

**CHOOSE  
KIND**

There was another CHOOSE KIND celebration this week. We honor teacher of the year, Ms. Kientopf and our FFA.

# Blue Ink



Garretson High School Student Newspaper

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## Reading sweeps the nation

*Garretson Elementary celebrates a hat-loving week*

by Jayden Clark  
staff writer

Every year, during the week of March 2, Garretson Elementary school joins numerous other elementary schools from across the United States to participate in "Read Across America Week." This fun-filled week is full of dress-up days and special activities that celebrate reading and honor Dr. Seuss on his birthday. Elementary Principle, Teresa Johnson, stated, "this is just one way to tie in reading to our students and celebrate his [Dr. Seuss'] birthday." This year the elementary school's theme centered around hats, with each dress up day signifying a different style and meaning behind the hat being worn.

Each day, the elementary students, teachers, and faculty try to do something collectively to help celebrate this special week. For example, on Wednesday all the K-5 classes gathered in the new gym and listened to Ms. Johnson read a Dr. Seuss book. Afterward, Johnson said, "It always amazes me how reading a book to kids doesn't ever get old, to me or the kids."

As another special activity, the Garretson Elementary School held a magic show led by Russ Fitzwater on Tuesday to correspond with the book they read, *The Magician's Hat*. This magic show was a very popular event among the students. First graders, Mason Cox, Caleb Miller, Beckett Dickey, and Paxton Beckman all enjoyed the magic show the best. After the show, Johnson said, "We're just trying to tie in the magic that books bring,



the magic that we have in everything we do, and sometimes books can open up all the choices."

The elementary students continue to enjoy the wide variety of special activities during "Read Across America Week." Fifth graders, Jordan Dewitte and Brooklyn Trudeau, and third grader Tasia Westover really enjoyed the magic show and the meaning behind it. Another activity

Trudeau enjoys participating in is the various dress-up days. She is especially looking forward to Friday, when the elementary students will be making their own unique hats to wear throughout the day.

National Read Across America Day is observed on Dr. Seuss' birthday, March 2. Theodore Seuss Geisel was a famous children's book writer, who had written over 60 books, that sold over 600 million copies, under the pen name Dr. Seuss. His most popular book was entitled "Green Eggs and Ham."

The Garretson students, faculty, and staff have all been reading stories by Dr. Seuss and continue to identify their own favorites. Dr. Seuss's wildly creative, rhythmic writing, although being geared toward children, continues to pass along memorable, profound quotes and important life lessons to everyone who takes the time to read his works, with many of his stories being turned into movies. One of Johnson's favorite quotes comes from Dr. Seuss' book; *Oh The Places You'll Go*: "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go."

## Region basketball is in full effect

by Mason Hofer *Blue Dragons playing best ball of year*  
staff writer

With regular season basketball all wrapped up, we've now hit regions. Garretson boys and girls are competing out of Class A, Region 3. The Girls faced off against Baltic on Monday in Garretson, and boy ballers faced off against West Central in Hartford on Tuesday. The Lady BlueDragons (12-8) balled out in the Dragons' Lair on Monday beating Baltic (3-17) 62-31 in the first round of the region tournament.

The next day the Garretson boys (3-17) traveled to Hartford to duel with West Central (13-7). Garretson was the obvious underdog in the rankings, but it didn't look like it on the court, Garretson won (52-53).

"We were all working as a team, everyone doing their part and not getting upset with each other and picking another player up if they messed up on a play, as opposed to Friday we are going to try to keep doing what coach has been telling us, move the ball, have good shot selections, and work hard on defense," stated junior baller Cole Skadsen.

The boys advanced to the Elmen Center for the second round for the first time in seven years.

"We've been focusing a lot on moving the ball, taking

time off the shot clock and having good shot selections, and on the defensive side we've been focusing on talking and forcing the opposing team into bad shot selections," added Skadsen.

