

A snap of all the writing and photography awards the journalism students earned at the state conference this year.

Blue Ink



Journalism students participate in press convention

The state journalism and yearbook convention provided multiple benefits for attendees

by **Victoria Lippert**
staff writer

On Wednesday the journalism students went on a field trip to Brookings. They attended the annual High School Press Convention, which was held at the Days Inn Convention Center instead of its usual home at the SDSU campus.

The purpose of the journalism conference is to give students feedback on their writing and provide them with ideas on how to improve their school newspaper and yearbook.

For the Garretson students, the day started with a presentation about the app videolicious, "An easy program, you can use to create professional looking videos," said advisor Heidi Kronaizl.

The next speaker was SDSU professor Jim Helland, who talked about headline writing. This session was journalism student Mason Hofer's favorite. He said, "My favorite person was the one who talked about headlines because I need to work at my headline writing."

Sophomore Samantha Gonzalez also said, "I learned a lot in the headline writing session. I think that headlines are something I'm struggling with and the tips that he had pointed out to us contributed into writing better headlines for my articles."

The students also had sessions about yearbook writing and photography.

After lunch there were two more speakers who talked about reporting for social media and public broadcasting.

The last items on the agenda were the door prizes and awards. As in the last year's, Garretson didn't get a single door prize. They relied on their skill to snag some awards rather than luck with the door prizes.

Freshman Mason Hofer took third out



Journalism students attending the state conference in Brookings were Tabi Klingenberg, Jaden Braaten, Victoria Lippert, Sam Gonzalez, and Mason Hofer. After listening to speakers and participating in activities, awards were handed out based on submissions and contests from earlier in the year. Garretson journalism students earned 15 awards for their writing in the *Blue Ink* and Hofer received an additional award for his work in an editorial contest.

of numerous participants with his article about the future of journalism, which he wrote for the editorial writing contest. "I thought my article was pretty good, so I know it was possible that I could place, but I didn't think it would happen," commented Hofer on his success.

In addition, Garretson journalists received ten excellents and five superiors in different categories of journalistic writing and photography.

"My favorite part would have to be the awards part because we were all just having fun and joking around and we kept going up for each other (as several students were not able to attend because of various reasons) and were

laughing for no reason," said Samantha Gonzalez.

She continued, "[The journalism conference] was interesting and it was nice to learn some things, but I think they could have done a better job in making it a lot more interesting. They should add more excitement and there should be more hands-on type things, to give us the chance to practice."

Overall the journalism conference was a nice learning experience, which could be improved by giving students the possibility to participate more actively in the future. In this way they would be able to get even more out of this day.

This Week's Need to Know

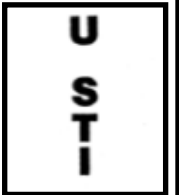
FACT OF THE WEEK: Crocodiles can't stick their tongue out

GERMAN WORD OF THE WEEK: pineapple = die Ananas (dee Ah-nah-nahs)

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What do you do when you have a doctor's appointment that you don't want to go to.

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: See if you can figure out this puzzle.

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.



UPCOMING EVENTS:
Friday, April 7

- Kindergarten & 1st Gr. Field trip-SD Children's Museum
- SD Golf Classic @ Mitchell(10:00)
- MS Dance (7:30-9:30)

Saturday, April 8

- Jesse James Track Meet (9:30)

Monday, April 10

- 8th Grade Parent/Student Transition Meeting (6:30)
- Dual Credit Information Meeting (7:30)

Tuesday, April 11

- Golf Early Bird @ Garretson (12:30)
- Track & Field @ MCM (3:00)

Thursday, April 13

- JH Track (4:00)
- JH Golf @ Chester (10:00)

Friday, April 14

- No School

Scan for a look at the district activities calendar.



Excitement of summer events build up

Six more weeks until freedom, but many events and options for summer activities flood students' schedules

by **Sam Gonzalez**
staff writer

The end of the school year is coming at its peak. Finally. With only 6 weeks left, there is still time to plan a summer that won't be forgotten.

"Summer to me means a time to relax, take vacations, get tan, relieving stress from the school year, and just having fun." Junior Amyah Ockenga, who is also taking a trip to Mexico very soon, had stated.

So here are five things that can be on the bucket list.

1. Road Trip with Friends:

Time is soon coming to an end as teenagers, and once adulthood starts, there will no time. So many places to travel and explore, so take a chance for the advantage. For ladies, going down to Minneapolis and shopping till you drop for the weekend with some of the girls would be the perfect trip. Or for the guys, going down all the way Oregon for the beach, and downtime for just the boys.

