Fallen legend

The country, world grieves with the sudden loss of NBA star

by Hayden Olofson

senior writer

It has been a devastating week for everyone. On the morning of January 26, 2020, a helicopter carrying former Los Angeles Lakers star and Hall of Famer Kobe Bryant and his daughter Gianna along with a group of other people crashed into a foggy mountain near Calabasas, California, killing the NBA legend. Kobe Bryant and his daughter Gianna were among the nine who died in the crash.

Bryant, 41, was killed in the crash along with his 13-year-old daughter Gianna. Bryant was one of the greatest basketball players of all time and had won five NBA championships with the Lakers. He was also a five-time Olympic gold medalist.

Bryant’s death came as a shock to the basketball world and beyond. He had recently announced his retirement from professional basketball.

A street in Los Angeles was named after Bryant and a statue of him was erected in the city.

Brahiteaser of the Week:

What is your favorite food? (Homemade or store bought)

Joke of the Week:

Joey: What if a doctor gets frustrated?

Mike: Well, if a doctor gets frustrated, he usually gets a prescription and gives it to the patient.

Blue Ink wishes Mr. Bohl good luck in his nomination for the National High School Coach of the Year award. Garretson High School stands behind you!

Jason Bohl has led the Garretson Cross Country teams to multiple state appearances, state titles, and a combined team championship during his tenure as head coach.

Bohl in the “running” for National

by Nobel Nothstine

senior writer

Jason Bohl: Garretson High School math teacher, head cross country coach, and assistant wrestling coach, is in the running for an award called the National High School Coach of the Year (presented by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association). The NHSCA first announced the Coach of the Year in 1997 and has continued to do annually to showcase the total coaches across the country. To be considered for this award, a nominee has to have outstanding coaching longevity and win-loss record, championship years, awards received, and service to the coaching profession and to the athletes of the State of South Dakota.

As a finalist, the nominees will be honored at the National Awards Banquet to be held at the NHSACA 55th Annual Conference in Lincoln, NE on Thursday, July 23, 2020 in the Great Hall-Old Train Station-Haymarket District. This annual event is attended by athletic directors and coaches in 20 sports, based from schools throughout the United States. From South Dakota, there are seven total nominees. To find out more about Garretson’s nominee, Mr. Bohl, follow the Blue Ink interview below.

Q: How long have you been coaching XC? A: I’ve been coaching for about 27 years.

Q: Why did you want to start coaching? A: I had many fun years as an athlete and wanted to share my knowledge and the things I have learned over the years with kids.

Q: What are your top goals as a coach? A: It’s not just to make students better athletes, but to make them better people in society.

Q: How would you describe your coaching style? A: I think I’m versatile and adaptable, I hit a lot of different areas. As a coach, you have to figure out when to attack those different areas.

Q: What’s the best thing about being a XC coach? A: In my opinion, the best thing about being a XC coach is that you usually gain good work ethics to endure running several miles at a time.

Q: What’s the worst thing about being a XC coach? A: Nothing.

Q: How did you get nominated for this award? A: I was nominated by the South Dakota Cross Country and Track Coaches Association (SDCCCTCA).

Q: What’s your philosophy for your team? A: You get out of it what you put into it.

Q: How do you define athletic success? A: Athletic success is not just what you accomplish as a runner, it’s the friends and the memories you’ve made, and the people you have touched throughout your athletic career.

Q: What are some everyday responsibilities in your position as the XC coach? A: Just like any coach, you have your everyday responsibilities. Making sure that all kids are safe when they are out on our city roads is the number one priority, though.

