



The 8th Grade Girls Basketball team took first place at the Big East Conference tournament last Saturday.

Blue Ink



Battle of the sexes and the grades

Get excited...the Garretson Olympics return for the first time in four years next week

by **Peyton Sage**
staff writer

After four years of having nothing to look forward to in February, the Garretson Olympics are making a return. For many of the underclassmen, this highly praised event is a complete mystery. But for the seniors, this is their grand return.

When the current seniors were just wee little eighth graders, the boys took the win over the entire middle school and high school grades. This should give hope to the middle school classes who are feeling overwhelmed by competing against the high schoolers.

Unlike like the annual homecoming Dragon Olympics, the Garretson

Olympics will hold entirely new events and will be spread throughout the entire week. Middle schoolers will also be able to participate and give the high schoolers a run for their money.

Starting Monday, students in each grade will participate in the specific events that they signed up for. Competitions will take place all week, testing the abilities of Garretson MS and HS. The activities will survey student's academic abilities over CORE classes and athletic ability in events such as the wall duct tape contest and the obstacle course.

Each team will be split up by grade and gender, so the girls in each class will compete against the boys in each class. There will be



GARRETSON
BLUE DRAGONS

fourteen teams in total, so this could be anyone's game. Points will be earned from every team and individual event, and also from the Cabin Fever dress up days.

The Garretson Olympics are expected to be a knock-down-drag-out fight, and that should be enough to get the entire student body excited. And if that's not enough, the winners of the last Garretson Olympics got their own personal pizza party, so who knows what the winners will get this year...?



This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: In 1907, Kellogg's Corn Flakes ran an ad campaign that offered a free sample of cereal to any woman who would wink at her grocer.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Apples are more powerful than caffeine when it comes to staying awake.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What award do you get for putting your phone on vibrate?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: Your parents have six sons including you and each son has one sister. How many people are in the family?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

Friday, February 2

- JH BBB v. MCM (4:00)
- BBB v. MCM (5:00/6:15/7:00) - PARENTS' NIGHT

Saturday, February 3

- Wrestling @ Big East/Lake Central Conference Tourney (10:00)

Monday, February 5

- NEON DAY—GTownOlympics
- JH/JV Wrestling @ Tri-Valley (4:30)

- JH GBB v. Tri-Valley (4:00)
- GBB @ Howard (4:00/6:00)
- BBB @ Howard (5:15/8:00)

Tuesday, February 6

- "ER" DAY—GTownOlympics
- JH GBB @ Elkton (4:00)
- GBB @ Elkton (6:15/7:00)

Wednesday, February 7

- JERSEY DAY—GTownOlympics

Thursday, February 8

- TROPICAL DAY—GTownOlympics
- Elementary Honor Choir @ SDSU
- C BBB/JV GBB v. Beresford (4:00)
- C GBB/JV BBB v. Beresford (5:00)
- GBB v. Beresford (6:30)
- BBB v. Beresford (8:00)

Friday, February 9

- USA DAY—GTownOlympics
- Wrestling Quad @ Flandreau (5:00)

Worth Mentioning

GHS Olympics return next week in conjunction with Cabin Fever Week!

Super Bowl Sunday has potential

to set records

Matchup, ads, music, and fanfare has the masses excited for the spectacle

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

People screaming supportive chants, the smell of fried food floating in the air, and people on the edge of their seats. You won't find these things anywhere else other than the Super Bowl.

The last two teams that remain are the Philadelphia Eagles and to no surprise, the New England Patriots.

As we have watched these two teams develop into serious Super Bowl contenders during the regular season despite injuries to key contributors, they will face off in Minneapolis for the final game of the season.

Some injuries on the Patriots roster may kick them in the butt due to a lack of recovery time. Rob Gronkowski was just taken off of concussion protocol yesterday and will be playing in the Super Bowl but hasn't seen the same amount of reps leading up to the big game as some of his



teammates. Tom Brady also had some stitches removed from his throwing hand that he injured last week and played through it, he will do the same this week.

