



Garretson Weekly School Newspaper - Garretson, SD - Volume 1, Number 21

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: 11% of American's are left handed.

BRAIN TEASER OF THE WEEK: Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?

Answer on back page

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Why did the belt go to jail?

Answer on back page

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, February 7

- BBB v. McCook Central-Montrose (7/8/JV/V)

Saturday, February 8

- 6th GBB @ Dell Rapids St. Mary's
- 6th BBB @ Dell Rapids St. Mary's
- 7/8 BBB BEC Tournament
- Wrestling BEC Tournament @ Volga

Monday, February 10

- 7/8/JV Wrestling @ Tri-Valley
- School Board Meeting @ 5:30

Tuesday, February 11

- GBB v. Elkton-Lake Benton (7/8/JV/V)
- Wrestling Quad v. Alcester-Hudson, Lennox, and Sioux Valley

Wednesday, February 12

- Army National Guard Band performs in the New Gym @ 9:00

Thursday, February 13

- Parent Teacher Conferences (2:30-8:30)

Friday, February 14

- No School—Teacher In-Service



Scan for the full February

Winter Olympics Underway

By Joshua Liester

The wait is over and the 2014 Winter Olympic Games have officially begun! The Games kicked off yesterday with figure skating, freestyle skiing, and snowboarding.

People across the world will have their eyes set on the host city, Sochi, Russia, as citizens from a record 88 nations send over 3,000 athletes to ski, slide, and skate their way to gold. There are a total of 15 different sports with 98

events on the schedule for Sochi. The Opening Ceremonies are tonight and the games will continue through February 23rd. With a price tag of over \$50 billion, the Games are sure to be a spectacle.

Many students and staff at Garretson are excited for the competitions. Science teacher Mr. Furness says he plans on watching the Games. He doesn't have a specific sport he is looking forward to, but is still anxious to see "the best athletes in the world perform."

Mrs. Howe is ready for the Games to begin too. Like Furness, she doesn't have a specific sport she wants to see, but will watch whatever is on.



Conner Blossmo is also pumped for the Games. He specifically wants to watch former track star Lolo Jones, who is now on the bobsled team, to see if she can snag her first Olympic medal.

Sophomore John Houg on the other hand, isn't into all the Olympic hype. He said he might look into it and maybe watch a little but other than that, he isn't too interested.

Several terrorist threats have come along with the Games. Even with over \$2 billion and 40,000 troops and police going toward security, many people are still uneasy about the safety of the Games. Howe stated that even with the threats, she would go to the Games if she had the opportunity, saying, "There are threats everywhere." Blossmo agreed with Howe, and summed up the games, saying, "The Olympics are an important event with all the nations coming together." They certainly are and promise to bring lots of thrills to the snow and ice!



Scan for update Olympic results and schedules

Champions Forever Visit Garretson

Champions Forever visited the Garretson Schools on Thursday, February 6. They dazzled and amazed all ages with phenomenal family basketball skills and a positive message to take away.

Champions Forever is comprised of a family from Elkton, South Dakota. They travel all over the world, performing and sharing their important message. They even have been able to perform on the TV show *America's Got Talent* as well as many the halftime act at many NBA games.

Aside from entertaining audiences with their basketball skills, juggling, and unicycling, the Crevier family spreads a positive message using the acronym G.A.M.E. (Goals, Attitude, Morals, Excellence).

Multiple members of the Crevier family shared how they have applied one or more of these letters in the acronym to their everyday

life and how it has a positive effect for them.

The Crevier family really put on a show, getting the crowd enthused from the beginning. They frequently worked with the audience, using volunteers: students and teachers alike.

Find more pictures inside this week's edition of *Blue Ink*.



Scan for a video montage from Champions Forever's appearance at Garretson Schools.

Early Spring or Long Winter

By Jennie Hegge

The question of the week is definitely, "Did the groundhog see his shadow or not?" I mean, what else could it be? Most people are sick and tired of the cold by now and just want it to be spring already.

Freshman, Hailey Steffes, seems to agree. "I just want spring to come early."

But there still are those select few that do like winter and want it to continue for as long as possible; but we just don't know about them.

Well, those select few are in luck. There are six more weeks of winter! On Sunday, yes, Super Bowl Sunday, the groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil, saw his shadow at around 7:25 a.m.

It is said that if it is a sunny day, the groundhog will come out from his burrow, see his shadow, and get scared. Frightened, he will go back in his burrow for six

more weeks. If it is a cloudy, hazy day, the groundhog won't see his shadow, and therefore won't get scared. That signifies an early spring.

This year was the first time that both holidays fell on the same exact Sunday. Talk about a coincidence. Most people were unaware of this.

"I just didn't know or realize it was Sunday, I was more focused on football", added art teacher, Mrs. Granberg.

One person who was aware of it was sophomore, Kristen Martens. However, the coincidence of the situation didn't help out her mood any.

