

**Parent Teacher Conferences**

Parent-Teacher Conferences are slated for today. School will dismiss early at 1:30, followed by conferences from 2:30-8:30

# Blue Ink

Art News Sports Articles

Wrestling Science Students Golf Blue Dragons Math History Basketball XC Choir English Baseball Volleyball Football Soccer

## Six set to serve after graduation

*Strong track record of Garretson graduates choosing to serve continues with the Class of 2018*

by **Sylvia Larson**  
senior writer

On February 8th, the girls and boys basketball teams faced the Beresford Watchdogs in a nail-biting double header on Garretson's home court. It was Military Appreciation Night, so before the varsity games there was a presentation of the colors during the national anthem and members of the armed forces were invited to stand and be recognized.

The Lady Dragons played a good game but ultimately couldn't pull out a win. The final score was 39-58. The boys stayed basically in the lead the majority of the game, only falling in step with the Watchdogs during the final quarter. They continued to be pushed back, trailing in the last few minutes. Beresford thought they had secured the W, but junior Trevor Fiegen threw up a three-point basket on an offensive rebound and led the game into a overtime tie breaker. Beresford immediately took the upper hand pummeled the Dragons the entirety of the extra minutes, only letting them score a three-pointer half way through. The final score was 54-61, adding a loss to the Blue Dragon record. The girls and boys have another away double header on Friday which serves as the girls' last game and the boys have their last home game on the 19th.

Military members were recognized, but no effort was made to make sure everyone in the graduating class of 2018 going into the armed forces was in attendance. This year has six future servicemen, three in the Air National Guard, one in the Air Force, one in the Navy, and one in the Army National Guard.

"My grandfather was a pilot, so I wanted to be a pilot," stated Myranda Folland, who enlisted in the Air National Guard last year. "It was



Myranda Folland enlisted in the Air Guard last year.

either the Air Guard or the Air Force, and I didn't want to go active duty right away."

Folland will have quite a busy summer, heading the basic training for two months and then job training for two months.



Nick Lundberg cites financial benefits and the ability to serve as motivating factors.

Also in the Air National Guard is Nick Lundberg. "I chose the National Guard help pay for colleges, gain new experiences, and help serve my country."

"My family suggested it," stated Jack Konechne, who is in the process of enlisting in the Air Guard. "It's going to help pay for college, and I want to have new experiences."



Positive family support helped make the decision for Jack Konechne to enlist easier.

Konechne believes that joining the armed forces makes people better.

Clayton Bonte is in the Navy. "I have a lot of past family who were in the Navy, but I just really like boats."

During the summer he's going to basic training and then going to nuke school to become a nuclear engineer. "I'm pretty darn excited," he added.

Erynn Fink, following in the footsteps of her brother Wyatt, is in the Army National Guard. "I chose the National Guard because my uncle is in, and it has some of the best benefits for education. [My brother] is in the



Erynn Fink chose to join her brother in the Army National Guard.

Guard too, so I also chose it over any

other branch a little bit because I wanted to be better than him and do stuff better than he does."

Fink has to go 10 more weeks of training this summer, even though she spent all of last summer at basic. She continued, "I don't mind all of the work because I'm serving my country. I'm proud to be an American."

McKenzie Decker, whose older brother is in the Air Force, is also enlisting in the Air Force.

This is about the time of year when the junior class is meeting with recruiters and peicing together their possible future

in the armed forces, so the class of 2018 has a lot of advice to give to them.

"Go and talk to the recruiter and figure out everything before you sign up," stated Folland. "Decide if that's what you really want to do. It's a really good experience, so I highly recommend it."

Fink agreed and added, "Make sure you think about it and gauge your options. If you do enlist, basic training is all mental, so don't stress too much over it. Just work hard and you'll be fine."

"Don't be scared, but take into consideration what a time commitment it will be," stated Bonte, "The only we have to fear is fear itself."

These six seniors are among many graduates from Garretson High School and other armed forces members in the Garretson Area.

Clayton Bonte's family history was a contributing factor as to why he enlisted in the Navy.



