

TESTING SCHEDULE	Semester Tests
MONDAY: 2nd Period (during 3rd & 4th) 7th Period (during 7th & 8th)	start next week. Please check your email to confirm your testing and study periods
TUESDAY: 1st Period (1st & 2nd) 3rd Period (4th & 5th)	
Wednesday: 4th Period (1st & 2nd) 8th Period (4th & 5th) 5th Period (7th & 8th)	

Blue Ink

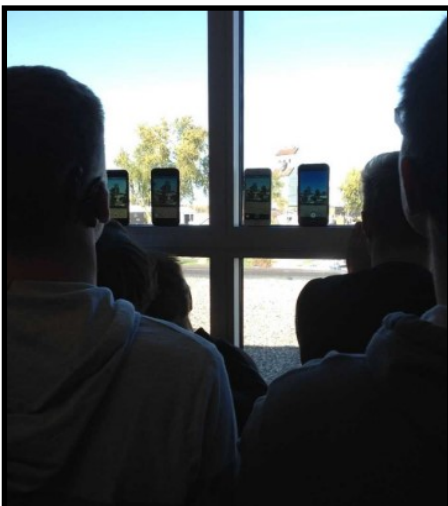


G-Town 2K17

Much has happened over the past year in our sleepy little town

by Gregorio Arana
staff writer

2017 was quite the year for Garretson. There were some big things that happened to the town ranging from getting a new building to losing an old building.



Sophomores line up their phones on the window sill to capture the momentous event that drastically shaped Garretson's landscape

The new addition to the town that we got last year is the Dollar General. There have been good comments about it and some people go there all the time for things they need. Despite there being controversy surrounding the initial build, Garretson has proven it can support multiple businesses.

The town of Garretson did lose an old friend last year that had been around for a long time before it had to go. The Garretson Elevator was taken down last year after the wind storm damaged it. The elevator was

standing for 62 years before it had to come down.

Garretson also got a new restaurant, "O" So Good, last year which has got nothing but great comments and great reviews from inside and outside the community.

Aside from businesses coming and going from town there were a few specifics that are notable to the school specifically.

Garretson added a trap team to its list of sports last year and had some success. Out of the nine participants, five made state. Brayden Beamer, Jack Konechne, and Chayce Schleuter qualified in the varsity standard while Matthew Gustafson and Garrett Haygood qualified on the novice. Haygood finished eighth.

Shay Gibson, 2017 graduate, became GHS's all time leading scorer in boys basketball. He ended his career with 1,243 points cementing his name in the record books.

The Blue Dragons also had three wrestlers make it to state last year: Chase Schleuter, Hayden Pierret, and Keaten Wagner.

Furthermore, spring sports also had success with Drew Blosmo, Keisean Deehr-Thornton, Trevor Fiegen, Shay Gibson, Trenton Karli, Diontae Lymon, and Elijah Pierret all qualified for boys state track and field. While Riley Altman, Jaelyn Benson, Macey Bohl, Brandy Greenhoff, Rachel Kindt, Madisen Nordstrom, and Tessa Pederson qualified on the girls' side.

Golf also had state qualifiers:

Isaiah Mader, Jacob Liester, Malia Johnson, and Peyton Hove all made the cut.

Mrs. Liester was the teacher of the year last year. Garretson FFA's Floriculture Team made it to Nationals, which that is the first time a Garretson team has made it that far in many people's working memory.

2017 was a good year for Garretson with the changes to the town and the school activities. Hopefully 2018 keeps up that pace.



This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: 22% of people fail at their New Year's resolution by the end of the first week.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Keep kitty litter in the trunk of your car. Not only will the weight help with control while driving (minimally) but if you get, the kitty litter gives tires good traction in the snow.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Why do chicken coops only have two doors?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: Which can travel faster: hot or cold?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

- Friday, January 5**
 - BBB @BEC v. MCM (6:00)
- Saturday, January 6**
 - Wrestling @ Brandon (9:00)
 - BBB @ BEC v. TBD (TBD)
- Monday, January 8**
 - 2nd/7th Prd Semester Tests
 - JH/JV Wrestling @ Dell Rapids (4:30)
 - JH BBB v. Dell Rapids (4:00)
 - School Board Mtg (5:45)
- Tuesday, January 9**
 - 1st/3rd Prd Semester Tests
 - JH GBB v. Flandreau (4:00)
 - GBB v. Flandreau—PARENTS NIGHT (5:00/6:00/7:15)
- Wednesday, January 10**
 - 4th/5th/8th Prd Semester Tests
 - End of First Semester
- Thursday, January 11**
 - Senior NCRC Test
 - JH BBB @ West Central (4:30)
 - BBB v. West Central (6:15/7:00)

Worth Mentioning

Wrestling took two of three yesterday during their quad, beating Parker and MCM but losing to Howard.

Boys Basketball started BEC tournament play yesterday. Despite being up by four at half versus Parker, they were unable to pull out the win. Garretson plays MCM tonight.

