



This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK:

Chionophobia is a fear of snow.

BRAIN TEASER OF THE

WEEK: What do you get when salt and pepper shakers say hello?

Answer below

JOKE OF THE WEEK:

Why is slippery ice like music?

Answer below

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday, December 5

- Wrestling @ Flandreau

Sunday, December 6

- FFA State Leadership

Conference @ Pierre

Monday, December 7

- FFA State Leadership

Conference @ Pierre

- 7/8/JV Wrestling @

Flandreau

- Tuesday, December 8

- GBB @ Dell Rapids St.

Mary

Thursday, December 10

- MS Spelling Bee

- Wrestling triangular @

home

- JV/V GBB @ Tri-Valley

Friday, December 11

- BBB @ Tri-Valley

- Brainteaser: Season

Greetings

- Joke: If you don't C

sharp, you'll B flat

SNOW: THE TICKET TO GOING HOME

BY ALYSSA BUNDE

No one wants to be at school really ever but that desire to leave the building almost triples when the snow starts to fall. Why? Well we all seem to get this pre conceived idea that we are unable to drive and the weather is unsuitable for even being outdoors...even if it's only one inch outside.

There is also the factor that some kids just genuinely get "snow-fever" and desire to go outside in this winter wonderland.

So what does it take to have a snow day? Well, according to Mr. Johnson the roads are a huge deciding factor. He considers all the variables. Our principle contemplates the inexperienced drivers who would have to make their way to school and risk getting stuck or worse. He also reflects on if the buses will be able to make their daily routes safely. Mr. Johnson also chuckled as he mentioned that there is always helpful students who give tips

on how to handle these winter days.

Sophomore Eric Hansen shared his opinion about snow in general and when the appropriate time to call off school is, "its sucks. It's cold. Nobody likes it and I'd rather have summer. I also think school should be called off when the roads are slippery and you can't leave your driveway".

There are many reasons to dislike winter, and many people who do. To begin with, there is the hassle of driving on the ice and the constant fear of rear ending someone or vice versa (stay safe back parking lot). There is also the dilemma of being cold all the time. Layering on clothing can be fun for some time but after a while it just becomes quite a hassle and let's face it a good majority of us would like to be tan and in shorts again.

Mrs. Nedved, stayed neutral in her thoughts on snow and said, "I like the first snowfall

and make only one snow angle".

Despite the various reasoning's to not like winter there are those who do in fact believe this is a nice time of the year! To be fair there is also numerous things to like about winter as well. For starters this is Christmas time, which means wonderful holiday cheer and festive movies and music. There is also those who enjoy winter because of the sports available such as snowmobiling, sledding, skiing or even something as simple as playing in the snow.

Sophomore Chayce Schleuter vouched for winter and commented, "it's pretty nice, you get to go ice fishing, snowmobiling and after you're done playing in the snow you can go snuggle with your lady".

So whether you're on team snow or team snow no-go at least we all can agree on something...snow is quite handy when it comes to getting out of school!

SHOT DOWN JET COMPLICATES BATTLE AGAINST ISIS

BY ALEX UHL

The War on Terror has flamed up again, and unfortunately, there might be more friendly fire than actually fighting the war. Just last week, a Russian Fighter Jet was shot down over Turkish Air Space because they were evidently trespassing. This incident might just be the result of old Cold-War tensions between the two nations that has never subsided despite Russia joining NATO, which was specifically built to prevent the spread of Communism and The Soviet Union.

The Fighter jet was shot down after spending roughly seventeen seconds inside

Turkey's air space. Luckily, the pilot was not killed from the initial impact from a Turkish missile. It also appears that Russia has presented "evidence" that ties Turkey and Turkish Oil companies to ISIS.

Currently, NATO is trying to ease tensions in between the two powers as bombings against ISIS continue to intensify from Russia and the USA. Meanwhile, the new Canadian Prime Minister vows to end air strikes against the terror group in Iraq and other Middle Eastern countries.

This is just a few of the many complications in the new phase of the War on Terror.

