

Onto the next *As 2019 nears, here are some things to remember 2018*

by **Sam Gonzalez**
staff writer

We are less than two weeks away from New years, and although it's hard to beat the year Dollar General came into town (2017), the year of 2018 was a success of its own. From a new mayor to the first ever one act play, many new things have resurfaced in Garretson.

Mighty Mayor

On April 2018, Greg Beaner was elected mayor for the City of Garretson. When interviewed earlier this year by the Blue Ink, the mayor stated that he wanted many things including the rebuilding of our town.

Crummy Construction

As promised, most of this summer and fall, Garretson was filled with construction signs. With main and third street being redone, new stop signs being put up, and sidewalks around town being manufactured, it's been quite the long year. Yet it's still not done, so be ready for another round next year.

One-Act Play

Not only did the town obtain new things, Garretson school did as well. Earlier this year, for the first time ever, Garretson choir held a one-act play called 4 a.m. Old choir teacher, Kelby Robinson led out this mission, which impacted students enough to hold another this year. Under new choir teacher Erika Brown, an act called This is a Test will be shown on January 31 of the new year at Northern State University.

Topical Teachers

Along with Mrs. Brown, four other teachers were added to the Garretson staff. Tony Johnson (middle school teacher), Liz Etrheim (fourth grade), and Kara Assid (special education). Along with Assid, educational assistants Kathy Winterton and Darla Selene were also added to the team. Lastly, a surprise that came to all. Mrs. Thielen left halfway through the semester, helping obtain new fifth grade teacher Emily Backer.

Olympic Overjoy

Around February this year, the school brought back the Garretson Olympics, in which boys and girls competed with each other in each grade, in activities and dress-up days. Not only did high school participate, but so did the middle school. The Garretson Olympic winners get to choose on anything such a pizza party to celebrate.

Operative Orthopedic

To ensure that Blue Dragon athletes are healthy and safe, this year Garretson partnered up with the Orthopedic Institute, in which the athletics program obtained their very own trainer, John Shape. As well as getting brand new equipment in the weight room.

2018 had been a whirlwind of new experiences in the small town of Garretson. Now onto the year of 2019, where hopefully the expansion of the town and school will continue to grow in numbers and in success.

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: To stay properly hydrated, Christmas trees need at least 1 qt of water per inch of the diameter of their base.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Cut paper rolls lengthwise to use as cuffs around wrapping paper tubes to prevent from them from unrolling.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Who delivers Christmas presents to pets?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: How many presents can Santa fit into his empty present bag?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

- Friday, December 21**
- MS Pizza Ranch Outing
- Saturday, December 22**
- Wrestling @ SF Lincoln Floyd Far-
rand Tourney (10:00)
- Monday, December 24**
- No School—Holiday Break
- Tuesday, December 25**
- No School—Holiday Break
- Wednesday, December 26**
- No School—Holiday Break
- Thursday, December 27**
- No School—Holiday Break
- Youth Wrestling Tourney @ Gar-
retson (6:00)
- Friday, December 28**
- No School—Holiday Break
- JH GBB v. DRSM (5:00)
- GBB v. DRSM (6:15/7:30)
- Saturday, December 29**
- BBB v. Lake Preston @ Entringer
Classic in Brookings (2:00)
- Monday, December 31**
- No School—Holiday Break
- Tuesday, January 1**
- No School—Holiday Break
- Wednesday, January 2**
- No School—Holiday Break
- Thursday, January 3**
- School Resumes—Welcome Back

Hometown success *Athletes saw success in 2018 and look to continue into 2019*

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

2018 was a year full of success for the Blue Dragon Athletics. Every sport accomplished something to benefit the organization.

Wrestling

Garretson had three wrestlers qualify for the State Wrestling Meet, Seniors Jack Konechne (170) and Keaton Wagner (195) along with Junior Hayden Pierret (120) represented the Garretson Grapplers at the Denny Sanford Premiere Center in Sioux Falls. Pierret and Konechne came home with the hardware placing fourth and third place.

Track & Field

Making the trip to Rapid City in May of 2018 were Rachel Kindt (800m), Keisean Deehr-Thornton (200m, 400m, high jump, and Trevor Fiegen (high jump).

Golf

The Garretson golfers had a rough start to the season due to weather issues but there were still some diamonds in the rough as Isaiah Mader, and the Girls team (Peyton Hove, Malia Johnson, Jayden Clark, and Aliah Lymon) all qualified for state.

Mader also cupped a hole-in-one during regular season tournament.

