



# Blue Ink



## All-State choir performs at South Dakota's top venue

Two veterans and two rookies showcase their choral abilities during statewide concert

by Heather Huether  
staff writer

Saturday October 28th, 2017, four Garretson students traveled to Sioux Falls for All-State Choir. They performed at the Denny Sanford Premier Center in Sioux Falls.

The four Garretson representatives were soprano Aliyah Lymon, sophomore; alto Aftyn Heitkamp, sophomore; tenor Zebadiah Johnson, senior; and bass Trevor Fiegen, junior. Lymon and Johnson were both in the All-State Choir last year as well.

These four students were asked to put in extra hours, including attending a prep day at SDSU as well as formal spot checks before and after school to make sure they knew their music.

At All-State, they performed a total of six songs including: "The Music of Living", "Tree of Peace", "Truly Brave", "Famine Song", and "Landscape".

"Probably 'Tree of Peace' was my favorite song, because there was a lot of moving parts in it and a lot of harmonies," said Heitkamp.

All-State had a guest conductor, Tim Seelig. Seelig is a conductor, singer, teacher, and a motivational speaker. He has had the opportunity to be a guest conductor all over the U.S. and across the globe. He even co-founded The Women's Chorus of Dallas.

Dr. Seelig has four degrees, including Doctor of Musical Arts and a Diploma from the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. He is the author of seven books and DVDs on choral technique. Seelig has regularly conducted at Carnegie Hall over the past



Zeb Johnson, Trevor Fiegen, Aftyn Heitkamp, and Aliyah Lymon were Garretson's representatives at the annual All-State Chorus festival last weekend. They performed at the Denny Sanford Premier Center. The performance is also combined with the All-State Orchestra.

Photo submitted by Ms. Kelby Robinson

25 years, the Lincoln Center, and the Southbank Centre in London.

Dr. Seelig's first career was as a singer but it is through his impact while conducting that he has had some notable achievements. He also conducted the *Guinness Book of World Record's* Longest Choral Concert. He also carried the Olympic torch as a community hero.

The All-State participants were able to work with Dr. Seelig all day on Friday and then during the day on Saturday before the concert Saturday evening.

This year's All-State Choir was made of 932 singers from 148 differ-

ent high schools from across South Dakota. Students were chosen by the chorus directors in each high school. Each school is only allowed to bring a certain number of quartets based on the schools population. Smaller schools bring one group consisting of a soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. While bigger schools may bring an upward of five quartets.

"I think All-State went very well, even though there were very long prep days. The concert was very, very good and the work paid off," Heitkamp said.

## Oral interp team continues success

Interpers have seen more superior ratings in competitions this year than any previous year

by Heather Huether  
staff writer

Many people may not know what Oral Interpretation is, even though it's been at GHS for years, but it is an activity that has seen success and even a state qualifier in recent years. Oral Interp is when students take a piece of literature, of their choice, and share it with an audience. There are seven categories and students face off against others to see who does the best in their respective category.

The category options include humorous, serious, poetry, duet, non-original oratory, storytelling, and reader's theatre.

"Oral Interp is a competition in which students take various types of

pieces and perform them using tone and voice to make the piece come alive," said Mr. TerWee, oral interpretation coach

On October 30th, the GHS Oral Interp team traveled to Harrisburg for a meet. The team continued to perform well.

Senior Lana Braswell got an excellent in storytelling and an excellent+ in serious. Sophomore Angel Larson received an Excellent in poetry. Senior Sylvia Larson received a Superior in humorous. Sophomore Nobel Nothstine also earned a superior rating in humorous.

The Larson sisters also used their sibling connection to net a Superior in duet. And Nothstine and her duet partner, sophomore Kara Ross also wowed the judges receiving a Super-

rior+ in duet.

"The five younger ladies that have been competing have had an incredible year. This is the most Superior ratings we've had in the four years I've been doing this" TerWee said.

The seasons not over yet though! Regions are coming up in less than two weeks and Garretson is looking to fill all the slots at regions. Different than other competitions, at regions each school can only have one student participate in each category.

