

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

Blue Ink



Mrs. Liester awarded Teacher of the Year

Garretson faithful brings passion, creativity, and energy to her classroom everyday

by **Victoria Lippert**
staff writer

Mrs. Liester is a kindergarten teacher at the Garretson school for 17 years. This year she got recognized as "Teacher of the year". Every year all the staff members are asked to nominate colleagues, which make a difference and have a great impact on the kids and other staff members as well. Afterwards a small group gets together, looks at the different recommendations and makes a decision.

Then the chosen teacher gets acknowledged amongst the staff and at the school board. There are also awards given by the American Legion and the state of South Dakota, which each have programs to appreciate outstanding teaching performances.

Mrs. Liester said she was surprised when she found out, that she is the teacher of the year.

(Q.): Why did you become a teacher?

(Mrs. Liester): "I really wanted to do something that helped people, so I was thinking about either being a nurse or a teacher. When I went to college I wasn't sure but once I started taking the education classes I

knew this was the right thing. I've also always loved kids and learning, so it all came together."

(Q.): What is your favorite part about teaching?

(Mrs. Liester): "One of the best parts at Garretson is because we are a K-12 school I can watch them (the kids) grow, they are not just with me in kindergarten, but I get to watch them growing. I make really strong connections to them. The first kindergarten class I had at Garretson is graduating from college this year."

(Q.): What were the biggest changes from when you started teaching to today?

(Mrs. Liester): "We used to work a lot more on learning the letters, where now a lot of them know their letters when they start school. We still do reading and writing and math every day, we do social studies and sciences. We learn about each other, we learn about the world around us, we learn social skills and problem solving, that's a big part of our day."

(Q.): What are your plans for the future?

(Mrs. Liester): "I love kindergarten, so I plan to stay in kindergarten just as long as I can. I learn something new every day from kindergartners. Today I learned about bunnies. We had a visitor come to our classroom, so I learned the bunny. I did not know bunnies eat bananas."

Superintendent Mr. Johnson said, "In her (Mrs. Liester's) nomination two things really stood out, that as she starts out these kids in their educational career, it's not all about reading or math. It's about building up the whole kid and paying attention to all of their needs, their academic needs, but also their social needs and develop them all the way around.

The second aspect is the impact that Mrs. Liester has on our community as a whole. Mrs. Liester is one of the board members of the parent teacher organization and has been for years, she is [also] on our Garretson scholarship foundation. I have noticed in the last three years that anytime we need somebody to do something she is one of the people at the front of the line saying "I'll help"."

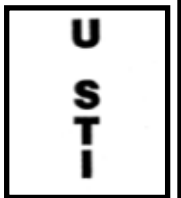
This Week's Need to Know

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:

- Thursday, April 13**
 - JH Track (4:00)
 - JH Golf @ Chester (10:00)
- Friday, April 14**
 - No School
- Monday, April 17**
 - No School
- Tuesday, April 18**
 - Golf @ Chester
 - Track @ Alcester-Hudson-Beresford Invite
- Wednesday, April 19**
 - Jump rope for heart
- Thursday, April 20**
 - Golf @ Flandreau
 - JH Track @ Garretson (4:00)
- Friday, April 21**
 - JH Golf @ Howard

Scan for a look at the district activities calendar.



Worth Mentioning

Scholarships are still available including the South Dakota Retailer Association, John E. Solem, Jesse James Fine Arts, and First Bank and Trust.

Four day weeks take over our schedule soon. This week and the week following have four-days of school a piece before finishing out the year.



Mrs. Liester takes a moment to pose with her current kindergarten class. There are many Garretson staples and favorite memories that are generated in this room. Some of those include hatching chicks each spring (currently in action), counting up to the 100th day of school, and counting down to the last day of school by using the alphabet.

Photo by Victoria Lippert

Hoppy Easter every bunny!

Students enjoy four day week with final break of the school year

by **Jaden Braaten**
staff writer

From the Easter bunny to the newborn animals everyone is noticing, it means that spring and Easter are just around the corner. But do we know why we celebrate these things and where they originated?

The "so called" Easter bunny was first introduced in the early 1700s by German immigrants. The history is a clouded mystery as there are many theories.

Since spring and Easter are times for rebirth, there is a theory that the rabbit is a pagan tradition. Showing that the rabbit is a symbol of energetic breeding and fertility. This holiday is for the celebration of the resurrection; the chocolate bunnies and Easter egg hunts



are nowhere to be found in scripture.

The decorating of eggs started in the 13th century, along with Easter parades and the consumption of all the chocolate. Eggs also represent rebirth, but years ago eggs were forbidden during the Lenten season. Many people decided to decorate and paint them instead.

