



This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Bats always turn left when exiting a cave.

BRAIN TEASER OF THE WEEK: Imagine you are in a room, no doors, windows, or anything. How do you get out?
Answer on back page

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What grades did the pirate get in school?
Answer on back page

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, May 1

- Track @ Howard Wood (9:00)
- Preschool Field Trip to Great Plains Zoo

- JV Golf @ Chester (9:00)
- 7-8 Golf @ Dells (10:30)

Saturday, May 2

- Track @ Howard Wood (9:00)
- HS Two Act Play @ Jesse James Opera House (7:00)
- 5-8 Instrumental Solo Contest @ Garretson

Sunday, May 3

- Club Baseball @ Garretson (2:00 & 6:00)

Monday, May 4

- Golf @ Yankton Pre-Region Tourney (10:00)
- Club Baseball @ Garretson (6:00)
- K-5 Music Program New Gym (7:00)

Tuesday, May 5

- Track @ Baltic (3:00)

Wednesday, May 6

- Physicals (Grades 6-11)

Blue Ink Student Editor: Katie Giesler



Scan for the full upcoming event schedule

Elementary Students Give Their All at the Whispering Winds Declam Contest By Tabi Klingenberg

For over twenty years, Garretson, Dells Public, Dell Rapids Saint Mary's, and Baltic have been competing in the Whispering Winds Declam Contest. In this contest, grades three through five memorize a piece chosen by the student and present them to their class, parents, and judges.

This year, Garretson decided to turn the tables and hold the presentations at the Jessie James Opera House, where 113 students performed Tuesday afternoon.

Elementary principal, Teresa Johnson, informed, "Each classroom in the third and fourth grade classrooms gets a winner, and that winner goes to what's called The Whispering Winds Declam Contest."

"Each classroom has one winner go to that regional contest and then each fifth grade classroom gets three winners," continued Mrs. Johnson.

The purpose of this event is to have a better grasp on public speaking and to challenge themselves at a young age. Declam is a long-going event that takes skill and practice. Fourth-grader, Alex Reker, went above and beyond in showing his humorous abilities to his class.

"I think it's pretty cool, cause you get to find a piece that you like and then you memorize it and show it off to judges."

Reker notes that he practiced twice every time he got home and he had

fun throughout the whole event.

Fifth grade teacher, Lisa Danforth, left word, "Some didn't take it as serious at first, and once it got closer to the time we had to do it, then they started memorizing their pieces and taking it more seriously. At the beginning it was harder, but at the end, they actually all did pretty well."

The students had approximately three weeks to prepare for the contest and had three categories to choose from; poetry, humorous, and dramatic.

When that light hits you and all eyes are on you, it can be pretty nerve wrecking, but these students pulled through and persevered.



Runners Are Off to Finish the Season Well

By Beth Schmidt

On April 25, the Garretson Track and Field team headed to Chester to compete in the Tom Main Invitational Meet, even though it was cold and windy.

The Boys team placed 5th with a total of 61.5 points. For the 3200m relay, Evan Fick, Josh Powell, and Josh Liester had a team total of 8:56.6 and took 1st. The 800m relay team consisted of runners Matt Johnson, Sean Tillma, Shay Gibson, and Dionate Lymon, with a score of 1:40.8 that took 7th place.

In the 100m dash, Johnson (1st) and Tillma (3rd) had a earned times of 11.6 and 11.8 respectively. For the 800m run, Ethan Kippes earned 7th with the total time of 2:20.00. On the 3200 run, Fick and Liester

had a total times of 10:46.7 and 10:28.00 with placings of 1st and 3rd.

In shot put, Johnson had a throw total of 45'1 and earned 1st with Josh Thomas following of 33'2. And in Medley Relay, Tillma, Gibson, Powell, and Mark Rattenborg ran a total time of 4:09.3 and was awarded with 7th place.

For the 3200m relay, Carmen Bohl, Rachel Kindt, Jaden Bly, and Haley Sage ran a total time of 10:22.5 and was achieved 2nd place. In the 1600m relay, Bohl, Morgan Gloe, Lara Luke, and H. Sage ran a total time of 4:21.2 and earned there way to third place.

In the 800m relay, Kelsie Paul, Luke, Peyton Sage, and Gloe ran a

total time together of 1:57.12 and gained their way to 8th place. And in the 400m relay, Mara VanDeBerg, Luke, P. Sage, and Gloe ran a total time of 54.7 and earned 7th place. And in the Medley Relay, Paul, Luke, Gloe, and Kindt earned 6th with a time of 4:47.9.

On the 100m dash, VanDeBurg earned 3rd with a time of 13.0, in the 200 dash VanDeBerg earned third again with 27.5. In the 1600m run Kindt earned 1st with a time of 5:44.5.

The Garretson track team did a good job on Saturday and can improve on their next meet and try to qualify state which is towards the end of May.



Finally May

By Zeb Johnson

Spring is in the air, and today you can feel it especially well. It is the first of May, otherwise known as May Day. May Day is a Northern Hemisphere holiday that celebrates the beginnings of Spring.

May Day's origins can be traced back to two ancient holidays, one from the Romans and one from the ancient Gauls. The first festival it can be traced back to is a day called Floralia. Floralia was the festival of flowers to Ancient Romans, they held dances and feasts.

The second ancestor of May Day is Beltane, a celebration of Spring to the Germanic tribes of Europe.

