

Congratulations to the one-act cast, crew, and director on their first place finish at region competition. State is Feb. 2

Blue Ink



Record lows sweep across US

Dangerous cold closes down schools and more across multiple states

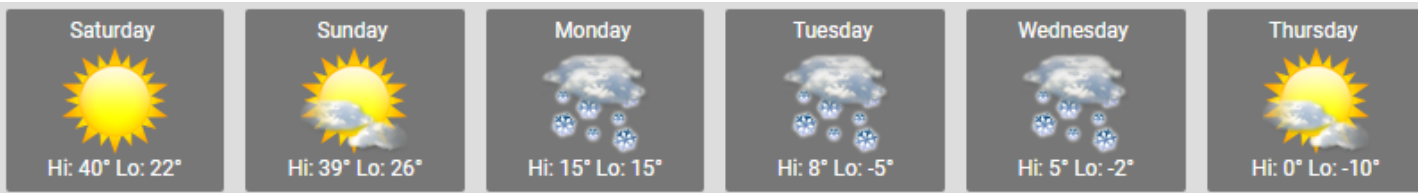
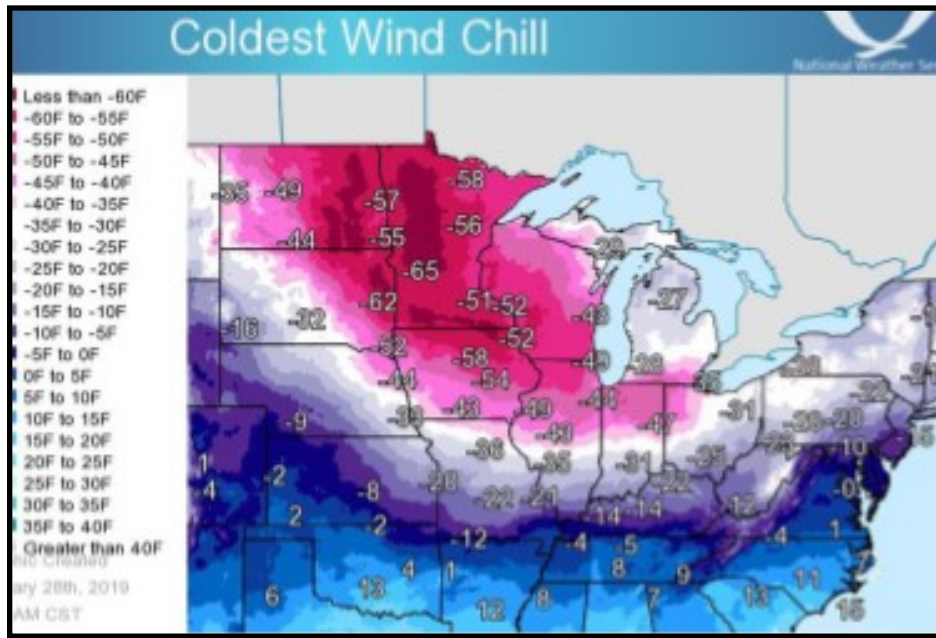
by Riley Altman
staff writer

Sioux Falls, SD was the coldest place in the world on Wednesday morning as it was colder than Antarctica and the same temperature as the top of Mt. Everest on Tuesday night. 75 percent of the continental United States experienced sub-arctic temperatures this past week.

Numerous schools throughout the tri-state region were closed due to the life threatening low temperatures. Several schools were closed Monday through Thursday. Even colleges such as SDSU and USD cancelled classes Tuesday afternoon through Wednesday.

South Dakota experienced temperatures that haven't been experienced in a decade. Tuesday night the temperature was -20 degrees and Wednesday the temperature dropped to -26 degrees, not including wind chill. With wind chill it felt like -60 degrees. If you were outside for more than 4 minutes medical attention was most likely needed.

This weekend we are expected to experience a 100 degree swing reaching a high of 42 on Saturday, before returning to normal February temperatures and possibly snow next week.