Soccer

This year was the first time in school history that the soccer team made state playoffs. Finishing with a record of 5-7-1 this was Garretson's most successful year yet. "I was just so proud of the girls for working so hard this season and getting the opportunity to participate in a playoff game. They never gave up, even through blowouts and injuries; they always found a way to pick themselves up and keep fighting...as soon as that game started, I could see just how hungry every player was for a first-round playoff win" stated three year soccer Coach Emily Willman.

Cross Country

The Garretson harriers finished off their final race at Yankton Trail in Sioux Falls for the state meet. Preston Bohl, and the girls team all qualified for state. The best score for the girls was Makayla Heesch (29th) with a time of 20:22.42, Heesch was only seven seconds away from top 25 honors. Following her was Jordyn Williams (43rd), Peyton Campbell (51st), Kylie Christianson (60th), Olivia Mullin (105th), and Adair Hanisch (109th). Then for the boys, Preston

Bohl clocked in at 17:48.48 (36th) Bohl was 17 seconds away from top 25 honors.

Football

The Garretson football team had one of its best seasons in history, finishing just one dub away from the dome; the boys held their heads high at the end of the season. The Blue Dragons finished with an overall record of 10-1 (undefeated in regular season). "This was easily my favorite group of people I've gotten to play with" said junior Cole Skadsen. A few notable performers this year were both sophomores. Cody Erickson went 42/47 on PATs; this season was the best performance a Garretson kicker has ever had. Isaiah Robinson also finished the season with 11 touchdowns and an average of 115 rushing yards per game.

Volleyball

"The streak is over" this as quoted by sophomore setter Peyton Hove after Volleyball snapped its 50 game losing streak. Garretson volleyball had a very successful year growth wise, a lot of young talent stepping in to fill roles. This Garretson volleyball team is looking good and is going to keep getting better.

JOKE: Santa Paws

BRAINTEASER: Only one—after that it isn't empty anymore

Worth Mentioning

- Choose Kind**
- December Precept: "Fortune favors the bold." - Virgil
 - November Precept: "Have no friends not equal to yourself."
 - October Precept: "Your deeds are your monuments."

Blue Dragons leaving a mark

Individuals find success at tourney

by Jacob Facile
staff writer

Saturday 15th Garretson Varsity wrestling team sent 11 wrestlers to Plankinton, South Dakota for the Titan invitational tournament which is a singles tournament not a dual. The Blue Dragons finished 8th out of 17th in the tournament as a whole.

"We wrestled very well as a team especially winning all of our placing matches," said Coach Ruml. Each weight class had a 16 wrestlers bracket, and only the top 6 wrestlers were given awards. The Blue Dragons had 5 wrestlers come home with awards Hayden Pierret coming in first in the 126 weight class, Ben Konechne(195) and Isaiah Robinson(132) coming in third in their weight divisions, Tayson Swatek(120) and Dominic Abraham



The Garretson Grapplers finally got into individual action after their first tournament of the season (Flandreau) was cancelled due to weather. The boys performed well, despite battling injuries and illnesses. Earning honors at the tourney were Ben Konechne, third place; Isaiah Robinson, third place; Hayden Pierret, first place; Dominic Abraham, fifth place; Tayson Swatek, fifth place.

Photo by Heather Abraham courtesy of Facebook

(145) coming in fifth from their weight divisions. The Blue Dragons also had two standout wrestlers, Isaiah Robinson and Tayson Swatek, both placing in their first ever tournament.

"I think I've been performing ok but there is always room for improvement in my wrestling technique. For upcoming meets I want to wrestle smarter and stay relaxed because that helps me focus on what the opponent could be trying to do next. The teams been doing okay through this season and there is a lot we can improve on a lot things but we're doing ok," said Dominic Abraham. "I'm doing pretty good, but theirs always room to improve and learn about the sport since it's only my second since second grade but I like wrestling a lot. I think the teams been doing pretty good and we've got a lot of younger and older kids and were all friends were all nice to each other and we all care and when it comes down to it were all doing great," said Isaiah Robinson.

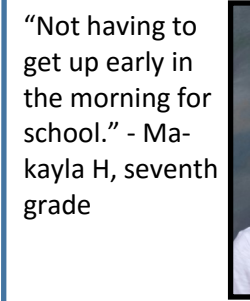
The Blue Dragons had a quad yesterday in Montrose. The Blue Dragon wrestlers successfully beat Parker, after losing to them earlier in the season. Garretson narrowly lost to Howard and then fell short against host, MCM.

