



Homecoming overtook the school this week including a second year of ruff and tuff. More on pg 3

# Blue Ink



## Coronation kicks off homecoming week and festivities

Jack Konechne and Mikayla Bottelberghe selected by high school as king and queen for 2017 homecoming

by Peyton Sage  
staff writer

On Monday night, Garretson held their annual homecoming crowning. Coronation began at 7 o'clock, but instead of introducing the royalty first, the school welcomed back the joke-off. Two people from each grade gathered on the stage to tell jokes that would hopefully make the other team laugh.

Alumni king and queen, Shay Gibson and Kindra Clark, decided on who the winner was if nobody cracked a smile. After winning against the freshmen and juniors, the seniors took home the crown and earned points for their class.

Other points are earned throughout the week through friendly competition and participation in dress up days, results of events such as ruff and tuff, powderpuff, and dragon Olympics.

Shortly following the joke-off, the junior emcees, Keara Beck and Brennan Mudder, welcomed in the homecoming royalty. The king candidates were Jack Konechne, Nick Lundberg, Diontae Lymon, Marc Rattenborg, and Josh Thomas.

The queen candidates were Carmen Bohl, Mikayla Bottelberghe, Erynn Fink, Madisen Northrup, and Amyah Ockenga.

As the audience sat in suspense, the former king and queen slowly paced the stage, waiting to crown the new king and queen.



Jack Konechne and Mikayla Bottelberghe were both given raucous applause and cheers when crowned as the 2017 Homecoming King and Queen on Monday night.

After what felt like forever, Jack Konechne and Mikayla Bottelberghe were crowned the 2017 homecoming king and queen.

For the fourth time in a row, a soccer player has won the crown. This is quite the feat considering soccer has only been in existence for five years. This year was a back to back win for football players as last year's king, Gibson, and this year's king, Konechne, both suited up for the Blue Dragon grid iron gang.

Queen Mikayla Bottelberghe said, "I didn't see it coming at all, it took me by surprise."

King Jack Konechne added, "I

really didn't care who won, but it's an honor to be king."

"It really doesn't feel any different being crowned queen, but to me all of the girls in our class are queens," Bottelberghe said.

"I guess it's kind of cool being able to represent homecoming this way, but otherwise it's no different," Konechne added.

Homecoming week caps off with the parade today at 1:15 followed by a community pep rally at the gym. Then tonight the football team hosts Hanson.

### This is rigged!

*Era of seniors winning every homecoming event may be coming to an end*

by Mason Hofer  
staff writer—editorial

In the past during powderpuff and ruff and tuff volleyball games, the refs may have been a little bias towards one team. Many can remember a call that may have been missed or interpreted differently than most may have seen it. For as long as anyone can remember homecoming events have been rigged for the seniors to win.

They are so rigged that last year was the first time that the senior class lost a powderpuff game. The refs do so by not calling penalties that they see or calling penalties that never hap-

pened to ensure a senior victory leaving them on a good note for their final homecoming battle.

This year the seniors won powderpuff, defending their title, but the juniors won ruff and tuff. Just recently this tradition has been called into question.

A lot of people have mixed feelings about this practice. "I think that it would really suck to have waited three years and then lose your games as a senior" stated senior powderpuff player Peyton Sage. Sage earned a victory her senior year but snagged one last year as a junior over the class of 2017.

Other people believe that it would be more fun for the play-

ers to actually earn their win.

"It kind of makes these homecoming games pointless because regardless how good you do you're still going to lose against the seniors," stated freshman Nate Skillman. Many share Skillman's sentiment of the practice draining the fun out of the games.

With homecoming events coming to an end, there is a lot of time to do debate this subject and come up with a consistent way to address the issue. But realistically will this ever change in favor of the underclassmen? And the question is, "Is it worth it to be handed wins as a senior?"

## This Week's Need to Know

### FACT OF THE WEEK:

"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only your left hand and "lollipop" is the longest for your right hand.

**LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK:** Keep two separate email accounts, one for personal use and one for registering for online accounts to reduce the amount of spam as well as likelihood of getting hacked.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** What did the ground say to the earthquake?

**BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK:** If there are 3 apples and you take away 2, how many do you have?

*Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.*

## Upcoming Events

### Friday, September 15

- Homecoming—Blue Dragon Day
- Community Parade & Pep Rally (1:15)
- School Dismisses @2:30
- FB v. Hanson (7:00)

### Saturday, September 16

- Soccer v. Groton (1:00)

### Monday, September 18

- JH VB @ DR St. Mary's (4:00)
- JH Football v. Hanson (4:00)
- JV Football v. Hanson (5:15)

### Tuesday, September 19

- FFA Land judging @ Parker
- JH VB @ Dell Rapids (4:00)
- VB @ Dell Rapids (5:00/6:15/7:00)

### Wednesday, September 20

- XC @ Dell Rapids (2:00)

### Thursday, September 21

- Soccer @ SF Christian (6:00)
- JH VB @ Chester (4:00)
- VB @ Chester (5:00/6:15/7:00)

### Friday, September 22

- FB v. Baltic (7:00)

## Worth Mentioning

**Yearbooks** are still available for the 2016-2017 school year. A limited supply is available on a first come-first serve basis. Just \$45 for a year's worth of memories.

## Homecoming adversary Hanson provides even match up for big game

*The Beavers' schedule mirrors the Blue Dragons' as much as any probably can*

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**  
staff writer

The much anticipated homecoming football game will take place tonight against the Hanson Beavers. The Blue Dragons will be looking to make it 3 wins in a row to improve to 3-1 on the year.

Garretson's opponent is 2-2 coming into tonight, and with relatively the same schedule (six of their seven opponents are shared), the Beavers could pose a huge threat. Although, coming off two big wins, the Blue Dragons confidence is soaring.

After a tough loss against Howard in the last few minutes to open the season, Garretson pushed through a weather delayed "split" game against Parker then handled Menno/Marion with coolness under pressure and assurance in their game plan to bring them tonight.

Senior Joshua Thomas agreed, "Our confidence and pride has gone way up, but we still have stuff to work on. We are going to have to be ready to play and if that happens I think we should come out on the winning end."

Senior Marc Rattenborg who has been out with a concussion but is projected to make his return tonight commented, "It should be fun to be back out there with the boys and truck some dudes."

The Blue Dragon football squad is looking for a huge win against a new opponent in front of the home town crowd.

If Garretson can add a third straight "W" to the win column, that will boost them into the right direction for the remainder of the season and give momentum for next week against their biggest rival, the Baltic Bulldogs.



In a familiar sight, once senior Diontae Lymon gets past the clutter on the line of scrimmage, he breaks away from the pack quickly often times going the distance. The speedster spends much of his time in the end zone while opponents struggle to chase him down. The strong running option may be part of the game plan tonight.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

## Defending champs hold their title for powderpuff

*Class of 2018 was able to back up their upset over the seniors last year as they rolled to the championship this year*

by **Gregorio Arana**  
staff writer

One of the most iconic events of homecoming week, the powder puff football games, took place Monday after coronation.

After an upset over last year's seniors, the class of 2018 was looking to defend their title on the turf.

The seniors steamrolled the freshman. In the victory Emily Schleuter caught three touchdown passes and Peyton Sage snagged one, all from quarterback Erynn Fink. Lauren Heesch was able to get her feet wet in the end zone one time but the senior experience was too much for the freshmen to handle.

The sophomores and juniors on the other hand were back and forth the entire time with the sophomores getting a go-ahead score on a clutch but controversial touchdown run by Rachel Kindt.

That set up a championship with the sophomores taking on the seniors and a consolation of the juniors and freshmen.

Although they put up a battle, the seniors knew what it took to win and were able to come out number one overall for a second year in a row.

