

Seniors took time from their normal classes this morning to read to some of the youngest Blue Dragons in school. **Choose Kind**

# Blue Ink



## Work and play at National FFA

*Garretson FFA takes part in ag-related tours, leadership development activities, community service projects during convention*

by **Malia Johnson**  
staff writer

Last week, eleven GHS students got to be part of one of the largest youth gatherings in the country, the National FFA Convention. The convention, which is always held in Indianapolis, Indiana, hosts about 62,000 students every year.

The President of the United States is invited to speak every year, and this year, unlike the past 27, the invitation was accepted.

President Trump told the youth in attendance, "Your time in FFA, in the field, on the farm, on the land, and in the classroom has not only prepared you for a stellar career in something you love; it's taught you essential truths about life and the world in which we live. You know that success only comes through hard work and perseverance."

Top teams from each state compete in contests that involve everything from public speaking to livestock judging and parliamentary procedure to food science evaluation. Teams find out at their state competition in March how they did at the state level and whether or not they made it to the national convention for the following school year.

Garretson's FFA program has a long standing tradition of making it to the national convention, even sending a team last year and being in the running for one of the top programs in the nation.

During the convention, students



The Garretson FFA members made a few pit stops on their way to the national convention. This included the pictured trip to Hunters Honey Farms where they looked at all aspects of beekeeping and managing a honey farm. FFA members present were (Back Row) Alex Stephenson, Jacob Schmidt, Caeden Bunde, Aiden Magnuson, James Nussbaum, (Front Row) Kennedy Houghton, Kaci Danforth, Sarah Welch, Madi Decker, Tessa Pederson, and Chloe Schleuter.

Picture by Ms. Alysha Kientopf

participate in a career fair, in which corporations learn more about the agricultural industry from the students, and colleges with strong science programs try to sell themselves. FFA Members attend workshops to strengthen leadership skills and time management, and learn how to advocate for agriculture.

The Garretson chapter traveled to Indianapolis with four other South Dakota chapters. Together, they toured a honey farm, learned how the honey goes from the hives and

how it's processed and marketed. They also toured a dairy farm with 10,000 head of dairy cattle.

The national convention is a highlight of the school year for those who take part in FFA because it allows time from the work to have some fun! Such as, Garth Brooks kicking off the convention on the first night.

Junior Tessa Pederson stated "It was a once in a lifetime experience because it's tough to get tickets for free to see him, so it was awesome."

## College week in South Dakota

by **Riley Altman**  
staff writer

To encourage students to apply, South Dakota colleges dropped application fees for this last week of October. This is the first time a small school such as Garretson has been able to have a college week for students. Colleges tend to go to bigger schools, where there are more applicant students, hence why we haven't had this opportunity in the past.

Throughout the week, seven different colleges came to the school to provide information to students about their respective school and invite prospective students to consider the application process. Students were able to meet with representatives from a variety of colleges such as University Center, The Uni-

versity of South Dakota, Southeast Technical Institute, Dakota Wesleyan University, Northern State University, Dakota State University, and Black Hills State University.

Senior, Collin Johnson has taken full advantage of this week. He applied to Dakota State University in Madison during this college week.

"I always thought about going to DSU and after meeting with them this week, I have my decision locked in," stated Johnson. As of right now, Johnson is planning on majoring in computer programming with a minor in business.

On the other hand, another senior, Drew Blossmo doesn't quite have it all figured out. This week, Blossmo talked to DSU and NSU, and also plans on applying to SDSU as well.

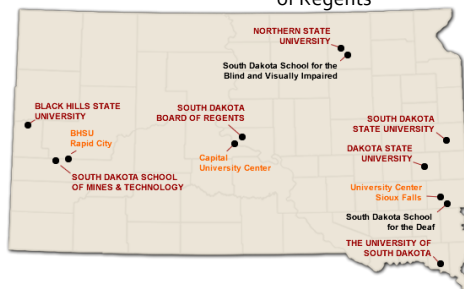
"I look for a few things in particu-

lar while talking to these colleges including: majors they offer, campus, social aspect, and just the basics," said Blossmo. He is looking to possibly major in business or athletic training.

The majority of seniors get stressed when it comes to picking a college, but it is also an exciting time. "Start applying right away, you can always say no to a college," stated school counselor, Mrs. Pliska.

