

Blue Ink



Garretson Weekly School Newspaper - Garretson, SD - Volume 1, Number 22

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: The oldest surviving love poem to date is written on a clay tablet from the times of the Sumarians around 3500 BC.

BRAIN TEASER OF THE WEEK: How could a cowboy ride into town on Friday, stay two days, and ride out on Friday?

Answer on back page

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Why did the elephants get kicked out of the swimming pool?

Answer on back page

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, February 14

- No School—Staff In-Service
- GBB @ Howard (JV/V)
- BBB @ Howard (JV/V)
- Wrestling Quad @ Flandreau

Sunday, February 16

- National FFA Week

Monday, February 17

- No School—President's Day
- MS/HS Chess Championship @ Annie's @ 10:00

Tuesday, February 18

- BBB v. Chester Area (7/8/JV/V)
- GBB @ Parker (JV/V)

Thursday, February 20

- FFA Blood Drive
- Bookmobile (8:30-3:00)
- GBB v. Sioux Valley (7/8/JV/V)
- Sportsmanship Night

Friday, February 21

- FFA Petting Zoo in the Ag Barn
- BBB @ Sioux Valley (7/8/JV/V)



Scan for the full February Event Schedule

Can the USA Come Back?

By Wyatt Fink

The Olympics are going on in Sochi, Russia. The opening ceremony was huge on last Friday's official opening of the games. With fireworks and explosions and the Olympic torch was set. This could be one of the best games of all time.

In the first week of the Olympics, the Norwegians have taken the lead winning a total of 13 medals (4 gold, 3 silver, and 6 bronze) in second place is the Netherlands with a total of 12 medals (4 gold, 3 silver, and 5 bronze), and third place is the United States with a total of 12 medals (4 gold, 2 silver and 6 bronze). The country with the most gold medals is Germany with 7. Even though the USA is not leading the medal count don't give up! There are a lot more events left.

Sophomore Alex Anderson stated when he watches he watches snowboarding "because it's cool to watch".

Being an Olympian is hard work and takes a lot of time but if Anderson was to try out for an event he would do he said, "Curling, 'cause I think it would be fun to do".



The USA Olympic team has been struggling in the events but Anderson still has faith in the USA, Anderson's prediction is that the USA will finish strong in the top 3 in the medal count.

There have been a lot of surprises in the 2014 winter Olympics. The most surprising to Anderson is "Shaun White not winning a medal".

One of the problems that the Olympics are having is the terrorist threats. Another factor is that the water is not the best to drink, plus the air is a lot thinner and it gets hard to breathe.

Anderson stated about the terrorist threats, "it's something to be concerned for the safety of the players."

The Olympics are one of the hottest things to be watching right now. So I hope that you are watching and supporting the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Scan for update Olympic results and schedules



XOXO

By Jennie Hegge

Roses are red, violets are blue; sugar is sweet, and so are you. Yep, you guessed it! Tomorrow is indeed Valentine's Day; and what are most people going to be doing? Sitting at home thinking about how they are going to be single for the rest of their lives.

Why is Valentine's Day even important? Well if you ask senior Alex Thorson, he sure could tell you. "It's my birthday." Thorson should be getting taken out on a hot date, right? I mean, being that it is his birthday and on top of that, Valentine's Day.

So, I'm sure you are all wondering by now, "What is Thorson going to do?" He has some big plans, let me tell ya! "I'm working." And to make that even more exciting, his fellow classmate, senior Austin Etrheim will be by his side. They will be working that special day together. Like two peas in a pod.



If you're anything like junior Lydia Olson, you just think Valentine's Day is slightly overrated and not important at all. "There shouldn't be just one day out of the year where you show each other how you feel, it should be everyday." Well said Olson, well said.

While everything Olson said was true, it's always fun to get spoiled. Junior Taiya Bunde would have to agree. "It's a reassurance that the people around you care, even if it's for some silly holiday. Just makes you feel special."

Seriously though, who wouldn't want to get beautiful red roses and big teddy bears?! Senior, Mary Christian, *did* just get red roses delivered to her at school on Tuesday. Right to journalism class, so I did in fact see them first hand. Talk about super cute.

Valentine's Day is a day that allows you to be super cheesy in showing others that you care. Make sure you take some time out of your day to do just that. You never know, that text, or those flowers, could make someone's day!



Garretson Olympics

By Joshua Liester

With the Winter Olympics in full swing in Russia, some Garretson teachers thought it would be fun to have a few friendly competitions of our own, right here at home! A total of fourteen teams (boys and girls from each grade 6-12) will vie for bragging rights, and rumor has it a pizza party too, in the Garretson Olympics.



Juniors Shambree Smith and Wyatt Fink face off.

Through next Friday, events ranging from Speed Math to Rock-Paper-Scissors to Wall Duct Tape will push our students to the limit.