Break bonuses

compiled by Riley Altman,
Jayden Clark, & Malia Johnson
staff writers



"Not having to get up early, and spending days off snow boarding." - Hayden O, junior



"Not having to get up early in the morning for school." - McKayla H, seventh grade



"I just want to eat, and enjoy time with my family." - Jaelyn B, freshman

Basketball is firing up

Girls take down reigning Class B state champs while boys get win over rival Baltic

GIRLS BASKETBALL
by Cody Erickson
staff writer

The Lady Blue Dragons won another game on Saturday, December 15 against reigning Class B State Champs, Castlewood, with a score of 49-38, extending Garretson's record to 4-0

The MVP of Saturday's game was Lizzie Olson; she said, "It feels good knowing how much we have accomplished already this year. But I know we can keep getting better and pushing ourselves." Olson is also happy she got MVP because hard work pays off.

Unfortunately the Blue Dragon win streak came to an end yesterday in Tea. Mattea Fiegen hit a clutch traditional three-point play to tie the game with less than ten seconds left. But the Titans drove the length of the court and converted on an and one to take down the Lady Dragons 57-54.

BOYS BASKETBALL
by Dominick Krueger
staff writers

Garretson Blue Dragons were playing against their rival the Baltic Bulldogs which always makes for a very interesting game. The Blue Dragons were without their head coach, so assistant coach Tad Heitkamp took over for the game. Heitkamp told the team, "We have nothing to lose... everything to gain."

The Dragons were ready to beat Baltic, but it wasn't a good a start for the Blue Dragons in the 1st quarter, but after the 2nd quarter began the team was prepared to give the Bulldogs a run for their money. With a combined 43 points from Drew Blosmo and Trevor Fiegen, they led the Blue Dragons with a high spirited win, thwarting the Baltic Bulldogs 62-51 in a conference bout.

The Blue Dragons proved they are able to win games with coming out strong and playing with confidence. With the win, Garretson improves its record to 2-3 on the season.



Top right: Sophomore point guard Peyton Hove takes it up the court. Hove and the rest of the Lady Dragons have started the season strong, going undefeated in their first four attempts

Bottom right: Junior forward Trey Buckneberg lights it up from beyond the arc. The Blue Dragons got back on the right track with a successful performance over rival Baltic Bulldogs.

Photos by Malia Johnson



Holiday word unscramble

compiled by Riley Altman,
Jayden Clark, & Malia Johnson
staff writers

1. tcoskngi
2. wnso
3. ansat
4. rbgniegdera
5. speertn
6. plurdho
7. on shoclo

Answers can be found on page 4

Find the word

W	N	S	O	W	S	O
N	S	S	W	N	O	W
S	N	N	S	W	W	N
W	W	S	O	O	N	O
N	W	O	S	W	O	S
W	O	W	N	S	W	O

Answer can be found on page 4



2018 entertainment trends

by Nobel Nothstine
staff writer

Trends constantly come and go, and 2018 was no different. With a year that was equal parts action and empowerment, there was an overwhelming amount of entertainment news. With big trends and themes in clothes, memes, music, and other categories, here's your entertainment year review!



Clothing

When it comes to clothes, a lot of old trends resurfaced in 2018. Particularly, the '80s came back with mom jeans, chunky sneakers, and scrunchies making their way to the mainstream streets. Check the list below for some other big fashion trends of this year.

- Dad/Chunky Sneakers
- Oversized Hoodies
- Dad/Baseball Hats
- Anything Velvet
- Mom Jeans
- Puffy Jackets
- Teddy Bear Jackets
- Scrunchies
- Tinted Sunglasses

Memes

Gen-Z is spearheading meme culture this year, with loads of new comedic images arriving everyday. Some of my personal favorites this year include the moth memes and the mocking Spongebob memes. This year raised the standards for memes, as it's a language all teenagers speak that allows us to creatively express ourselves. Tying in old memes and mixing them with new age jokes has become very popular. Another major trend this year has been an app called 'Tik Tok,' which is a media platform similar to and reminiscent of 'Vine'. Check the list below for some other popular memes of the year.