One last piece of advice from Mrs. Pliska, "Don't sweat it: everything will be okay."

Map courtesy of the South Dakota Board of Regents



### This Week's Need to Know

**FACT OF THE WEEK:** Hawai'i and most of Arizona do not follow daylight savings time. For the rest of us, we turn our clocks back an hour on Sunday morning.

**LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK:** If you have a tough decision, flip a coin. It won't decide for you but you will realize which side you really want to win.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** What do you call a sheep covered in chocolate?

**BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK:** Can you solve this rebus puzzle?



Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

### Upcoming Events

#### Friday, November 2

- Book Fair Preview
- FFA @ SDSU
- FB Playoffs v. Kimball/WhiteLake

#### Sunday, November 4

- Daylight Savings Time—turn your clocks back an hour (Fall Back)

#### Monday, November 5

- 1:30 Dismissal—Conferences
- Conferences (2:30-8:30)
- Book Fair (2:30-8:30)
- Flu Shot Clinic (2:30-8:30)
- Jr/Sr Financial Aid Mtg in Band Room (6:00)

#### Tuesday, November 6

- FFA @ Harrisburg
- Mid-term Elections

#### Thursday, November 8

- Bookmobile
- State Football Championship (TBD)

#### Friday, November 9

- No School

### Worth Mentioning

#### Choose Kind

- November Precept: "Have no friends not equal to yourself."
- October Precept: "Your deeds are your monuments."
- September Precept: "'When given the choice between being right and being kind, choose kind.' - Dr. Wayne Dyer"

**Drive carefully,** a new 3-way stop sign was installed north of school

# Black Friday or Cyber Monday

*Pros and pitfalls with both major shopping days*

by **Oliviyah Thornton**  
staff writer – editorial

Cyber Monday is a day of deals and excitement for those who don't like Black Friday shopping or just prefer being able to sit at home and not have to worry about big crowds. The official day this year for Cyber Monday is November 26.

Being able to shop online gives people the chance to avoid crowds, parking nightmares, and the rude customers or customer service they might encounter.

Nobel Nothstine, a junior, also agrees. "Cyber Monday is a great time to do Christmas shopping and it allows me to get the sales of Black Friday, but in the comfort of my own home."

Black Friday can lead to frustration, but Cyber Monday is a much calmer experience as you can just stay at home in your pajamas and switch from website to website to get the best deals. Cyber Monday isn't limited to online only retailers like Amazon, Target, Wal-mart and other big retailers roll out their own deals just for Cyber Monday.

Another bonus of Cyber Monday over Black Friday is that you're not just tied down to just this area, you can get discounts from stores that aren't even in Sioux Falls.

Shopping in stores, seeing all the deals, and being in such a hurry can make people feel like they made rational purchases; but realistically? More than likely there are some decisions shoppers normally would not have made.

Black Friday can also make people feel like they are losing out on a sale or product if they don't get to a store early enough and can cause shoppers to be more aggressive and can trigger people's primal behavior.

This behavior can possibly be triggered by crowds, a lack of space, a perception that there isn't enough supply for everyone, or feeling disrespected. All four combined tend to make people's bodies shift to fight/flight mode and when this happens, people tend to not think clearly.

Cyber Monday doesn't do that, hence why it is more calming. Hope you all enjoy your Cyber Monday even if it's a little far away.

by **Mataya Trower**  
staff writer

Marking things off your holiday shopping list feels great, and knowing you scored a few discounts along the way makes it even more rewarding. This rewarding day called Black Friday is on Friday, November 23.

Black Friday is a tradition that has been going on for 66 years. Families and friends who don't ordinarily spend time together or who don't have the same interests, may wonder what they can do together. The answer to this is Black Friday. It is a fun event for anyone young or old, boys or girls to be interested in.

During Black Friday, lots of stores offer giveaways including rewards for store members, prizes for the first 100 in line, or store sweepstakes.

Sometimes, Black Friday is all about the feelings that arise; the deals entice you and make you feel like you don't want to be missing out so more people are prone to continue shopping every year. Other times it's all about the deals. Some are just too good to pass up.