This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Referees get Super Bowl rings too.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Apples are more effective at keeping you awake than coffee

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What kind of tree fits in your hand?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: What kind of water cannot freeze?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

- Friday, February 1**
 - JH BBB @ MCM (4:00)
 - BBB @ MCM (5:00-6:15/7:30)
- Saturday, February 2**
 - Wrestling @ Big East/Lake Central Conference Tourney in Flandreau (10:00)
 - One Act @ State Festival in Aberdeen
- Monday, February 4**
 - JH/JV Wrestling @ Tri-Valley (4:30)
- Tuesday, February 5**
 - Wrestling Quad (5:00)
 - Wrestling Parents' Night
 - JH BBB @ Parker (4:00)
 - JH GBB @ Elkton (4:00)
 - GBB @ Elkton-Lake Benton (6:00/7:15)
- Thursday, February 7**
 - Elementary Honor Choir @ SDSU
 - Festival of Men's Voices @ SDSU
 - BBB @ Beresford (4:00/5:00/8:00)
 - GBB @ Beresford (4:00/5:00/6:30)
- Friday, February 8**
 - Wrestling Quad @ Flandreau (5:00)
- Saturday, February 9**
 - GBB v. Colman-Egan (3:00/4:15)

Have you asked your date?

Promposals can be sweet but are they too stressful?

by Kylie Uhl
staff writer

With prom right around the corner, you better find a date before it's too late. What's the proper way to ask someone to prom? Depends on who your asking but the trend right now is "promposals". Having an elaborately planned proposal for prom. Even if it's just a poster or making a dance routine to ask your date. Teens are sweeping the nation with some interesting ways to get the "yes".

Most guys have the tux but not the date; are they too nervous to ask or do they just not want to go to prom? Is prom really that big of a deal that it needs its own proposal or should you just simply ask? Is the pressure from asking someone in public too nerve racking to ask the person you want to go dance the night away with?

"I think for prom the guy should ask and do the promposal because the girl most likely expects it, but for formal the girl should ask. I also do think that the person asking does get a lot of pressure about how to ask and it makes them second guess asking and makes them really nervous" junior, and prior prom attendee, Malia Johnson stated.

While another junior said, "I think if you're asking it's up to you. If you go all out it really shows you want to go with them and it's nice to see their reaction and how happy they get. It's only as big of a deal as you make it." Austin Top. Date or not, prom night should still be a night to remember.

Choose Kind

by Kelsey Keegan
staff writer

The Garretson students are trying to choose kind. The kids are making good choices. The kids have opened the door for me. I have seen pictures in the hallways. They have taken pictures of some of the people choosing kind. I looked at the choose kind pictures of the Garretson school students. The students drew Choose Kind art. I saw the Bulletin Boards on the choose kind. The classroom teachers are wearing choose kind shirts. Treat others like you want to be treated.

What does it mean to me? I think, the choose kind motto is very awesome!

Why is being kind important to me? I think, the choose kind motto is cool. The choose kind motto is making us very good, and beautiful.

Make your life better by choosing to be kind! Because my life is good and great.



Worth Mentioning

Alexa Draper participated in the USD Honor Band on Monday.

Choose Kind

- February Precept: "It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers." - James Thurber
- January Precept: "No man is an island, entire of itself." - John Donne
- December Precept: "Fortune favors the bold." - Virgil

Streak broken

by **Oliviyah Thornton & Mataya Trower**
staff writer

Garretson Girls Basketball

Last week Garretson went up against three teams in the Big East Conference Tournament. Losing their first game to Parker 45-49.

After a loss the girls needed to stay more confident and build each other more which is what had been said by Coach Shrank, Lauren Heesch, Jaelyn Benson and agreed on by the rest of the team.

With a losing streak of 4 games in a row, Garretson was determine to win their next game. With high hopes and confidence, the girls came back the next day to play against Sioux Valley in Salem.

By half time of the game Garretson was winning 31-10 but the girls couldn't get comfortable just yet because they were still hungry for a win and they were determined to keep Sioux Valley from getting in the lead.

Garretson ended up breaking the losing streak when they won against Sioux Valley 50-22.

With the momentum breaking their losing streak, the Blue Dragons brought it over to their next game which was Saturday, January 26th.

The Lady Blue Dragons were determined for a second win. It was a constant battle between Garretson and Chester, with neither team refusing to obtain a loss.

Garretson girls basketball notched two wins in BEC tourney but couldn't keep momentum on their side last night

By first quarter Garretson was down 10-17, but were no where close to giving up. They brought themselves back up and fought back against Chester keeping them tied much of the time. By half Garretson was tied with Chester 30-30.