An obvious injury for the Eagles is Carson Wentz, who tore his ACL against the Rams in Week 14. Of course the Rams injured a star player before the playoffs. Anyways, a lot of people thought that the season was over for Philly, but they must have forgotten they had Nick Foles as a back up. Foles, in his sixth season in the NFL, has played like a star ever since he stepped foot on the

field and is looking to earn himself a ring this Sunday.

Based on experience, it looks quite favorable for the Patriots. This is their tenth appearance in the big game. And the sixth for the Brady-Bellichek combination. Brady himself is already 5-2 when comes to the championship game, with Sunday being his eighth career appearance which is the most in NFL history.

The Patriots will be wearing white jerseys, and the Eagles will be wearing the classic green. Why does this matter you may ask, because the team wearing their white jerseys has won the Super Bowl 12 out of the last 13 years. Can the Eagles break this trend?



JOKE: The No Bell Prize (Nobel Prize)

BRAINTEASER: Nine. Two parents, six sons, and one daughter (not six sisters).

Six more weeks of winter...or not...

Fate and temperatures lie in the paws of Punxsatawney Phil

by Sylvia Larson
staff writer

This article ran three years ago in issue 2.22. This is reprinted with the permission of author Sylvia Larson. As a note, Phil saw his shadow this morning as well, meaning six more weeks of winter.

On Monday, the infamous Punxsutawney Phil crept out of his hidy-hole at 7:25 a.m. at Gobbler's Knob, a rural area about two miles outside of Punxsutawney proper. Guess what? He SAW his shadow. What does that mean for us? Six more weeks of snow and cold!

Groundhog Day is the midway point between the winter solstice and spring equinox. The day's history is rooted in the celebration of Candlemas. In 1841, a store keeper in Morgantown, Pennsylvania wrote about February 2nd and referred to it as Candlemas Day; this was the first documented American reference to Candlemas Day.

Storekeeper James Morris: "Last Tuesday, the 2nd, was Candlemas

day, the day on which, according to the Germans, the Groundhog peeps out of his winter quarters and if he sees his shadow he pops back for another six weeks nap, but if the day be cloudy he remains out, as the weather is to be moderate."

For the last two years, Phil has seen his shadow, and both times, his predictions have reigned true. After the particularly brutal winter of 2014, who knows what the weather will do this year?

Punxsutawney Phil has been in charge of telling America how long winter will wear on since 1886, all based on whether or not he sees his shadow on the morning of February 2nd.

That means that Phil is supposedly a sprightly 124 years old! Generally, groundhogs have a lifespan of about six years, so it is extremely unlikely that our famous groundhog friend from the eighteenth-hundreds is still alive and well.

Although it is supposed to be kept a secret that Phil is an imposter, it's not really hard to guess. It's publicly



unknown how many groundhogs have actively played Phil.

The Philadelphian woodchuck's full name is actually "Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators and Weather Prophet Extraordinary." He was named by the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club in 1887.

A special group called the Inner Circle takes care of Phil during his down time in the year and also plans the annual ceremony. Members of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club's Inner Circle are recognizable by their top hats and tuxedos.

When Phil is not busy predicting the weather at Gobbler's Knob, he lives in the town library with his wife, Phyllis. Yes, Punxsutawney Phil has his own adorable little groundhog wife, and her name is Phyllis.

Punxsutawney Phil's batting average isn't exactly spectacular. His weather predictions have been accurate approximately 39% of the time since 1887. Because the year's coldest quarter, also known as meteorological winter, runs from Dec. 5 to March 5, Phil predicts a long winter about 80 percent of the time. Members of the Inner Circle claim that predictions are accurate about 75% to 90% of the time.

The forecast for next week holds mild temps, but it's still too early to predict what will happen the rest of the winter. Until then, though, make sure your heater is in working condition.

Just remember, in the words of Hal Borland, "No winter lasts forever, no spring skips its turn."

