

Blue Ink



Garretson Weekly School Newspaper - Garretson, SD - Volume 1, Number 20

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: 1 out of every 4 Americans has been on TV.

BRAIN TEASER OF THE WEEK:
How many letters are in the alphabet?
Answer on back page

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What nails do carpenters not like to hit?
Answer on back page

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, January 31

- GBB @ BEC Tournament

Saturday, February 1

- 5/6 GBB v. Chester
- 5/6 BBB @ Chester
- Wrestling @ Wagner
- GBB @ BEC Tournament

Monday, February 3

- Regional Instrumental Solo/Ensemble Contest @ Augustana
- 7/8/JV Wrestling @ Brandon
- 7/8 BBB v. Beresford

Tuesday, February 4

- BBB @ Baltic (7/8/JV/V)
- Wrestling Quad v. Elk Point-Jefferson, Marion-Freeman, West Sioux

Thursday, February 6

- GBB @ McCook Central-Montrose (7/8/JV/V)

Friday, February 7



Scan for the full February

Number 100

By Aaron Dunn

Not everybody can say they have done anything 100 times, but senior wrestler Tyler Willems has passed the century mark! Getting 100 wins doesn't mean he has won 100 different tournaments, it means he has won the matches within those tournaments. This would be similar to scoring 100 touchdowns or hitting 100 homeruns over a four or five year period.

Oddly enough he "didn't even know" he had surpassed 100, but sure enough, Willems fought his way for that hundredth victory. He also "didn't even think" that he would break

100 victories.

Willems still has more to strive for this year. His ultimate goal is "making it to state and hopefully placing." The wrestling team still has 6 more tournaments remaining before the state tournament, including regions, and hopefully they can all achieve the goal of wrestling in that last tourney. Their next contest is on Saturday February 1st.



Break a Leg

By Wyatt Fink

Break a leg. The one-act cast performed their play *Cave Dream* directed by second grade teacher Ms. Erin Dahmes for the Garretson community on Monday January 27th. The play was originally supposed to play on Sunday but due to weather they had to postpone the play. The cast also had regional competition in Brandon.

There were four schools from Region III that prepared a one-act performance. The top two casts moved on to state; Garretson performed well enough that they were placed in the top two earning a berth to the state competition. They will be going back to Brandon for State One-Act. The players were enjoying the celebration of winning regions.

Senior Mariah Nelson was asked how it feels to win at regions and advance to state. She replied, "It feels amazing. I couldn't ask for anything better senior year and it shows that all of our hard work paid off."

One of the new additions to the one-act stage is cast member junior Josh Leister. Leister was asked the same

question and he replied, "All of the work we put into it paid off."

The next question Leister was asked was if he was nervous about state. Leister stated, "No, because we have practiced it."

Nelson echoed Leister's calm demeanor replying, "No, I don't get nervous. We have got two performances down and I know we can do even better than today."

"We are going to use some of the judge's comments to make it better," said Leister, commenting on state preparation.

In addition to Garretson advancing out of regions, two of the cast members were honored with Outstanding Actor Awards. Senior Mariah Nelson and sophomore Katie Giesler were dubbed with the honors at the regional competition yesterday.

The one-act cast will perform late next week at Brandon Valley High School for the state competition where they will be joined by other casts from around South Dakota.

Blosmo Named A.C.E. Award Recipient

Conner Blosmo has been a key leader for us both on and off the court. He's the true definition of a student-athlete.

In his senior season, he has helped guide a young, inexperienced group of student-athletes and formed us into a very competitive

basketball team. He's an extension of the coaching staff on the court and is able to draw the best efforts out of his teammates.



Scan for all ACE Award Recipients



Preventing Accidents

By Mary Christian

Swerve, Swerve, skid, skid. I think I just hit a kid! Don't be one of the people getting in an accident this winter. Here are some safe driving tips courtesy of AAA for you to use in this snowy weather.

1) South Dakota temperatures drop below zero and the land starts to freeze. By keeping your car's tank at least half full it prevents the gas lines from freezing.