Reaching a Milestone

By Teila Carnicle

Accomplishments mean everything, especially to those who are determined enough to set that goal in the first place!

Senior basketball player, Haley Edmundson, has recently reached a milestone in her high school basketball career! Edmundson happens to be one of few girls to score 1,000 points, as well as to be the one to break the stretch of it not being done in 25 years!

Reaching a milestone like that feels "good" Edmundson quoted. "It was one of my personal goals and when I reached it, I felt like hard work pays off." Not only does it feel good, Edmundson said it's "exciting, but I feel like there is always more I can do and improve on. It would mean a lot more to make it to the state tournament!"

This is a huge accomplishment, but Edmundson isn't taking all the credit! "In high school and basketball, it's probably an accomplishment I will look back on, but I couldn't have accomplished this if it weren't for my teammates and coaches."

Brianna Mudder, a junior on the basketball team, reiterated Edmundson's thoughts about it being a "team effort" by saying, "I was very

excited and happy for her, and it made me feel good that myself and the team helped her reach her goal!"

English teacher, Mrs. Buchholz, came up with the idea to have the Garretson Olympics. "I get really excited for the Winter Olympics and wanted to bring that excitement to school," stated Buchholz. While she is obviously looking forward to the English Identification event, she also wants to see how the Wall Duct Tape event turns out.

Math teacher Mr. Lynch also helped organize the Games. He said the event he is most looking forward to is, of course, Speed Math, but he is also excited for the Wall Duct Tape.

Shambree Smith won the first event of the Games, Rock-Paper-Scissors. She says her fool-proof strategy to winning was simply "Don't lose." Smith will also compete in the Scavenger Hunt. She thinks that surely the junior girls will pull through in the end and win it all.

Shaina Quail also participated in the Rock-Paper-Scissors contest. Her strategy of "random" didn't work out quite as well, but she still placed third. Like Smith, Quail will also compete in the Scavenger Hunt. She thinks the sophomore girls will, "Probably win because we're awesome."

The 1,000 point club includes Bev Julson, 1,279; Darla Davis, 1,202; Mary Koens, 1,116 (junior year) and obviously joining those three girls is Haley Edmundson reaching her 1,000 points, but is still yet to be determined where she stands in the record book!

Those names might not ring a bell considering those women haven't played for 25 years, but for those who know our very own High School Science teacher Mrs. Howe, would know that she was Bev Julson, one of the 1,000 point scorers previously listed!

Howe had her own comments on what she thinks about Edmundson joining the 1,000 point club; "I think it's possible for anyone if they have enough motivation, but I wasn't surprised when Haley made it to 1,000. I think she's worked hard!"

Mr. Mudder, the coach of the Garretson girls' basketball team, had went off Howe's comments by quoting, "This is an outstanding accomplishment that she has achieved. It's a

reflection of her and her dedication to the game of basketball."

Coach Mudder also went on to say that "Haley is usually one of the first girls on the floor and the last one to leave. She is always working to get better. She has a great work ethic that is shown by her style of play."

But Edmundson isn't stopping there! She has decided to further her basketball career into college, either attending SMSU or Minnesota State Mankato! Yet to be decided, everyone is confident in her ability to play great and work hard!

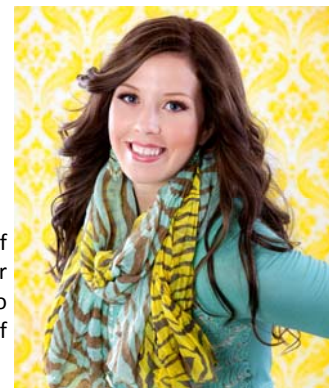
For Edmundson's dedication and hard work on and off the basketball court, she was presented with an autographed ball signed by all her teammates and coaches Tuesday night during the girls' basketball game against Elkton! If you weren't there to cheer for Edmundson that night, be sure to congratulate her on an amazing accomplishment sometime in the hallway!



Sophomore Dylan Rouzer smashes sophomore Annika Hanson's scissors.

Senior, Nathan Skorr, will compete in the English Identification and Scavenger Hunt contests. He says, "I have been training for many strenuous hours in preparation for my events." Hopefully all his hard work will pay off.

The final events will be played out next Friday afternoon at an assembly to see who will take home the gold. Buchholz thinks the Games "will be a tight race if people show up." But we all know who's going to win - the Junior Boys.



SGT Rock Performs for School

SGT Rock delighted all ages on Wednesday, February 12. They performed many songs and encouraged audience interaction.



A Day to Salute Our Presidents

By Aaron Dunn

Happy George Washington Day! Wait, what? The first time there was ever a Presidents' Day was way back in 1879 when congress made George Washington Day. However, in 1971, congress moved the date from the 22nd to in-between the 15th and 21st of February, making the name of the holiday irrelevant.