Egg hunts date back to the 1700s as people believed in egg laying with rabbits. Since rabbits had laid their eggs in the grass, children were encouraged to play along and start hiding eggs. Although many people think Easter egg hunts are elementary, its enjoyable for the whole family to join in.

The bunnies and eggs will continue to be a major part of Easter. As long as you enjoy your family traditions and indulge in some chocolate your Easter will be worthwhile.

When, at times, being a girl is just not worth it

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

by **Sam Gonzalez**
staff writer-editorial

At one point in every female's life she has said "I wish I wasn't a girl." From having aunt flow, to losing endless amounts of ponytails and bobby pins, which end up reappearing in the most uncommon places. These are five relatable encounters where a girl has done the ultimate eye roll with the fact of being a female.

1. Waxing on and off like Mr. Miyagi....more like shaving only

Of course girls don't like the pain of having to wax, so the most generic thing to do is to shave. At times though, the 10-30 minute hassle of getting it done is not worth the labor at all.

"I personally do it to better comfort myself but, there are many girls out there that do it because it's accepted from them by society. We don't like the

hassle of taking a good 5-10 minutes everyday to shave....especially in the winter," Rachel Kindt, a GHS freshman, said.

2. The prolonged time of getting ready

For those girls that can come out and get ready in ten minutes tops....what is the secret? One of the most reoccurring complaints of men is how long it takes a girl to get ready. Most times all that's wanted is to be able to slip on something comfortable, but there is just some occasions where that is not allowed. Ladies can spend anywhere from 1-2 hours from the general shower, clothes and hygiene. Make-up and clothes is just a completely different story that can either make or break the day.

3. Cause sometimes life's just too much

Sometimes there's just no reason. Girls response to emotion can be a wee bit (more like a lot) overwhelming. So just thinking about all the things that

need to be done in order to be a woman can just completely down the mood for the rest of the day.

4. Giving life

Pretty cool to be able to deliver another mini you, but is really worth it?

"I feel like there is really no way to prepare yourself for that kind of way, but it'll one day, in the future, be worth it. Because you just made a tiny adorable human that can be loved by you forever," junior Becca Weiland said.

While being pregnant is a privilege, having mood swings, unexplainable sickness, and cravings of a period for nine months will be a heck of a ride.

5. The "Time of the Month"

While there are so many different names to this abominable crisis, the menstrual cycle can be quite a pain in the front. No doubt that the period ranks number one on the "hate being a girl" aspect. From cramps, to cravings and

mood swings, having a period is the most excruciating times of the year that you wished could just end.

"Being a girl is full of fun and surprises. Looking back and seeing how much you've grown is amazing to realize. No doubt that it is hard sometimes, but I love being a girl," Kindt said.

Yes, it can be tough to be a girl, but day by day learn how to love it no matter how much all that wants to be done is complain.



Pre-season meets are in the books for Garretson golfers

The Blue Dragons were able to get a few competitive rounds in before the official meets begin next week.

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

On Tuesday this week, Garretson had its 2nd golf meet of the young season as they played in Mitchell last Friday. The Tuesday meet was an early bird invitation hosted at home. It was just a 9 hole score, meets are usually 18 holes.

Garretson did fairly well with an average score of 54 with boys and girls. Isaiah Mader had the best score of the meet with 40. As for the rest of the boys squad, Jacob Liester had a score of 43,

Rave Uhlich scored 46, Dylan Kindt scored 51, Ryan Fick and Clayton Bonte both scored a 57. Liester, Uhlich, and Kindt all finished in the top ten for their efforts. As a team (top three qualifying scores) Garretson took first place.

For the girls group, Malia Johnson and Alyssa Bunde both scored a 56, Nadalie Johnson put together a 53, Peyton Hove shot a 62, Aliah Lymon scored 67 and Jayden Clark scored a 64. As a team, the girls finished second behind Flandreau.

"I think our teams have improved a lot from last year", says freshman golfer

Malia Johnson. "I love golf because it's an individual game, so your score depends on how well you perform."

The junior high golfers start their season today in Chester. Next week Garretson has two varsity meets in Flandreau and Chester.



Senior Jacob Liester watches his approach shot onto the #3 green at River Ridge Golf Course during Tuesday's meet. Liester shot a 43.

Senior Spotlight

Alex Uhl



Senior Project:
Rebuilding a 1855 3-Wheeler from 1981

Activities involved in:
Wrestling
Track
Football
FFA
4-H

Who/What will you miss the most:
Bohl and Furn, Maybe my class—I don't know yet

Plans for Next Year:
Go to STI, SDSU, or MTI for Mechanical Engineering or Welding

Senior Spotlight

Hayden King



Senior Project:
Organizing and putting on a football camp

Activities involved in:
Football

Who/What will you miss the most:
My friends and Brendan's dandruff

Plans for Next Year:
College...somewhere for bagpiping