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Grammy awards 2020

by Grace Panning
staff writer

1. Record of the Year Winner and Nominees
“Hey, Ma” by Bon Iver
“7 Rings” by Ariana Grande
“Hard Place” by H.E.R.
WINNER: “Bad Guy” by Billie Eilish (On Stage Performance I rate a 9/10. She is a very emotional singer and watching it made me cry.
“Talk” by Khalid
“Old Town Road” by Lil Nas X feat. Billy Ray Cyrus
“Truth Hurts” by Lizzo
“Sunflower” by Post Malone & Swae Lee

2. Album of the Year Winner and Nominees
“i, i” by Bon Iver
“Norman F Rockwell!” by Lana Del Rey
WINNER: “When we all fall asleep, where do we go?” by Billie Eilish (Not performed on stage)
“thank u, next” by Ariana Grande
“I used to Know Her” by H.E.R.
“7” by Lil Nas X
“Cuz I Love You” (Deluxe) by Lizzo
“Father of the Bride” by Vampire Weekend

3. Song of the Year Winner and Nominees
“Always Remember Us This Way” by Natalie Hemby, Lady Gaga, Hillary Lindsey & Lori McKenna, songwriters (Lady Gaga)
WINNER: “Bad Guy” by Billie Eilish O’Connell & Finneas O’Connell, songwriters (Billie Eilish) (9/10)
“Bring My Flowers Now” by Brandi Carlile, Phil Hanseroth, Tim Hanseroth & Tanya Tucker, songwriters (Tanya Tucker)
“Hard Place” by Ruby Amanfu, Sam Ashworth, D. Arcelious Harris, H.E.R. & Rodney Jerkins, songwriters (H.E.R.)
“Lover” by Taylor Swift, songwriter (Taylor Swift)
“Norman F*****Rockwell!” by Jack Antonoff & Lana Del Rey, songwriters (Lana Del Rey)
“Someone You Loved” by Tom Barnes, Lewis Capaldi, Peter Kelleher, Benjamin Kohn & Sam Roman, songwriters (Lewis Capaldi)
“Truth Hurts” by Steven Cheung, Eric Frederic, Melissa Jefferson & Jesse Saint John, songwriters (Lizzo)

4. Best New Artist
Black Pumas
Winner: Billie Eilish
Lil Nas X
Lizzo
Maggie Rogers
Rosalia
Tank and the Bangas
Yola

5. Best Pop Solo Performance
“Spirit” by Beyoncé
“Bad Guy” by Billie Eilish
“7 Rings” by Ariana Grande
Winner: “Truth Hurts” by Lizzo (I rate her performance as an 8/10. I like the ballerina idea but it just doesn’t go with her quirkiness.)
“You Need to Calm Down” by Taylor Swift

6. Best Pop Duo/Group Performance
“Boyfriend” by Ariana Grande & Social House
“Sucker” by Jonas Brothers
Winner: “Old Town Road” by Lil Nas X featuring Billy Ray Cyrus (10/10 I really like the circle room idea where Lil Nas X would walk into a new room. I also like that BTS joined Billy and Lil on stage to help sing.)
“Sunflower” by Post Malone & Swae Lee
“Senorita” by Shawn Mendes & Camila Cabello
Disclaimer: If you haven’t watched the Grammy Awards yet, be sure to go on YouTube and watch it.

As a new artist to the scene, Billie Eilish ran away with many major awards at this year’s Grammys including Record of the Year, Album of the Year, Song of the Year, and Best New Artist

Get to know your journalists

Valentine’s Edition
Parker Schlenker
by Kylie Uhl

Q: What is your favorite topic to write about?
A: Probably sports because it’s easiest for me to write about.

Q: What is the best part of journalism?
A: Talking to Ollie and Hofe in class.

Q: Favorite Valentine’s Candy?
A: Ollie’s Hershey Kisses

Q: What’s your least favorite part about the holiday and why?
A: Having to buy something

Q: Do you think it should be recognized as a holiday and why?
A: No because it really has no purpose

Senior Spotlight

Nadalie Johnson

SENIOR PROJECT:
Creating a 12 week softball workout program

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Softball

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Seeing my friends every day and visiting Leslie and Norinda
And joking around with Mr. Bohl and the other teachers in the hall

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend Northwestern College to play softball
Grammys 2020: Best and worst fashion

Red carpet brings out unique styles from celebrities on one of music’s biggest nights

by Nika Sapunar
staff writer

On January 26, the 62nd annual Grammy awards happened, and some people left a good impression with their fashion choices. But others went a little too much overboard.