Last night, the Lady Dragons (12-8) traveled to Tea to face the undefeated West Central Girls (20-0). The game was an even battle throughout the first half with the score at 20-27.

West Central kept momentum in the third quarter with Garretson trailing by 20. The Blue Dragons started to claw their way back, but there was not enough time on the clock. Garretson fell to West Central 56-45.

Once again the boys will square off against Dell Rapids tonight at 8:00 at the Elmen Center. The theme is throw-back Garretson Gear.



Drew Blosmo drops the floater for two of his 33 points in Garretson's first round region win over West Central.

Photo by Ms. Bly

### This Week's Need to Know

**FACT OF THE WEEK:** Sphenopalatine ganglioneuralgia is the medical term for brain freeze.

**LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK:** Place a piece of wax paper over ice cream to prevent freezer burn.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** Can February march?

**BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK:** What can be seen in the middle of March and April but cannot be seen at the beginning or end of either month?

*Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.*

### Upcoming Events

#### Friday, March 1

- BBB @ Region Rd 2 v. Dell Rapids in the Elmen Center (8:00)

#### Saturday, March 2

- Blue Dragon Classic

#### Monday, March 4

- Booster Club Meeting (7:00)

#### Wednesday, March 6

- JH Honor Band and Choir @ Brandon

#### Thursday, March 7

- Early Dismissal (1:30)

- P/T Conferences (2:30-8:30)

- Book Fair in Library (2:30-8:30)

#### Friday, March 8

- No School

### Worth Mentioning

#### Choose Kind

- March Precept: "Kind words do not cost much. Yet they accomplish much." - Blaise Pascal

- February Precept: "It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers." - James Thurber

- January Precept: "No man is an island, entire of itself." - John Donne

- December Precept: "Fortune favors the bold." - Virgil

- November Precept: "Have no friends not equal to yourself."

- October Precept: "Your deeds are your monuments."

- September Precept: "When given the choice between being right and being kind, choose kind." - Dr. Wayne Dyer

**GARRETSON  
BLUE DRAGONS**

# Pinning down another season of wrestling

*The Garretson wrestlers' season comes to an end after State Tournament*

by **Sam Gonzalez**  
staff writer

Last week, the seven qualifiers: Hayden Pierret, Dakota Johnson, Ben Konenche, Dominic Abraham, Isiah Robinson, Jayce Miller and Preston Bohl, headed to the State Tournament in Rapids City for what hoped to be a weekend of success, but was a defeat for most. Here's an insight to our wrestlers mind.

Senior Hayden Pierret has been wrestling for 13 years and was the only one who placed in this year's tournament after an arm injury. During the tournament, Pierret defeated his opponent in his first match with a pin after approximately five minutes. His second match was against the # 2 ranked wrestler in the state in which Hayden was defeated. Pierret's third match is what proceeds onto being placed. Not wanting his season to end just yet, Pierret beat his opponent with a score of 6-3. On Saturday morning, after making a mistake, his opponent pinned him which took him to his final match of being placed 7/8. Pierret went up against his very first opponent of the tournament, who proceeded to use Pierret's injured arm against him to beat him which put Hayden in 8th place. After having a few offers to wrestle, Pierret is undecided of what's to come for the future.

**Q: With having gone to state before, how do you think you were more prepared than usual?**

A: When I wrestled State my freshman and sophomore year, I was nervous and didn't know what to expect. I was more prepared, especially with it being my senior year; I needed to go out with a bang.

**Q: Is there anything you would change about how your matches went?**

A: Not having a hurt elbow would've been nice, but there were simple mistakes that I made that cost me some matches.

**Q: What were some highlights of your season?**

A: To be honest I wouldn't say I had any. I had my ups and downs this season and didn't wrestle like my usual self. My coaches and family helped me get out of the my slump which helped me get to State.

**Q: With it being your last high school season to wrestle, what are some things you're going to miss? Do you have advice or anything to say to the younger wrestlers?**

A: Do not take anything for granted. I always hated having to cut weight and practice, but after my last match, it hurt. Cherish every moment that you get to play, because you never know when it could be your last match.

