. Then after Riley came Jack with his ultimate time of 18:28, then after came Elijah with his own time of 18:32, and then came diligent runner Jacob Lester with the time of 20:45. So as you see the team keeps getting better and better.

Although the running squad has taken its time to get a full team together at the meets, they are finally getting all the pieces to fit together. They are looking to peak at the right time with regions right around the corner.

Presidential race heats up as weather cools down

Trump and Clinton continue to steal headlines through word choice and policy idea or lack thereof

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**
senior writer

With election day just around the corner, many American voters are getting serious about which box they will be checking on November 4th.

The main candidates for the 2016 election are democrat Hillary Clinton and republican Donald Trump.

Both of these people have raised many questions for the voters about if these candidates are the right fit for the White House and many American citizens still question if either of them are able to hold the position.

"Out of the candidates I don't think either of them are a very great fit for our country, but I suppose we are at the point where we are forced to chose the lesser of the two evils. I believe they both could have the poten-

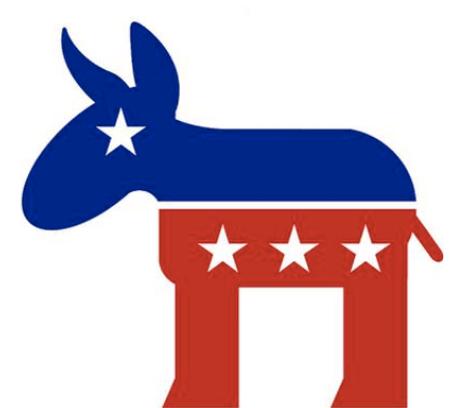
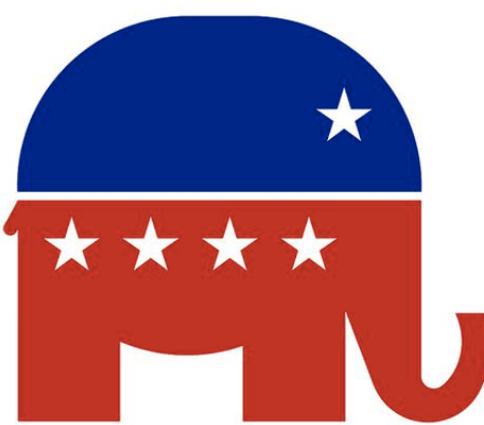
tial, but it'll take a lot of help from other people," stated senior Alyssa Bunde who will be voting for the first time this year.

Over the course of the race for President both Trump and Clinton have said and done many things the general population does not approve of.

Trump has a tendency to run his mouth and say some offensive statements. On the other hand Clinton is in the midst of a huge e-mail scandal, although government teacher Mr. Steckler commented, "It's blown way out of proportion."

On the flip side, Steckler commented, "I think Trump is very good about telling about what he wants to do but not how he's going to do it. While Hillary tells you what she's going to do and how she's going to make it happen."

In recent polling numbers Clinton is narrowly edging out competitor Trump by only two points



according to CNN's Poll of Polls. Although this does not tell the official results, it offers a decent idea of where America stands.

Coming up on the 26th is the First Presidential Debate which will be held in New York. This will start to solidify the decisions of who voters across the country will select to hold the keys to the White House.

Science teacher Mr. Furness added, "I think Trump has some good ideas, whether or not they'll work: that's to be seen. Whereas

Hillary has some trust issues with her emails, but has way more of a political background. It'll be a good race."

As the day moves closer, U.S. voters are going to have to take a step back and truly think about who they want as president for the next four years. The race has heated up as of late and should remain a close one until Election Day when we will select our 45th president.

Football looks to build a win streak

The Blue Dragons take on the Viborg-Hurley Cougars tonight after a win last week against the Alcester-Hudson Cubs

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

With the Dragons marching into their fourth week of the season, they are off to a promising

start. They have a record of 1-1 at the moment, but that should improve tonight to 2-1 as they face off against the Viborg-Hurley Cougars.

Last Friday Garretson squared

off against Alcester-Hudson (1-2). Garretson started off very strong. Quarterback Shay Gibson had two touchdown passes in the first quarter.

Garretson's offense was just clicking that night. They had 383 yards of total offense. 150 of that came from the passing game, and 233 yards came from the ground!

Garretson averaged about 6 yards per play that night. They were very efficient with the ball having zero turnovers. Gibson had double the passing yards of the opposing quarterback and four times the touchdowns!

Garretson played very good defense as well. Not allowing the opponent to score a touchdown until the third quarter. The Blue Dragon defense only allowed 78 yards of total offense. Holding Alcester-Hudson to just two yards per play. The Cubs turned the ball over four times, two fumbles and two interceptions on top of a multitude of penalties.

At the end of the day Garretson demolished Alcester-Hudson with a very lopsided score of 43-8. It was a very big win at home that can hopefully stir up some momentum.



Keisean Deehr-Thornton showcases his athletic prowess on a stellar catch. Deehr-Thornton added extra yards on the play with his foot speed as well.

