

They are starting to hatch! Mrs. Liester has brought back a favorite, teaching the life cycle through chicks

Blue Ink



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Something new is shooting into town

Trap Shooting is now offered as an activity to Garretson students

by **Sam Gonzalez**
staff writer

With Garretson being a small town, it always exciting to hear when something new hits in. On April 19th, the official Trap Shooting practice started at the Garretson Sportsmen's Club.

Andy Hermanson is the head coach for the nine students participating this year for Garretson. Along with three assistant coaches, Woody Gnad, Markell Gnad and Dallas Westover who, along with Hermanson, are lifelong hunters and shooting enthusiasts. Trap Shooting is run as a club sport similar to baseball, so it is not a sanctioned high school sport.

"I started shooting when I was seven, so when I heard that there would be a league in Garretson, I saw it as another opportunity to

shoot," sophomore Ben Konechne, a member of this year's Target Clay League said.

Hermanson explained that Trap Shooting, also known as a Clay Target League, is a shooting that uses shotguns. Clay targets are shot from a machine that comes in at different angles. A round of trap includes 25 targets where each shooter in a squad, a full squad is five shooters, takes aim at the five targets from the different shooting positions.

"The league started in SD last year and was little known. I had a co-worker that started a team in Brookings and wanted to start a team here as well. Also, the league reached out to the Garretson Sportsmen's Club where I am a member. We worked together and then approached the school to get permission to be affiliated with the league, which is a requirement." Hermanson, head coach

explained as to how it all started.

The team has practice two days a week, Sunday afternoon and Tuesday night. Competitions are always based at their own shooting range. They compete with the schools in the conference which are Bon Homme, Dakota Valley, Gettysburg and Hot Springs. But there are a total of four conferences in South Dakota.

If anyone is interested for next year contact Andy Hermanson. Like all other high school sports, there will be a State Tournament. It takes place in Aberdeen on June 10th.



FFA succeeds at state convention

Multiple success show hard work and dedication during the school year pay off

by **Victoria Lippert**
staff writer

This week 28 Garretson FFA members went to Brookings. They participated in the FFA State Convention, which was held at South Dakota State University from Sunday, April 23 to Tuesday, April 25. More than 2,000 students from all over South Dakota took part in the Convention.

The Garretson FFA members competed in 11 different contests out of the 15 contests held. These were judging milk quality, veterinary science, natural resources, agronomy, dairy cattle, livestock judging, horse judging, food science, floriculture, agricultural mechanics and meat judging.

Moriah Flanagan applied for a state office as one of 24 applicants, but did not get selected.

A couple members of the Garretson FFA chapter earned proficiency awards, which are based on supervised agriculture experience projects. Jaden Flanagan took first place and Emily Malsom took third place in the proficiency awards for vegetable gardening production.

Like last year, Claire Longhenry, who has been in love with horses since she got her first pony when she was five years old, took first out of more than 200 contestants in horse judging.

Parts of the contest were a general knowledge test, the horse judging itself and the oral interpretations, in which the participants had to explain why they ranked the four horses in each of the classes the way

they did it. She said, "You have to give reasons for your judging and get scored on that. That is a big part of judging; that's really what separates you and other contestants."

The Garretson floriculture team, consisting of Angel Larson, Malsom and Nobel Nothstine, placed first overall. Nothstine placed third out of more than 170 competitors. She said, "I really liked doing the arrangements there, because they always have a good variety of flowers, that I don't get to see a lot, especially in a small town. The most exciting part of the convention was actually being up on stage and hearing I was in the top 10."

Malsom took fourth and got a 92 on her test (people rarely get above 50 percent). In

order to prepare she went over the old tests. "The trick to study in that, is to go through, read the question and then you read the answer, but you don't read any of the other options. That way that is the only answer you know, that relates to that question," shared Malsom.

The floriculture team will go to Indianapolis in

October to compete in the National FFA Convention.

Other Garretson FFA members that placed are Allison Longhenry (took 12th in horse judging), Ryan Fick (took 15th in Natural Resources), Alex Uhl (took 21st in dairy cattle) and Tessa Pedersen (took 25th in livestock judging).

Looking at the overall performance, FFA advisor Mrs. Kientopf said, "The kids did awesome. They have earned what they've deserved. These kids have pushed themselves. I hope they have seen themselves succeed and see the growth they've made. I hope they see the future that they have as well, because this is just a beginning."