"It should've been a happy day, but it was a sad day since he saw his shadow and the Broncos lost," commented Martens.

Groundhog's day came about from a German superstition that says if a hiber-

nating animal sees his shadow on February 2, the Christian Holiday of candelmas, winter will continue for at least six more weeks.

The groundhog has seen his shadow 100 times, and not seen his shadow 17 times. This shadow-seeing event takes place in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, hence the groundhog's name.: Punxsutawney Phil.

Thousands of spectators attend this event and anticipated his arrival. They even make predictions about whether or not a shadow will be seen. This year, it was predicted that he would see his shadow by many. While they predicted correct, hopefully next year they're wrong and he doesn't see his shadow!

Champions Forever Visit Garretson Photo Gallery



Champions Forever wowed the audience with their "spintacular" performance at the Garretson school Thursday, February 6. Look in next week's edition for a video link featuring a few highlights from their visit.



Shooting into 4th

By Mary Christian

Coming off of five games and snow days the Lady Dragon's basketball team finally got back on the practice floor. With their eyes and minds focused on the Big East Conference tournament they came into practice with a positive attitude.

"We had a week off to go back and look what was wrong. With 5 days of correcting mistakes, working on fundamentals, and focusing on our strengths," commented Coach Kevin Steckler. Working hard on their defense, which is one of their biggest assets, these girls went into the games prepared.

The first night of the tournament, our Lady Dragon's travel to Chester to take on the Baltic Bulldogs. Head Coach Dave Mudder said, "The defense played well, we hustled, and played to our game plan." By

playing to the game plan the Lady Dragon's won 49 to 39.

Night two of the tournament the girl's headed back to Chester to take on the Chester Flyers. The Dragon's could not pull it out and in the end they lost 52 to 57. After, asking what team they would play again there was a unanimous vote that it would be Chester. Kindra Clark added, "We could have beaten them. They are one of our biggest rivals it would be an interesting game." Mudder agree with this statement but said, "I would like to play Chester again only on a mutual floor."

The last night of the tournament the girls commuted to Howard to duke it out with McCook Central/Montrose Cougars for 3rd or 4th place. When it came down to it the Lady Dragon's just weren't hitting

that night, but there defense kept them in the game by going over time. They only lost by 4 in overtime with the score of 40 to 44.

Our Lady Dragon's traveled home with a proud 4th place. "It is a pretty balanced conference so anyone could win," said Mudder. "I'm proud of the girls. They competed well and played good against competition," added Steckler.

Heading into the final run girls are getting ready for regions and state, but don't forget they still have 5 regular season games left. Make sure you go cheer on our Lady Dragon's. There next game is Feb.

11 at home against Elkton-Lake Benton.

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



Wrestlers Takedown Competition

By Wyatt Fink

The wrestling team traveled to Wagner this past Saturday. Junior Tait Johnson, sophomore Brady Schleuter, freshman Jared Fitzgerald, and senior Tyler Williams were among some of the wrestlers who placed in the tourney.

Junior Tait Johnson was asked if there is anything you wish you could go back and do over? Johnson said, "I would have not lost in overtime."

"Watching tapes" stated Johnson when asked what are you doing to make yourself better?

The team is already looking towards

regions and state. What is one thing you need to improve most on; Johnson said, "Winning scramblers."

Teams were invited to Garretson on Tuesday as well. Garretson wrestled Elk Point Jefferson, West Sioux (from Iowa), and Marion-Freeman. The team was able to grab three wins against the teams.

Sophomore Brady Schleuter commented on the team's performance "yes, I think everybody on the team gave all they had and did what were supposed to do and we came out with three wins".

"Working hard in practice and not giv-

ing up and being a good practice partner," is what Schleuter does to improve.

Being fit and conditioned is also something Schleuter works on. "I need to work on conditioning get a little tired in overtime matches" stated Schleuter.

With regions and state on the way, it's never been a better time to come out and watch the wrestling team on Feb 8 in Volga for the Big East Conference and Feb. 14 in Flandreau for a quad.

Scan for up-to-date results from the B.E.C. Wrestling Tourney on Saturday.



Duerr's Polar Plunge

By Katie Giesler

18 degrees outside in January and you're dressed in summer beach apparel, nearly ready to jump into a pool of icy water... wait, what?

That's right! Back on January 25th, Brandon Valley High School held their fourth annual Polar Plunge! Over 63 people signed up to take the chilly dip. Why? To raise awareness and help fund for the Special Olympics.

But what exactly do you have to do in the Polar Plunge? Exactly the opposite of what you want to do! Suit up in some shorts and a t-shirt or less and jump into some cool 60 degree water in the middle

of winter! Mmhm. Sounds pleasant, doesn't it?

Brandon started their Polar Plunge back in 2011, but the event has been around for quite some time now, and in numerous other states as well.