Luckily, none of them have endangered the operation too much in the Middle East, but this has been theorized to be a supposed step towards World War 3. But this is unlikely, considering that both country are part of NATO and the United Nations, as well as both having Capitalism as their main economic ideology.

Luckily, the Russians and Turks are beginning to have meetings over the matter, and previous economic sanctions against Turkey are being lifted. It seems as though the War on Terror is back on, with Russia and France leading the charge. Hopefully, the end will be soon.

BOYS BASKETBALL GETTING IN THE ZONE

BY BRIANNA CALLEN

Garretson's boys' basketball players laced up their shoes and headed out onto the court for their first practice that took place on Monday.

Matt Schrank is the boys head coach, with Tad Heitkamp and Cory Buchholtz assisting. Heitkamp also coaches junior varsity, this will be his 13th year coaching the boys.

The team has twenty-one boys that went out this year which includes the 2 returning seniors Micah Mader and Cole Fiegen. Last year Fiegen earned a third team All-Conference in the Big East Conference.

With having a lot of guys that will be able to play varsity level by mid-season, which will hopefully allow the boys to giving the opposing team a lot of different looks.

Which such a large group of boys coach Schrank stated, "We have a lot of guys that will be able to play at the varsity level by mid-season. Hopefully that will allow us to give teams a lot of different looks."

The team had lost three seniors prior to last year, but only two played which were Tanner Gutzmer and Ben Hanson. Schrank's response to them being gone was, "They are both going to be big losses for us. Tanner made a

lot of shots difficult for opponents with his shot blocking ability. Ben was always good for giving us 100%, and locking down another player."

Last year the Dragons record was 7-14 and were ranked 6th in conference with a 3-4 record. The boys were beat out in the first round of regions last year by Flandreau on a last 2nd shot.

During this year's Big East Conference the Dragons are striving to beat the Sioux Valley Cossacks and the Chester Fliers.

Garretson was the only team to beat the Cossacks during the season play last year. "I would expect them to bring in a great game plan this year," commented Schrank.

Junior, Shay Gibson, was a 2nd team all-conference winner last year and his goals for this season is to go to state and win the state title.

Gibson and Fiegen led the team in a lot of different stat categories last year; coach is looking for the same outcome this year. The team also needs somebody to step up and take the vocal leadership out on the court.

The teams' outlook for the season is that they have some very winnable games, but also have some very tough competition. The players are expecting

most of the games to be a hard fought and a lot of fun.

The players are prepping for their first game on December 10th in Tri-Valley against the Mustangs.

Coach Schrank's last comment was, "We played our best games last year when the band played, and the seats were packed. We would love to see a great following at Blue Dragon Basketball games. Also follow @BlueDragonHoops on Twitter."

Remember to come out and support the Blue Dragons take on some very competitive games throughout the season.



GIRLS PREPARING TO GET THEIR HEADS IN THE GAME

BY ANNIKA HANSON

Girls basketball has finally started a new season and is dribbling its way back into the spotlight. They began their first practice the week of Thanksgiving, on Monday the 23rd.

The girls have been working hard during practice and are pumped for their upcoming competition. They have been completing practices two times a day for the past two weeks. Now the only thing they are waiting for is their next game to show off their new skills.

Unfortunately the team is low on numbers. The Garretson team currently has thirteen members out

with one girl injured. They also lost three seniors prior to last year but this also opens up opportunities for new girls to step up as a leader.

The team has many goals for this new season, some of which include: finishing with the winning record, competing for the region title, getting to the top half of conference, and to stay healthy and fit. If the girls work together and continue to improve, these ambitions will not be difficult to achieve!

It is finally time to put the girls skills to the test, a game will take place next week and the girls are ecstatic to

play! Senior Jayden Bly is also excited for the game, she commented "it should be a challenge but with all the practice we have put in I am hoping to succeed."

Coach Mudder is also hoping to succeed and has confidence in the girls, he stated "anybody can win on any given night". Their spirits are towering high with the thrill of this new challenge.

Their first game will take place next week on Tuesday December eighth against Dells Saint Mary's. Come support the Blue Dragons as they soar over the rankings!