



Garretson Weekly School Newspaper - Garretson, SD - Volume 3, Number 11

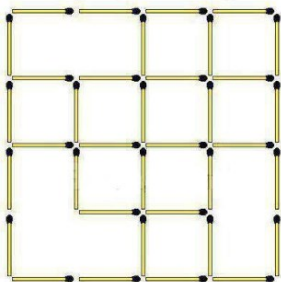
This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: It takes 8 minutes and 20 seconds for light from the sun to travel to the Earth.

BRAIN TEASER OF THE WEEK:

Look closely:
How many squares do you see?

Answer on back page



JOKE OF THE WEEK: What's a turkey's favorite dessert?

Answer on back page

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, November 15

- American Education Week

Monday, November 16

- Oral Interp @ Regions—SDSU
- FFA District Leadership Contest
- Wrestling begins

Tuesday, November 17

- 6-12 Band Concert—New Gym

Thursday, November 19

- Great American Smokeout-TATU

Friday, November 20

- Middle School Dance—Commons

Monday, November 23

- Girls' Basketball begins

Wednesday, November 25

- Early Release—Dismiss at 1:30

Thursday, November 26

- No School
- Happy Thanksgiving

Friday, November 27

- No School



Scan for the full upcoming event schedule

Volleyball Finds Rhythm a Little Too Late

By Annika Hanson

Parting is such sweet sorrow. On Tuesday, November 3, Garretson had potentially their last volleyball game. They faced Baltic. The Bulldogs took the match so the Blue Dragon season may be over, but it will be in the girls' hearts forever.

There were six seniors on the Garretson volleyball team, all seeing significant playing time.

"I am going to miss our senior girls; they were a big part of the team," commented junior Alyssa Bunde.

Now that all the seniors are leaving, the juniors will have to step up to the plate and display their leadership skills. Bunde said that she was looking forward to "Leading the team with my home-girl Hailey."

Senior Peyton Heitkamp is going to miss the volleyball team. She commented, "It did not come to a reality that this was my last year until the last game was over."

When the final play ended all the senior girls hugged and cried. Their bond will never be forgotten, especially among themselves.

All the senior girls have gained leadership and communication skills and friendships that will never be lost. The team has played incredi-



Brianna Callsen serves up one of her three aces during the competition. However, Garretson was unable to pull out the upset over the Baltic Bulldogs in Region play.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

bly hard together throughout the year even though the record may not have shown it.

Senior Brianna Callsen loves the volleyball team. She stated, "I am going to miss it, but I hope to join a women's league next year."

She also said that she will remember her team for the good memories they have had together.

The volleyball season may be over but Garretson always has next season to look forward to. Even with the seniors leaving Garretson has many fine young ladies to take their places. So look forward to next season.



Peyton Heitkamp approaches the net quickly, ready to slam down the set up from teammate Morgan Gloe. Heitkamp got the kill but the Blue Dragons were unable to continue on for the set win.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

Student Debate Inspires Closer Inspection of School Policy

By Brianna Callsen

Every year at the Garretson School District, the high school students always seems to run into the same argument once the second quarter starts. Some students want to be able to wear shorts on a daily basis to school any time of the year. Students believe they are old enough to make the decision themselves whether it's going to be the appropriate time to wear them or not.

MJ Vandersnick believes that shorts should be allowed anytime of the year and that it's the only thing on the dress code that gets enforced.

Reasons why students want to wear shorts is because comfort, style, fairness and the choice is theirs. Isaiah Mader and Vandersnick came up with an idea to wear shorts over top leggings to make themselves comfortable and respectful towards others.

But according to the Garretson School Handbook shorts may be worn during the 1st and 4th nine-week periods. Shorts and skirts of reasonable length are permitted. Dresses, skirts

and shorts, as well as slits in any of these garments and shorts are not to be shorter than fingertip length. Shorts must be of acceptable length and remain that length the entire circumference of the short.

Sophomore students Mader and Vandersnick decided they wanted to take this up with Principal Long in a debate speech in conjunction with their speech class. The main idea was focusing on shorts but the two also wanted to point out the flaws of other dress code policies being violated.

Mr. Long had agreed to take on the sophomore boys in a debate on Wednesday, November 11th. Long went into the debate prepared by researching South Dakota climate, wind chill, frostbite, and exposure to cold weather. He also asked expert Todd Heitkamp, from the National Weather Service, to attend the debate along with school resource officer Jason Aanenson.