"I prefer Black Friday over Cyber Monday because it is a fun experience to go to the stores when a bunch of people are there," said Erin Steen, a freshman who has been Black Friday Shopping four years in a row.

You may not like the chaos of Black Friday but Cyber Monday has its drawbacks too. When ordering online, there's shipping tax, delivery time, and not being able to see your order in person, which can lead to purchases that customers might regret. This also makes it harder to return purchases when the brick and mortar store isn't anywhere near us in South Dakota.

Also while shopping online, it might be hard to access the websites you want because of all the other online shoppers flooding in. Websites can easily get bogged down when so many people are trying to access the site at the same time.



# The rebuild of the *Titanic*

by **Jacob Facile & Cody Erickson**  
staff writer

When you hear the word *Titanic*, you probably think of the huge cruise ship that sank in April 14th-15th, 1912 where approximately 3,700 people died. Most people would most likely dread the thought of another *Titanic*, but, Clive Palmer a millionaire from Australia ignored all the negative things people said and wants to build *Titanic II*.

The Clive and Blue Star Line company first announced the production of *Titanic II* in April 2012. The liner is being built at the CSC Jinling Shipyard in China.

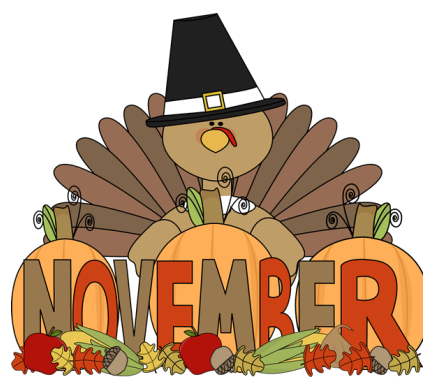
Palmer wants the *Titanic II* to be special and bring a very important moment in the world back to life. Ideally the ship was to be completed in 2016. But then was pushed back to 2018 and now, is pushed back to 2022 and is a definite for it to be done.

The original *Titanic*, as we all know, sank to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, due to the failure of it going through a safety procedure which determined the ability of it to be on water. Why it didn't go through a safety process was because the owner of the first *Titanic* knew that the cruise ship wouldn't have passed. There was a fire burning in the hull before which weakened the metal and he didn't want to lose all his money he used to build *Titanic*.

The *Titanic II* is going through intense safety protocols including making sure they have enough lifeboats for everybody on the ship as well. The *Titanic II* will be taking the same course as the original *Titanic* and on the same date as well in 2022. The cost of the *Titanic II* is a whopping \$500 million which sets the bar for the ticket prices which have not been announced. The ship will be able to carry 2400 individuals.

# November word search

J	F	C	I	H	S	I	P	N	T	F	Y	S	APPLES
B	K	N	C	E	I	U	B	E	H	A	E	N	BUNS
Q	H	T	L	O	M	M	T	X	A	O	K	P	CORN
C	K	P	S	P	R	V	T	W	N	P	R	X	GRAVY
R	P	H	K	E	U	N	A	Q	K	X	U	C	HAM
A	A	I	H	I	V	O	H	S	S	K	T	L	HARVEST
M	N	P	Z	F	L	R	H	Z	G	B	J	B	PUMPKINS
S	G	R	A	V	Y	S	A	C	I	U	V	E	STUFFING
Z	U	W	G	O	Z	S	O	H	V	N	K	J	THANKSGIVING
V	T	I	H	G	V	F	N	G	I	S	B	A	TURKEY
G	N	I	F	F	U	T	S	R	N	F	K	V	
H	S	Z	V	B	C	C	F	F	G	W	B	Q	
I	V	T	I	D	Y	B	M	U	B	T	N	J	



# Takeoff goes wrong quickly

by **Dominick Krueger**  
staff writer

On the country of Indonesia, there was a plane called the Lion Air flight JT 610, that was suppose to leave from the capital of Jakarta to the city Pangkal Pinang. However, it never made it; the plane crashed minutes after taking off, killing the nearly 190 people on board.

New information has emerged that the plane had some technical problems on flights leading up to Monday's crash. There was a log from Denpasar airport in Bali to Jakarta that says the airspeed reading on the captain's instrument was unreliable, and the altitude readings differed on the captain's and first officer's instruments.