### This Week's Need to Know

**FACT OF THE WEEK:** About 3% of pet owners will give their furry friends gifts on Valentine's Day.

**LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK:** Exercise if good for your health, and has even been known to increase brainpower by 10%.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** What kind of Valentine's candy is never on time?

**BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK:** See if you can decipher this rebus puzzle.



Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

### Upcoming Events

- Thursday, February 15**
  - Early Dismissal (1:30)
  - Parent/Teacher Conferences (2:30-8:30)
  - No Pre-School Today
- Friday, February 16**
  - No School—Teacher In-Service
  - GBB @ Sioux Valley (5:00/6:30)
  - BBB @ Sioux Valley (5:00/8:00)
- Saturday, February 17**
  - Wrestling @ Region 2B Tourney in Salem (10:00)
- Monday, February 19**
  - No School
  - BBB v. SFC (5:00/6:15/7:00)
- Tuesday, February 20**
  - FFA Blood Drive (7:30-2:30)
  - GBB @ Region Rd 1 (TBD)
- Thursday, February 22**
  - FFA Petting Zoo (2:00)
  - GBB @ Region Semifinals (TBD)
- Friday, February 23**
  - No School
  - FFA Chapter Meeting (1:00)
  - State Wrestling @ Sioux Falls
- Saturday, February 24**
  - State Wrestling @ Sioux Falls

### Worth Mentioning

**Zeb Johnson** qualified for the 2018 USA Powerlifting High School Nationals yesterday. Johnson will compete as an equipped lifter in Appleton, WI at the end of March. Johnson lifted a total of 1,150 lbs to qualify for his weight class and the one above.



# Private space travel not that far away

*Tesla founder takes travel innovation beyond Earth's atmosphere*

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**  
senior writer

The future of space exploration is being spearheaded by Elon Musk, the founder of SpaceX. The company was established in 2002, but didn't start to top the headlines until several years ago when the business began to break ground in the world of outer space. The goal of SpaceX is to transform space technology, reduce the cost of space transportation, and eventually allow humans to live on other planets.

SpaceX has developed three different space rockets named Dragon,

Falcon 9, and Falcon Heavy. Musk is also the CEO of Tesla Inc. which is a rising automotive brand, specializing in electric cars.

Dragon is a spacecraft used to deliver goods and eventually humans to space, it is presently the only ship carrying cargo to and from space. Dragon is a reusable ship which is launched by Falcon 9. SpaceX is currently working on Dragon V2 which would allow a crew to fly with it.

Falcon 9 is a space module used for the transportation of satellites and Dragon. Like Dragon, Falcon 9 is a reusable rocket ship. Tomorrow, this spacecraft will launch demon-

stration satellites for their first phase in constellation, which would provide internet service from outer space. Constellation would consist of over 4,000 satellites.

Falcon Heavy is the world's most powerful rocket, capable of lifting over 140,000 pounds. This spacecraft was developed for massive cargo hauls to space and for the opportunity to bring humans as far as Mars.

SpaceX is the future of outer space expeditions and providing it in a much cheaper fashion. Elon Musk and his company are rapidly developing which could lead to things that previously were merely dreams.

# What's on the ballot?

*South Dakota's 2018 election will have several new items on the ballot and several making a reappearance*

by **Peyton Sage**  
senior writer

The next South Dakota election will take place on November 6th, 2018 where many of the eligible seniors will vote at the polls for the first time.

One of the bills that will appear on the ballot is whether or not South Dakota will add a bigger tax on tobacco products. The tax money earned will then go toward the tuition costs of statewide technical colleges.

The idea is that every pack of cigarettes will now increase in tax by one dollar and other tobacco products will have a 55% tax increase. If this bill is put into effect, 20 million dollars worth of tobacco money will be put into tuition costs.

Another bill that will make its way into the 2018 election is raising the tobacco purchase age to 21. Although 18 year olds can legally purchase tobacco products now, it is unclear whether or not the grandfather clause will apply to them. If not, 18 year olds will no longer be able to purchase tobacco despite currently having that right.