Beltane was originally celebrated on April 30 of every year, as the first day of Summer to the Celts. Beltane was a festival in which the main event was to drive the cattle out to summer pastures.

When Christianity hit Europe, both Beltane and Floralia were done away with and transformed into May Day. May Day became a holiday for everyone, not just followers of ancient religions. The Roman Catholic Church began to associate this day with the Virgin Mary, and thus may crown her statues with flowers on this date.

Modern May Day in America is not as big of a deal as it was in the past, even the tradition of May Baskets is dying out. In previous years, it was customary to leave a basket with flowers or sweets on a neighbor's doorstep, but that practice has gradually declined in recent years.

May Day is a time to soak up the returning warm temperatures and take joy in the fact that winter is (hopefully) over. Temperatures are becoming warmer and the sun is gaining strength. May is here and school is nearly out.

Elementary Field Trips

By Lana Braswell

The elementary has been taking trips lately. Five to be exact. First through fifth grade. Take different trips starting off with a few words from Mrs. Johnson,

"Field trips have always been in play, it's a good way for the children to have hands on learning," Quoted Johnson. She says that they try to send them on field trips that connect to the units they learn in school, now we lead off to the first grade.

First grade went out to the Children's Museum for their field trip "it's an old school, that got turned into a museum." Stated first grade teacher Mrs. Eliason, "The kids have been there before so I decided to take them there again". Each kid had to make their own payment of six dollars, unless they had a family pass, in which they just bring their card.

Cole, a first grader who went on the trip quoted "Don't wonder off, you'll get lost." He states that he had fun on the trip. Doing things like going outside, and playing in the "cloud" and seeing dinosaurs. "I couldn't name ALL the stuff we did." He claimed. Leading us into the second grade trip.

Now the second grades trip is different, instead of taking a bus through the country. Stopping at the Nussbaum farm, where they are going to visit the adopt a farmer program. They didn't have to pay for this trip, but they do get to see fire trucks along the way, and go to Sertoma park for lunch.

One of the second graders, Emily gave her opinion on the trip.

"Well my uncle actually works there with fire trucks, I like to hear the sirens." She feels very excited for this trip "I like the butterfly house, because I really like butterflies, and I like farms because I have a bull at my farm."

So we leave it to the 3rd grade to take a history tour to the Great Plain Museum. "We chose this place since the kids haven't been there since preschool, a lot of things have changed so we are taking them back to check it out." Third grade teacher Mrs. Bly informs, not only that but the kids have been doing a lot of study for South Dakota history, which is another reason they chose this place. Bly says that they are going to be taking a "private" tour through the zoo that you don't see when simply walking through. "For lunch, (like most of the other kids) we are going to Sertoma park." "When theirs get done they will be doing a scavenger hunt, racing to see who can find the most first.

Third grader Haley states "I think it will be fun, I'm excited to learn/ see the animals." She informed not only for herself, but for the rest of her class.

For the fourth grade, they are also going out to the Nussbaum

farm as well, but they are going May 8th, after the they go to tech farm they are heading out to levurn to swim, maybe along the way they will stop to get some ice cream. "I'm excited to see out farmers, feed the calves." Forth grader drew states. He also claims to be happy about learning about the adopt s farmer program.

Finally, we hit fifth grade who just happens to be going to non other then get Omaha Zoo, where since just last year they have been taking them as a sort of "Graduation" for the fifth, heading into the beginning of their middle school years.

"The students had worked at concession stands to raise their money for the trip, they will be taking a charter bus be there for 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m." Fifth grade teacher Mrs. Lepetsky quoted. She also says that the students will have fun with this. "I'm excited to see the elephants, and other animals." Fifth grader Dakota states. So lucky elementary gets to get out of a school for the day that they go, have fun guys, and don't get lost on the way.



Baseball Hits it Home

By Sylvia Larson

Last Sunday, the Garretson club baseball team achieved a 9-0 win against Lennox Orioles.

"We did really good," stated freshman MJ Vandersnick.

Baseballs season is in full swing, and it's good that the sport seems to be the majority of the team's bailiwick. If it wasn't, we probably wouldn't have seen them totally annihilate their opponent.

Chayce Schlueter commented, "We all had a really good game.

Good pitching, good hitting. And we all worked together well."

Many faithful baseball acolytes witnessed the smackdown, and it was the perfect day to do so at a cloudy 67 degrees. It was a home game.

The guys played the Orioles with aplomb, and won with alacrity. Unfortunately, however, they dropped two games since then.

The next baseball game is Sunday at home.



Senior Spotlight

NAME: Tait Johnson

SENIOR PROJECT: Building a moped

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN: Cross Country, wrestling, golf, baseball

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST: Ballin' with my homies

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Attend the U of South Dakota



Fuel the Cause

Thank you to all who voted. Garretson did very well, and because of all your support will receive a kind and generous donation from Bridgestone Tires.

Garretson ended the polling, that ran through the month of April, in fourth place.

Scholarship Corner

- **Ardell Bjugstad Scholarship**

Due: May 8

Eligibility: Enrolled member of federally recognized Indian tribe while being a resident of South Dakota planning to earn a degree in an agriculture/natural resources.

Please check your email for links to these scholarships along with more information.



Student Opinion Poll

This week students were asked which social media site they used the most.

Take a moment to vote on the student opinion poll for next week's *Blue Ink*. Polls are located inside Mr. Hughes' room and Mrs. Buchholz's room.