Technically, Washington's Birthday wasn't the first attempt at Presidents' Day, but that was the event that was renamed to the holiday we have today. The first real attempt was in 1951 when the Presidents' Day national committee attempted to make Presidents' Day a holiday. Their plans did not succeed, however, when they pushed for the day to be on March 4th, which congress believed made too many holidays in a span of two months.

Presidents' Day is also considered the birthday of our first president, George Washington, even though his birthday is on the 22nd of February. The holiday is celebrated on the third Monday of February every year. Presidents' Day

doesn't only celebrate our past presidents but it also honors community; historical celebrations, commemorating the veterans and Purple Heart recipients; and Congressional recognition.

Tony Weiland is an avid observer of this beloved holiday. He declares that "most of our presidents did something really good for our country." He also went on to mention "the most important part is that we get a day off." Weiland, being the nice guy that he is, claims that he "doesn't have a favorite president, because I don't like to play favorites."

Middle school teacher Mr. Bennett believes that Presidents' Day is "a good idea if it educates people about the history of our country but I fear the mattress and television sales get more attention." He however does think, "it doesn't rate to the level of Veterans Day and Memorial Day."

What does this day mean to Bennett? "I think it is an opportunity for us to honor our

past leaders who have led us through some very tough times: Roosevelt - WWII and the Great Depression; Lincoln and the Civil War; Kennedy and the Cuban Missile Crisis."

We have had a lot of important and influential presidents in the past, but Bennett considers George Washington to be the most influential. "George Washington - everything he did set a precedent for future presidents to follow. If his presidency had failed our country as we know it would not exist." However, the highly educated Bennett knows that "President's Day is really recognized by the federal government as "Washington's Birthday" but today, it is tradition to honor all presidents."

So remember that even though people blame Barack Obama for all of the things that have gone wrong recently, he is still our President and that we should try and think about all of the good things he has done.



Winter Weather Warnings

By Katie Giesler

With all of the latest news surrounding the massive snow and ice storm racing across all corners of Georgia, it got me wondering, "How bad is our weather up here going to get?" So I did some research.

On February 9th, 1899, Sioux Falls marked a record low temperature of -42 degrees Fahrenheit. Just two days later on the 11th, it warmed up to -40 degrees. The next coldest date came thirteen years later in 1912 with -38.

This week hasn't been nearly as cold as those days were, but it's still been a bitter winter that I'm sure everyone's sick of by now.

The *Old Farmer's Almanac* predicts that from February 8th through the 19th, there will be mild flurries. After that, it should be snowy, and sunny, but then cold, and then more snowy periods until March.

Study hall teacher, Mrs. McClure, says that she's been ready to be done with winter since she went down to Florida over two weeks ago! She says she hates the blowing snow more than the cold, though. And with a chance of snow today... well, hopefully it's not windy by the end of the afternoon!

Sophomore, Haley Sage, says that the cold

winter hasn't affected her family's traveling plans, but she has slipped on ice a few times! "I got stuck in my driveway once," she added.

McClure hasn't had any car troubles this winter, but she advises younger drivers experiencing winter road conditions for the first time to, "Take your time and slow down."

English teacher, Mrs. Buchholz, adds, "Make sure you have a car safety kit, and leave a few minutes earlier; if you're late, it's not the end of the world." Buchholz keeps "blankets, road flares, a book, a flashlight, a charged cell phone, and my husband" in the car during winter travel, in case of emergency.

Mr. Hughes, the high school's other English teacher, says he keeps extra clothes, an emergency kit, jumper cables, and sometimes blankets "if my kids leave them behind" in the car in case of a breakdown or other emergency.

Brady Schleuter, Sage's classmate, says, "Drive slow." And since he doesn't keep anything in his car to prepare for emergencies, maybe he should start!

Other things to keep in mind this winter are as follows:

- If you're about to leave to drive somewhere, start your car at least ten to fifteen minutes early to let it sit and warm up.
- Keep extra gloves, hats, blankets, and other articles of clothing in your car (like socks).
- Make sure you have a full (or close to) tank of gas if you're going some place that will take some time to get there.
- Make sure your lights are working properly; and don't forget to turn them off when you arrive at your destination! Keeping your lights on will drain your car's battery and then you'll run into some problems.
- Be careful of black ice, slush, or fresh/falling snow. Roads may become a hazard and you could potentially get into a scary accident if you aren't watching out and driving carefully.
- Slow down on roads that could have potential ice, or if it's snowing.

Keep these things, and others, in mind to help ensure that you are safe during the cold, snowy, harsh South Dakota/Minnesota winter.



Scan for more from SGT ROCK's performance at Garretson Schools.