According to the Special Olympics of South Dakota website, the Special Olympics was founded on the belief that all individuals with disabilities can benefit from sports.

The Polar Plunge is merely one of many fundraisers of this association.

One such plunger last month was Garretson senior, Brianna Duerr!

Duerr jumped into the frigid cold water on behalf of her step-brother. Along with her family, she set to raising money so they could send her brother to the nationals in New Jersey this coming summer! He will be playing on the basketball team.

Duerr says, "Overall, I believe my family raised \$1,400." She also mentioned that she would like jump again because it is "well worth the cause" and that she actually enjoyed it; and that it's also a good way to raise awareness too.

If you want to participate in the next fundraising event, you can visit www.sosd.org for more information!

Not So Super Bowl Sunday

By Jesse Brockhouse

Dominating defenses have controlled the Super Bowl for many years, and Super Bowl XLVIII was no different. The Seattle Seahawks' number one defense managed to shut down the Denver Broncos, the number one offense, 43 to 8.

Defensive dominance was no surprise to the Super Bowl. The last time a top defense lost in the Super Bowl was Super Bowl XI where, ironically, the Denver Broncos fell to the Dallas Cowboys.

It was all Seattle from the first down of the game where the snap flew past quarterback Peyton Manning, and landed in the end zone where Denver fell on the ball for a safety; which put two points up on the board for Seattle.

"I thought it was a terrible way to start the game. It was a huge moment shift," commented Micah Mader.

From that point on, Seattle continued to dominate, going into half time with a score of 22 to 0; but they did not quit there! Seattle put up a quick 14 points before Denver even scored! Not letting off the gas, the

Seahawks put up another 7 points before the final whistles blew.

"Seattle did a lot better than I had expected," said Jared Fitzgerald. "I thought the Broncos would have been tougher to stop".

Denver did not play like they had all season, giving up 4 turnovers when they only allowed 22 all year. Scoring only 8 points, the Broncos had their worst offensive game this season! The power of the Seahawks defense appeared to be too much to handle.

Although he did not win the MVP award, Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson was not only the youngest quarterback to win the Super Bowl, but also set the record for most wins as a starting quarterback in two years in the NFL.

The most valuable player, Malcolm Smith, was a big part of the Seahawks ground moving "D". Smith, a player who was never invited to an NFL combine, made two major game changing plays: recovering a fumble and returning an interception 69-yards for a touchdown.



Smith was not invited to a combine because he was diagnosed with a rare esophagus disorder called achalasia in 2009. This caused him to vomit after eating frequently and at one point lost 30 pounds due to this disorder. People thought he would never play football again.

Reluctantly, he put mind over matter and faced his disorder. He worked day in and day out to fulfill his dreams of playing for a professional football team.

Hard work paid off though, and he earned a 7th round pick in the NFL draft. His former head coach at the University of Southern California, Pete Carroll, picked him up to play for the Seattle Seahawks in 2011.

From being told he could never play the game again to being awarded the most valuable player of Super Bowl XLVIII, Malcolm Smith showed everybody that chasing your dreams with determination pays off.

Senior Spotlight

TYLER WILLEMS

Activities: Football, Baseball, Wrestling

Favorite Memory: State wrestling sophomore year

What are you going to miss the most? Sports

Future Plans: Attend USF for Radiology Tech and play baseball

Senior Project: Landscaping my yard



BLAKE SCHROEDER

Activities: None

Favorite Memory: None

What are you going to miss the most? Austin M.

Future Plans: Attend STI for Automotive Technology

Senior Project: Volunteer work for the nursing home

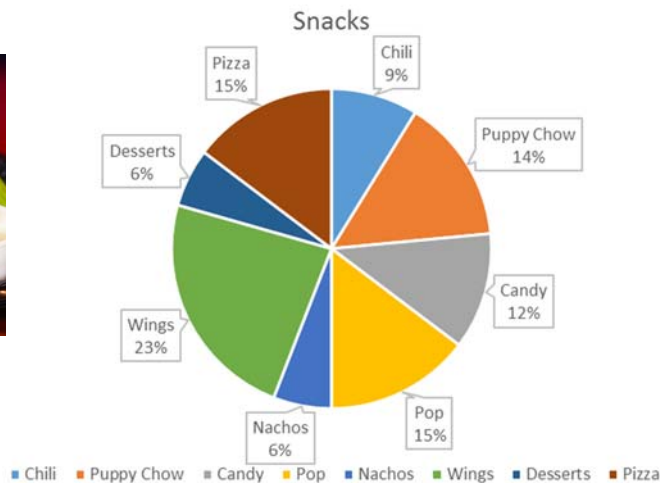


Student Opinion Poll

This week students were asked what their favorite Super Bowl snack was.



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.



ANSWERS:

Brain Teaser: Mt. Everest: It just wasn't discovered yet

Joke: It held up a pair of pants