By third quarter, Garretson was tied again with Chester 41-41 but the Blue Dragons picked it up even more and the game ended 68-51, bringing their record to 7-5.

Garretson also played another game last night against MCM but lost 48-69. However the seventh grade, eighth grade, and junior varsity teams all notched wins against the Fighting Cougars.

The girls' next action is Tuesday, February 5 at Elkton-Lake Benton.

Garretson Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team's record is now 3-12 after a tough loss on Tuesday night against Dell Rapids St. Mary (10-3).

Despite having a slight lead going into the final minutes, Garretson lost by three points, 67-70.

With five more games on the boy's schedule before post season, their next game will be at McCook Central/Montrose (4-8). The game starts tonight with JV at 6:15 p.m. and varsity to follow.

New home for NBA superstar?

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

With the NBA trade deadline slowly approaching, as expected, things are getting pretty hectic.

At the moment, the number one hot topic is Anthony Davis who requested a trade earlier this week. LeBron James stated earlier in the season that he would love to play with Davis in LA, and guess where his preferred trade destination is? Los Angeles. Davis's team has also stated that if he was traded anywhere else he would sign with the Lakers as a free agent at the end of the season.

The Pelicans are not showing any interest in trading Davis, but Lakers and Raptors are still going to pursue.

Yesterday NBA fans were hit with a slap in the face when Knicks forward, Kristaps Porzingis had a meeting with in which he requested a trade. And almost immediately after, he was traded to the Dallas Mavericks (who they had played the night before). Porzingis was seen before the game chatting with Mavericks star Luca Doncic, Porzingis is also on the Rising Stars Team World with Doncic, and guess who the coach is... Dirk Nowitzki.

Carmelo Anthony was also traded from the Rockets to Bulls, but the Bulls cut him 45 minutes after the trade. This is the second time this has happened to Anthony, last time with the Atlanta Hawks.

Figure skater's suicide shocks nation

US pairs champion figure skater, John Coughlin, dies at 33

by **Jayden Clark**
staff writer

At the age of 33, two-time U.S. Pairs figure skating champion John Coughlin took his own life. Coughlin was suspended Thursday evening, January 17, by the U.S. Center for SafeSport, an organization that aims to end all forms of abuse in sports and U.S. Figure Skating. He was pronounced dead by Kansas City police on Friday, January 18.

Coughlin, a regular sight at skating competitions all around the country, had come under some fire following a recent investigation by SafeSport.

On December 17, 2018, Coughlin's eligibility to participate in figure skating competitions was restricted by SafeSport. The restriction was implemented after accusations made against Coughlin were presented to SafeSport. Then, on January 17, 2019, SafeSport elevated the restriction to a more serious level of an "Interim Suspension." Following the SafeSport suspension, the United States Figure Skating organization also issued a temporary suspension, which prohibited Coughlin from participating in any skating-related activity or competition.

Coughlin's restriction went largely unnoticed by the general public until a YouTube Channel, The Skating Lesson, posted a screenshot of the

suspension notice. After the picture went viral, rumors and accusations began to grow, most bashing Coughlin with some even comparing him to the disgraced gymnastics doctor, Larry Nassar. Despite very little confirmed information, including the nature of specific allegations or status of the investigation, people continued to bash Coughlin. Coughlin's close friends and family believed these accusations which caused him

to become depressed, isolate himself, and ultimately led him to committing suicide. One friend posted on Facebook: "Words can be just as powerful as a bullet. To John, they were just that – bullets straight to his heart."

Coughlin committed suicide on January 18, 2019. According to the Kansas City Police report, Coughlin hanged himself in his fathers' home. Officers were dispatched to the

house where they pronounced him dead on the scene. His funeral was held on Tuesday, January 29. Following his funeral, Coughlin's sister posted on social media, "Burying you today will forever be one of the toughest and saddest days of my entire life. Honoring your memory together with family and friends gave Dad and I some peace. We know you are with mom now. The goodness and joy you brought to everyone you knew echoes through the stories and memories shared by so many. The hole in my heart can never be filled, but I will look for you in the small and beautiful ways the world shows us flashes of heaven. Watch over me and Dad and we will see you some day at the big table in the sky." Many of Coughlin's former coaches, teammates, and competitors also posted similar comments and stories acknowledging his talents and contributions to figure skating and mourning his death.