2) With the freezing weather, the ice clings to the road. It's important to remember not to slam on those brakes, you are likely to skid across the ice if you do. By pumping your brakes when you start to slide it will minimize your chance of flying across the road.

3) Also, try to slow down sooner when you are stopping to prevent skidding into the bumper in front of you.

4) With cold temperatures the snow starts to fall. Driving in snowy conditions

will take you longer to get around, but if you don't need to travel it is best to stay at home.

5) Traveling is necessary at times; when you pull out of your driveway, accelerate and decelerate slowly, it will help with gaining traction.

6) Stopping at lights with snow packed roads can be a hassle try to avoid this by rolling until the light changes if possible.

7) Lastly, WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT! This will protect you if you do get in an accident. Knock on wood that you don't but accidents happen all the time so it's better to be safe than sorry. Plus it's the law so getting a ticket isn't worth not clicking your seat belt.

Two of our teachers added in about how students could be safer on the road.

Mr. Lynch says, "People have two different frames of mind for winter and

summer driving. Summer is a day dream and has more room for error because the weather isn't a big issue. In winter you have to be more aware of how you drive and staying on the road. Also, giving yourself 5 to 10 minutes for a head start will reduce your stress and have you arrive calm. If you do end up running late because of weather, take your time; it's better than not getting there at all."

Mr. Hughes had a different view on how our students should stay safe on the road, "Don't drive! Just kidding. Raise the age limit to 16 instead of 14. It will allow the kids to be more mature before they get behind the wheel."

With more cold weather heading our way, remember these safe driving tips to keep you on the roads and out of the ditches or even from hitting that kid. Safe travels!

Choirs Showcase Talents and Hard Work

By Joshua Liester

The Garretson Middle School and High School choirs sang their hearts out this past Monday as they had their annual winter concert. It was in January this year instead of December like it usually is because choir director Mrs. Roskamp was gone on maternity leave.

Both the choirs sang five different songs for the concert. Roskamp said that the students have been working on some of the songs since the beginning of the year, while others were just mastered after we returned from Christmas break.

Roskamp thought the night went well and was confident in the student's ability to perform their songs. Sophomore Lara Luke agreed with Roskamp, saying that the

concert went, "better than expected." Her favorite song of the night was "Pie Jesu." Luke also went on to say, "I like to watch the taped concert afterwards to see how the production turned out."

Alex Anderson is another member of the choir. He thought they sounded good and stated that he wasn't nervous at all for the show because they were well prepared.

Freshman Siri Wollmann wasn't nervous either, stating, "We practiced a lot and were confident."

Madisen Nordstrom is a middle school choir member and while she thought the concert was good, she said the group could have been louder.

Looking toward the next music performance, the Music Dinner, Roskamp said that they are bringing back a few songs from previous years along with a few new ones.

Wollmann should be excited about the Music Dinner, since she stated that her favorite part of choir is "singing new songs." Her favorite song from their recent concert was "I heard the Bells on Christmas Day."

The Music Dinner will be on March 8th, so be sure to save the date and go listen to some beautiful music from the Garretson choirs!

Middle School and High School Students Receive January Honors



Senior:
Brianna
Duerr



Junior:
Aaron
Dunn



Sophomore:
Brianna
Callsen



Freshman:
Rosa
Mendoza

What Will He Do Next?

By Teila Carnicle

With the boys' basketball team eliminating 14 games in the regular season and only six games to go, spectators wait and see with the long one week break coming up to watch what the team will do in their upcoming games. Whether or not Mr. Ganschow will introduce new ideas or stuck with what has worked for them in previous games, patience is the only key working in the favor of the audience.

Winning their last game on Tuesday night against the Flandreau Fliers, Ganschow comments on how the team had played with "a lot of confidence that night."

Ganschow also went on to say that even though they started out with an "inexperienced team at the beginning of the season, we now know what each other are going to do and I think it allows us to

play a better brand of basketball."