- Tide Pods
- Yodeling Boy-Mason Ramsey
- Moth Memes
- Johnny Johnny
- Life with Mak
- Weird Flex but ok
- Gru Gorl
- Not a cellphone in sight

- I don't feel so good
- Tired Spongebob
- Is this a pigeon?
- Yanny/Laurel
- It's Free Real Estate
- Mocking Spongebob
- Hidden Lucky Luciano (Had To Do It To Em' Guy)

Music

Music this year has varied, as we've lost many popular stars and singers recently. However, an artist striding and hitting every beat recently is Ariana Grande. With her release of the "Sweetener" album, and her hit single "Thank U, Next" this singer has been climbing the charts with her upbeat and positive tunes. Cardi B has also had a productive year, becoming the first woman with five simultaneous Top 10 Hits in the category of R&B/Hip-Hop Songs. One other big change this year is that K-Pop became popular in the US, as well as many other countries. Check the list below for some of this year's top bops!

- Thank U, Next; God is a woman; Imagine - Ariana Grande
- I Like It - Cardi B
- In My Feelings - Drake
- iLOVEFRIDAY - Mia Khalifa
- This is America - Donald Glover
- Better Now - Post Malone
- Havana - Camila Cabello
- Lucid Dreams - Juice Wrld
- SAD!; Moonlight - XXXTentacion
- One Kiss - Dua Lipa
- Mine; Beautiful - Bazzi
- Love Lies - Khalid

- Youngblood - 5 Seconds of Summer
- Come out and play - Billie Eilish
- Baby Shark - Pinkfong
- MOOO! - Doja Cat
- Girls Like You - Maroon 5
- Back To You - Selena Gomez
- New Light - John Mayer
- DDU-DU DDU-DU - BLACKPINK

Fashion

Along with fashion, memes, and music, many things happened for 2018 entertainment. With public relationships (splitting, starting, or striving), popular hashtags, makeup, and news on YouTube, this year has truly been full of surprises. Read through the list below to take a trip down the memory lane of 2018.

- James Charles x Morphe palette
- "The Mind of Jake Paul" series by Shane Dawson
- Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle
- Kardashian/Jenner births
- Bill Cosby Aggravated Assault cases
- Southern California Fires
- Justin Bieber and Hailey Baldwin marriage
- Cardi B and Offset split
- Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas marriage
- Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's divorce
- Avocado Toast
- 'Me Too' Movement
- ASMR
- Flossing Dance Trend
- Fortnite Rage
- Pewdiepie vs T-Series

Favorite gift ever

compiled by Riley Altman,
Jayden Clark, & Malia Johnson
staff writers



"A drone that my parents gave me because I get to look at things from different points of view." - Evan B, sophomore

"My phone that my parents gave me because I get to use it everyday." - Maci R, sixth grade



"A candy cane because it was yummy." - Annalise H, second grade

Guess the holiday song

compiled by Riley Altman,
Jayden Clark, & Malia Johnson
staff writers

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



Answers can be found on page 4



Senior Spotlight

Emily Erickson

SENIOR PROJECT:
Making a saddle for the disabled

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Basketball Stats, NHS

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Friends, Family, and Teachers

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend BHSU for Occupational Therapy

A Christmas wish

compiled by Riley Altman, Jayden Clark, & Malia Johnson staff writers



"A new pair of sketchers and a bike." - Cooper L, eighth grade

"A toy dragon." - Sutton S, pre-school



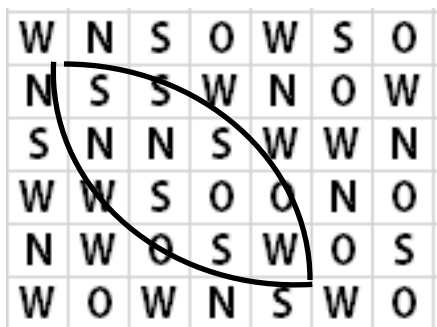
"A LOL doll from Santa." - Lucy P, Kindergarten

Answers to Christmas riddles and puzzles

Answers from the holiday word scramble on page 2:

1. tcoskngi = stocking
2. wnso = snow
3. Ansat = santa
4. rbgniegdera = gingerbread
5. Speertn = present
6. Plurdho = rudolph
7. on hsoclo = no school

Answers from the holiday word scramble on page 2:



Answers from the holiday song guess on page 3:

1. "Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!"
2. "Santa Baby"
3. "Silent Night"
4. "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"
5. "Jingle Bell Rock"
6. "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"

Six stars who didn't make it past 2018

2019 is just around the corner, but let's not forget a few stars we've lost this past year

by Mataya Trower and Oliviyah Thornton staff writer

MUSIC

XXX Tentacion

Jahseh Onfroy, known worldwide as XXXTentacion, tragically passed away on June 18, 2018. He was shot and killed during an apparent robbery in Deerfield, Florida. XXXTentacion touched the lives of millions around the globe and will forever reside in the hearts of countless fans who listened to his music, and felt the glow of his uncontrollable and unique spirit. January 23, 1998 - June 18, 2018; age 20