John Coughlin, with partner Caydee Denney, has had a successful career. They are seen here with bronze medals earned in 2014 at the US Figure Skating Championships. Coughlin and Denney went on to become national champions. Coughlin was suspended just over a month ago after accusations of inappropriate conduct.

Photo from AP photographer Steven Senne published on www.ocala.com

Nat'l School Counseling Week

by **Kennedy Buckneberg**
staff writer

Next week will be a very exciting week for school counselors in many schools. This week is a time to appreciate school counselors and everything they do for us.

"My favorite part about being a school counselor is being able to help you guys through the good times and the bad times." Said Mrs. Piliska. "Next week we'll be having different sheets on the lunch tables, along with activities and candy".

School counselors really do make a difference in our school. It is important that if someone is going through something tough, that there is someone there to guide them through it. Counselors are also there to enjoy the exciting things that all come our way and be the biggest support system.

Garretson's climate zones

by Malia Johnson
staff writer

Traveling room to room through Garretson school is like traveling through the earth's three climate zones- Tropical, Temperate, and Polar. Like every winter, the school's heating system has had a hard time keeping all of the classrooms and hallways comfortable. With this week's Polar Vortex coming over Garretson many students returned to school on Thursday to classrooms that seemed to be in the Polar Zone. One high school and one elementary classroom had to relocate on Thursday due to the cold temperatures in their classroom.

By the end of the day, technicians had the rooms back to the Temperate Zone, like most other classrooms in the building. Even with the cold, the building always has a few rooms in the Tropical Zone, Mrs. Koskela's Spanish classroom is one of those. "I prop the door open to let cold air cycle through" she said. The good news is that by this time of year, students know what climate Zone they're visiting in each classroom.

Most dress in layers and just wish that when going to



Students have struggled to find consistent temperatures in the school over the past few weeks. While some of it has been issues with the heating system itself, others variances in temperature can be attributed to the polar vortex we've experienced. To deal with this use, students have resolved to wear their coats to class, knowing it is against the dress code. Photo by Malia Johnson

classes that are in the Tropical Zone they had an ocean view and palm trees to go with the warmth!

Garretson guessing game

Answers from last week's issue



WHERE IS THIS? Back room of the library
WHOSE IS THIS? Hayden Pierret (shoes)
WHAT IS THIS? Drinking fountain water spout (close up)

Ruh-roh Shaggy

by Kylie Uhl
staff writer

This classic mystery solving gang is turning 50 this year. Zoinks! Where did the time go? The very first time Scooby was aired was September 13, 1969, with the episode "What a Night for a Knight". This episode starts off with Shaggy and Scooby Doo walking home from the movies and, discovering a black suit of armor, and the mystery began. The creation of the cartoon was inspired by *Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein*, a movie from the early '50s.

The creators of *Scooby Doo*, Joe Ruby and Ken Spears, wanted something that parents would approve of but also had a little supernatural vibe. They first started the show with having the characters fighting off zombies and aliens, but at the time fighting wasn't approved

of for children to watch.

That is what motivated the storyline to move to the idea of the friends solving mysteries, something that everyone can watch.

Sadly all good things must come to an end. The last episode of the original *Scooby Doo* series was aired on October 31, 1970. However there have been many spinoffs to this beloved icon including *What's new Scooby Doo*, *A Pup Named Scooby*



Daycare construction going great

by Kennedy Buckneberg
staff writer

The construction has begun for the new daycare in Garretson and is moving at a steady pace. The new center will be able to hold 103 kids total, increasing its capacity by 23 children and will be approximately 6,100 square feet. There is currently two daycares in Garretson, one for school age and older toddlers, the other center for babies and toddlers. The community cannot wait to only have one center for all levels of kids.

"The construction is going in phases. Last week all of the walls and roof went up extremely fast. Now it will slow down and won't go so fast because we won't be able to see the progress happening inside the building." Says the owner of the daycares, Heidi Fink. The hardest part about the process is patiently waiting for it all to be done. According to Heidi



Fink, the kids cannot stop talking about when their new "school" will be finished and how excited they are.