Worst dressed celebrities on red carpet (right and below), who didn’t think twice before wearing it

Red much? Singer-songwriter Ricky Rebel (left picture) led the worst dressed celebrities at the 2020 Grammy Awards in a bizarre red ensemble with an enormous umbrella. Confusing dress? FKA Twigs (right up picture) wore a bizarrely gothic ensemble that flashed a lot of thigh, and left her looking like a character from a Victorian horror movie. Maybe a little too much? Tove Lo (middle picture), a singer, wore a half-open grey suit with a very low v-neck, which allowed her to show off a pink bra.

Some people think these next outfits are not as good but some people think they are great. Do you like it?

You... haw? Lil Nas X (picture left) went way out there with a bright pink cowboy suit that not only clashed with the carpet but was quite painful to look at.

This year, it was impossible to ignore actor Billy Porter’s look (right picture), styled by Sam Ratelle: a Scott Sturgenberg-designed turquoise jacket-jumpsuit combo, topped off with a head-turning wide-legged bodysuit with a remote-controlled privacy screen of crystalline fringe.

Going somewhere? Tyler the Creator came to the red carpet in a bolero outfit with a packed suitcase, which he then proceeded to open up in front of the cameras. Everyone got shook when they saw his modern costume on stage.

Even though fans were disappointed that BTS (picture left) wearing nominated for anything they still came in style.

Halley Stainfeld (picture down right) had a black combo with black sparkles.

Best Dressed

Abby Schroeder

Ariana Grande, with 5 nominations, who also performed “go b it or go home”. Came with long silver-Come with long off shoulder silver-grey dress with the same colored gloves.

Leaving the pack with 8 nominations, Diana Ross (picture middle), or more known as Lizzo came to red carpet with all-white bespoke Atelier Versace look. With crystals. Mario Monroe stymied it.

Billie Eilish (picture left), 18 year old singer/songwriter/show performer, took home the Big Four decked pout in a crystal-green Gucci costume.

Gwen Stefani (picture right) hit the red Capet in Dolce & Gabbana Alta moda gown covered with seashells that her stylist duo picked for her.
Pins & wins

Wrestlers take down Sioux Falls Lincoln, lose tight dual against Parkston

by Kylie Uhl
senior writer

This past Tuesday Garretson hosted Parkston and Sioux Falls Lincoln for the first home triangular of the season. The dragons first faced off against Parkston however did not defeat the Trojans falling short 37-30. With junior Parker Schlenker getting the only pin, while Dominic Abraham (152), Jaden “Ricky” Richter (220), and Gabe Johnson (285) won by forfeit during that first dual.

Next up the Garretson grapplers went against Sioux Falls Lincoln. This duel showed to be a pleasing outcome as the dragons defeated the patriots 51-28. However there were 5 wrestlers that won by pin, Preston Bohl (106), Jayse Miller (113), Dominic Abraham (152), Parker Schlenker (170), and heavy weight Gabe Johnson. Continuing his uneventful night Jaden “Ricky” Richter won by forfeit along with his teammates Tayson Swatek and Braxten Rozeboom. 3rd year wrestler Parker Schlenker is currently on a 5 match winning streak going into the Wagner tournament this Saturday.

There are currently 27 days until state wrestling in Sioux Falls and past state qualifier sophomore Jayse Miller is already preparing. “I just try to beat my next appointment and just focus on them, but it practice I try to work on drills more because I know I can always better myself at them.” While first year wrestler Gabe Johnson stated “I think I need to improve on being more aggressive and looking for more openings to take. Also staying calm and being methodical when I’m on the mat.” There were 7 state qualifiers last year from Garretson with 3 of them graduating and 1 transferring schools, the current wrestlers who qualified for state last year are : Preston Bohl (106) Jayse Miller (113) and Dominic Abraham (138).

Tomorrow the dragons travel to Wagner for an all day tournament with takedowns beginning at 10 am. The Wagner tournament welcomes 18 teams including Garretson from west and east river. They will then have a quad on Tuesday night traveling to Elk Point Jefferson.