Senior Dakota Johnson has wrestled for the past two years, and after graduation, he will be playing football at Northwestern University. During the tournament, "first match was very competitive, and pretty even. Wrestled really well the first 2 periods but, last one I really lost it off dumb decision I did, which I was not happy with myself about. Second match had forfeit. Last match, I wrestled kid from Groton, who then went on to place 3rd. I didn't wrestle my best, and I really felt like I should of placed, but otherwise went 1-2 overall."

**Q: With it being your first time, how do you think you performed?**

A: I was very nervous at first, but after the first period it felt like just a big tournament. I wrestled well at times, but really felt like I should have placed.

**Q: there anything you would change about how your matches went?**

A: It's in the past, nothing you can change. Only

thing is I would have wished was to wrestle a little smarter.

**Q: What were some highlights of your season?**

A: Making state, Competing at high levels, Regions was fun, and all the guys competed at high level.

**Q: With it being your last high school season to wrestle, what are some things you're going to miss? Do you have advice or anything to say to the younger wrestlers?** A: I will miss the coaches and the hard work wrestling causes on your body mentally and physically and well I will miss the younger guys. My advice is no matter how hard it gets, stick through it because you will regret it if you quit and will miss it when you realize it's all over.

Ben Konenche has wrestled for the majority of his life, and his senior year peaked as it was his first year making it to State. Konenche, disappointed by his performance throughout lost his first match, won his second but fell short in his third match by only 2 points. Konenche stated if he were to wrestle in college, it would be a pick between Augustana University and Northern State University.

**Q: With it being your first time, how do you think you preformed?**

A: I did not perform well

**Q: Is there anything you would change about how your matches went?**

A: I can't change my matches, how they went is how it is

**Q: What were some highlights of your season?**

A: All of my headlocks I threw as well as my body locks.

**Q: With it being your last high school season to wrestle, what are some things you're going to miss? Do**

**you have advice or anything to say to the younger wrestlers?**

A: I already don't know what to do with my time. This was my last major sport of my HS career and I will miss the practices with Tyler, Ruml, Bohl and my favorite coach Josh Casperson. I'm now filling my time coaching AAU wrestling and that is a very fun job for me.

As for the other wrestlers:

8th grader Preston Bohl: Unfortunately, Bohl lost his first two matches up against ranked wrestlers.

Freshman Jayce Miller: In his first match, Miller lost his match by a few points, in his second gained a win with a score of 6-4. For his final match, Miller went up against a hard opponent which resulted to a loss of 8-2. Satisfied with his performance, but wanting to be more aggressive, Miller is ready to once again experience the greatness of going to State.

Sophomore Isiah Robinson: During the tournament, Robinson lost his first match against a #2 ranked state wrestler, and then gained another loss after a close match of 3-2. After stating that there is always more room for improvement, he is motivated to make State to do better and win more.

Sophomore Dominic Abraham; After placing 3rd in Regions, Abraham lost both his matches during State, but is determined to make State again next year to continue his streak.

Preston (106) -

Rd 1: Loss via fall at 3:10 vs. Owen Hanson (Burke-Gregory)

Rd 2: Loss via fall at 2:50 vs. Jagger Tyler (Wagner)

Jayse (113) -

Rd 1: Loss via tech fall (16-1) at 3:27 vs. Landon Sudbeck (Philip Area)

Rd 2: Win via fall at 3:10 vs. Hunter Witte (Flandreau)

Rd 3: Loss via decision (8-2) vs. Luke Richardson (Canton)

Hayden (126) -

Rd 1: Win via fall at 4:49 vs. Blade Forman (Miller-Highmore-Harrold)

Rd 2: Loss via tech fall at 6:00 vs. Jady Collier (Philip Area)

Rd 3: Win via decision (6-3) vs. Riley Orel (Winner Area)



After getting the win to keep his wrestling season alive, senior Hayden Pierret acknowledges the support and love the crowd gives him. Pierret finished eighth.

