FIND ME IN THE PAPER

- This picture will be hidden in the Blue Ink somewhere.
- Look for it throughout the issue as you read the articles and browse the pictures.
- Thank you Mrs. Granberg for creating the Blue Ink dragon

WORTH MENTIONING

- Congratulations to the newest NHS members: Jacoby Costello, Blair Ellefson, Gavin Coburn, Cece Fiegen, and Briann Jacobson
- **Would You Rather:** ...have chunky or creamy mashed potatoes

November 13, 2026
Volume 14, Issue 13
Garretson High School
Garretson, SD

GARRETSON BLUE DRAGONS

Blue Ink



Honoring the red, white, & blue

Garretson hosts Veterans' Day program to honor those who have served and sacrificed

By **Brielle Weir**
staff writer & infographic creator

Although each school decides whether to hold classes on Veterans Day, Garretson chooses to have school and host a program open to both students and the community to honor veterans.

This program is not only a way to show honor to current veterans, but previous ones as well. Veterans Day showcases the dedication, courage, and sacrifice these brave men and women go through to provide freedom for the people.

Senior Trevor James, planning to serve in the Marines, stated, "I think Veterans Day will mean a lot more to me, just by helping me become more mature, and especially after going through what most people have gone through. Understanding what the struggles were, for all people serving."

Garretson's program is put on by students who speak about the history of Veterans Day including each branch of the military, recognizing those who have fought for us, in our community and putting honor to all past veterans and those who weren't there to join us.

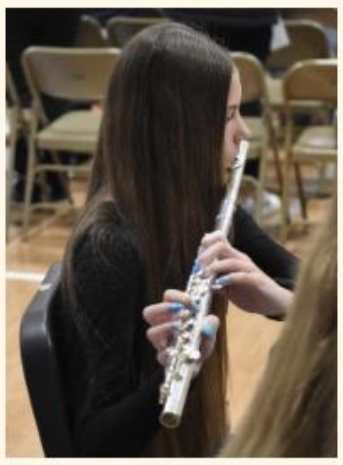
The high school's band and choir put on a performance for the event as well. Followed by the elementary, and school students also helping out, reading, singing and honoring those who served.

Braiden Peasley, Garretson High School senior, thinking about going into the Army, mentioned, "I've had multiple people in my family join different branches, I believe by doing this, I would feel more appreciated."

Veterans Day is not something that is to be taken lightly, soldiers lose their lives everyday fighting for this nation. If you see a soldier, stop and say hi, find out their story, and thank them for their service.

Thank you to all men and women serving our country, keeping America the land of the free and home of the brave.













VETERANS DAY PROGRAM 2026

What Thanksgiving dish are you?

A fun, non-scientific personality quiz

by **Cece Fiegen**
staff writer

Keep track of your answers and look for the answer to your Thanksgiving dish personality match on page 3.

1. What are you doing while waiting for the Thanksgiving meal?
- A. Talking to relatives
- B. Taking a nap
- C. Playing a game
- D. Watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

2. What house pet would you pick?
- A. Dog
- B. Cat
- C. Hamster
- D. Reptile

3. What fall shoe are you wearing?
- A. Boots
- B. Uggs
- C. Birkenstock clogs
- D. Loafers

4. What is your favorite subject in school?
- A. English
- B. History
- C. Science
- D. Math

5. What fall activity are you doing?
- A. Fall festival
- B. Cozy movie night
- C. Corn maze
- D. Pumpkin patch

6. What fall movie are you watching?
- A. Knives Out
- B. Good Will Hunting
- C. Practical Magic
- D. Charlie Brown and The Great Pumpkin

7. What mode of transportation are you choosing?
- A. Plane
- B. Train
- C. Car
- D. Boat

8. What are you drinking with your meal?
- A. Water
- B. Milk
- C. Juice
- D. Pop

9. What's your favorite app on your phone?
- A. Instagram
- B. Pinterest
- C. Snapchat
- D. Text

10. What's keeping you warm?
- A. Coat
- B. Blanket
- C. Sweater
- D. Hoodie





This Week's Need to Know

Upcoming Events

Friday, November 13
- JH GBB v. Dell Rapids (4:00)

Monday, November 16
- JH GBB @ Flandreau (4:00)
- First Day of Wrestling Practice

Tuesday, November 17
- Region Oral Interpretation @ SDSU
- FFA @ District LDE in Harrisburg (3:00)

Friday, November 20
- JH GBB @ Baltic (4:00)
- PTO Family Bingo @ American Legion (7:00)

Monday, November 23
- First Day of Girls Basketball Practice

Senior Spotlight
Anna Ebbing



Activities Involved In:
Soccer, Football Cheerleading, Golf, Band, Choir, Theater, Dance, FCA, NHS, YAC, Student Council

Who/What Will You Miss Most:
Going to sporting events and doing Just Dance in Mr. E's.