The first place floriculture team poses for a photo with their plaque. Angel Larson, Emily Malsom, and Nobel Nothstine continually performed well at contests during the school year and were able to follow that up with their strong performance at the state competition. Because of their first place finish, the team qualifies to compete at the National FFA Convention in the fall.

Photo courtesy of Alysha Kientopf

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Adding sage to a campfire can help keep the bugs away.

GERMAN WORD OF THE WEEK:
Earth = die Erde
(dee air-duh)

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What animal do you never want to play board games with? (joke submitted by Colton B.)

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: It only increases and never decreases. What is it?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, April 28

- 3rd Grade Field Trip to Outdoor Campus & Zoo

- Golf @ Jesse James Invite (11:00)

Monday, May 1

- JH Track

- Academic Awards Banquet (7:00)

Tuesday, May 2

- Golf @ Baltic Invite (9:00)

- Track @ Baltic Invite (3:00)

Wednesday, May 3

- AP Test for Seniors

Thursday, May 4

- Blood Drive (7:30-2:30)

- JH Track @ Danielson Relays in Salem (3:00)

- Kindergarten-5th Grade Music Concert (7:00)

Friday, May 5

- Track @ Howard Wood Relays

- Golf @ BEC Tourney (8:30)

Saturday, May 6

- Track @ Howard Wood Relays

- Track @ Parker Invite (9:30)

Scan for a look at the district activities calendar.



Worth Mentioning

Kindra Clark travelled to Pierre as the Garretson honoree at the Governor's Luncheon that awards academic excellence. This annual event invites the top 1% from each school to celebrate their academic accomplishments.

JOKE: A Cheetah (cheater)

BRAINTEASER: Our age

Golf and track weather the weather

Despite cold temperatures, the spring athletes continue to find ways to succeed

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

Garretson's individual spring sports are midway through the season and are looking to continue their successes.

Golf

Golf is and has been one of Garretson's best sports teams for a long time. The golfers intend to continue to be one of the best for as long as they can.

Golf has been in session for multiple weeks now, they already have multiple competitions in the books. The meets were the SD Golf Classic in Mitchell, the Early Bird tournament in Garretson, the Chester Invitational held in Chester, and the DRSM Invite.

"Overall I really enjoy golf... when I'm doing well," stated senior golfer Alyssa Bunde. "Although my least favorite part is when we have meets on cold days, and the wind is blowing

in our face all day."

Since golf is an individual sport (like track) your score depends on you and you only. "Golf is a really mental sport, so if you get down on yourself you have to pick yourself up and get onto the next hole" added Bunde.

Just recently the varsity golfers had a meet in Dell Rapids, the St. Mary's Golf Invite. Garretson struggled a little bit at this meet. The boys team placed fifth out of eight at this meet, and the girls team placed third out of four.

For the boys, junior Isaiah Mader got 8th with a score of 91 (Garretson's best score of the day), and eighth grader Rave Uhlich placed 10th with a score of 93. Senior Jacob Liester and junior Ryan Fick rounded out the team.

For the ladies, freshman Malia Johnson scored a 116, Bunde Scored a 119, eighth grader Peyton Hove scored a 117, and freshman Nadalie

Johnson scored a 123. The team total was 352.

Today Blue Dragon golf has another competition, the Jesse James Golf Invite on their home course.

Track

On Tuesday, April 25th, the Garretson track meet was canceled due to the amount of rain that was happening in Salem, SD. Although that did not stop the track from practicing that day. The track team is always trying to improve and it shows in their meets.

The athletes did participate a few days prior in the Tom Main Invitational in Chester on Saturday, April 22.

The boys team finished fourth with some strong individual performances. Once again the relays propelled Garretson forward. The 800m and 3200m relays both placed second and the 400m and 1600m relays finished third.

Other strong performances came from Keisean Deehr-Thorton (2nd in 400m dash), Jack Konechne (2nd in 800m run), and Trevor Fiegen (3rd place in high jump).

The girls' relay teams also performed well last Saturday. The medley relay team consisting Lily Ranschau, Tessa Pedersen, Brandy Greenhoff, and Rachel Kindt took first. The 3200m relay finished second. Kindt also took top honors in the 1600m run.

