



Garretson Weekly School Newspaper - Garretson, SD - Volume 3, Number 32

**This Week's
Need to Know**

FACT OF THE WEEK: The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.

BRAIN TEASER OF THE WEEK: Look closely: What letter can be added to pear to increase its value greatly?

Answer on back page

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Which country is a fish's favorite?

Answer on back page

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, April 15

- Grades 3-5 Declam Contest @ Jesse James Opera House

Saturday, April 16

- Track @ Jesse James Invite—Home (9:30)

- Club Baseball v. SFC (5:00)

Monday, April 18

- Club Baseball @ Tea (6:00)

- PTO Meeting—Commons (6:30)

Tuesday, April 19

- Golf @ Chester (10:00)

- Track @ Alcester-Hudson-Beresford (4:00)

Wednesday, April 20

- Band and Choir Large Group Contest @ Harrisburg

- Kindergarten & 1st Grade

Field Trip to Children's Museum

Thursday, April 21

- 2nd Grade Field Trip to Butterfly House, KSFY, Oakridge

- Golf @ Flandreau (10:00)

- 7/8 Track @ Garretson (4:00)

- Club Baseball @ Tri-Valley (6:00)



Scan for the full upcoming event schedule

FFA Wraps Up Contest Season

By Alex Uhl

The FFA contest season has finally wrapped up with the end of the State Convention in Brookings. Everything the teams have been working for has led up to this and despite the ups and downs, they planned on giving it their all.

One of the better performing teams was the Horse Judging team, which consisted of Allison and Claire Longhenry, Grace Homer, and Kennedy Houghton. They were among the top five horse teams in the state and also had member Claire Longhenry place 1st overall. Ag advisor Ed Mueller remarked on their results, "I honestly thought that maybe they would make it to Nationals." Needless to say, the Horse team performed rather well this year.

Another contest that Garretson is known well for performing in was Veterinary Science CDE. This contest consists of a test as well as identifying veterinary tools and animal breeds. The team overall placed 20th out of 59, putting them in the top third in the State. The team consisted of veterans Moriah Flanagan and Breana Genzlinger, as well as the new recruit Jack Konechne.

Meanwhile, in the Floriculture CDE, the

team placed seventh out of 55. They were fresh off a sweeping victory at districts, and were confident in their abilities. Sophomore Emily Malsom led the team by earning fourth overall, and was followed by Nobel Nothstine, 37th; Myranda Folland, 47th; and Carter Gullickson, 124th. Whilst all the members of the team were new to the contest, they had worked diligently in their efforts to crank out a great team score for their first state convention.

On a more somber note, Shane Mueller retired as the South Dakota State FFA Sentinel. As is tradition, they are to serve one year and help the state FFA office with their duties as well as traveling to different chapters around the state to gather more support for the state program. He along with the rest of last year's officer crew will be sorely missed.

The FFA has had another great year despite the losses. To commemorate the achievements of the FFA Members, the Garretson FFA Chapter is hosting a banquet on May 12. It will also be Mr. Mueller's last banquet as he is retiring this year. "I'm going to miss some more than most. Especially Jack," he said. Some, more than most, will miss you too.



Photo courtesy of the Garretson FFA Facebook page

T for "Tee-Off" and Track

By Alyssa Bunde

People keep missing school! Relax, it's not what you think. It's just spring sport season!

This past Tuesday our GHS track team packed up their gear, gladly left school to Salem and participated in the meet being held. Unfortunately the bus load was and is going to continue to be lighter this year. With so many people dropping out due to a multitude of reasons including injury, the once beloved sport continues to face difficulties filling events.

Coach Bennett elaborated on how they're handling things, "We've gotta do what we gotta do to fill things in. It is a challenge."

With eight teams at the recent meet, Garretson walked away with respectable placings. Junior Aaron Hoon took home second in the triple jump. Sophomore Keisean Deehr placed third in both the high jump and

400m dash. Both boys also participated in relays. Hoon, along with fellow junior Shay Gibson, sophomores Marc Rattenborg and Diontae Lymon secured third in the 400m relay. Also placing third was Deehr, Gibson, Brennan Mudder and Evan Fick in the 1600m relay.

Senior and 2nd place holder of 1600m dash and 800m dash from Salem's meet, Evan Fick commented, "I think we're still getting in shape and everyone's still figuring out what they're good at so its important to just stay on track."