Legalizing medical marijuana is one of the more controversial bills that made it onto the ballot. Under this law, qualifying patients will become registered cardholders, even if they're a minor. No businesses, landlords, or schools can penalize, refuse to lease, or refuse to enroll cardholders of medical marijuana.

This measure would legalize marijuana testing, manufacturing, and cultivation facilities, as well as dispensaries where marijuana can be bought by cardholders.

Whether or not these smoking-related bills personally affect voters, it is important for the voters in the 2018 election to keep their best interests at mind.

# Olympics capturing hearts and ratings

*USA currently fifth in medal count, Norway atop the leaderboard*

by **Greg Arana**  
staff writer

The 2018 Winter Olympics are taking place in Pyeongchang County, South Korea. The last Winter Olympics took place in Sochi, Russia in 2014. Currently the US is in 5th place.

The top five teams of the Olympics' medal count right now are Norway leading with 17 total, Germany with 15, Canada with 13, Netherlands with 12, and the United States in fifth place with eight medals. Ger-

many is leading in the gold medal column with nine.

The United States has five gold medals four of which came from the snowboarding category. Red Gerard got a gold in

the men's slopestyle and Jamie Anderson got a gold in the woman's slopestyle. Shaun White made his comeback, winning gold in the men's halfpipe, Chloe Kim earned a gold in



**PyeongChang 2018**



the women's halfpipe, and Arielle Gold also got a bronze medal in the woman's halfpipe.

USA's other gold medal came from Mikaela Shiffrin in the women's giant slalom and Chris Mazdzer got a silver medal in the men's singles luge. The US also got another bronze in the team figure skating.

The Olympics run through Sunday, February 25.



# Senior Spotlight *Emily Malsom*

**SENIOR PROJECT:**

- Public safety education
- farm safety
- first aid
- lifeguarding

**ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:**

- 4-H
- Rock County Ambassador
- FFA
- National Honor Society

**WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST:**

- FFA and Online

**PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:**

- Major in Human Biology at SDSU



## Garretson Olympics



### Recap

The senior girls were able to hold on to their lead through last Friday's events. However there was a little shuffling behind them. The sophomore girls took second while the senior boys rallied for third after being fifth going into the final events. The class of 2018 is the only class to have won the Garretson Olympics. The boys won in the inaugural year (2014) as 8th graders and now the girls took the second go-round in 2018. Training for the 2022 Garretson Olympics is now open.



# You get traded...and you get traded...

*Some teams looked toward fire sales to salvage season*

by **Mason Hofer**  
staff writer

One of the beautiful aspects of all sports is when the trade deadline is

coming to end. Almost every year there are players getting traded that you would not expect to get traded, and this year was no let down.

The trade deadline was last week Thursday and people were getting notified all day of one team making lots of trades, the Cavaliers. The GM for the Cavs knew that if he didn't do something to this roster fast he might as

well buy LeBron a ticket out of town, so he did something. The Cavs lost a lot of players, but got a lot of better players in return.

In the first game with the new roster the four new players scored a total of 49 combined points and the Cavs are 3-0 with the new team and one of those wins is a blowout win against the Celtics 99-121 and they have scored at least 120 points each game.

In my opinion the Lakers are the biggest winners here, the Lakers added a All-Star point guard in Isaiah Thomas that has been struggling this season. In his first game in the Lakeshow he pulled out 22 points off the bench. Magic Johnson is still confident that playmaking point guard Lonzo Ball is still their starting point guard and is exited for his return from injury tomorrow night. One of the main thing the Lakers did in this trade crazy day was cleared lots of cap space to sign a superstar this summer.

With all kinds of superstars this offseason the summer could be even more entertaining than the trade deadline.

# Another shooting shocks America

*Weeks after the Kentucky school shooting, Florida is hit with the same horror*

by **Peyton Sage**  
senior writer

It was an ordinary school day for the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, until a former student opened fire and left the whole town in pieces.

At least 17 people are reported dead and 14 others are injured after 19 year old Nikolas Cruz fired shots on Wednesday afternoon around 2:40 p.m.. Cruz was a student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School but was expelled for disciplinary reasons.