"I'm looking forward to regionals. Unfortunately for us, our region has some great schools in it, and other great oral Interp kids. It will be difficult to move on, but I'm really looking forward to what our kids can do," added TerWee.

## This Week's Need to Know

**FACT OF THE WEEK:** The number 4 is the only number with the same number of letters in its name as its meaning.

**LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK:** The best way to remove pet hair from your carpet is to use a squeegee.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** Why did the baby strawberry cross the road? (submitted by Jaden B.)

**BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK:** A man pushes his car to a hotel and tells the owner that he's bankrupt. Why?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, November 2

- School Dismissal @ 1:30
- Parent/Teacher Conferences (2:30-8:30)

### Friday, November 3

- No School

### Sunday, November 5

- Daylight Savings Time ends—Fall back one hour

### Tuesday, November 7

- FFA @ Harrisburg (4:00)

### Friday, November 10

- Veteran's Day Program (2:30)

### Saturday, November 11

- Veteran's Day

## Worth Mentioning

**New School Store** just opened up. It covers winter sports as well as generic Garretson Blue Dragon gear. You can view the apparel by clicking [here](#).

**The World Series** concluded last night with the Astros beating the Dodgers 5-1. This was Houston's first ever championship.

**Fall weather** seems to be here to stay. There is a possibility of snow tomorrow but we will recover with a nice weekend. Saturday is supposed to be sunny and in the low 50s while Sunday is projected to be slightly cooler in the upper 40s. However, cold weather is here to stay as we struggle to stay above freezing as we roll into next week.



## Stress less, live more, get a pet

*Pets are worth the money to reduce stress and possibly lengthening your life*

by **Peyton Sage**  
staff writer—editorial

On Tuesday afternoon, I made the spur of the moment decision to bring my new kitten to school. Nearly everybody I ran into instantly smiled, burst into “aww”, and asked to pet her. So, why are people’s moods instantly boosted when seeing a furry friend?

It all comes down to science. Studies show that 15 to 30 minutes of quality time with a kitten can calm your nerves and up your mood. When you spend time with a kitten, your brain produces serotonin,

which boosts feelings of happiness. Your cortisol levels also go down, which works to reduce feelings of stress and anxiety.

Cortisol and high blood pressure is a result of stress and can lead to high cholesterol and even heart attacks. This means that spending time with a kitten can keep you healthier in the long run. In fact, cat owners are 40% less likely to die of strokes and heart attacks, both associated by over-stressing.

Even if you're not a cat person, it's really hard to resist a soft baby kitten. They're playful, independent, and they don't make a lot of noise

like puppies do. Although puppies are cute mood boosters too, research says that kittens make better emotional support animals.

Because kittens aren't as naughty or needy as puppies, they give the owner less stress in an already emotional state. Whether you're struggling in school, relationships, or if life just has you down, applying for an emotional support animal is proven to be beneficial.

Kittens have healing powers, major health benefits, and let's face it, they're pretty adorable too.

## Personality Quiz: Which typical household pet are you?

*A fun, non-scientific quiz created by the journalism class*

**1. What did you do (or do you prefer to do on Halloween?)**

- A. Took siblings out trick-or-treating
- B. Scared people
- C. Handed out candy
- D. Went trick-or-treating even though you may be “too old”

**2. When your mom is baking in the kitchen, what do you do?**

- A. Offer to help
- B. Sneak bites of dough/batter before it is done.
- C. Wait patiently until it is done.
- D. Lick the bowl

**3. How do you typically deal with your homework?**

- A. Get it done well and on time.
- B. Rush through it.
- C. Turn it in late.
- D. Use quizlet or friends to help you finish.

**4. What do you do after school on an average day?**

- A. Do chores/homework right away.
- B. Play video games.
- C. Take a nap.
- D. Hang out with friends.

**5. What is your “go-to” movie genre?**

- A. Romance
- B. Comedy
- C. Drama
- D. Action



## Social Media propelled cause still going strong

*No-Shave November started on Facebook but has since paired with the ACS to further the purpose*

by **Mason Hofer**  
staff writer

Now that October, and with it, Halloween season, is over, it is time for lots of people’s favorite time of the year. People love this time of year because of things such as Thanksgiving or Black Friday. But a nationwide event goes on this entire month that many people may not think of right away: No-Shave November.