Wild weather over the last year

From hurricanes to wild fires, the chaotic weather patterns have left turmoil and destruction in their wake.

by Heather Huether
staff writer

2017 is only the second season on record to have two category 5 hurricanes make landfall. Hurricane Irma which was a category 5 came through the Caribbean and into the US. It caused 124 deaths and hundreds left injured. Hurricane Maria was also a category 5 hurricane. Maria went through the Northeastern Caribbean and destroyed all of Puerto Rico's electrical grid. Maria caused 59 deaths in its mass destruction.

Another strong and devastating hurricane this past year was Hurricane Harvey, a category 4 that hit Texas. The highest rainfall measured was just over 51 inches, flooding many parts of the state. Police made over 3,500 water rescues and Harvey caused 84 deaths. 50,000 homes

were destroyed and 500,000 cars, leaving over 30,000 people in shelters. The damage is estimated to cost about 190 billion dollars in total.

Hurricanes weren't the only natural disaster causing havoc this past year. Central Mexico had a major earthquake this year with a magnitude of 7.1. It caused 40 buildings to collapse and many left unable to be used. There were 343 deaths and over 6,000 people injured.

The wildfires in Montana started in June and burned over 1,295,959 acres of land. The rainfall helped calm some of the fires, but by early August Northwestern Montana had already spent over 280 million dollars in the effort to fight the blaze.

The California wildfires destroyed about 170,000 acres, and 8,400 homes and buildings. Over 200,000 people had to evacuate their homes, and more than 40 people died. Over

8,000 firefighters, 550 fire trucks, 73 helicopters, and 30 planes were used to get the fires under control.

Not to be forgotten about, a level 4 volcano erupted on the island of Bali in Indonesia. A level four alert is the highest alert a volcano can get. The volcano hasn't erupted since 1963 when it killed over 1,700 people. Many flights were cancelled and tourists were left on the island due to the 5.6 mile high ash clouds from Mount Agung. Over 100,000 people were living in the danger zone and many didn't want to evacuate because they wanted to try to save their crops and homes.

2017 was full of many natural disasters and many parts of the world are still recovering.

Standout events and performances dominate 2017

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

As the year has come to an end it is time to reflect on the dent that 2017 left on the sports world. Lots of new faces and standout performances to look at.

Starting with the year's first major sporting event, the Super Bowl: New England Patriots vs. Atlanta Falcons. New England was favored heavily in this game, but when the Falcons were winning 28-3, lots of Pats fans gave up hope. Those fans missed the greatest comeback in NFL history! The Patriots wouldn't lay down and forced overtime! Patriots won the toss and chose to receive, brought the ball down the field and ran it in for a game winning touchdown!

While maybe not as crazy as a Super Bowl OT, there were other notables in the NFL this year. Browns released their pro bowl cornerback Joe Haden, who was picked up by the Pittsburgh Steelers; he has made an impact as they make their post season run. Rookies also made their mark, especially at the running back position, Chiefs running back Kareem Hunt led the NFL in rushing yards, Leonard Fournette played a major role in the Jags offense, Christian McCaffery also had an amazing year both rushing and receiving.

The basketball world was also had a year for the books. The Finals was not as interesting in 2017 as it was in 2016, the Warriors beat the Cavaliers in game 5 for KD's first champion-

ship. Lebron told Kyrie that they would "Get them next year kid" well, Kyrie responded by "Screw you I'm out." He didn't actually say that but he thought it. Irving requested a trade and was sent to the Celtics for Jae Crowder and Isaiah Thomas.

The rookies in the NBA have also made an impact, most importantly the Ball family, quiet and humble rookie Lonzo Ball has a father that won't shut up, lots of people have a strong distaste for Lavar Ball (the father) because of his open mind and cockiness, but he has to be respected from a business standpoint. He created the Big Baller Brand (BBB) that has generated millions of dollars for the Ball family. From a basketball standpoint, Lonzo Ball, Ben Simmons, Donavon Mitchell, and Jayson Tatum all seem to be ROTY candidates.

2017 was the year of the dinger in the MLB; this year was a record setting year for total home runs hit; 5,694. The leading team was the New York Yankees, their rookie slugger Aaron Judge, played a major part in this; he also won the home run derby. After leading the MLB in home runs, the Yankees picked up Giancarlo Stanton who was the personal home run leader in the whole MLB.

The two league champions both had 100+ wins: the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Houston Astros. The Astros won their first ever World Series title in a game 7. Staying true to the league this year, the Dodgers-Astros games provided the most home runs ever in a World Series.

POTUS continues to spark conversations, opinions

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**
staff writer



The first year of Donald Trump's presidency has seen moments of great potential; however, they have been largely overshadowed by a constant flow of chaotic actions. The 45th President charted into unknown waters due to his non-conventional approach to the position. Trump has received the lowest approval rating in history, seen articles for impeachment, made tax cuts, and partaken in plenty of golf rounds.