The juniors and the freshmen battled for third. Junior Kelsey Keegan took it all the way on the opening drive and the class of 2019 kept that momentum, securing a third place finish.



The junior boys take a moment to snap a picture with Kelsey after her touchdown run to start the consolation championship. The Juniors went on to beat the freshmen for a third place victory.

Photo submitted by Ms. Teresa Johnson

## Intensity and emotion run high during ruff and tuff competition

*The boys were deeply invested in their participation of volleyball during homecoming week*

by **Brayden Mutcher**  
staff writer

In only its second year of existence, the ruff and tuff volleyball game generates extra excitement and energy during homecoming week. The boys have a chance to show off their athletic prowess at volleyball just like the girls do for football in powderpuff.

Monday at the end of the school day the boys took the court looking to hold the crown. With last year's reigning champions graduated, the juniors were

looking to redeem themselves from the second place finish they had last year.

But first they needed to get through the sophomores and that was quite the task. The sophomores were taking this event seriously, even scheduling practices outside of school.

After splitting the first two sets, pressure was on. The sophomores were up by at game point, up by four, but could not muster out that last point. This allowed the juniors to come from behind and snag a victory away.

That set up a championship match against the seniors, who easily took care of their freshmen opponents in blowout fashion.

Once again the championship match was a nail biter as the juniors and seniors split the first two sets. After going up quickly in the third set, the seniors made a few costly errors allowing the juniors to take advantage.

Due to time constraints, the game was announced to have a score limit which may have caused the seniors to lose focus. They attacked and thought they

had scored the decisive point but it was just out of bounds giving the class of 2019 the victory.

In the third place game, the sophomores swiftly took care of the freshmen who were starting to look a little gassed.

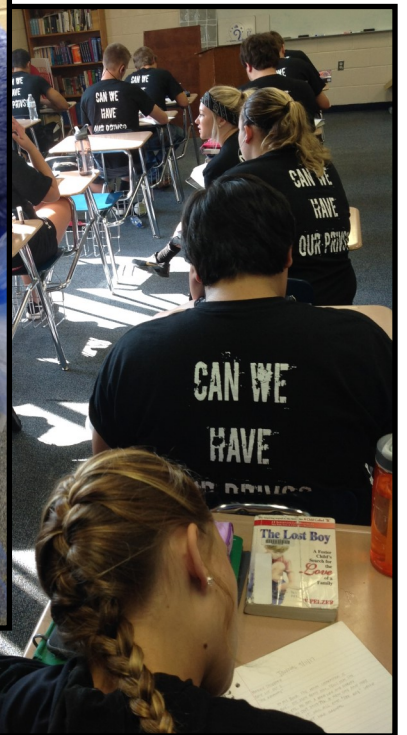
Final results were juniors in first place, seniors second, sophomores third, and freshmen fourth. Tempers were getting hot and their competitive spirits were burning. And now the juniors will have a chance to defend their title during the 2018 homecoming games.

### Photo snapshots of Homecoming Week

From dress up days to friendly games to assemblies, homecoming has been a spirited week in the Garretson hallways



**Left:** Sophomores Austin, Greg and Jimmy ready for the ball to come over during ruff and tuff.  
**Right:** Jenna, Autumn, and Kloey have fun during Thrift Store Thursday  
**Below:** Jenna, Payton, and Olivia look good in their blue and white on Spirit Day.  
**Below Left:** Juniors Leah, Emily, and Sam cheer look good in orange on Class color day.  
**Below Right:** Seniors wearing black for class color day.



**Far Left:** Mrs. Lindholm dresses as Garth Brooks during G Day.  
**Left:** Family Feud during the all-school assembly  
**Below:** All the royalty at coronation Monday night



**Above:** The seventh graders are blinding everyone with their white garb on class color day.  
**Right:** Sophomores Aliah, Jayden, and Malia cheer on the boys during Ruff and Tuff  
**Far Right:** During the lip sync battle, Garth Brooks (Mr. Mudder) makes an appearance while the elementary teachers line dance behind.