Not only is it important to stay focused in track but it's just as important during golf. This held especially true during Tuesday's early bird held at Garretson. With wind blowing aggressively at 30 mph, it was crucial to keep an eye on the ball and adjust the swing for the conditions.

While this meet technically did not have official placings our Garretson golfers' individual skills shined through. Top scorers were senior Micah Mader with an impressive 36, followed by younger brother and sophomore Isaiah Mader shooting a 41, senior Alex Andersen with a 46 and Jacob Liester shooting a 49.

Coach Stoltenberg commented, "For the first meet, they did very well; I was quite pleased. Some of the younger kids played well too." She then continued to elaborate on what the team would be practicing on, "Accuracy, we need to be able to hit fairways and greens."

The next golf meet will be held in Chester next Tuesday. The next track meet will be held at the Garretson sports complex this Saturday.

Junior High Golfers Put to the Test, Fair Well for First Meet

With 17 seventh and eighth graders out for golf this season and weather that has been less than cooperative, it has been hard to get in a few good rounds. However, that has worked to the advantage of these junior high golfers as the conditions for yesterday's meet in Chester were not picture perfect due to high wind.

Nate Skillman paced the Garretson group shooting a 57 and falling just one stroke short of medaling (top 15 earn medals). Jake Schroeder was not far behind with a 61. Sam Konechne, 73, and Evan DeBates, 81, rounded out the boys' scores. The top score was a 40 from Sioux Valley.

The girls cracked the medal stand. Peyton Hove took seventh with a 65, Jayden Clark was one stroke and one place behind with an eighth place 66, Malia Johnson was also just another stroke behind Clark but due to tie breakers finished in 12th. Aliah Lymon, 76, concluded the girls' scores.

The junior high's next meet is River Ridge Golf Course in Garretson. scheduled to be Monday, May 2 at



Malia Johnson, 12th, Peyton Hove, 7th, and Jayden Clark, 8th; show off their medals after Thursday's meet in Chester at the Lakes Golf Course.

Journalism Goes to SDSU

By Annika Hanson

On Wednesday April 13th the *Blue Ink* crew took a trip to a journalism conference at SDSU in Brookings. They learned new skills and techniques to make the Garretson high school newspaper a better read.

The conference started out with different high school journalism and yearbook teams all filing into a meeting room. They had the honor of meeting the newspaper group of SDSU, the college students discussed photography, writing, brainstorming, and editing with the students.

Going to this conference was especially beneficial to Micah Mader because he is considering journalism as a major. He said, "I think I am going to college for journalism so I feel like I got good insight on the field."

The program was split into three sessions where three different college students taught about their area of expertise. The group of over 200 students all split up into smaller sections to make it easier on the instructors.

The Garretson team participated in many activities to help improve their skills in writing and photography. Journalism student Isaiah Mader said, "I learned good writing techniques that I can put into future articles."

After all three sessions were finished the students ate an extravagant lunch at Panda Express. Ensuing the satisfaction of hungry tummies, it was finally time for the long awaited awards ceremony.

Each of Garretson's journalism kids who entered a submission earned at least one award. Submissions were turned in at the end of January and then sent off for judging. So journalism students from last semester were



Journalism students attending the South Dakota High School Press Association convention that focuses on excellence and growth in journalism and yearbook are as follows: Back Row: Isaiah Mader, Sylvia Larson, Annika Hanson, Brianna Callsen, Alyssa Bunde, Micah Mader. Front Row: Zeb Johnson, Advisor Kelsey Buchholz

able to participate in the conference as well.

Up to three articles could be submitted in each category for news-writing and photography.

In general news, Alyssa Bunde and Alex Uhl earned honorable mentions while Annika Hanson took home an excellent.

For the sports writing category, Brianna Callsen and Hanson secured honorable mentions and Uhl hit the top spot with a superior.

In the final category of editorials, Bunde took home an honorable mention, Callsen earned an excellent, and Sylvia Larson nabbed a superior.

In photography Larson earned an excellent in the category of school ac-

tivity and an excellent in sports. Joining her in sports photography was Mataya Lines with an excellent and Katie Giesler with a superior.

Overall the *Blue Ink* newspaper was noted with an honorable mention as was the Garretson yearbook.

This conference has been a valuable insight for the journalism students on proper writing and formatting. As the keynote speaker of the conference said, "You are awesome. Be awesome!"

A Familiar Face Finishes Final Few Weeks at Garretson

By Isaiah Mader

Mrs. McClure has been Garretson High School's study hall teacher for 16 years now, and sticking to the decision made three years ago, she is going to retire this year. Her duties as a teacher outside of counting kids tardy ranged from assisting with prom, the mentoring program, and senior projects.