Celestial wonder graces sky

by Heather Huether
staff writer

On Wednesday, January 31st, a total lunar eclipse paired with a Blue Moon, making it a Super Blue Blood Moon. A full moon is not rare; it occurs once a month. Occasionally, it happens twice in one month; this event is known as a Blue Moon.

A Blue Moon occurs approximate-

ly every two and one half to three years. The last Blue Moon was in July 2015. But there will be two in 2018; the second will happen in late March.

But a Blue Moon isn't the only component of this natural wonder; the Blood Moon occurs because the Earth is passing between the Moon and the Sun, which gives the Moon a reddish tint to it. It's caused by light bending around the Earth, or more

commonly known as a lunar eclipse. The US will have to wait another year to see a Blood Moon, predicted to happen January 21st, 2019.

The last factor of this lunar trifecta is a supermoon. This is when the moon is at its closest point to Earth. It appears to be 14% bigger and 30% brighter than normal. Supermoons generally only occur once every 14 months and will not happen again until January 2019, along with the Blood Moon.

When a Blue Moon combines with a supermoon, and a Blood Moon, a Super Blue Blood Moon occurs, which is a very rare occasion. The last time all of these events occurred simultaneously, in the Western Hemisphere, was in 1866.

If you missed the show on Wednesday, luckily you won't have to wait over 150 years. The next Super Blue Blood Moon is just 19 years away and is scheduled to occur on January 31st, 2037.

Word search

Super Bowl

F O O T B A L L H C S
P K T I E B O C A O T
A C I B A E T N T M O
R E C R A A I W O M I
T H K A C G D O S E R
Y C E D R L R D E R T
F Y T Y S E A H N C A
O A S E O S B C N I P
O P L E R C M U I A T
D O I U D I O O M L B
F M A E I S L T O S A

Word List:

- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| BRADY | LOMBARDI | FOLES | TOUCHDOWN | CATCH |
| PAYCHECK | TICKETS | COMMERCIALS | PARTY | MINNESOTA |
| FOOD | FOOTBALL | PATRIOTS | EAGLES | |

He lifts heavy things

by Greg Arana
staff writer

Senior, Zeb Johnson, placed second in his weight class last Saturday, January 27, at the local O'Gorman powerlifting meet. Johnson got second out of 190 powerlifters.



Zeb Johnson gets the all clear from the judge during his deadlift last Saturday. Johnson placed second in his weight class and second overall.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

At O'Gorman last Saturday Johnson lifted a total of 1,060 pounds. He squatted 375 pounds, benched 245 pounds, and deadlifted 440 pounds.

Last year at state, he placed 5th in his weight class and this year he hopes to win it all. He said there is a fair chance he could.

In two weeks Zeb is looking to

qualify for the powerlifting nationals. To qualify for nationals, he has to lift a total of 1,041 pounds, already showing he can exceed that requirement during the O'Gorman meet.

Zeb is very passionate about powerlifting and wants to improve as much as he can. He plans on going to State on March third.

Academic achievements worth noting

Second Quarter Honor and Merit Roll recipients

Honor roll: 4.0-3.67 GPA

Merit roll: 3.66-2.67 GPA



High School Honor Roll

Ashlyn Andersen
 Keara Beck
 Mikayla Bottelberghe
 Jayden Clark
 Evan DeBates
 Alexa Draper
 Ryan Fick
 Mattea Fiegen
 Lesly Gonzalez
 Aftyn Heitkamp
 Peyton Hove
 Zebadiah Johnson
 Rachel Kindt
 Zachary Klaassen
 Madden Lardy
 Angel Larson
 Nicholas Lundberg
 Aliah Lymon
 Isaiah Mader
 Emily Malsom
 Brennan Mudder
 Madisen Nordstrom
 Madisen Northrup
 Mckenzie Northrup
 Nobel Nothstine
 Logan Nussbaum
 Amyah Ockenga
 Elizabeth Olson
 Isabella Peters
 Nicolas Pierret
 Marc Rattenborg
 Kara Ross
 Jacob Schroeder
 Hailey Sheppard
 Rave Uhlich
 Keaten Wagner
 Rebecca Weiland