## Homecoming week keeps athletes very busy

Soccer plays three, volleyball two, cross country two during homecoming week and surrounding weekends

by Heather Huether  
staff writer

### Soccer:

The Garretson soccer team (1-7-1) got a rematch again Vermillion. The Blue Dragons opened their season against the Tanagers but lost 0-2. The first time the Blue Dragons played Vermillion the Blue Dragons may not have been fully conditioned; they were also down a few key players due to various reasons including Erynn Fink still being at basic training.

The soccer team is now toward the end of the season and their endurance has been much longer lasting.

On Tuesday night the soccer team hosted the Tanagers (5-2-3). The Dragons have improved a lot so far this season but they weren't able to win this one. Although they improved the spread, the Blue Dragons lost 0-1.

Garretson was back in action last night on their home turf. This time they played host to Dakota Valley (0-4-1). This is the first time the Blue Dragons and Panthers have met in soccer history.

Garretson came out strong taking a lead but the Panthers battled back to a 2-2 draw.

The soccer team's next game is this Saturday against Groton.



Seniors control the field and work to keep momentum in Blue Dragon favor. Mikayla Bottelberghe (#17) works the ball up the field as defenders Amyah Ockenga (#24) and Jaden Braaten (#21) cover her back.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

### Cross Country:

Cross country has struggled to put full teams together so far this season but individuals have been able to pursue improvements and top finishes regardless. The harriers ran in Luverne on Saturday.

Senior Carmen Bohl placed 11th out of 53 in varsity with a time of 21:56. Kaci Danforth placed 14th out of 46 in JV, with a time of 20:00.

Seventh grader Preston Bohl once again led the varsity harriers with a 14th place finish out of 45 competitors. Jayse Miller placed 7th out of 51 in Junior High with a time of 13:08.

On Thursday cross country had their run in Chamberlain. Carmen Bohl backed up her previous appearance with another 11th place (21:40). Right behind her was Olivia Mullen (17th—21:58) and Rachel Kindt (26th—22:36).

Preston Bohl was also the lead Blue Dragon finisher for the boys for the third time. His 17:41 effort was good enough for 11th. Devon took 25th as well out of the 90 varsity runners.

Matthew Gilbert and Jayse Miller paced the junior varsity placing third and ninth respectively.

The cross country team is back in action next week in Dell Rapids on Wednesday, September 20.

### Volleyball:

Tuesday the Blue Dragons played against the Flandreau Fliers. This was a quick rematch after playing the Fliers on Saturday during the Big East Conference tournament.

During the BEC, Garretson commandingly won the first set but then fell the next three. They were looking for redemption Tuesday but were unable to gain their footing losing in three sets.

However the JV led the team with their first win so far this season. It was a close game for all three teams, C team included. The Blue Dragons volleyball has definitely improved.

Thursday night the Blue Dragons played against West Central. Playing against a senior-laden roster was a tough match for the young team the Blue Dragons have on the court. There was a

little mix up with C team and a late start but the teams got back on schedule. However all three levels were unable to come out with the victory.

The girls retake the court on Tuesday in Chester. Once again having a chance to redeem themselves as they played Chester earlier this season in the first round of the BEC Tourney.

Shout out to everyone who came to the soccer, cross country, and volleyball games and supported them in their efforts.



Jayse Miller has shown a strong work ethic and with it improvement in meet times during junior high and junior varsity meets this year. Most recently in Luverne, Miller finished ninth.

Photo by Anna Uhl



Kenzie Northrup (#6) and Emily Schleuter (#8) get their feet to the line to make sure the ball was out. Despite playing aggressively in the first set, the Blue Dragons were unable to keep the momentum and fell in three sets to the West Central Trojans.

Photo by Sylvia Larson