No-Shave November is a month devoted to, well, no shaving. Typically men will participate the most in this activity, by not shaving their fa-

cial hair. However, women will take part in this event as well, abstaining from shaving their legs.

“Why would this be something that I want to participate in?” some people may ask. “The goal of No-Shave November is to grow awareness by embracing our hair, which many cancer patients lose, and letting it grow wild and free. Donate the money you typically spend on shaving and grooming to educate about cancer prevention, save lives, and aid those fighting the battle.” This statement is from their website no-shave.org.

No-Shave November started on

Facebook in 2009, but paired up with American Cancer Society last year which has given it a whole new platform to educate and raise awareness in the fight against cancer.

Participate by growing a beard, mustache, leg hair, or skipping your waxing appointment. When you stop shaving, set up a No-Shave Fundraising page. Or if you don’t feel like participating yourself, you can still help another furry friend and donate to their fundraising page which can be set up on no-shave.org. All donations go to cancer treatment centers. The rules are simple just don’t shave until the end of the month.

## More terror attacks strike fear in US citizens

*Both New York and Colorado saw solo attacks this week*

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**  
staff writer

On Tuesday, New York City witnessed a terror attack in the heart of Manhattan. The attack which killed eight and left many injured was facilitated by a 29-year-old ISIS follower who drove a truck into a busy crowd.

This attack was the worst terror action committed in New York City since the horrific one which took place on September 11th, 2001 at the World Trade Center.

The ISIS follower had been planning this onslaught for over a year

after being inspired by ISIS propaganda videos. The terrorist was shot at the scene and underwent surgery, he is now in custody and being charged with federal terrorism offenses.

Halfway across the country in Denver, Colorado, a shooting took place inside the walls of a Wal-Mart. The gun fire left two people dead and one more injured after firing around 30 shots. As people fled the scene, police rushed in to get the situation under control.

Although not many details have been released about the shooting,

the deadly affair was quickly subdued which minimized the fatalities. This is the third time the Denver area has seen terrorist actions with the Columbine massacre and the movie theater shooting in Aurora.

With two deadly situations occurring in the past two days, a lot of people are on high alert. We have already seen many people speak out about the attacks and should continue to see rallied support around the victims of very unfortunate circumstances.

## September Students of the Month

First recognitions of the school year



**SENIOR**  
Nick Lundberg



**JUNIOR**  
Dominick Krueger



**SOPHOMORE**  
Jayden Clark



**FRESHMAN**  
Sam Konechne



**EIGHTH GRADER**  
Aliyah Leedy



**SEVENTH GRADER**  
Kloey Mullin



**SIXTH GRADER**  
Hannah Frewaldt



## Volleyball ends season with full effort and hearts on the floor

*Finding a fight for their final game of the 2017 campaign, Garretson took a set away from Baltic but came up short on the match*

by **Greg Arana**  
staff writer

This last Tuesday the volleyball season came to a disappointing end as the Lady Blue Dragons were defeated in the first round of regions by the Baltic Bulldogs. Baltic moved on to play Dell Rapids today.

It was an all-around team effort for Garretson on Tuesday. There were six aces for the Blue Dragons, tied for the second most during a game this season. The following players all had one ace: Madi Northrup, Emily Schleuter, Abby Schroeder, Peyton Hove, Kennedy Buckneberg, and Lauren Heesch. Heesch also had the only two blocks in the game.

There was a total of 25 kills on the night: Northrup, 1; Aftyn Heitkamp, 3; Schroeder, 3; Buckneberg, 5; Heesch, 6; and Mattea Fiegen, 7.

There was also a total of 24 set

assists and 21 of them came from freshman setter Peyton Hove, the other three came from Abby Schroeder, 2; and Lauren Heesch, 1.

Senior, Emily Schleuter, had 29 of the 71 total digs. Other top performers were Hove, 9; Heesch, 8; Northrup, 6; and Madden Lardy, 4.

Tuesday's game took four sets to finalize but unfortunately it was the last time on the court for three of the Lady Blue Dragons. Seniors, Beth Schmidt, Emily Schleuter, and Madi Northrup all played in Tuesday's game and all three of them had a good game.