Abrianna Doppenberg
 Allison Ebbing
 Lauren Fick
 Chloe Flahaven
 Ryan Flanagan
 Hannah Frewaltdt
 Kayla Genzlinger
 Grace Hove
 Clay Lardy
 Morgan Moritz
 Acen Olson
 Sydney Olson
 Emily Panning
 Rian Smidt
 Sage Solheim
 Erin Steen
 NeVaeh Stensland
 Blaine Trower
 Sarah Welch
 Jordyn Williams

High School Merit Roll

Dominic Abraham
 Andrew Blosmo
 Evan Bly
 Carmen Bohl
 Clayton Bonte
 Jaden Braaten
 Cory Bryan
 Kennedy Buckneberg
 Caeden Bunde
 Hunter Carver
 Joseph Cordier
 Kristen Cordier
 Brady DeBates
 McKenzie Decker
 Keisean Deehr-Thornton
 Aleksander DeLaTorre-Carver
 Ian Doppenberg
 Trevor Edmundson
 Emily Erickson
 Trevor Fiegen
 Erynn Fink
 Lucas Fitzgerald

Collin Flahaven
 Myranda Folland
 Geraldine Fry
 Jazmin Gawarecki
 Rakell Gnadit
 Erik Hanson
 Lauren Heesch
 Caroline Hoskins
 Molly Houg
 Heather Huether
 Molly Hulscher
 Collin Johnson
 Malia Johnson
 Nadalie Johnson
 Trevor Johnson
 Trenton Karli
 Kendra Kleven
 Sylvia Larson
 Devon Leedy
 Diontae Lymon
 Aiden Magnuson
 Isabella Narigon
 James Nussbaum
 Kyler O'Neal
 Tee Paterson
 Tessa Pederson
 Seth Petersen
 Tara Petersen
 Matthew Rattenborg
 Noah Reed
 Triston Rekstad
 Alexis Richter
 Peyton Sage
 Chayce Schleuter
 Emily Schleuter

Elizabeth Schmidt
 Alexander Stephenson
 Joshua Thomas
 Caitlyn Trower
 Kylie Uhl
 Mark John Vandersnick
 Josue Vargas
 Keisha Veldkamp
 James Widrig

Middle School Merit Roll

Hunter Abraham
 Jaelyn Benson
 Connor Bertotti
 Logan Bly
 Maren Bonte
 Keara Bottelberghe
 Payton Campbell
 Treyton Chester
 Carson Clark
 Morgan Damman
 Madison Decker
 Tyler Edmundson
 Joy Fry
 Autumn Gaspar
 Alexis Gawarecki
 Braedon Genzlinger
 Matthew Gilbert
 Isaiah Gnadit
 Blake Gulbrandson
 Adair Hanisch
 Katherine Hanson
 MaKayla Heesch
 Maverick Houg
 Amber Hulscher
 Dylan Jessen
 Gabriel Johnson
 Noel Johnson
 Anna Jones

Dylan Kindt
 Samantha Kruger
 Aliyah Leedy
 Cooper Long
 Mya Long
 Lacey Lumpkin
 Cadence Magnuson
 Jayse Miller
 Kloey Mullin
 Olivia Mullin
 Ethan Narigon
 Cady Ockenga
 Michael Olson
 Jazmine Osberg
 Drew Pederson
 Morgan Pierret
 Cash Pullman
 Lily Ranschau
 Alexander Reker
 Carsten Rozeboom
 Taylor Sage
 Chloe Schleuter
 Samuel Schleuter
 Samantha Shellum
 Bryce Stoterau
 Justin Stoterau
 Joseph Sundvold
 Bryn Swatek
 Tayson Swatek
 Dmitry Sysa
 Oliviyah Thornton
 Mason Tillma
 Mataya Trower
 Zachary Uhl
 Jenna VanHolland
 Caleb Westerbur
 Dustyn Winterton
 Dylan Wolf
 Christopher Wynia