Rd 4: Loss via fall at 2:07 vs. Dane Christopherson (Sisseton)

Rd 5: Loss via decision (6-0) vs. Blade Forman (Miller-Highmore-Harrold) - EIGHTH PLACE FINISH

Isaiah (132) -

Rd 1: Loss via fall at 1:19 vs. Carson Pinske (Lead-Deadwood)

Rd 2: Loss via decision (7-1) vs. Kaleb Buseman (Parkston)

Dominic (138) -

Rd 1: Loss via fall at 1:23 vs. Wyatt Turnquist (Winner Area)

Rd 2: Loss via fall at 1:26 vs. Matt Koch (Mt. Vernon-Plankinton-Corsica-Stickney)

Ben (195) -

Rd 1: Loss via fall at 6:45 vs. Tanner Peterson (McCook Central-Montrose)

Rd 2: Win via fall at 1:47 vs. Ty Dailey (Custer-Edgemont)

Rd 3: Loss via decision (6-4) vs. Slayton Neugebauer (Philip Area)

Dakota (285) -

Rd 1: Loss via decision 6-1 vs. Micah DeBoer (Bon Homme-Scotland-Avon)

Rd 2: Win via forfeit vs. Jake Ellison (Lemmon-McIntosh)

Rd 3: Loss via fall (3:52) vs Wyatt Locke (Groton)

# A peek at potential presidential candidates

*Democratic hopefuls saturate race for POTUS*

by **Nobel Nothstine**  
staff writer

With so many candidates running for the 2020 presidency, and many GHS students coming into voting age, the race for run of the country has begun. Look below to learn a little bit more about each of our potential running candidates.



## Julián Castro

At 44, Julián Castro from San Antonio, Texas, put his hat in the presidential running ring in January. Castro was a part of Barack Obama's administration, and if elected, would be the U.S.'s first Latino president. Another thing to note is his support of the LGBTQ community.

## Tulsi Gabbard

At 37, Tulsi Gabbard from Hawaii announced she was running last week. As a War veteran, and a representative of the house, Gabbard is the first American Samoan and Hindu member of Congress. Though a con-

servative, Gabbard is pro-choice and supports the LGBTQ community.

## Kirsten Gillibrand

At 52, Kirsten Gillibrand from New York said she was running on the Late Show with Stephen Colbert. Gillibrand is a two-term senator and is known to pick fights with current president Donald Trump. Kirsten is a feminist, an LGBTQ supporter, and advocates for all people of color.

## Elizabeth Warren

At 69, Elizabeth Warren from Massachusetts introduced her running towards the end of December. Warren went to Harvard and studied law, then worked her way up to holding a position on the Senate advising Barack Obama. Elizabeth follows left-wing populism and supports large enterprises.

## Kamala Harris

At 54, Kamala Harris from California announced her candidacy on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Harris is an attorney, and is well known for her advocacy of LGBTQ and all people of color or ethnicity.

## Pete Buttigieg

At 37, Pete Buttigieg from South Bend, Indiana, announced his campaign early last week. Buttigieg is an Afghanistan war vet, and he runs as the first openly LGBTQ candidate! He is well known for his statements towards racial equality.

## Cory Booker

At 49, Cory Booker from New Jersey announced his presidency by releasing a video on his website. Booker is a senator who graduated from Stanford and Yale, and is well known as a social liberator, a feminist, and an advocate for LGBTQ rights.

## Amy Klobuchar

At 58, Klobuchar from Minnesota announced her running mid-February. Amy has been in the senate for three terms, and is well known for solely her Midwestern background and values. She lost the presidential democratic nomination in 2016 to Hillary Clinton.