Cruz reportedly had one AR-15-style semiautomatic rifle; however, it was unknown whether he had other weapons. The gunfire started outside of the school, killing three of the victims, and continued inside where twelve other victims were shot. The other two victims died in the hospital after they succumbed to injuries.

Just after 4 p.m., the Broward County Sheriff's Office announced that Cruz had been taken into custody about an hour after he opened fire.

Heavily armed SWAT team members and local police officers conducted a class-by-class search to make sure there were no accomplices to the gunman and to recover any bodies.

This is the eighteenth school shooting in 2018 and is said to be one of the worst shootings since 2012, where twenty people died at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS	
2017 NBA FINALS ROSTER	CURRENT ROSTER
KAY FELDER	JOSE CALDERON
CHANNING FRYE	JORDAN CLARKSON
KYRIE IRVING	JEFF GREEN
LEBRON JAMES	GEORGE HILL
RICHARD JEFFERSON	JOHN HOLLAND
DAHNTAY JONES	RODNEY HOOD
JAMES JONES	LEBRON JAMES
KYLE KORVER	KYLE KORVER
KEVIN LOVE	KEVIN LOVE
IMAN SHUMPERT	LARRY NANCE JR.
J.R. SMITH	CEDI OSMAN
EDY TAVARES	LONDON PERRANTES
TRISTAN THOMPSON	J.R. SMITH
DERON WILLIAMS	TRISTAN THOMPSON
DERRICK WILLIAMS	ANTE ZIZIC

# The flu is not for you

by **Heather Huether**  
staff writer

The flu strand this season has been the worst we've seen since 2009. The vaccine is only 10-20% effective causing many people to think they don't need it. If you haven't gotten the flu vaccine yet this season, it's not too late.

According to article one in 13 people have gone into the hospital due to flu like symptoms. So far

there has been a total of 63 pediatric deaths this season. The flu can last anywhere between 5 or 15 days long, depending on the persons immune system.

The flu season this year has been one of the worsts, because it started early, and is hard to stop. It includes both influenza A and influenza B in the flu strand.

Tamiflu is running out all over the US due to all the outbreaks. Tamiflu is supposed to shorten how long the

flu lasts and make the symptoms go away faster. The generic versions are also flying off the shelves, making it difficult to find any sort of relief.

Symptoms include a fever, runny nose, sore throat, headaches, muscle and body aches, fatigue, vomiting, and chills. If you think you have the flu, stay home and get plenty of sleep.

# Senior Spotlight *Diontae Lymon*

**SENIOR PROJECT:**  
Learning to play guitar

**ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:**  
Football  
Basketball  
Track

**WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST:**  
Stuff

**PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:**  
Go to SMSU and play football



# Scholarship Corner



**SD Opportunity Scholarship**  
- See Ms. Pliska for more

**Dakota Corps Scholarship**  
- GPA at 2.8 or higher with ACT composite 27 or higher  
- Plans to stay in South Dakota for at least five years  
- Go into a high need area

**Build Dakota Scholarship**  
- Plans to attend a SD Tech school  
- Due March 31, 2018

**Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation**  
- Multiple Scholarship available  
- Check www.sfacf.org for more

**Garretson Community Foundation**  
- Multiple Scholarship available  
- Due February 22, 2018

**South Dakota Fire Service Scholarship**  
- Be son/daughter of a firefighter  
- Due March 17, 2018

**Scholarships for Military/Veteran Dependents**  
- See Ms. Pliska for more

**Home Builders Assoc. of the Sioux Empire Scholarship**  
- Majoring in home building related field  
- \$1000 scholarship  
- Due April 2, 2018

**Minnehaha Funeral Home Scholar.**  
- GPA at 2.5 or higher  
- \$750 scholarship  
- Due March 5, 2018

**Entringer Basketball Classic Scholar.**  
- Participated in HS Sports at least two years  
- Due March 1, 2018

**Alliance Communications Scholarship**  
- \$1000 Scholarship  
- Due March 9, 2018