Coronavirus...should you be worried

World Health Organization debates whether to declare a worldwide emergency

by Mason Hofer
senior writer

Coronavirus is the most recent outbreak of viruses that have taken the world by storm. It was a decease that was only spread from animal to people, but now that it is spread from person to person, it has spread like wildfire.

The symptoms include: Fever Cough Shortness of Breath Muscle Aches Confusion Severe Headaches Sore Throat

Experts have stated that the best way to avoid this is to just clean your hands frequently, and do not touch your face.

The virus broke out in China late last month, and has now lead to over 200 deaths, and 9,500 cases. Researchers suspect the virus originated at a seafood market in Wuhan, China, where wild animals, including birds, rabbits, bats, and snakes are traded. The Market was shut down Jan 1st amid the rumors. As of now, there have been 5 cases in the United States, and all have traveled to China recently, but fortunately, no deaths. Due to this the United States is considering a complete ban on travel to China. But, how worried should United States citizens be? Experts worry a little bit about spreading, because people who are traveling from China and back for the Lunar New Year. People who have poor health are at the highest risk.

The NHS (National Health Service) advises not to worry about contracting this, unless you have recently visited China, or came in contact with someone who has. If your symptoms meet the criteria above, and you’ve been in contact with someone from China, visit a local doctor. Overall, United States citizens should not worry about this virus due to the likelihood of someone contacting it, and the high survival rate.
Sign stealing scandal

by Parker Schlenker
staff writer

As we all may remember the 2017 World Series when the Houston Astros beat the Dodgers in a 7 game series but did they really beat them?

Many people noticed signs of the Astros stealing the Dodgers signs and it was buzzing around during and after the World Series even into the following season and finally Mike Fiers, a pitcher who played for the Astros in 2017 told The Athletic, a sports news talk radio, that the Astros used a video camera in centerfield to steal opposing teams pitching and base running signs during the 2017 World Series and finally the MLB opened an investigation.

Although the MLB found no evidence of the scandal in the 2019 season when the Astros lost in the World Series they were still fine $5 million and they were forced to forfeit their first and second round picks in the 2020 and 2021 MLB drafts. Along with the fine, general manager Jeff Luhnow and field manager A. J. Hinch were suspended for the entire 2020 season for failing to prevent the rules violations.

It wasn’t quite done for the two managers yet because they were fired the day their suspensions were announced.

After the suspension and the firing of the two managers the MLB turned to Boston Red Sox manager Alex Cora and determined that he helped mastermind the Astros’ sign stealing scandal while being Hinch’s bench coach. Cora mutually left Boston within the following days of the accusations.

Big East Conference battle

by Parker Schlenker
staff writer

The 2020 Big East Conference tournament set way last night when the Lady Blue Dragons (#3) faced of against the Chester Flyers (#6) in what ended up being a one sided game with the home team coming out on top with a 60-24 win.

After coming out with the win last night it gave the Lady Blue Dragons a chance to go head to head with the Flandreau Lady Fliers (#2) tonight at 7:30 and if Garretson can manage to pull off another big win tonight, they’ll get the chance to play in the Big East Conference championship game facing off against the winner of the McCook Central Montrose/Beresford game (tonight at 7:30 in Beresford).

Be ready for a battle tonight with both teams being evenly matched with the Flyers being seeded 2nd and the Dragons being 3rd. The two teams did meet each other earlier in the season with the Fliers taking the win and Garretson looking for redemption tonight.

Most importantly don’t forget to show up and support the girls as they play their hearts out tonight.

Senior spotlight

Zach Klaassen

SENIOR PROJECT:
Rebuilding my dad’s ‘40s Ford Tractor

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Ms. Sands and my classmates

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
National Honor Society

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend Mitchell Tech for Animal Science and Agronomy

A presidential puzzle

Created by Oliviyah Thornton

Help one of our nation’s forefathers make it through this tricky maze to get to his birthday cake!