



All State
Choir Partici-
pants and
Alternates
selected.
Look for
more in up-
coming issues

Blue Ink

Art News Sports Articles

Blue Dragons Math Soccer

Wrestling Science Students Golf History Basketball XC FFA Choir English Baseball Volleyball

Cheerleading Newspaper

Trump sees difficulty, challenges in first year

Class of 2018 received privs this week and hope to keep them the entire year

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**
senior writer

The turmoil surrounding the 45th president has left many wondering about the status of the United States. Donald Trump has worsened America’s relationship with North Korea, which was already unstable to begin with.

The United States and North Korea have seen raised tension over the past few months, which has started a war of words between the two leaders. North Korea has made huge progress with their new missile project over the past year. This has not sat well with Trump who has made many statements promising the downfall of the rogue regime if their actions don't cease.

Trump has used his platform, as many think, to further provoke the North Korean dictator which could cause major issues in the

near future. Trump took to his infamous Twitter account as well as at a United Nations meeting stating that North Korea is on the path to defeat. He has called their leader, Kim Jung Un, “Rocket Man” and said that he is on a suicide mission for himself and his regime. These comments have cause backlash from citizens all across the country who feel the comments are not helpful.

Although Trumps comments against North Korea are highly controversial, some people are glad the president is instituting a strict America first plan. Trump stated in his United Nations speech, “As president of the United States, I will always put America first, just like you, as the leaders of your countries, will always and should always put your countries first.”

In the midst of foreign issues, the president has found time to

lash out at NFL players who can be seen taking a knee during the national anthem as a form of protest against racial inequality. 70% of the NFL is African American which has spurred the solidarity coming from the teams. Whether it is linking arms or kneeling, the NFL seems set on one thing, standing up for their rights as citizens during a time when racial strain is at an unfortunate high.

Senior Jaden Braaten said, “I don't think he should be that opinionated and allowed to voice it whenever. I don't think he should be using his social media platform in the way that he is.”

In his first year as leader of America, President Trump has had a lot to deal with. From foreign relations to racial issues on home soil, Trump has definitely has his hands full. As time moves on, we can only hope these problems will resolve themselves.

Bloodmobile returns to Garretson

The annual FFA sponsored event brings community and school together

by **Peyton Sage**
senior writer

The Garretson FFA hosted the annual blood drive on Thursday.

In order to donate blood, people must be at least 110 pounds, in good general health, and at least 16 years of age.

People can start donating at 16 as long as they have consent from a parent and 17 without parental consent.

For those who are hesitant to go to a blood bank, they can find solace in knowing that by donating blood, they’re saving up to three lives.

Blood is needed for medical patients every two seconds across the world, so a little needle and a cookie seems to be worth the sacrifice.

Sophomore Noah Reed took time out of his day to donate blood, save lives, and get a snack in return while the Bloodmobile was in Garretson Tuesday.
Photo by Isaiah Miles Mader



Dramas once again being offered as an extra-curricular activity

After a four year hiatus, the one act play is once again being offered for aspiring Blue Dragon thespians

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

Do you find humor in drama? If so Garretson’s one act play “4 A.M.” is right up your alley. “4 A.M. is a dramedy (Drama Comedy) described to be a modern Romeo and Juliet.

"What's it like to be awake when the rest of your world is asleep? Meet an early-morning jogger, a radio DJ whose show may have an audience of none, a modern Romeo and Juliet, the author of a most unusual letter, and many other teen characters as they search for connection in

the magic hour. Through a series of connected scenes and monologues, join them on their journey as they discover whether the monster under the bed is real and collectively wonder...is there anybody out there?" This is a brief description from playscripts.com. The creator of this play, Johnathan Dorf, is a successful producer of many films.

This play normally will take anywhere from 30-45 minutes to finish up, with up forty actors/actresses but can be performed with as little as six, there is definitely a variety of things to see.

Even if being on stage doesn’t

interest you, “There’s plenty of things to do that don’t require you to be up [on stage].” said Mrs. Robinson.

This is Robinson’s first time directing a play. “I’m really exited to actually direct a play” says Mrs. Robinson. “I’ve always been an actress, so it’s cool.”

The state one act play will be early February. However, first the drama will have to pass through Regions which is toward the end of January.

This will bring a new form of entertainment to Garretson. Auditions are scheduled for later in October.

This Week’s Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: The little bump on the front side of your ear is called a tragus.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Add a pinch of salt to your load of laundry can help brighten the colors.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Why won’t the elephant use a computer?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: First, I threw away the outside and cooked the inside. Then I ate the outside and threw away the inside. What did I eat?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

Friday, September 29

- XC @ Lennox (4:00)
- FB @ Chester (7:00)

Saturday, September 30

- Marching Band @ Tri-State Band Festival in Luverne (9:30)

Monday, October 2

- JH FB @ Chester (4:00)
- VB v. Tri-Valley (5:00/6:15/7:00)

Tuesday, October 3

- FFA Land Judging @ Hartford

Wednesday, October 4

- USD All-State Prep Day

Thursday, October 5

- XC @ BEC Conference at Beresford (4:00)
- JH VB v. Canton (4:00)
- VB v. Canton (5:00/6:15/7:00)

Friday, October 6

- No School—Teacher In-Service
- Marching Band @ Chester (10:00)
- FB v. Viborg-Hurley (7:00)