Indonesia's poor aviation safety record, though, has other experts believing that factors such as human error or poor oversight are more likely to be behind Monday's tragedy.

Just six months ago, another plane from Lion Air skidded off the runway in Gorontalo, Indonesia, the 174 passengers and seven crew members didn't suffer any injuries but the plane's landing gear were destroyed.

# South Dakota executes use of death penalty

by Jayden Clark  
staff writer

On a tragic April day in 2011, inmate Rodney Berget murdered correctional officer Ronald "R.J." Johnson on Johnson's 63rd birthday. Berget, already serving a "life" sentence, was attempting to escape along with fellow inmate Eric Robert, who was later executed for the same crime in 2012. As part of the escape plot, Berget and Robert wrapped correctional officer Johnson's head with shrink-wrap, and beat him with a pipe. Ronald Johnson died as a result of his injuries sustained during the foiled escape attempt.

On Monday, October 29, 2018, Berget was executed for this crime by means of a lethal injection. The execution was scheduled to take place at 1:30 CDT, but was delayed until around 7:30 as a result of a last minute bid to stay the execution made by a Chicago attorney on Berget's behalf to the U.S. Supreme Court. Once the U.S. Supreme Court denied the request, the execution was carried out, and Berget was pronounced dead at 7:37 CDT that night.

As required by law, there were witnesses invited to observe the execution including members of the media, Berget's family, and members of the Johnson family. Lynette Johnson, R.J.'s widow, said her husband's death was "cruel and unusual punishment" and Berget's death was "peaceful and sterile." She went on to ask people not feel bad for Robert or Berget. Throughout the day, opponents of the death penalty gathered outside of The South Dakota State Penitentiary to protest the state's use of the death penalty.

Robert's execution happened much earlier than Berget's because Robert did not appeal his death sentence and even tried to bypass mandatory state review in hopes of expediting his death.

This execution was the first execution in South Dakota since Robert in 2012, and only the fourth execution by lethal injection to occur since the death penalty was reinstated in 1979.



Ronald "R.J." Johnson was brutally murdered in a failed prison escape attempt seven years ago. After Monday's execution, both inmates responsible for Johnson's death have been executed.

# The first and last VB post-season game

*Garretson falls to Tri-Valley in four sets during first round of region play*

by Trever Edmundson & Kennedy Buckneberg  
staff writer

The Garretson volleyball team ended their 2018 season with a win and went into the post-season with energy and momentum. Despite being slated as the #6 seed out of their region and having to travel to #3 Tri-Valley for the first round of region play, Garretson felt good about their matchup with the Mustangs.

The Blue Dragon volleyball team's season was not quite where they wanted it to be but it was much better than previous years. Though they were confident that they would stand a chance against Tri-valley once they stepped on the court they couldn't say the same. They started the game off with an L, losing the first set 13 to 25. Garretson struggled to get their offense going, tallying only two kills in the first set.

Though they lost the first set, the Blue Dragons refocused and tried even harder the next set and pulled out a dub. Teams traded the lead in the second set all the way through, knotting at 10s and 22s. Garretson came away with the extra point victory 26-24.

Evening the score, Garretson had a chance to carry momentum into the third set. And while it was close in the beginning, 4-4, Tri-Valley took a slight lead midway through the set and didn't look back, 13-15. The Mustangs closed out the third set with a 25-19 win.

The fourth set started off rough for the Garretson girls after the opponents took a strong lead right off the bat, but Garretson girls were determined to win and started to come back but it was too late. Tri-Valley took the fourth set 25-13, ending the Blue Dragons' season.

Offensively, Lauren Heesch led the way with seven kills; Kennedy Buckneberg following with six. Peyton Hove tallied 11 assists. Heesch also led the team with eight digs, and Peyton Beckman had six.

"Though we may have lost we will take what we learned from this game and come back stronger than ever to get farther next year," said Buckneberg.

Garretson ended their regular season 6-19 and will not be losing anyone next year due to no seniors on this year's team. With a young squad, the volleyball team has promising years ahead of them.

# Hit or miss movies coming soon

by Nobel Nothstine  
staff writer—editorial

Movies are an iconic part of the holiday season and there's a surge as multiple movies are rushing to try and be a new classic, a killer sequel, or a new remake. Hopefully hits this year include *The Grinch*, *The Hate U Give*, *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*, *Ralph Breaks the Internet*, and *Bohemian Rhapsody*; all either already out, or coming out in the coming months in Sioux Falls.