There's always reasoning behind something this big that is going to happen and as Fink said, the old daycare was in need of remodeling and needed a lot of work done, so they decided to save money and build a brand new center. "With Garretson growing, there is always need for childcare. With this new building we are hoping this will help the community and alleviate some of the stress for parents trying to find childcare." Said Fink.

They are not sure when the construction will be completed, but the children and staff are very excited for the future and to see the finished product.

Groundhog Days

J M B E G J S J T G B M J D H
T O X A F T G R O U N D H O G
T Y Q S W J E N N S S K E E W
C B E H C G Y V N S I E X X U
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Z O I D S A O A D N O N M F W
T F I F Q L T B O Z P R R I E
L G K I W A L U S H F E F S U
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J V I H D S R P F X B I L R H
F C T H H Z J R F I N H U I A
E R R C P K Y X U S F U H N D
K X Q A V Z Q M V B T Y P G O
F W Q L H H R J H R V C E V W

BURROW
PUNXSUTAWNEY
PHILL
SHADOW
SIX
WEEKS
GROUNDHOG
HIBERNATE
SPRING

created by
Sam Gonzalez using
atozteacherstuff.com

Six more weeks of winter...or not...

foreward by **Sam Gonzalez**
 article by **Sylvia Larson**
 staff writer

Tomorrow is the day in which our whole future is determined. Well, sort of. February 2nd marks another year asking the question if the groundhog will see his shadow. Will we be having another six weeks of winter, or are we going to start spring early?

This article ran four years ago in issue 2.22. This is reprinted with the permission of author Sylvia Larson. As a note, Phil will be looking for his shadow tomorrow morning.

On Monday, the infamous Punxsutawney Phil crept out of his hidy-hole at 7:25 a.m. at Gobbler's Knob, a rural area about two miles outside of Punxsutawney proper. Guess what? He SAW his shadow. What does that mean for us? Six more weeks of snow and cold!

Groundhog Day is the midway point between the winter solstice and spring equinox. The day's history is rooted in the celebration of Candlemas. In 1841, a store keeper in Morgantown, Pennsylvania wrote about February 2nd and referred to it as Candlemas Day; this was the first documented American reference to Candlemas Day.

Storekeeper James Morris: "Last Tuesday, the 2nd, was Candlemas day, the day on which, according to the Germans, the Groundhog peeps out of his winter quarters and if he sees his shadow he pops back for another six weeks nap, but if the day be cloudy he remains out, as the weather is to be moderate."

For the last two years, Phil has seen his shadow, and both times, his predictions have reigned true. After the particularly brutal winter of 2014, who knows what the weather will do this year?

Punxsutawney Phil has been in charge of telling America how long winter will wear on since 1886, all based on whether or not he sees his shadow on the morning of February 2nd.

That means that Phil is supposedly a sprightly 124 years old! Generally, groundhogs have a lifespan of about six years, so it is extremely unlikely that our famous groundhog friend from the eighteenthundreds is still alive and well.

Although it is supposed to be kept a secret that Phil is an imposter, it's not really hard to guess. It's publicly unknown how many groundhogs have actively played Phil.



The Philadelphian woodchuck's full name is actually "Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators and Weather Prophet Extraordinary." He was named by the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club in 1887.

A special group called the Inner Circle takes care of Phil during his down time in the year and also plans the annual ceremony. Members of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club's Inner Circle are recognizable by their top hats and tuxedos.

When Phil is not busy predicting the weather at Gobbler's Knob, he lives in the town library with his wife, Phyllis. Yes, Punxsutawney Phil has his own adorable little groundhog wife, and her name is Phyllis.

Punxsutawney Phil's batting average isn't exactly spectacular. His weather predictions have been accurate approximately 39% of the time since 1887. Because the year's coldest quarter, also known as meteorological winter, runs from Dec. 5 to March 5, Phil predicts a long winter about 80 percent of the time. Members of the Inner Circle claim that predictions are accurate about 75% to 90% of the time. The forecast for next week holds mild temps, but it's still too early to predict what will happen the rest of the winter. Until then, though, make sure your heater is in working condition.

Just remember, in the words of Hal Borland, "No winter lasts forever, no spring skips it's turn."

Garretson guessing game



Another installment of the Garretson guessing game is here. Reminder to send your guesses to the Garretson Blue Ink snapchat. Everyone who guesses correctly will be entered to win a candy bar.