Mr. Long's thought on the shorts policy is, "I think if we knew everybody

could come to school dressed responsibly, we wouldn't have to have a policy. But I've seen way too many students come to school dressed inadequately for the weather conditions"

Mader stated, "Not only do I want the shorts policy to change, I also want our administration to realize all of the dress code violations they turn a blind eye too everyday."

The two sophomores started off the debate by saying, "Studies on comfort show that not only is it joyful but it increases the productivity which is what school is all about."

So Mader and Vandersnick came up with an idea to wear shorts over top leggings to make themselves comfortable and respectful towards others, while still fully covering their legs in conjunction with the dress code.

Mr. Long stated, "I'm all for student's opinions to be considered and we will definitely take a look at the policy."



To Honor Those Who Have and Are Currently Serving

By Alex Uhl

"On the Eleventh Hour, of Eleventh day, of the Eleventh Month..." We hear those words every year at the Veteran's Day Ceremony, among other poems and pieces shared. It refers to the origin of Veterans Day as strictly a holiday to commemorate and honor those who served and may have lost their lives in World War I.

However, after World War II broke out, the day was changed from Armistice Day to Veteran's Day to commemorate all Veterans from all wars.

That was all explained at the Veteran's Day Program, which was held on November 11th. All sections of the

school got together to participate and lend a hand in making sure the festivities went smoothly.

The high school band kicked off the program with their song "American Celebration," which is a compilation of "America the Beautiful", "The Star Spangled Banner", and "The Coast Guard's March".

The Band wasn't the only musical addition to the program. The high school Choir sang the song "My Country." Later in the program, the Elementary sang "Thank You Veterans," which had several different parts and harmonies that each grade performed.

However, the main part of the Veteran's Day Program was to remember what our Veterans have done to protect our country. Members of the high school were chosen by Mr. Bennett to read off certain parts of the program to tell of the ultimate sacrifice that the veterans have made in protecting America.

The elementary also contributed by having students dress up as different branches of the military while another student read about the responsibilities and areas that branch covers.

Thanks to our Veterans, we can still stand here today.

Please look at pages 3 and 4 for pictures



Ten Reasons Why It's Too Early to Celebrate Christmas

Editorial Article

By Alyssa Bunde

The TV is jammed with commercials full of red, green, and cheerful music. The leaves have abandoned their homes in the trees and people are be-dazzling their houses with lights. Don't you just love December...wait...what, it's only November? Everyone else's thoughts exactly. Around this time people tend to skip over Thanksgiving and all November's greatness and head straight to Christmas and it's about time we address why this is not okay.

1.) Thanksgiving is a holiday full of eating!

As Americans we love to eat, so why are we skipping a holiday where it's socially acceptable to gorge ourselves with as much food as we want?

2.) The pilgrims did not go through the trouble of discovering America for you to forget their holiday.

They had to travel forever on a boat, try to cultivate unknown land and make peace with people who blatantly just hated us. So the least we can do is acknowledge their special day.

3.) Black Friday

Besides the day before Christmas where the procrastinators do their last minute gift shopping, does Christmas or the month of December have a whole day dedicated to shopping? No? That's what I thought.

4.) Christmas movies aren't even on yet.

If ABC Family's 25 days of Christmas movie countdown hasn't started, should you really even start decorating yet?

5.) Christmas presents can be expensive and let's face it, we're all poor.

It does not matter who you are, what your situation is, or if you even like the person you're giving the gift to, because in reality everyone ends up buying at least one gift around Christmas time.

6.) By the time December finally comes, all the Christmas music seems fa la la lame.

Now everyone likes dashing through the snow in their cars jamming to "Jingle Bell Rock", but when it finally

comes to the real month, you're supposed to be listening to this festive music and everyone's already had enough.

7.) Christmas means we are one step closer to a whole year being over with.

No one has accomplished really anything substantial this year and we all know it, so let us not rush towards the day. We all have to realize this.

8.) Basic New Year sayings.

Thousands of tweets and Instagram posts popping up saying, "New year, new me" and being honest here, no one enjoys those.

9.) December means were closer to a broken New Year's resolution.

Everyone's are usually the same each year, why? Because nine times out of ten we do not follow through on them. (If you actually do, star of excellence for you)

10.) Final and most obvious reason, it's still November!

Personality Quiz: Which Era Do You Radiate?

A fun non-scientific quiz created by the Journalism class.