Worth Mentioning

Congratulations to the All-State Choir members and alternates. Selected to go this year are the following students: Aliah Lymon (Soprano), Caitlyn Trower (Soprano Alternate), Aftyn Heitkamp (Alto), Mattea Fiegen (Alto Alternate), Zeb Johnson (Tenor), Luke Ross (Tenor Alternate), Trevor Fiegen (Bass), and Seth Peterson (Bass Alternate)

Football loses in final seconds, soccer wraps up season with win

Marching band partakes in first competitions, fares well, while volleyball and cross country push toward the end of their fall campaigns

by Heather Huether
staff writer

Football:

The heated rivalry between the Garretson Blue Dragons and Baltic Bulldogs took the field at the Garretson Athletic Complex last Friday. Both teams came in with only one loss, and boasted a three game winning streak. It garnered the attention of many including the *Argus Leader* who put together an All-Access vid-

eo. Look at that [here](#). In the last seconds, Baltic took advantage of a costly Blue Dragon error and converted a field goal to steal the victory 9-6. Garretson looks to get back into the win column tonight at Chester. **Cross Country:** Preston Bohl, seventh grade, continued his impressive performances with a third place finish at the Sioux Valley meet on Tuesday. He finished the 5K with a time of 18:06.



Mark John Vandersnick (#22) rolls around the backside of the offense looking to take the shovel pass from quarterback Brennan Mudder (#12). The Blue Dragon line put up strong blocks and gave Vandersnick a big enough hole to convert to a first down.

Photo by Sylvia Larson

Rounding out the Garretson boys, who finished fourth as a team, were Matthew Gilbert, 26th; Devon Leedy, 29th; and Ryan Fick, 30th. The junior varsity runners also continued to perform well. Cody Erickson finished 8th while Sam Schleuter placed 20th. On the girls side, the Blue Dragons harriers were able to put a team together and finished third. Pacing the way was senior Carmen Bohl with a time of 21:20, good enough for seventh. Five seconds and one place behind her was Rachel Kindt. Olivia Mullen, 22nd and Madisen Nordstrom, 32nd finished off the team scores.

The Blue Dragons travel to Lennox today and then have their Big East Conference meet next week before running into regions. **Marching Band:** Marching band travelled to Arlington yesterday for their first competition of the year. The Blue Dragon musicians and color guard perform “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” for their routine. Garretson’s marching band finished in first place. Their next competition is Saturday in Luverne for the Tri-State Band Festival.

Volleyball The volleyball team is in the back half of their season. So far they are 0-15. They played Elkton-Lake on Tuesday, and Parker on Thursday. The Blue Dragons lost both games this week but spectators can definitely see that they have improved. Next week they will be playing Tri-Valley (Monday) and Canton (Thursday). Tri-Valley is in the Blue Dragons’ region and are sitting at 3-10 while the C-Hawks are 1-12.

Soccer The soccer team had their last game on Saturday. Soccer ended 2-9 -1, and made some grade strides during the season. The soccer team added JV games for the first time this year and also added three new opponents: Huron, Dakota Valley, and Worthington. The Blue Dragons won their last game tying their record for most wins in a season. This season however was one of their best offensive seasons, scoring more goals than any previous.



Mother Nature strikes again...and again...and again...

The boys were deeply invested in their participation of volleyball during homecoming week

by Greg Arana
staff writer

Hurricanes garnered a lot of attention especially in the most active month of the season which is September. 2017 is only the second season on record to have two category five hurricanes make landfall. Hurricane Harvey made landfall as a category four hurricane that killed 84 people. Harvey was the first major hurricane that affected the mainland United States this season. Harvey is the costliest hurricane this

season even though it was weaker than some of the other ones. Irma was a category five hurricane when it made landfall. Irma killed 124 people in its path from the Caribbean to the United States. Irma was the second major hurricane to affect the mainland United States this season. Category five hurricane Maria was the one responsible for 59 deaths. Maria caused major damage in its journey through the Northeastern Caribbean. Maria is the tenth most intense Atlantic hurricane and is also

responsible for destroying Puerto Rico’s whole electrical grid. Hurricanes are not the only The 2017 Central Mexico earthquake has killed 343 people and injured a little over 6,000 people. With a magnitude of 7.1, the earthquake caused damage in three Mexican states and was responsible for making 40 buildings collapse. Furthermore the wildfires in Montana have been blazing since June of this year. There was an estimated 1,295,959 total burned acres of land and some fires are still

ablaze. There have been a reported 34 wildfires since June. Rain and snow have significantly slowed down some of the fires except for the ones in northwestern Montana. In early August the state of Montana had spent over 280 million dollars fighting the fires. Mother Nature has been a little cruel these past few months. She has taken over 600 lives and caused billions of dollars of damage within a mix of hurricanes, earthquakes, and fires.

Senior Spotlight
Amyah Ockenga

SENIOR PROJECT:
Running a half marathon

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Soccer
Basketball
Band
Color Guard
Football Cheer
National Honor Society

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST:
Friends and sports...and Isaiah

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend a 4-year college and then onto medical school to become an ophthalmologist.



Senior Spotlight
Logan Nussbaum

SENIOR PROJECT:
Lifescape

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Softball
National Honor Society
Band
Volleball Statistician

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST:
Crispitos, Ashlyn, Abby, Kendra, and Mrs. B

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
DWU or DSU for Elementary Education and play softball