Congratulations

Senior Spotlight

Sylvia Larson

SENIOR PROJECT: Photography
ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
 Yearbook
 Newspaper
 Oral Interp
 Not doing my homework

WHAT I'LL MISS MOST: Skipping school to go to concerts
PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Honestly, I'm just going to wing it



Senior Spotlight

Myranda Folland



SENIOR PROJECT: Making a stop-motion film
ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
 Concert band—Flute
 Marching band—Commander
 Oral Interp
 Military—Air Guard

WHAT I'LL MISS MOST:
 Band
PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Basic training for the summer and then going to a college for engineering

Garretson ballers have up & down week

Girls go 2-1 in Big East Conference play but fall short in non-tournament competition; Boys get tight win over rival Baltic

by **Sylvia Larson**
staff writer

Last Friday, the girls basketball team (6-9) faced the Chester Flyers (7-10) for the second round of the BEC in a rematch from a game earlier this season. The first time these two teams met, the Blue Dragons scratched out a 14 point victory and it was much the same this time



Lizzie Olson makes the fast break look easy despite pressure from the Titan defender. While Garretson kept the game close, they were unable to pull out the victory, falling to Tea Area in overtime, 60-62.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

around; Garretson won 38-26.

Freshman Lizzie Olson led the offensive stat line with 12 points, senior Erynn Fink followed with 11, and junior Kyley Greenhoff had five.

On Saturday they finished out the BEC with a 62-58 win against Howard (7-8). Aftyn Heitkamp had

12 points, Greenhoff had 14, and Olson led with 18. The Blue Dragons finished the conference tournament 2-1, securing the consolation championship.

On Tuesday, the boys played their arch nemesis in Baltic (3-10), while the girls took on Tea on the home court. The boys had a close game, leaving the stands on edge with no clear winner throughout. Garretson managed to pull through with a 58-56 final score, staving off multiple attacks by the Bulldog offense in the waning seconds of the game.

The girls and Tea Area (3-10) had quite the roundup for their senior night showdown. It was close throughout, needing a last second shot to just extend the game. Down by three with just seconds to spare, Kyley Greenhoff hit a basket from beyond the arc to tie the game and send it into overtime to settle the



Seniors Beth Schmidt (statistician), Carmen Bohl (guard), Erynn Fink (post), Amyah Ockenga (guard), and Sylvia Larson (photographer) were recognized at Tuesday night's game vs. Tea Area.

score. Tea Area found their leading scorer wide open underneath the hoop with 17 seconds left to take a two point lead. The Blue Dragons had a few different looks at the basket but ended up losing 60-62.

Capping off a busy week of play the ladies got another stab at the McCook Central-Montrose Fighting Cougars (16-1) last night. Garretson played them in the opening round of BEC but it did not fall the Dragons' way. The same issues happened in last night's rematch as MCM downed the Blue Dragons 63-39.

The boys, on their home court, get their chance at redemption against MCM tonight. The Blue Dragon boys (2-12) also played the Fighting Cougars (5-8) in their BEC matchup and narrowly lost that game. They are looking to turn the tides and capitalize on the momentum from their win against Baltic.

Garretson grapplers trying to get healthy before region, state

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**
staff writer

The Garretson wrestling squad has struggled to post consistent results over the past few weeks amid injuries, sicknesses, and open weight slots. The grapplers headed to Wagner this past Saturday and to Freeman on Tuesday.

As the Blue Dragons travelled to Wagner, these struggles were put on full display. The Wagner Invitational did come with glimpses of success as junior Ben Konechne left with a fourth place finish. Garretson placed 15th as a team.

"It's tough with injuries and missing wrestlers, but I'm hoping we can get healthy before regions and qualify some kids," stated senior wrestler Jack Konechne.