1. When are you most active during the day?

- A: Night time
- B: Any time, depends on the day
- C: Early morning
- D: Mid afternoon

2. Which room in your house do you spend the most time in?

- A: Living Room
- B: Bedroom
- C: Kitchen
- D: Outside





3. How do you view school?

- A: I'm there for the social aspect
- B: It's there
- C: I'm here to learn
- D: I don't want to be here

4. How much trouble do you get into?

- A: Break the rules but barely get caught
- B: I didn't know I was doing anything wrong
- C: I don't get into trouble
- D: I'm always in trouble

5. Which emoji are you?

- A: 
- B: 
- C: 
- D: 

6. Which pattern/material would you prefer to wear?

- A: Sparkles
- B: Tie-dye
- C: Solid colors
- D: Flannel

7. In what ways do you usually show kindness?

- A: Bringing food to the gathering
- B: Overall being a nice person
- C: Using my manners
- D: I'm not yelling you when you bug me

Why Fall in Love? Fallout Instead!

By Alex Uhl

Imagine a walk through Garretson on a nice sunny autumn day, with a light breeze from the north blowing the red leaves off the trees. Everything seems peaceful and normal, until suddenly, an infernal fireball explodes on the horizon, followed by a shockwave that comes without warning and swallows you and your town whole.

Luckily, that hasn't happened in our world, not for awhile. But the highly anticipated and highly praised Fallout 4 likes to ask the question, "What would you do after a Nuclear War?" The latest entry in the Fallout series continues to help answer that question with some minor tweaks to realism.

The game takes place in post-nuclear war Boston and the surrounding rural and urban areas, including the historic towns of Lexington and Concord. Despite the destruction and "fallout," humanity continues on, still living and still fighting.

It's no wonder that the main theme of the series is "War Never Changes." Several groups are still gunning for control just like their progenitors be-

fore end of the world.

The main area of travel is focused in the suburbs of Boston as well as a more elevated and sloped plateau to the North. While the occasional mutated creature may be the only thing you see in that area, it's the more urban areas within Boston that house the more daunting and dangerous beings such as rogue gangs of people called Raiders; tall, muscular, unintelligent and unreasonable Super Mutants; and other evil creatures that occupy the worn out structures of uptown and downtown. Gunshots and explosions are heard all the time there, unlike the wilderness that resides only a couple miles north.

Fallout 4 once again also features a morality system, but differs from the ones from the previous installments. Being "do-gooder" will give you more respect and attention from the more benevolent forces of the wasteland, while doing more malevolent and less-morally anchored activities (such as stealing or killing friendly people) will make you more feared and more hat-

ed among the general populous.

Fallout 4 sold roughly 1.2 million dollars worth of copies on the online PC game store Steam. It also set a record for how many concurrent players were online playing it, surpassing internationally acclaimed games such as DOTA 2 and Grand Theft Auto V. Although the total number kept fluctuating because of server issues the day of release, the total number peaked at 444,825 total concurrent players.

Fallout 4 isn't the only major title to be released during the holiday season. November 17th will see the release of the long awaited Star Wars: Battlefront. Also Just released alongside Fallout 4 was Call of Duty: Black Ops 3. Last month also saw the releases of Assassin's Creed: Syndicate as well as Halo 5 Guardians.

But really, the real star of the show this year is the one that's been in the making since 2008. Fallout 4 is upon us, so grab your laser rifle and strap on some power armor, you've got a wasteland to save, or destroy.

Excel Energy Emphasizes Electricity Alertness

Thanks to a grant received by the Garretson FFA for severe weather preparation, the families of the Garretson school district, specifically the students, have been supplied with multiple pieces of information in different formats on what to do in case of severe weather.

Not only does it focus on preparation for severe weather but what to do after the occurrence. That is where Tuesday's presentations from Xcel Energy came in to play.

Xcel representatives came to talk to the high school, middle school, and elementary all in different sessions about safety around overhead power lines, underground piping (electrical,

sewer, gas, water, etc), as well as electrical boxes. More information can be found here: <http://www.xcelenergy.com/Community/Education>

The main take away was to be cautious when around electricity and if there is ever any doubt, stay away from downed lines, call 811 before digging, and be aware of what is above you.

Providing visual examples, models, and statistics was a great learning experience and reminder for the students to not take these situations lightly.



Senior Garret Sands volunteered to demonstrate proper technique of getting out of a car that may have a live power line touching it.

Personality Quiz Results: Which Candy Are You?

◆ If you picked mostly A: The '20s
The "roaring '20s" as some called it was a time full of new innovations and good times, so it only makes sense that the people in this generation matched that. Like the folks from this era you're spunky and opinionated! You like a good party or you're the rebel who skips the party and does whatever you want. No matter what you end up doing, you do it with a rebellious yet sociable flare.