Photo by Sylvia Larson



Quarterback Shay Gibson rolls out of the pocket and looks downfield for an open teammate. The Blue Dragons connect on the play and strengthen their lead over the Alcester-Hudson Cubs.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

Garretson plays against the Viborg-Hurley Cougars (1-2) tonight in Viborg. With hopes to upgrade their record to 2-1 tonight. It always helps when there's a crowd. Good Luck tonight boys.

Presidential race heats up as weather cools down

Trump and Clinton continue to steal headlines through word choice and policy idea or lack thereof

by Emily Malsom
staff writer

With the upcoming presidential election, many people are throwing around the idea of leaving the country regardless of who wins. If you're in the same boat, here are the top 10 countries to live in around the world according to lifestyle9.com.

10. Netherlands

Even though it's not in the top 10 travel choices among Garretson High School students, this European nation isn't to be underestimated. Crime rate is low and the cost of living is 24.9% lower than that of New York City. The official language is Dutch so that may require some adjustment.

9. New Zealand

Off the coast of Australia, New Zealand offers scenic beauty and has been home to many movies because of this. Cost of living is 20% lower than in the United States. However, Mrs. Sands warns, "New Zealand is very strict on immigration." If you are convicted of a traffic violation in your home country, chances aren't very good of being granted citizenship.

8. Qatar

Qatar is found off the peninsula near the east coast of Saudi Arabia. It's a booming oil and natural gas country. The cost of liv-

ing is lower than the United States and has the highest per capita income in the world.

7. Switzerland

Situated in central Europe, Switzerland is known for its chocolate, watches, and government neutrality. Switzerland is the most expensive country to live in on this list, however offers the highest wealth per adult in the world.

6. Luxembourg

Luxembourg is a modest country between Belgium, Germany, and France in central Europe. Just 998 square miles comprise the country. Luxembourg is recognized for its many museums and hiking trails. The German and French languages add a touch of culture to the quaint villages.

5. Iceland

Iceland is an island south of Greenland, about the size of Cuba. Iceland is home to the remarkable Blue Lagoon. It is a geothermal spa, meaning the water is heated by the volcanic activity below. Much like New Zealand, many movies and TV shows have been filmed there, currently *Game of Thrones*. The Northern Lights in Iceland are breathtaking as well. English is fluently understood here, making Iceland an international delight.

4. Australia

Number one choice among Garretson High School students, Australia offers a plethora of scenic beauty and culture to explore. The acclaimed coral reefs and distinguished

accent, as well as the low cost of living make Australia a renowned tourist destination.

3. Norway

Norway is home to the world's deepest fjord. The midnight sun is a sight to be seen as well. Industries of petroleum, natural gas, minerals, lumber, seafood, and hydropower keep the economy booming with extensive reserves. A slightly higher cost of living is definitely worth it in Norway.

2. Sweden

Little islands, frozen mountains, and forest cottages set Sweden apart from many other nations. Very low drug use and crime rates make Sweden the idealistic place for young families. Skiing and snowmobiling are sports that trail through northern

Sweden. The 6% higher cost of living is forgiven by the beautiful landscapes.

1. Denmark

Welcome to the happiest country in the world! Industry is comprised of wind energy. In fact they are one of the largest wind producers. Denmark is also home to the number one kid's toy in the world, Legos! Danes are also fond of going green. The government offers 7.8 cents per kilometer a citizen bikes instead of drives.

Bonus. The Moon

Junior Sylvia Larson mentioned, "The moon is always an option." Although the high cost of travel and groceries are a deal-breaker for some, on the bright side seeing all of the world at once would be a pretty cool view to wake up to in the morning. The first citizen would get to have their own civilization too!

With the scary fact of Hilary or Donald running the country in a matter of months, the idea of a permanent vacation is very possible. Bon Voyage!



Volleyball takes a set but loses steam

In recent action the Blue Dragon netters gave Flandreau a scare but couldn't finish them off.

by Sylvia Larson
staff writer

Although the Blue Dragon's volleyball team hasn't had any wins yet this season, these past few games have been played with newfound determination.

On Saturday, the girls played Flandreau and suffered the loss.

"We lost the game last Saturday at Big East Conference

against Flandreau, but, in my opinion, we may have lacked the energy and motivation. We had a chance for redemption [Tuesday] and won our first set of the season," commented Senior Volleyball player Tabi Klingenberg. However the Blue Dragons were unable to close out the game.

While a set win is a step in the right direction, the team wants that W. There are quite a few

home games left for the girls to redeem themselves on their own turf, so they're not worried.

The Dragons played another game yesterday night against West Central. There was quite a turnout in the student section, and the crowd got very involved in the

excitement of the game. Even West Central fans participated in some of the student-led cheers.

Unfortunately, Garretson couldn't quite match West Central and lost the game in three sets.

Rakell Gnadt and Hailey Steffes led the Blue Dragon offense with four kills each.

Emily Schleuter picked up 20 digs on the night while Aftyn Heitkamp popped up 13.

The next game is September 20 against Dell Rapids Home.



Senior Hailey Steffes (#12) goes up for an attack on the outside as teammates Abby Schroeder (#11), Rakell Gnadt (#13), and Alyssa Bunde move to cover.

Photo by Sylvia Larson



Allison Longhenry gets the block against the West Central attack. Teammates Aftyn Heitkamp (left) and Alyssa Bunde (right) move into their defensive