The whirlwind of a year would take a book to explain, so here are the highs and lows from Donald Trump's first year while holding the keys to the Oval Office. (To remain unbiased, you can decide the good and the bad.)

- Been tough against North Korea amid nuclear threats.

- Had two of his former campaign aids indicted for collusion and money laundering.
- Backing an alleged sexual predator Roy Moore during the Senate race in Alabama.
- Passing a massive tax reform and tax cuts which repealed individual mandate on healthcare.
- Banning Muslims.
- Calling Kim Jung Un "Rocket Man."
- Backing out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership.
- Pull the U.S. out of the Paris Climate Agreement.
- Supporting the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines.
- Appointment of Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court.
- Spending 92 days on the golf course.
- Recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.
- Referring to the rioters in Charlottesville as "very fine people."
- Firing a bunch of his top aides.

Entertainment review

by **Peyton Sage**
staff writer

Videos gone Viral:

Keaton Jones: In December, Keaton Jones's mother

posted a video of him crying over bullies making fun of his appearance. After the video of the 11 year old went viral, many people started looking into his family background. People discovered photos of his family with confederate flags and that his father is a jailed white supremacist. Many of Keaton's African American peers claimed he made racial slurs towards them, and they defended themselves. Regardless of what the actual truth is, many famous athletes and Hollywood stars gave Keaton their support and advice against bullying.

Logan Paul: Right before the year ended, YouTube star, Logan Paul uploaded a video of his trip to the suicide forest in Japan. After spotting a hanging body in the trees, Paul looked to one of his friends and said, "What, you've never stood next to a dead body before?" and then laughed. He then apologized in a video and said he wasn't thinking and said that laughing is how he handles situations. However, this caused even more backlash. Many people said he had time to think about what he was doing while he was editing the video and uploading it. They also said that such a video didn't raise awareness against suicide in the way it was intended. Instead, the video was highly insensitive and caused loads of controversy on the topic of suicide.

#MeToo Movement:

This year, after over 50 men in Hollywood were accused of sexual harassment, men and women started the #MeToo movement. People who participated in this hashtag shared their harassment stories to spread awareness about the growing issue.

Those who were widely accused were Harvey Weinstein, a (former) famous film producer, Matt Lauer, a host on the Today Show, Al Franken, a senator in Minnesota, Kevin Spacey, a actor in popular show "House of Cards", and Roy Moore, a Republican Senate nominee in Alabama.

Women in Music:

Ariana Grande: After a horrific terrorist attack that killed 22 people and injured over 500 at Ariana Grande's concert in Manchester, the singer put on a benefit for those affected by the attack. The One Love Manchester concert raised more than \$13 million for the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund which helped the victims and families of those who died.

Cardi B: Rapper Cardi B released her mixtape single "Bodak Yellow" in June and her career took off shortly



after. "Bodak Yellow" went triple platinum and earned her two Grammy nominations. Cardi B is the first rapper to have

her first three singles in the Billboard Hot 100's top 10 simultaneously. The rapper is also the third musical act in history to place her first three charted singles in the Top 10 since the Beatles in 1964 and Ashanti in 2002.

Lady Gaga: Lady Gaga had one of the most memorable Super Bowl halftime shows yet. Not only did she begin her performance by jumping down from the top of the stadium, she also seemed to bring the country together when she sang "God Bless America". During a difficult time in the United States involving police brutality and riots, Lady Gaga made a political statement with such grace.

Beyoncé: After months of pregnancy rumors, Beyoncé announced her pregnancy in February. On that day, the internet went absolutely AWOL. She posted a picture of her very pregnant tummy, while wearing a green veil and surrounding herself by beautiful flowers. She welcomed her twins, Rumi and Sir, on June 13th.

Kardashian/Jenner Commotion:

In April, Kendall Jenner's Pepsi commercial aired and was removed shortly after. In the ad, Kendall gave a Pepsi to a police officer during what was portrayed as a Black Lives Matter March, seemingly bringing everyone together. Pepsi made a statement saying, "We were trying to project a global message of unity, peace and understanding. Clearly we missed the mark, and we apologize."

In October, rumors started swirling about Kylie Jenner being pregnant with her boyfriend rapper Travis Scott's baby. Shortly after, rumors of her sister Khloe Kardashian being pregnant with NBA boyfriend Tristan Thompson's baby, came out. Khloe has since confirmed her pregnancy, however, Kylie is still denying those obvious baby bump pictures.

After Rob Kardashian and Blac Chyna welcomed their baby girl, Dream, in November of 2016, their relationship took a turn for the worst. After their one year anniversary in January, they cancelled their wedding plans and Blac Chyna demanded full custody of their daughter. She then took all of her belongings, and their baby, and moved out. In July, Rob took to Instagram to post explicit pictures of Chyna with another man. Chyna then took legal action and got a temporary restraining order against Rob. In September, they both agreed to joint custody of Dream, however the battle between them still continues with allegations of abuse between the two.