"I've always wanted to go on a road

trip with friend. I feel like it would be an awesome experience to have, as long as I can convince my parents." Nadalie Johnson, a freshman, had said.

2. Drive-Inn Movie Theater

For the more romantics, a perfect date to Vernes Drive-Inn Theater would be perfect. Opening May 5th, start planning for a dreamy getaway.

3. Harlem GlobeTrotters

For the more athletic groups, the Harlem GlobeTrotters will be coming to town on April 19th at the Denny Sanford Premiere Center. Even though school wont have come out yet, it would be a tacit celebration for a month left of school.

4. Canoeing

Though most don't like to spend summer with the family, canoeing at a local lake would be the perfect reminiscence of childhood. If not, it is never to late to try. At least the epic failure

of the first time will only be seen by the family.

5. Cleansing

Relaxing with mediation and a diet can be the platitude for the summer. Starting with simple detox drinks, down to the small workouts can be the perfect time to start on a new you.

Though there much more that can be done, the most important thing that can be done right now is counting until the last days till freedom. At least until August.



JOKE: You call in sick

BRAINTEASER: It's up to you

GHS students start spring testing

Smarter Balanced testing moves through elementary, middle school, and high school students

by **Jaden Braaten**
staff writer

As we now have about 6 weeks of school left it's not all fun and games. This part of the year comes one of the most dreaded parts for most students. It is time to take the Smarter Balance Test. As middle school started this past week it is now the junior class turn.

Smarter balance testing began in 2010 when 30 states agreed on redefining assessments for students.

Smarter balance says that their educators created the "best of the best" assessments. Although many students would disagree. Junior Hunter Carver gave his input on the testing, "I think the

smarter balance tests aren't a thing we should be taking as some of us students including myself aren't smart enough for them and it makes us students stress out a lot."

Several students feel as these questions on the tests are foreign; many can't even figure out these hieroglyphic-looking tests that they start guessing and hope for the



best.

Junior Kayla Bottelberghe will be testing soon and she gave her opinion on these assessments, "I feel like smarter balance is good for us only to see how

well kids our age are doing throughout the nation, and we don't go over much of the material, we do practice tests but don't even get to see our answers so there isn't much we can

do to prepare ourselves."

This year smarter balance started doing something different with the curriculum, they are now putting students scores on transcripts. "I feel like it's unfair that these test scores are going on our transcripts, many of the questions are difficult as well, they should've just left it like before and not put it on our transcripts" added Bottelberghe.

"I don't think they should be placed on our transcripts because we already have enough to worry about and so now it's even more of a hassle" said Carver.

The junior class will begin their testing next week Monday, April 10. The class will be testing for about four days.

PewDiePie's controversy caused job loss for many

The continuing feud between YouTube's most subscribed to content and a prominent newspaper fuels extreme action

by **Sylvia Larson**
staff writer-editorial

Jack Nicas, the mastermind behind the slanderous Wall Street Journal 'PewDiePie is a white supremacist' article from a few months ago, has been hard at work for the past few weeks.

Quick recap: WSJ took a few of Felix Kjellberg's jokes out of context and somehow convinced all the big important business guys that PewDiePie is evil. PewDiePie was dropped from his 'employers' and everyone went crazy. Now you're all caught up.

This guy Nicas got all bitter that we refused to let Felix die. He was just sooo mad that people weren't listening to him and seeing through the slander and lies that he pulled out a shiny Pokémon card and started a boss battle. And... it looks like we're losing.

Advertisers don't want it to seem like they support bad stuff. Makes sense, right? Nicas knows this and used it to his

advantage. He searched for hours until he found three examples of big name companies advertising on not-so-school-appropriate videos. Three. Out of over five billion. All the big guys got all defensive, and, not wanting to look like they back things like racism, pulled out of YouTube.

It's an adpocolypse.

YouTube is predicted to lose almost a billion dollars by the end of the year. There aren't enough ads to go around, plummeting revenue for tens of thousands of content creators. People who had previously been able to support themselves based on ad revenue have had to resort to getting full time jobs, cutting their time to make videos down drastically - meaning less content in general to make money. A cycle of destruction. Ironically, the person Nicas was personally after, Kjellberg, isn't affected by this. He's a millionaire.

YouTube is trying as hard as it can to hold onto their remaining advertisers by

demonetizing basically EVERYTHING that mentions, shows, or talks about things that are 'inappropriate.' I could go on and on about freedom of speech, but that kind of thing is purely subjective when it comes to the millions of videos being demonetized.

To be honest, I don't feel too bad about the content creators 'losing their jobs'. Jobs require an application, not a Google+ account. YouTube doesn't owe their users anything. Youtubers use the site to get their craft admired by others. Your free speech is not being removed by having money taken out of the equation. If you need a monetary incentive to give your opinion then people will start to question the legitimacy of it. This isn't about YouTubers losing their income. This is about someone abusing their power to get back at someone.