## Bernie Sanders

At 77, Bernie Sanders from New York City, New York, announces his running early last week. Bernie is seen as a democratic socialist who supports pro-labor rights and single-payer healthcare. Sanders lost the presidential democratic nomination in 2016 to Clinton as well.

Another scenario arising is celebrities teasing a run for office, some of which include: Cher, Kanye West, Alec Baldwin, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Kevin Hart, Katy Perry, Chris Rock, Ron Perlman, Will Smith, Oprah Winfrey, Roseanne Barr, Donald Trump, Ron Perlman, Mark Zuckerberg, Ben Affleck, Tim McGraw, and Mark Cuban.

With all of these choices, voters are sure to find someone they like and would support.

# Snow days go away

*Five snow days, three late starts; we may pay the price later*

by **Riley Altman**  
staff writer

Think back to December for a moment. Remember when all many of us wanted was a white Christmas? I was one of those people, but now all I want is the sun to come out and the snow to go away.

Garretson School has only had one full week of school since coming back from Christmas break. That's only one full week of school in 2019 due to weather. So far, we have had a total of five snow days, three of which we must make up.

When we get the first call of the year with superintendent, Mr. Johnson, telling us school is cancelled due to weather we all get excited. We get to sleep in (or all day), stay in our pajamas, and not worry about school. By the time we get that third call many people just want to be in school.

The state law for education contact hours is 962.5 hours for students in sixth through twelfth grade. According to this rule, Garretson Schools would only have to be in school for 165 days in order to meet the requirements. However, the school board proposed a 180-day policy meaning that we go 15 days more than we need to in order to meet state requirements.

So even though we have had five snow days we are required by the school, not by the state, to be here 180 days. According to the state we don't have to make up any days unless we have 15 snow days.

"As of right now we will all be in school until Wednesday, May 22," stated Mr. Long.

If you're like me and thinking maybe they won't make us make any days up, think again. Mr. Long said the only way they would possibly do that is if we have so many snow days that were looking at ending school in June.

"Snow days get boring and repetitive, there comes a time where enough is enough," stated junior, Rachel Kindt.

FRI	SAT
21°	13°
-1°	-11°
100%	50%
Snow	Snow

# Heart of gold

*Ms. Kientopf named TOY*

by **Kennedy Buckneberg**  
staff writer

"Ms.Ks heart of gold talks led me on a straight narrow path to where I am today. She keeps us out of trouble, reminding us that we all have hearts of gold and we are all good kids. She led us to where we are today. That's why she deserves the Teacher of the Year," said Brayden Beaner.



Ms.K has received this award because of her hard work that she puts in to FFA and many more activities. Ms.K graduated from Garretson and is now in her third year as a teacher here.

"When I found out I was shocked. In my eyes, with only being a third year teacher, there is still work to be done and I'm nowhere near expertise," said Ms.Kientopf.

Ms.Ks favorite part about her job is being able to watch students achieve. Whether it's learning in the classroom or someone receiving an award for FFA. Ms.Kientopf is the Teacher of the Year and has shown the school that she deserves it and there is still room for improvement.

# Actor sends racist letter to self

by **Mataya Trower**  
staff writer

Actor Jussie Smollett used the advantage of the pain and anger of racism to promote his career. Smollett sent a racist and homophobic threatening letter to himself at the Fox studio lot. He sent the letter and then also told the police he was attacked because of his race and sexuality. He told the police he was attacked by two masked men walking home from a store around 2 a.m. on January 29.



The actor, who is black and gay, said not only did they beat him but they made racist and homophobic comments. The actor said they did not stop there. They poured an unknown chemical substance on him and a rope around his neck before fleeing.

Police say the investigation shifted after they questioned two brothers who were in the area that morning. They believe the fake attack was because he thought he was being written off the show and he was not satisfied with his salary. This 36-year old actor could be sentenced up to three years in jail with the charge of making a false police report.