As an avid moviegoer, I love the whole experience; the popcorn and snacks, the plushy seats, the surround sound, the overwhelming screen size...pretty much everything except the price. That being said, this article will give the online description of each movie, an excitement rating out of 5 (one being least excited,) and my opinion on whether it's worth the good seats, the cheap seats, or renting from Redbox.

## THE GRINCH

This classic take on *The Grinch* features both Pharell Williams and Benedict Cumberbatch. In summarization, it's the childhood movie we all love, reimagined. The Grinch and his loyal dog, Max, live a solitary existence inside a cave on Mount Crumpet. His main source of aggravation comes during Christmastime when his neighbors in Whoville celebrate the holidays with a bang. When the Whos decide to make Christmas bigger and brighter, the disgruntled Grinch realizes there is only one way to gain peace and quiet. With help from Max, the green grump hatches a scheme to pose as Santa Claus, steal Christmas and silence the Whos' holiday cheer once and for all. Honestly, I'll wait to rent this one. Nothing too special.

- Release date: November 9th  
- Excitement Rating: 2/5

## THE HATE U GIVE

Based off of an incredible book, this movie is bound to be revolutionary. It deals with racial discrimination, profiling, prejudice, and police brutality. Definitely not for the lighthearted or sensitive. The idea is that Starr Carter is constantly switching between two worlds -- the poor, mostly black neighborhood where she lives and the wealthy, mostly white prep school that she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is soon shattered when she witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend at the hands of a police officer. Facing pressure from all sides of the community, Starr must find her voice and decide to stand up for what's right. Since it's already been released for about a month, I'm waiting for the cheap seats.

- Release Date: October 5th

- Excitement Rating: 4/5

## FANTASTIC BEASTS

*The Crimes of Grindelwald* A prequel to the Harry Potter series, and a continuation of the previous movie "Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them," this film is easily going to be a cinematic marvel. With new creatures, great actors (including Johnny Depp and Eddie Redmayne,) and a foreshadowed twist to the HP series, I doubt I've ever been this excited for a movie release. The description states that in an effort to thwart Grindelwald's plans of raising pure-blood wizards to rule over all non-magical beings, Albus Dumbledore enlists his former student Newt Scamander, who agrees to help, unaware of the dangers that lie ahead. Lines are drawn as love and loyalty are tested, even among the truest friends and family, in an increasingly divided world. For me, it's a must see film in the good seats.

- Release Date: November 16th

- Excitement Rating: 5/5

## RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET

As a sequel to *Wreck It Ralph*, *Ralph Breaks the Internet*'s storyline is a bit different. A video-game bad guy Ralph (John C. Reilly) and his best friend Vanellope von Schweetz (Sarah Silverman) leave the comforts of Litwak's arcade in an attempt to save her home game, Sugar Rush. Their quest takes them to the vast, uncharted world of the internet where they rely on the citizens of the internet, the Netizens, to help navigate their way. This sequel also introduces a new game, Slaughter Race, which turns out to be a place Vanellope wholeheartedly embraces-so much so that Ralph worries he may lose the only friend he's ever had. Another cheap seater, Dells will likely be carrying this one for awhile.

- Release Date: November 21st

- Excitement Rating: 3/5

## BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

Taking inspiration from the iconic Queen song, *Bohemian Rhapsody* is said to be a foot-stomping celebration of Queen, their music, and their extraordinary lead singer Freddie Mercury (one of the most beloved entertainers on the planet). Unexpectedly, Freddie attempted to shun Queen in pursuit of his solo career, but having suffered greatly without the collaboration of Queen, he reunited with his bandmates just in time for a big performance. While facing a devastating AIDS diagnosis, Mercury leads the band in one of the greatest performances in the history of rock music. Don't get me wrong, I love Queen, but this movie just doesn't seem too intriguing to me. If you're part of the niche audience, go see it in theaters! But if you're like me, you'll patiently wait for the Redbox release and listen to Queen's music to tide you over until then.

- Release Date: November 2nd

- Excitement Rating: 1/5