With the team having plenty of time to grow in confidence as a team since the beginning of the season, they can definitely look forward to a bright future!

"The thing I think we're looking forward to the most is getting a chance to improve each game. We know we've played some of the best teams in our class during the month of January and competed hard with them. Now, February has a chance to set us up nicely going into Regions. We're also chasing after a conference title and February sees us playing a majority of our Big East teams, so that will be fun to prepare for. That and finally getting a chance to play some home games again," state Ganschow about future games.

Not only is Ganschow and the rest of the team looking forward to those games

in the future, but Ganschow does indeed already have some ideas in mind when it comes to those games. "The rest of this week will be spent on improving ourselves and our fundamentals. We will likely spend a lot of time working on areas we need to improve on (rebounding, transition defense, etc). Next week we will then begin to prepare for our upcoming games."

With an entire week to prepare the athletes for their upcoming events, Ganschow is hopeful that they can clean up the little aspects the team needs to work on, but is also confident that the team knows what needs to get done this week: WORK!



Scan for up-to-date results and schedule for the Garretson Boys' Basketball Team

Cash for College

By Jennie Hegge

With only one semester left of high school, that is leaving some seniors stressing out about college. what college do they want to go to; what dorm do they want to live in; who's going to be their roommate, and last but not least, how are they going to pay for it!?

"I have a job now, but it's still not enough to pay for the long road ahead," commented senior Mary Christian.

Paying for college might just be the hardest part for some students. Good thing there is financial aid! Financial aid is quite confusing and most people don't even know how it works. There was a meeting on Monday night to try to get rid of some of that confusion.

Senior Caitlyn Thorson was the only student to attend this meeting. otherwise

it was just parents. Thorson does in fact think that going to the meeting has benefited her. "I know no I won't qualify for a lot of financial aid, and I'll have to rely on scholarships more for paying for college."

For those of you who don't know what financial aid is, it is money loaned to you from the government. You do have to pay back these loans, but not until six months after you graduate from college. Those six months are kind of alike a grace period for you to find a job and get settled.

"I like the idea of a six month grace period, because it gives students time to get accustomed to life on their own after college," added senior Jesse Brockhouse.

The amount of financial aid you receive depends on how much money your parents make. The more money your parents

bring in each year, the less amount of aid you will receive. If your parents don't make very much money, you will receive more financial aid.

But don't worry, there is more! You can always apply for scholarships and grants! Those are basically free money. You do not have to pay those back, unlike the financial aid. I recommend applying for as many of those as possible. The less you have to pay for school the more money you have to go on big shopping sprees and extravagant vacations! That definitely sounds like more fun.

If you are not interested in any of those three ways as a way to get cash for college, you can always win the lottery. That should do it.

Middle School and High School Students Receive January Honors



8th Grade:

Becca
Weiland



7th Grade:

Trevor
Fiegen



6th Grade:

Malia
Johnson

Three out of Three Stars

By Katie Giesler

The road to becoming an FFA All-Star Award recipient is a long and eventful process. One must first fill out an application similar to that of an extensive scholarship application. Then one must meet, individually, with ag teachers from all seven districts and be interviewed by them, explaining (in great detail) the lengthy project that one was required to do. After that, it is pretty much every FFAer for himself!

Here at Garretson High School, three seniors involved with FFA put in time and energy into doing all of the steps listed above, and all three came out with district all-star titles!

Shane Mueller, Caitlyn Thorson and Cody Larson all traveled to Hartford earlier this month for their interviews with teachers from all seven districts. The three all talked about their projects in great detail, showed off their pictures that went along with their work, and were-obviously-chosen to receive All-Star ratings!

Selfie Olympics

By Jesse Brockhouse

Duck Face! While the Winter Olympics are taking place another set of "olympic games" are going on. The Selfie Olympics! The popular "selfie" was named Oxford-English Dictionary's word of the year.

As if taking a simple picture of yourself in the mirror wasn't enough, teens have decided to start a new trend in taking ridiculous selfies with any random surroundings.