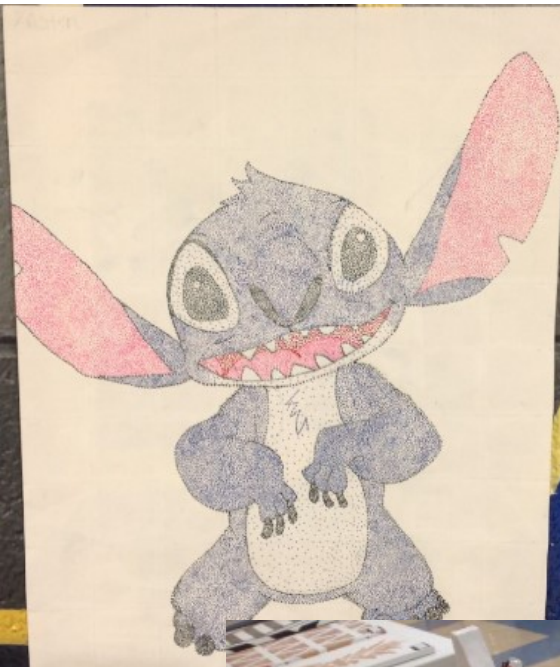
"My favorite part about track is honestly the workout days because even though they are difficult, they help me reach my peak when it comes to region time." stated freshman runner Rachel Kindt. "I love the feeling of pushing myself to the limits and knowing that I'm getting better." added Kindt.

Track is back in action on Tuesday, May 2 in Baltic

Showcase of student talent displayed

Art show open to public last night

by **Jaden Braaten**
staff writer



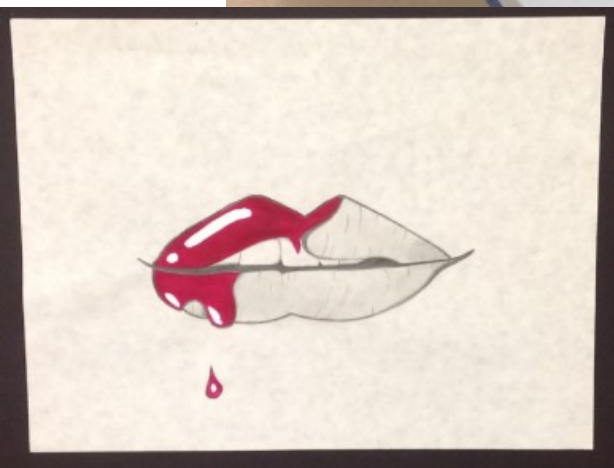
Above: Kristen Cordier's rendition of the Disney character Stitch caught many visitor's attention last night.

Top Center: Senior Abriana Scholl painted her golden pineapple giving it the appealing shine.



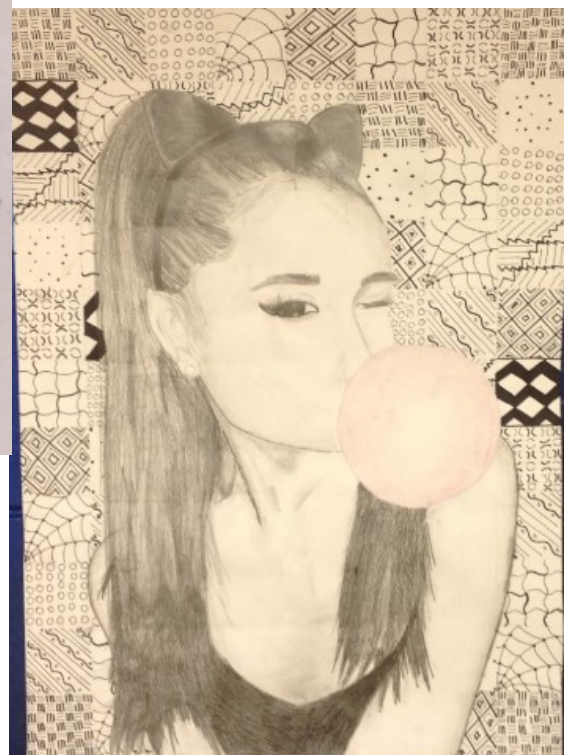
Above: Alyssa Bunde used mixed media to create this drawing.

Below: Molly Houg makes her picture pop with a busy background and clear focal point. Mixed media was used in this art.



Above: Students' 3D artwork created. These items as well as many drawings, photo editing compilations, and creations were displayed on Thursday evening in the school lunch room.