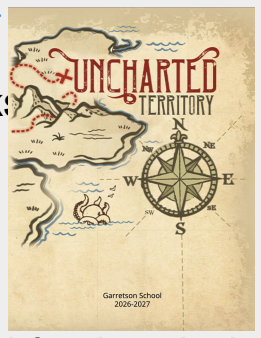
Favorite School Lunch:
Walking Taco or Chicken Ranch Pasta

Favorite Class You've Taken:
Band and Choir

Plans for Next Year:
Attend Northern State University for Marketing

Class of 2027

Worth Mentioning



ORDER YOUR '26-'27 YEARBOOK! today. They are $30 each, a steal for the millions of memories made this year. You can order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com. Please come find Dr. Buchholz if you have any Questions. If you still want a yearbook from last school year there are a couple left, buy yours before it's gone.

ACE AWARDS are back! Thanks for continuing to show your positive attitude, character, and effort. And who knows, maybe you'll get a little extra something for it as well.

CONGRATULATIONS to Aiden Johnson and Caiden Maack for their selection to the USD Honor Band.

CONGRATULATIONS OCTOBER ACE WINNERS
Cecelia Fiegen, Kail Hewer, Ashtyn Nelson
Please stop by Study Hall to see Mrs. Costello

Hunting season ready to take off

Archery season is currently active with firearm season set to open next weekend

by **Autumn Genzler**
staff writer & infographic creator

As the 2026 deer season transitions to rifle hunting, hunters in Minnehaha County are reminded to follow South Dakota's hunting rules and regulations. Whether hunters are using a bow or a rifle, there are important laws in place to protect wildlife, landowners, and the public.

Hunters in Minnehaha County must follow several rules during the 2026 hunting seasons. All hunters are required to have the proper hunting license for the animal and season they plan to hunt, follow designated hunting dates, and follow the limits on how many animals they are allowed to shoot. Those hunting on private land must have permission from the landowner and respect property boundaries. Hunters must also avoid shooting across restricted public roads or putting nearby residents and livestock in danger.

During firearm big-game seasons, hunters are required to wear fluorescent orange clothing above the waist for visibility and safety. All hunters must also follow legal shooting hours, which are 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset.

One major change for the 2026 hunting season involves doe hunting. South Dakota has made changes to antlerless deer licenses in an effort to help deer populations recover. For the 2026 archery season, licenses have been changed to allow only bucks, meaning hunters cannot hunt a doe with an archery license this year. These changes are intended to help rebuild deer populations following harsh weather, drought conditions, and disease outbreak.

For some hunters this rule isn't the most ideal, senior Lynden Pyle stated, "It is the dumbest rule ever, it's so annoying because I see eight hundred doe and can't do anything about it. It just doesn't make sense that there are 'low numbers' yet I see a lot of doe every day."

Although Pyle does the right thing, it's very frustrating for him to not be able to shoot a doe when he sees one.

And for some, like senior Samantha Hansen, it doesn't bother them. "I have a buck tag so it doesn't really affect me but I understand if there's low numbers why we can't shoot them this year." shared Hansen.

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks encourages hunters to review the current regulations before heading into the field. Following these laws helps keep this a safe activity and allows future generations to continue enjoying hunting.



Band & Choir Fall Concert

The middle and high school bands and choirs performed their fall concert on Monday, November 9. This was the first concert performance of the school year. Their next concert will be December 14.

Right Top: Malena Qualm and Nevi Compton (clarinets) and Noah Lexen play in the opening selection of the high school band concert.
Right Bottom: Landen Snyders and Natalie Lexen lead the trumpet section during the middle school band concert.







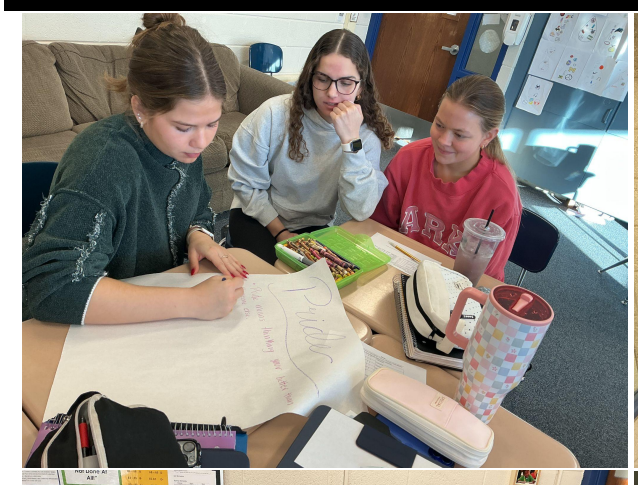




Middle Top: Mrs. Taylor Schweitzer leads the high school choir during their opening song of the night.
Middle Bottom: Brooklyn Schwebach sings a solo to open up "Traveling Soldier" a song for just the women's choir.
Left: Carson Brazee handles his part as the only bari sax of the middle school band.
Below: Quinn Williamson, Katherine Bultena, and Madelyn Jessen perform some pop hits during their performance on Monday night.



Pics of the Week









Who says English can't be active? Dr. Buchholz's senior AP class has take the week to teach small group novels to their peers through interactive activities, discussions, and lessons. Books that have been covered so far are Pride & Prejudice (top left), Frankenstein (top right and bottom right) and The Metamorphosis (bottom left)

Thanksgiving dish personality results

Mostly A
Turkey
You have main character energy and stay true to what you believe in

Mostly B
Pumpkin Pie
Cozy days are your jam and you bring calming vibes to every occasion.