New selfies are submitted every day of people going as far out as bringing their mattress and even their own grill into the bathroom just for these pictures!

"I think all these pictures are entertaining and people get very creative with their selfies," commented Jennie Hegge.

Student Opinion Poll

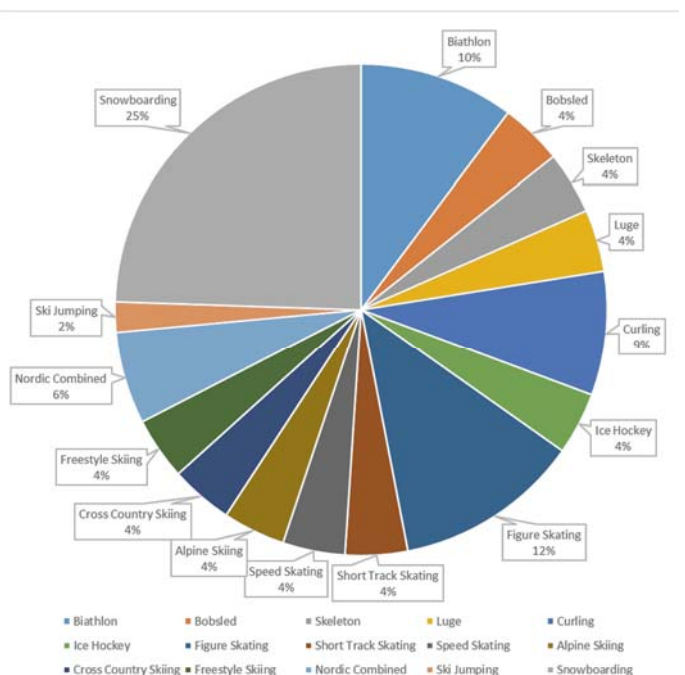
This week students were asked which Olympic sport is their favorite.



Scan for update Olympic results and schedules



Favorite Olympic Event



Stop by Mrs. Buchholz's or Mr. Hughes' rooms on Monday to vote in next week's student opinion poll. The polls will be located inside the rooms.

group. You're also guaranteed an award!"

Recipients earn plaques with engravings on them along with their title.

All of this sure seems like a lot, doesn't it? Well, the plain truth is, that it is, indeed. Countless hours are poured into a single, lengthy project, and then on top of that, one must memorize everything they've done... and explain it perfectly to multiple people!

However, if one *is* chosen to become a recipient of the FFA All-Star award, there is surely some sense of self-accomplishment in the end.



Photo courtesy of Julie Mueller

Larson says that helping out his community by doing service projects means a lot to him. It is just a bonus to receiving his All-Star rating. Larson also mentioned that he had put in a lot of time and effort into his work, and that may be the reason that he received his rating. Nevertheless, he was excited to receive it.

Mueller says that the bigger and more diverse one's project is, the better chance one has of making it as an All-Star; that is, if the work is shown and one has memorized all of their information needed to be explained to the judges! To Mueller, winning an All-Star title means he had shown the most growth in his category, Ag Entrepreneurship.

Lastly, Thorson also stresses that one's interview needs to go very well in order to receive an All-Star title. She obviously did very well in her category, Ag Placement. She says that becoming a recipient of an All-Star title means that "You're the top in your

The Selfie Olympics have been popping up on many social media sites such as twitter and instagram. Although there is no real winner, people are still willing to send in photos to see who can be the most creative with their camera.

Being so popular, Garretson High School students have pondered the idea of starting their own selfie olympics!

"I think it's a great way for Garretson students to get creative. If people go all out it could be very interesting," commented Bryce Wollmann.

Multiple students have agreed with Wollmann's statement saying that it would be a great idea. So if you are also in favor of this let someone know that is involved with seventh period journalism class! The creation of a Garretson High School Selfie Olympics could give you a shot at being creative and possible even getting your selfie in the GHS *Blue Ink* paper!