◆ If you picked mostly B: The '70s
Many associate this era with hippies and tie-dye, and honestly they are not really wrong so like this time period

you're a very accepting person and non-judgmental. People appreciate your calm and collected attitude. You are usually down for whatever and surround yourself with positivity instead of people who are constant downers.

◆ If you picked mostly C: The '50s
This era while it produced music legends like Elvis Presley and inspired movies like "Grease." It was in fact a very modest generation. Like this time period you are very unpretentious, you're not out to please everyone. You use your basic manners, are chivalrous and just generally a good person. You

can have fun and let loose but for the most part you're definitely the person someone would want to bring home to mom and dad.

◆ If you picked mostly D: The '90s
Have you ever watched some of the '90s' cartoons? If so it's obvious to say the '90s was a very strange and colorful time, full of random trends. Like this era you're random and very self dependent. You don't take anything from anyone. You probably use the sentence "Oh well who really cares," quite often as well.

Senior Spotlight

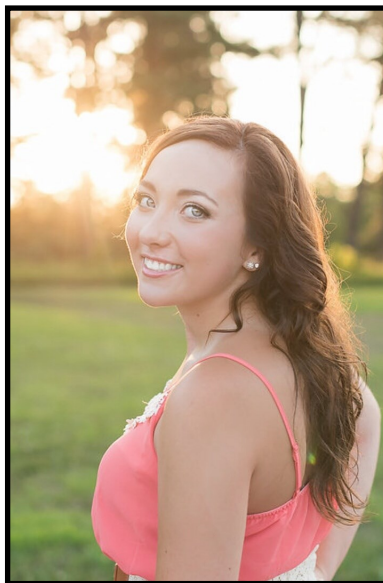
NAME: Kristen Martens

SENIOR PROJECT: Making T-Shirt Quilts

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN: Volleyball, Wrestling Stats, Track, and National Honor Society

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST:
Sports and my friends

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend Southeast Tech for Surgical Technology or Civil Engineering



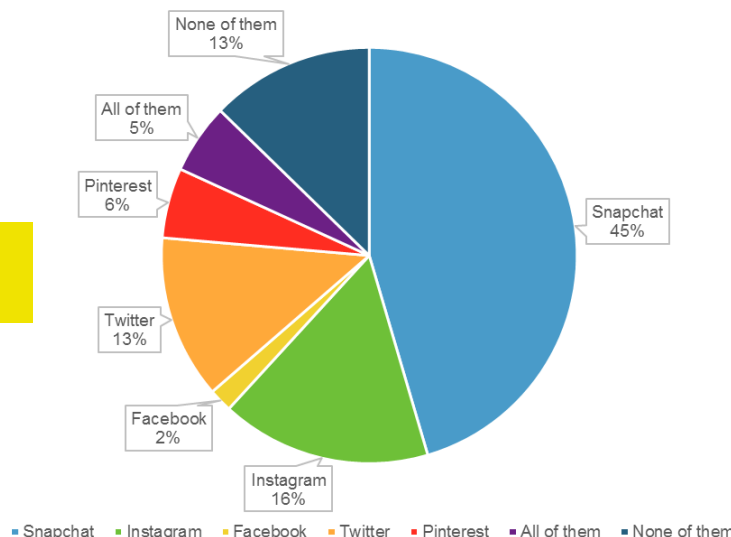
Scholarship Corner

- Alliance Communications (\$1,000) - Must be Alliance Communications customer and be a full-time student in the fall of 2016. Due March 11, 2016.
- Black Hills Stock Show Foundation Scholarship (\$2,000) - Must go into an ag related or supported career including medical, business, engineering, and education. Due December 15, 2015
- South Dakota Farmers Union (\$500) - Must plan to attend an in-state college, university, or technical school. Due December 1, 2015
- Good360Sustainability Scholarship (\$1000) - High School Senior interested in sustainability. Due November 30, 2015

Student Opinion

Students were asked which social media they used most frequently.

Take a moment to vote on the student opinion poll for next week's *Blue Ink*. Polls are located inside Mr. Hughes' room, Mr. TerWee's room and Mrs. Buchholz's room.



- Flosum Scholarship (\$750) - GPA of 3.5 or higher, planning to attend an accredited 4-year college or university in the fall. Due December 15, 2015

- Please click on this [hyperlink](#) from Epsilon Sigma Alpha for a website that has a list of scholarships available. All are Due February 1, 2016

Please check your email for links to these scholarships.