Her connections with the students over the years are something that didn't go unnoticed. After only two years of working with her, Superintendent Guy Johnson stated, "She has been a staple in this school and her absence around the school will definitely change the student and staff atmosphere."

Mr. Johnson also said that, "Although we will advertise for this position, it will be hard to find somebody with the qualities she had."

Mrs. McClure has been ushering kids through their schooling for 16 years and it's safe to say she's made a lot of memories, some good and even some bad. So when she was asked just what her favorite memory was she simply said, "It's challenging to summarize my favorite memories into just a couple of sentences."

Mr. Furness was asked about how

he will miss her presence in the staff and he had some pleasant things to say. "She will be greatly missed by everyone at the Garretson school because of all the things she did, especially the rapport she had with the students. Her personality is not something that can be replaced, but I'm really going to miss her baked goodies in the lounge."

Jo McClure also feels that albeit the timing is right for her to retire, she doesn't really want to. All she wants is more freedom to pick and choose when she wants to work and she truly hopes she will be asked to substitute teach in the future.

Even senior Jacob Fitzgerald stated that, "She is somebody everyone respects and listens to when she tells you not to do something. She is irreplaceable and it meant a lot to have her here for our senior year, I couldn't imagine anybody else."

Overall everyone interviewed agreed that she ran a tight ship, but it was for the students' benefit to further prepare them for the real world.

Mrs. McClure also said that, "I can't be sad about leaving, I just have to be thankful for the 16 years I've had at the Garretson School. I will however



2106 Retiree Jo McClure has been a consistent presence in the halls and classrooms of Garretson for 16 years.

dearly miss the daily contact with the students and all the phone calls I received everyday."

With days of sleeping in late, watching squirrels, and reading books, Mrs. McClure has a lot to look forward to. She especially is going to enjoy hopefully wintering in Sunny, Florida.

"Always carry your moral compass and check it often." - Jo McClure



Club Ball Success Early, Struggles of Late

By Micaiah Lee Mader

This past Friday began the start of a busy spring schedule for the Garretson Club Baseball team. Following a promising start to the '16 season, the squad was excited to get back on the field.

Garretson's home opener featured region foe, the Tea Area Titans. Tea jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead in the first inning. Ike Mader struggled early on the mound, but settled in with a solid defense behind him. Along with the pitching, the offense also settled in and was able to come up with big hits with runners on. Chayce Schleuter, Brady Schleuter, Cole Flegen, Ike Mader, Micah Mader, and Jared Fitzgerald all plated runs for the Dragons. Ike Mader completed the complete game and was awarded the W in an 11-3 contest.

On the other end of the weekend, Garretson faced off against division rival West Central. Much like the Tea game, G-town found themselves in a 3-0 hole after the first inning. And once again, they answered right back with clutch hits and stout defense. Cole Flegen started the game and worked



Second baseman Isaiah Mader reacts to a sharply hit ball by the Sioux Falls Lincoln offense. Garretson lost last night's contest 4-13.

through three tough innings, settling in towards the end of his outing. Alex Andersen and Micah Mader picked up the games only RBI's. Micah Mader came in and pitched four innings in front of a flawless defense and received the W on a 7-5 victory.

Following a hard fought win, the boys were on the road the very next

day playing the Sioux Falls Christian Chargers in Renner. Jacob Fitzgerald made his first outing on the mound of the '16 season. SFC took no time in lighting up the scoreboard and they rolled to an easy 10-0 victory in 5 innings.

Coming off a disappointing game, the boys were looking to get back on track last night against one of the best teams in all of South Dakota baseball, the Lincoln Patriots. Taking the hill for Garretson was Senior Cole Flegen in his third outing of the year. Flegen was solid for the dragons, but defensive let downs led to a SFL lead. Garretson was able to piece several hits together and pulled within three in the 4th inning, but SFL would take over from there and cruise to a 13-4 win. Bringing in runs were Brady Schleuter, Cole Flegen, and Sean Tillma.

The G-Town boys are looking to find a rhythm in young season and remain hopeful in lots of talent. The squad takes on SFC tomorrow at home at 5:00 in what should be a high powered matchup of two of the best teams in the region.



Pitcher Cole Flegen started the game against Sioux Falls Lincoln. Despite being able to nail a few key outs, Lincoln capitalized on G-town errors to take the lead early and keep it.