# Garretson guessing

## game

Send your guesses to the Blue Ink Snapchat for your chance at winning a candy bar

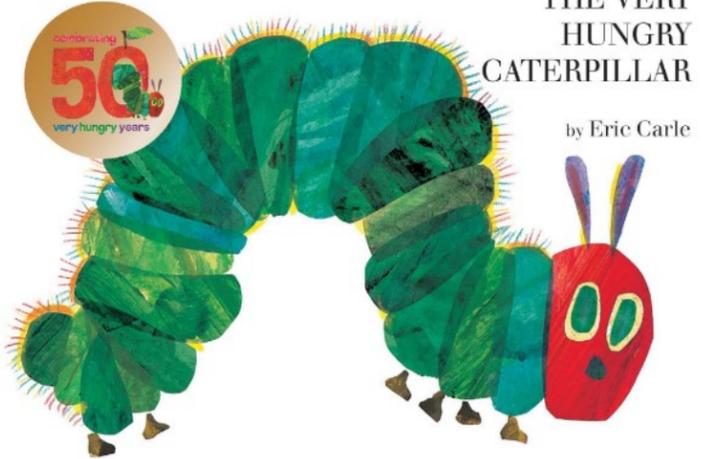


# We all get hungry

But this iconic book has been munching its way into hearts of kids everywhere for 50 years

by Kylie Uhl  
staff writer

What ate one piece of chocolate cake, one ice-cream cone, one pickle, one slice of Swiss cheese, one slice of salami, one lollipop, one piece of cher-



ry pie, one sausage, one cupcake, and one slice of watermelon? The very hungry caterpillar! This classic book that we all used to love and know so well is 50 years old. The children's book is loved and read back then and still now.

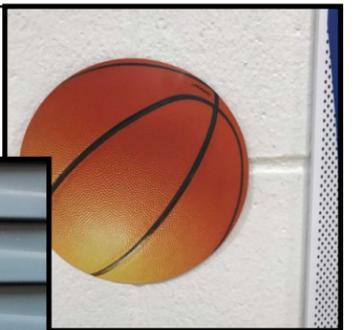
*The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle was named one of the ten best picture books by *The New York Times* in 1969. The book also won an Institute of Graphic Arts Award for its colorful illustrations of a caterpillar eating its way to become a butterfly.

Ironically the book has only 32 pages but still managed to get a few awards and to be loved by children and people all across the world. The world renowned picture book has been translated into more than 65 languages and sold more than 46 million copies.

Next time you're standing in a line to get food and think about how hungry you are, don't forget about how hungry the very hungry caterpillar was.

# Answers to last week's guessing game

Where Is This: In the Dragons' Lair (New Gym)



What Is This: Grates on the lockers



Who Is This: Jaelyn Benson

# Senior Spotlight

Alex Veldkamp

**SENIOR PROJECT:**  
Tractor pulling photography

**ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:**  
Band

**WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:**  
Band

**PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:**  
Farming and possibly tractor pulling



# Scholarship Corner

Post-secondary financing opportunities

- **Michael J. Entringer Classic (due March 1):** Must have played at least two years of HS sports and exhibited good sportsmanship (\$1,000)
- **Split Rock Clinic (due March 1):** Must be pursuing a degree in the medical field (up to \$2,000)
- **Minnehaha Funeral Home (due March 5):** Must be high school senior pursuing further education (\$750)
- **Alliance Communications (due March 8):** Must be current customer of Alliance Communications (\$1,000)
- **Better Business Bureau (due March 8):** Must be high school senior pursuing further education (\$2,000)
- **Jesse James Fine Arts (due March 15):** Must pursuing a degree in fine arts including English, architecture, graphic arts, theatre, film (varies)
- **South Dakota Fire Service (due March 15):** Must son or daughter of a fire department member or active member of a junior fire department (\$1,000)
- **Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation (most due March 15-April 1):** Qualifications vary per scholarship (varies)

These are just some of the scholarships available for seniors in the area. Please visit with Mrs. Pliska or took a look at her [website](#).