Mac Miller

Rapper and producer Mac Miller died from "mixed drug toxicity," according to the Los Angeles County Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner. His death was ruled an accident in a report. Miller, whose real name is Malcolm McCormick, died on September 7th at age 26. He started his journey in music as a teenager by putting out mixtapes in his native Pittsburgh. His ex-girlfriend Ariana Grande recently honored him in a song called "Thank You, Next" calling him "an angel". January 19, 1992 - September 7, 2018; age 26

SPORTS

Rasual Butler

Former NBA player Rasual Butler was killed in a single-vehicle crash in the Studio City neighborhood of Los Angeles, early Wednesday morning at age 38.

Butler's 31-year-old wife, Leah LaBelle Vladowski, also died in the crash. The couple was pronounced dead at the scene at 2:35 a.m. after his Range Rover struck parking meters and a wall and rolled into a park-

ing lot. Ex-NBA player Rasual Butler had multiple substances in his system at the time of his fatal crash back in January including alcohol, marijuana and painkillers.

May 23, 1979 - January 31, 2018; age 38

José Castillo

José Castillo a beloved teammate and friend died on December 6, 2018. He was traveling with another teammate, Luis Valbuena, when they came across an object on the road and swerved to avoid it but in the process crashed the vehicle.

Authorities reported that bandits had thrown a object out onto the route to the city of Barquisimeto causing the crash and robbed the athletes. As of now four people have been detained for having the athletes belongings.

The crash caused both José Castillo and Luis Valbuena to pass away but left the third basemen Carlos Rivera alive.

The next day, Friday, Venezuelan Professional Baseball League announced all flags with fly half staff in all stadiums for three days and the games on Friday were all canceled.

José played as an infielder for the Cardenales de Lara team in the Venezuelan winter league and 3.29 earned run average and played in 37 games. March 19, 1981 - December 6, 2018; age 37

ENTERTAINMENT

Stephen Hillenburg

November 26, 2018 started off with a sad start for the ones who knew Stephen Hillenburg, the creator of the series Spongebob Squarepants, died.

Spongebob Squarepants centers around a good natured yellow kitchen sponge, sea creature, who works as a fry cook in Bikini Bottom and lives in a Pineapple with a pet snail

called Garry.

Stephen's show was loved by children and adults and brought optimism, friendship and limitless power of imagination. Nickelodeon describe him as being creative, funny, beloved friend and someone who brought joy to generations of kids and families.

He graduated from Humboldt State University and went into teaching as a marine biology teacher. Good thing he did because later with his love and interest in marine life it led him to come with our beloved creatures of the sea today. The first episode was aired on May 1, 1999 and since then has nearly made 250 episodes.

Our beloved Spongebob creator died of Lou Gehrig's disease at age 57 and will be missed by the fans of Spongebob Squarepants.

August 21, 1961 - November 26, 2018; age 57

Penny Marshall

Penny Marshall a great director and actress died on December 17, 2018 at the age of 75 because of diabetes, after surviving cancer earlier.

Marshall was born on October 15, 1943 in Bronx, New York. She first started off as a secretary but she made her debut from her brother, Garry Marshall, who put her in the movie How Sweet It Is in 1968. Since then she continued to play in TV shows and movies and even started directing shows of her own.

Nearly every film she made could be classified as comedy/drama but more of her comedies were never just setups and punch lines but also told absorbing stories and her dramas were playful and good humored.

She voiced the Elder in Scooby-Doo! and Kiss: Rock and Roll Mystery and directed the movie Big which centers around a 12-year-old boy makes a wish which turns him into a 30-year-old man and he goes through the struggles of adult old until he finally want to be a boy again.

October 15, 1943 - December 17, 2018; age 75

Must do and must avoid this holiday

by Malia Johnson staff writers

In the light of the holiday season where there is extra food, extra time, and extra...well...everything, there are some things worth making sure you do or maybe avoid over break.



Ben K, senior
Avoid: last minute gift shopping
Must: go to church



Julia M, freshman
Avoid: messing up my sleep schedule
Must: read a book



Mrs. Koskela, Spanish teacher
Avoid: traveling too much rather than spending that time with family
Must: go shopping



Lucie F, fifth grade
Avoid: travelling
Must: open presents and spend time with family



Nate Skillman, sophomore
Avoid: hanging out with family too much
Must: go drifting