Left: Michelle Fritz used selective color in her drawing of the dripping lips.



Band ends their year on a high note

For their final performance of the year, the middle school and high school bands gave the public a treat Thursday night

by **Tabi Klingenberg**
staff writer

This year, the band has had an eventful week with two performances to prepare for. The first of these was at the Large Group Contest in Harrisburg where they earned the rating of a two (an excellent) on a scale of one to five, one being the highest.

The purpose of this event is to "get feedback on how to perform these songs better," Mr. Sittig informed.

"I know that the band can do better and it's possible that we were-

n't feeling comfortable in all of the songs, so I feel like if maybe we had a week, or our practices were full, like had full practices instead of everyone being gone, we would've been able to do better," sophomore Keara Beck stated.

"Our band has developed so much since Mr. Sittig has gotten here, so I feel like a superior describes us. I mean, we did extremely well in marching band for the past two years and we placed in Luverne this year, which hasn't happened for twelve years. So our concert band is growing, as well," Beck said.

In addition to this contest, the

band also performed last night for the final time this year. Like previous years, fun and letter awards were given to the students. However, this concert was unlike others that we've had in the because Mr. Sittig was able to honor the graduating seniors Abriana Scholl, Allison Longhenry, Claire Longhenry, Jacob Liester, Kindra Clark, Moriah Flanagan, Shay Gibson. Five of these musicians were given blankets, afghans, and pins for being a part of the band for all four years of their high school career.

"They will be greatly missed. I wish them well on their future endeavors. It was great having them in band for

all of these years," Mr. Sittig said.

"Band pushes me to do better. No other class can do that, not even a sport because in sports, people play favorites. Band's not about favorites because in band, it just can't be about one person, otherwise you just sound terrible," junior Myranda Folland noted.

At this concert the band played the songs from contests, as well as two others including a choice from the band students themselves, the Lion King. Next year, band members, including Keara Beck and Myranda Folland, maintain faith that the band will continue to excel.

Choir continues to create harmony at contests

The high school choir participated in the large group contest earlier this week

by **Tabi Klingenberg**
staff writer

On Wednesday, April 26th, the GHS choir sang their way to Harrisburg for the Large Group Contest where the students earned a two, or an excellent rating. These students prepared five songs to receive comments and critiques from selected judges.

"I thought we did really well and we did score very well, but I was not

surprised that they had some comments about our breath control, which we had talked about quite a bit before," Miss Robinson, choral director, said.

She continued, "I think there are always things we can improve on, there are always things we do well, but there are always room to grow. If we can continue working on our breath support, that will fix a lot of our problems."

The group of students have been

preparing for the contest for the past three months to perfect the aspects in which we are judged on at contests including tone, intonation, articulation, style, and facial expression.

"I believe we did exceptionally well. Our choir put out the best and in the end we received a fairly impressive score," senior Abriana Scholl stated.

Robinson continued, "I think we have grown so far since the beginning of the year and I am excited to

see where it goes here in the next two and a half weeks, before the end of the year, and also to see this choir continue to grow for the next three or four years because we have a young, new choir this year and we're building."

On May 16th, the choir will be performing once again with three new songs at their final concert of the school year.

Senior Spotlight

Preston Trower

Senior Project:
'72 Charger Restomod

Who/What will you miss the most:
Hanging out with friends

Plans for Next Year:
Undecided



Senior Project:
Scrapbooking

Activities involved in:
Softball

Who/What will you miss the most:
Nothing

Plans for Next Year:
Undecided



Senior Spotlight

Michelle Fritz

Senior Spotlight

Allison Longhenry

Senior Project:
Modeling

Activities involved in:
Volleyball, NHS, Band, Choir, FFA, AQHA, Zion Lutheran Youth Group, Bridles & Britches 4-H, Lil Dreamers

Who/What will you miss the most:
Friends, volleyball, and FFA

Plans for Next Year:
Attend SDSU or USD for an undecided major



Senior Project:
Minnesota 4-H State Ambassador

Activities involved in:
Garretson FFA, Springdell 40H, Blue Mound Figure Skating, TATU, Oral Interp, Quiz Bowl, NHS, Band, Choir, Yearbook, St. Rose of Lima Youth Group

Who/What will you miss the most:
Being able to call people toads without getting a weird look.

Plans for Next Year:
Attend SDSU for Pre-Vet/BioMed

Senior Spotlight

Moriah Flanagan