Mostly C
Mashed Potatoes
You're a classic that everyone loves and can make friends with anyone.

Mostly D
Green Bean Casserole
Often a hot take, but you brings a unique perspective to the dynamic.

The GOAT of GOATS

Who really is the best of the best?

by **Colton Buchholz**
staff writer & infographic creator
editorial



Who is the GOAT of GOATs? In athletics, the debate over who deserves the title of the greatest of all time never ends. From Jordan vs. LeBron on the court to Katie Ledecky vs. Michael Phelps in the pool, every sport has its legends, records, and arguments for greatness. But what happens when someone takes the debate beyond individual sports and puts the greatest athletes of all time against one another? Who truly stands above the rest?

I'm setting out to find the answer by researching, comparing, and revealing the Top 30 greatest athletes of all time across all sports, taking the top two athletes out of each. Over the next three weeks, I'll unveil ten athletes each week, examining their accomplishments, dominance, impact, longevity, and legacy. Thirty legends. One ultimate question: Who is the GOAT of GOATs?

Of course, someone can't consider greatness in terms of records and stats alone. Greatness comes when records are beaten, championships are won, and new and different athletes emerge from succeeding generations and break barriers once thought unbreakable. However, what distinguishes truly great athletes is that they revolutionize the game they are playing, inspire millions, transform culture, and set standards others reach for throughout their career.

Consider the careers of athletes such as Michael Jordan, whose competitive fire and championship resumé helped turn basketball into a global phenomenon; Muhammad Ali, whose influence extended far beyond the boxing ring; Serena Williams, who redefined excellence in women's tennis; and Usain Bolt, whose speed, confidence, and dominance transformed the people's beliefs of what was possible. Each has an interesting argument, yet each represents a different definition of greatness.

Then there are the statistical legends. Michael Phelps, with his insane 28 Olympic medals, and Simone Biles, whose gymnastics achievements have pushed the boundaries of what the human body can accomplish.

Meanwhile, athletes such as Lionel Messi and Pelé have sustained incredible levels of excellence for nearly two decades in the world's most popular sport.

And let's not overlook the legends whose accomplishments may not receive the same attention. From the endurance of runners to the precision of golfers, the power of heavyweight champions, and the versatility of multi-sport athletes, greatness comes in so many different forms.

So, how will the rankings be determined?

Throughout this series, I will evaluate each athlete across six key categories:

1. **Championships & Achievements:** Championships, medals, records, awards, and career-defining achievements.
2. **Individual Dominance:** How thoroughly they separated themselves from their competition during their era.
3. **Statistics & Records:** Their influence on their sport, popular culture, and the world beyond athletics.
4. **Longevity & Consistency:** Their ability to maintain excellence and remain competitive over an extended period, comparing to averages in their specific sport.
5. **Competition & Difficulty:** How good their competition is over their career.
6. **Impact on Sports & Legacy:** How they will be remembered and whether their achievements have permanently changed their sport.
7. **TIEBREAKER:** In the case of a tie, it will be Prime vs. Prime; whoever had the better peak of their career would win.

In the following three weeks, I will settle the infamous debates of which athlete is truly the best, so you don't have to argue about who is better. Me, personally, it is very easy to get caught up in the, "who is better" controversy. While some choices would be obvious, others might cause confusion because of where they stand, but there is evidence to back it up.

Here are my pre-rankings. This is my list based off of my knowledge on each athlete before I do any of the research.

1. Michael Jordan (Basketball)
2. Michael Phelps (Swimming)
3. Tom Brady (Football)
4. Wayne Gretzky (Hockey)
5. Tiger Woods (Golf)
6. Lionel Messi (Soccer)
7. Muhammed Ali (Boxing)
8. Shohei Ohtani (Baseball)
9. Usain Bolt (Track)
10. Serena Williams (Tennis)
11. LeBron James (Basketball)
12. Simone Biles (Gymnastics)
13. Babe Ruth (Baseball)
14. A'Ja Wilson (Basketball)
15. Jenny Finch (Softball)
16. Rodger Federer (Tennis)
17. Katie Ledecky (Swimming)
18. Mia Hamm (Women's Soccer)
19. Mike Tyson (Boxing)
20. Dianna Taurasi (Basketball)
21. Jackie Joyner-Kersee (Track)
22. Kōhei Uchimura (Gymnastics)
23. Jack Nicklaus (Golf)
24. Pelé (Soccer)
25. Jesse Owens (Track)
26. Marta (Women's Soccer)
27. Alex Ovechkin (Hockey)
28. Jerry Rice (Football)
29. Allyson Felix (Track)
30. Cat Osterman (Softball)

The final ranking will not be just about counting how many awards these athletes have, what amazing records they've done, or how long their resume is. This will be about a compilation of everything these athletes have done in their careers including how they are viewed as a role model by everyone else.

Thirty athletes. Thirty careers. Thirty stories. One ultimate ranking. And when the final name is revealed, we'll return to the question that started it all: Who is the GOAT of GOATs?

Let the debate begin.