Follow SGT Rock on Facebook or on Twitter: @SgtRock147

Scan for video or go to <https://vimeo.com/866260>

View videos on Garretson School Tube: <http://www.schooltube.com/channel/garretsonfeatures/>



Pictures



Britain Invades

By Mary Christian

50 years ago this past Sunday, the Beatles made their first appearance on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. John, Paul, George, and Ringo took the stage with the opening song "All My Loving."

That night, 73 million people tuned in. 45.3% of all households in America were watching, and 60% of all the television on that night where watching the Beatles perform. That means 23,240,000 people where watching as the Beatles invaded the U.S. with their music.

That night, The Beatles changed America's outlook on music. Senior, Eli Hjelmén,

said, "I think they had a huge impact on our future music because they influenced most current bands."

They brought a new outlook on music with their first album *Please, Please Me* started the "Beatlemania."

Mariah Nelson commented, "The messages in their songs are very powerful, and they brought a new style."

For their 50th anniversary, they held a tribute concert and interview the day after the Grammys. The two surviving Beatles,



Sir Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, performed; later other stars joined them on the stage.

The Beatles brought a new musical outlook to America that we still have in our current music today.

Hjelmén says, "Songs such as "Hey Jude" has made pop music what it is today."

Regardless if you like the Beatles or not, they made the music we listen to on the radio what it is today.

Flappy Bird Causes Stir

By Jesse Brockhouse

Ping! If you have ever played Flappy Bird, you know exactly what that sound is. This new smart phone game has swept the nation within only a few weeks. Flappy Bird was Apple's number one free app sold in the month of January.

"I think the game is very frustrating, but fun when you have nothing else to do," commented Alex Etrheim.

Tyler Willems agreed with Etrheim saying, "It is very frustrating, yet I keeping finding myself playing it."

Vietnam native Dong Nguyen, the creator of the notorious game, announced that he would be taking the game off of the app store for good last Sunday. Now, it may not

seem like a big deal, but the shocker to most is he was essentially turning down a fortune. Nguyen was making more than fifty thousand dollars a day with in-app ads!

Why?!? Nguyen said the money was great but his life had become so much more complicated with this new source of income. Some thought it was because of legal issues with the *Mario Brothers* creator because the games had an extreme similarity, but Nguyen said that was not the case. He said the game had become an "addictive product" and had ruined his simple life so he had no choice but to take it down.

Since the game has been deleted, many people have tried to duplicate it but have

not reached the success the original game has, such as "Flappy Bee." Knowing there won't be another game like it, many have offered to buy Flappy Bird from Nguyen, but he refuses to sell it.

The game itself was a fortune to the creator but what is it worth now? Phones with Flappy Bird downloaded on them have sold for thousands of dollars. The top bid on an iPhone with this app went for \$99,900! So maybe you should consider putting your phone up for auction if you have this record setting app!

Nguyen has "thrown away" a fortune, but what could possibly top Flappy Bird? Keep your eyes peeled because this so called "genius" has hinted at possibly making a sequel!

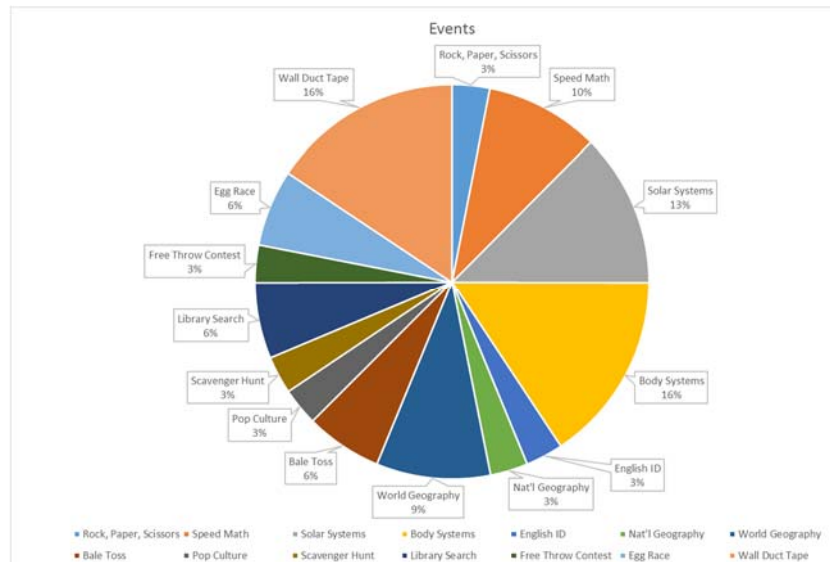


Student Opinion Poll

This week students were asked which Garretson Olympics Event they were most excited for.



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



ANSWERS: Brain Teaser: Friday is the name of his horse.

Joke: They kept dropping their trunks.