Backing advertisers into a corner till they pull out JUST because you're salty is a super petty thing to do, Jack. What a pathetic excuse for journalism. Pathetic,

but effective; took a couple of screenshots and the whole YouTube ecosystem collapsed.

It seems as though this will all blow over within a few months time, but it's important to continue to support creators. Watch their videos, buy their merch, get an Audible subscription, whatever is necessary. If you want them to continue to entertain you, do your part.

This is the big leagues. Fortune 500 companies fighting over what they can feed us while maintaining a clean image. Economic warfare. This is more than just a battle between old media and new media. This is a battle to influence and shape your thoughts. The old mainstream media wants to craft an exclusive narrative for you to believe, and new media wants to give you a variety of opinions and views for you to educate yourself on and choose from. As you can probably guess, Jack Nicas and the rest of Wall Street Journal aren't too happy about that.

North Carolina cuts down the nets in the desert

The Tarheels finish what they couldn't last year and stifle a tough Gonzaga team in the finals

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

Last year on April 4th, the tournament ended with Villanova snatching the championship game away from North Carolina in the last second of the game. This game went down as one of the best championship games in the tournament's history. Because of this North Carolina came into the tournament with a chip on their shoulder.

North Carolina earned one of the number one seeds from the regular season. Since they had worked so hard to get the number one seed they played an easy opponent, sixteen seed Texas. North Carolina got an easy victory there, 103-64. After that it was smooth sailing for North Carolina until the Elite 8. They faced up against Kentucky, a very successful team in the past. North Carolina obviously won this game but it wasn't

easy, the final score was 75-73. After this North Carolina had another difficult game against the Oregon Ducks. The Ducks proved themselves worthy to be in the position they were in and intended to go even farther. But the Tar Heels haunted that run with a score of 77-76.

After all of this, they made it to the Championship game once again. This time they weren't facing up against Villanova, but a surprising team, Gonzaga. "Not very many people expected them to go very far at all," stated March Madness contest participant Cole Skadsen.

This was not the best game for either team. Both teams missed lots of free throws. With that the referees were not taking it easy on the whistles either. This was so much of a problem that NBA Hall-of-Famers LeBron James and Dwyane Wade both tweeted complaining about all the calls. Although it was not the prettiest game North Carolina still came

out with a win of 71-65, so North Carolina was able to cut down the nets in the desert of Phoenix, Arizona.

Even though the tournament is called March Madness, there is just about the same amount of sadness as there is madness. This year Duke fell very early in the tournament to South Carolina, who later went onto the final four. After this game things were very emotional in the locker room as you would expect.

"At the end of the season, I want my guys to either be crying because we've lost, or crying because we've just won. If you're not doing one of those, that means you never really became a team. It was never really that important. And for these guys, they were really a good team." Mike Krzyzewski discussing locker room emotions.

Every year there is a contest for who can fill out the best bracket and whoever wins gets 100 grand (the candy bar) and

bragging rights. This year's winner was senior Brendan Harris. "I didn't really know what I was doing when I started. I would like to thank Elijah Pierret for his wisdom and guidance throughout my decision making process."

Although he came out with the win he was not in the lead before this. Freshman Cole Skadsen was leading for the majority of the contest. "I really thought I had it in the bag. It's disappointing but I'll try again next year," stated Skadsen.



Elementary students have field trips galore

Each class gets to explore, play and experience new things as spring is here

by **Tabi Klingenberg**
staff writer

As spring approaches, the elementary students begin to take advantage of the warming weather and begin to go on their field trips. One field trip is allotted for each class, the first being today where the kindergartners and first-graders will be traveling to the Children's

Museum in Brookings. There in Brookings, these children will be going to a myriad of themed play areas including a grocery store, farm, music room, African hut, and many more.

Ms. Hersom, the first-grade teacher, noted that although field trips can always benefit the students, this particular field trip is set apart because the children can pretend play, something that they

can never quite get enough of. They have to get a long with others and it promotes their creativity.

"There's more to learning than just here in the classroom. I think that's why we do it," Hersom continued, "The highlight is the freedom. They get the freedom to play and do what they want to do."

The elementary's upcoming field trips

include the preschoolers trip to the Great Plains Zoo on April 27th, the third-graders to the Outdoor Campus and the zoo on April 28th, the fifth-graders to Pipestone on April 28th, the second-graders to the Sioux Falls Airport on May 5th, and the fourth-graders to KSFY and Midco Aquatic on May 11.