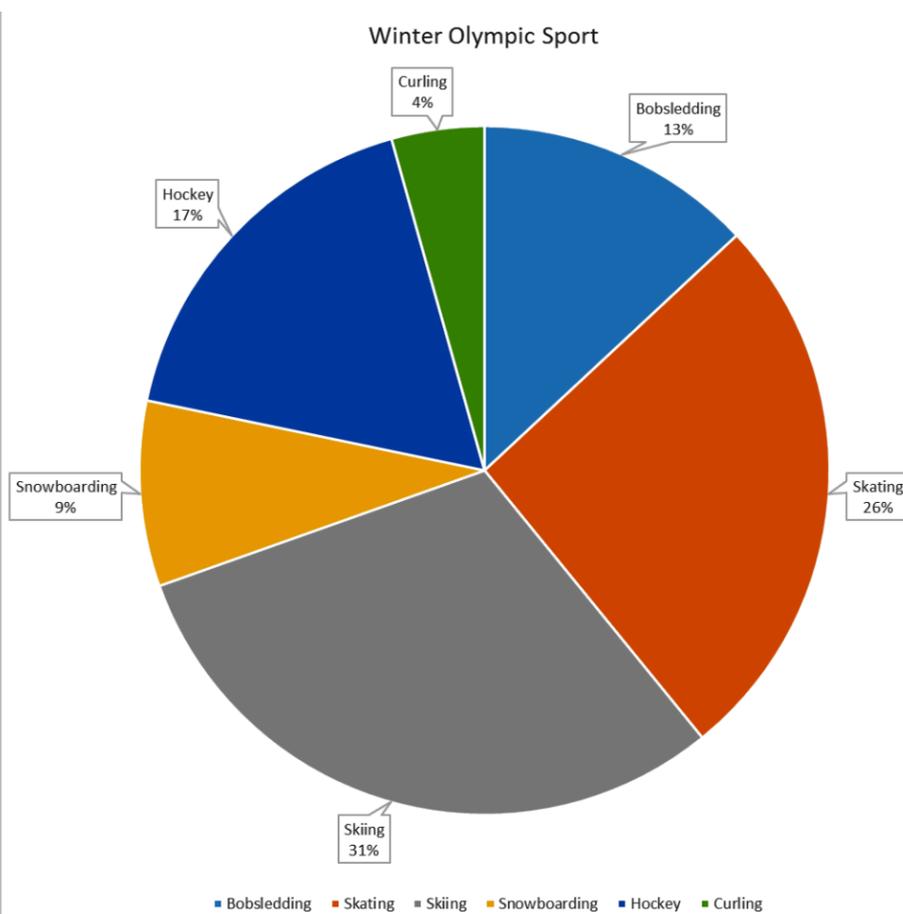
Looking for better results, the team travelled to Freeman for a quad against Marion/Freeman, Elk Point-Jefferson, and Beresford/Alcester - Hudson. The day brought more success and some much needed confidence as regions approaches and the squad attempts to make their way to compete at state.

Garretson was able to defeat Marion/Freeman handily 42-24, but fell short to their other two opponents. The Blue Dragons lost a heartbreaker to EPJ, losing 36-37. Garretson also fell to Beresford/Alcester Hudson 30-53.

Tomorrow the squad will head up to Clear Lake to participate in the Big East Conference/Lake Central Conference tournament and hone in their skills as they trudge into the last few weeks of the season.

With regions just two weeks away, the Blue Dragons are looking to regain their full team of competitors in time for their chance to punch a ticket to state.

Student Opinion Poll



Students were asked which was their favorite winter Olympic sport

Bobsledding

Includes sports such as bobsledding, luge, skeleton

Skating

Includes figure skating, short track speed skating, speed skating

Skiing

Includes alpine skiing, biathlon, cross country skiing, freestyle skiing, Nordic combined, ski jumping

Snowboarding

Hockey

Curling



PyeongChang 2018



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