In the first set the Dragons fell behind quickly and struggled to catch up with the Bulldogs. The Lady Dragons lost in the first set 12-25.

After falling behind in the second set, the Blue Dragons worked to stage a comeback. After a four point run, Garretson errored and lost the second set 22-25. The error came

with a little controversy as Garretson was called for four hits, but believed they were still in the right to play all three after a block attempt.



The three seniors on the team, Madi Northrup, Emily Schleuter, and Beth Schmidt; all played their final game as a Blue Dragon Volleyball player on Tuesday. Garretson took it to four sets but came up short in their attempt to advance in region play.

*Photo by Sylvia Larson*

In the third set the Lady Dragons flipped the script and won 25-22. The Dragons held the lead all the way up to 18 points; then it was back and fourth until 22 points. The Lady Dragons then took control of the final three points to win.

The Dragons lost the fourth set 15-25 despite an early lead. After the Lady Dragons and Bulldogs tied at 9 points, the Bulldogs pulled away and the Dragons couldn't catch up.

The Lady Dragons didn't have the season they were hoping this year for but the young team will now have more experience for next year. They can use this season as motivation to want to improve even more by next year.

### Parent-Teacher conferences tonight

*Garretson experienced multiple exceptions to still qualify for state aid*

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**  
staff writer

Parent teacher conferences are being held tonight in the old gym from 2:30 to 8:30. These conferences give parents an opportunity to see how well their kids are doing in school, to celebrate their accomplishments and successes, and make sure they aren't falling behind.

This year, a new component was added to the yearly conferences. Parents were given the option to sign up online with any teachers they wished to meet with. This was put in to place to hopefully raise the number of people attending and give the teachers time to prepare for who they were going to see.

Other events happening tonight will be the book fair, flu shot clinic, and a financial aid meeting.

The book fair is a staple for conferences and will once again offer a variety of books for all ages, money raised from this annual event goes

to purchasing new books for the school library.

Back for another year during conferences is the flu shot clinic. This is offered in conjunction with Quick Health/Urgent Care. Flu shots can be billed through insurance at the time or paid directly through a \$25 cash option.

A new item on the agenda is the financial aid meeting which is open to juniors and seniors. Guidance counselor, Mrs. Pliska, will host the meeting to inform parents and students of the different options available when dealing with the cost of post-secondary education.

The jam-packed night will give way to an early dismissal today and a day off on Friday. With the first quarter wrapping up last week, this is a great time for your parents make sure you are on the right track for the remainder of the school year.

### Personality quiz results: Household pet personality

*A fun, non-scientific quiz created by the journalism class*

**If you got mostly A**, you are a dog. You are everyone's best friend because you are dependable, loyal and caring. Everyone knows what they can expect out of you, nothing but your best.

**If you got mostly B**, you are a puppy. You have a great youthfulness about you although you may be somewhat of a troublemaker. You may not have quite grown into your body yet, so being a little clumsy may happen every once in a while. You may be a little mischievous but you have good intentions.



**If you got mostly C**, you are a cat. Congratulations, you are independent and know what you want. Although you may come off as aloof sometimes because you like to keep to yourself, you just know what works for you. You will definitely take advantage of curling up and relaxing in the sun. While you need that to recharge, others may view it as lazy.

**If you got mostly D**, you are a kitten. You are energetic, curious, and adventurous. You freely roam around and do what you want to do. You love to explore, find new friends, and ignore the traditional way of getting things done.



### Senior Spotlight

*Jaden Braaten*

**SENIOR PROJECT:**  
Refurbishing a tandem bicycle

**ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:**  
Soccer  
Cheer  
Color Guard  
One-Act Play  
Choir  
Yearbook

**WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST:**  
Using the excuse of senioritis

**PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:**  
Go to USD for social sciences



### Senior Spotlight

*Jack Konechne*

**SENIOR PROJECT:**  
Taxidermy

**ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:**  
Football  
Wrestling  
Track

**WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST:**  
Sports  
Friends  
The teachers

**PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:**  
Study abroad in Tibet and search for the yeti.

