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

- Dress Up Themes for activities have been decided. Look on social media for each game's theme. TONIGHT'S FOOTBALL GAME is **HUNTING**.
- **Would You Rather:**
  - Have Doughnuts or Bagels

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Garretson, SD

GARRETSON
BLUE DRAGONS

Blue Ink



Fresh face and fresh start

Garretson's new superintendent moves across state, changes jobs, but keeps focus on love of education and working with students

by **Cece Fiegen**
staff writer and infographic creator



New Beginning

Garretson has transitioned into a fresh era, marked with a new superintendent, Dr. David Olson. He has put in the effort to get to this point and is ready to continue to do so.

The Journey

After Dr. Olson graduated high school, he went to Black Hill State University, and got his bachelor's in secondary education and history. From there, he started working in the Meade School District at Sturgis High School, as a history teacher, wrestling coach, and cross country coach.

He worked as a teacher for 9 years. "In that time, I got one master's in curriculum and instruction because I thought I didn't want to be an administrator. But then I changed my mind after I got went back to school and got a specialist degree. Dr. Olson worked in the Meade School District for some time, first as an assistant principal and then a principal.

During this time, he also started a doctorate program, in educational leadership for the superintendency. He got his doctorate in 2020 and worked there as the principal there for eight years. Finally, the position in Garretson opened up.

The Reason

Dr. Olson was greatly inspired by his parents to become a teacher. Both his mom and dad were teachers in the Watertown School District, now happily retired. "I really appreciated their work and what they did and them as role models."

Dr. Olson admits he wasn't quite sure what he wanted to do for a living, when first entering college. "I started kind of thinking about it, I knew I wanted to work with people… and I knew I wanted something that was challenging and different every day. I eventually landed on teaching."

When Dr. Olson was a teacher at Sturgis High School, the assistant principal there motivated him to look into becoming an administrator. "He saw something in me and he really pushed me into going into administration."

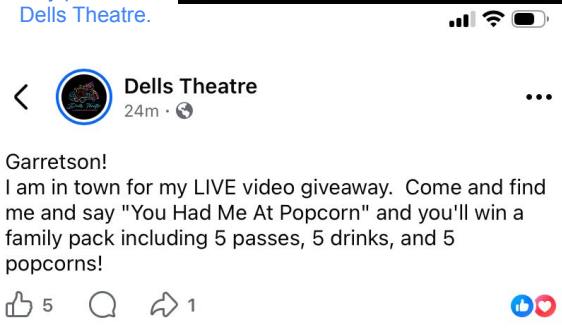
The Future

Dr. Olson is exactly the person Garretson needs, with plenty of experience and motivation to get the job done. His friendly personality makes him approachable to students, teachers, and parents alike. So far, his time in Garretson has been successful, with much to expect in the future.

15 seconds of fame

Eighth grader Caylix Buchholz put social media to good use this past weekend as the Dells Theatre plays a local game of hide and seek where people need to find them and say the given phrase. When they do, they win a family pack to the Dells Theatre.











Congratulations

Soccer defeated Vermillion 7-0 on Tuesday after beating the Tanagers a week prior 7-1. Garretson hosted West Central yesterday but fell to the visiting Trojans 0-6.

Above Left: Tenley Siemonsma maneuvers around the Vermillion defender on her way to push the ball downfield. Siemonsma knocked in two goals on Tuesday.

Above Right: Malena Qualm takes an aggressive look at the goal. Qualm netted another goal for the Blue Dragons, on their way to the 7-0 shutout victory.

Photos by Caylix Buchholz

Artificial Intelligence: Helpful tool or technology takeover

Loving when it works, dependent on services, but does it control too much

by **Brielle Weir**
staff writer

Artificial intelligence or AI has quickly become a part of life. Students use AI to come up with ideas. Businesses use AI to finish tasks. Scientists use AI to look into problems. AI can save time. It helps people do things that used to take a lot of time. As AI gets stronger some people are starting to ask if the fast pace of new AI models is too quick. Technology brings benefits. Its fast progress also raises questions. People wonder how control they should have over AI. They also wonder how long humans will still be in charge of AI.

One strong point about AI is its ability to help solve problems and handle difficult jobs. Dario Amodei, the CEO of Anthropic has said that AI might one day help scientists make steps in medicine. This includes finding treatments for diseases. That shows why stopping AI development altogether could mean missing out on gains. These gains could help improve lives and make society better.

Mr. Schrank said that AI can be a tool, when it is used properly. He stressed that AI must be in the right hands and used for the right reasons. When these conditions are met AI can really help people.

AI is also getting better at doing more than answering questions. Newer AI systems can carry out steps in a task. They can make decisions along the way. Anthropic says their AI is already being used by businesses. It helps in customer service, research and computer coding. For students AI can make researching easier. It can help organize information. Learn subjects faster. The more work people give AI the more important it becomes to make sure AI is used the way it is. The speed of AI development is a worry. Amodei recently called the growth of AI a "warning sign." He said the industry needs to slow down. That way new systems can be tested properly. The issue isn't that AI exists. It's that AI is improving faster than society can keep up. When technology changes this fast schools, companies and governments may struggle to create rules that fit. Rules need to slow down. That way new systems can be tested properly. The issue isn't that AI exists. It's that AI is improving faster than society can keep up. When technology changes this fast schools, companies and governments may struggle to create rules that fit. Rules need to change to match what AI can do.

There are also worries about misuse. What happens if someone uses AI wrong?. If people let AI act without supervision? Researchers are looking into risks. These include information, cybersecurity threats, economic shifts and losing control over powerful AI systems. Anthropic has formed teams. Their job is to test AI models for abilities. They also work on safety measures. These efforts show that even companies building AI know powerful tools need protection.

Schrank said, "I think it is more dangerous because it's hard to know what is fake and what is real anymore." He went on to explain that you cannot trust what you see online. That feeling can be very scary.

Now not everyone agrees on how serious the dangers are. Some believe warnings about AI are too strong. Others say the risks need attention. Amodei himself has said people shouldn't panic. He does not think we should shut down AI completely. Instead he believes new AI systems should be carefully tested. He thinks independent evaluators could help make sure companies follow safety steps. This debate will likely go on. As AI becomes a part of daily life opinions will keep changing.

AI is not automatically good or bad. AI is a tool. How people build and use AI will decide what impact it has. AI can help students learn, it can help businesses run smoothly, it can help scientists find answers. AI's rapid growth also brings risks that should not be ignored. As AI keeps getting smarter, society will have to find a balance. On one side there is the chance to use AI for good. On the side there is the need to keep humans responsible. The question is not whether AI will be part of our future. It already is. The real question is how people choose to handle that future.

NFL's first week surprises

by **Myles Hanson**
staff writer

The first week of the National Football League season has certainly been anything but boring with many teams launching a challenge to the National Football League right from the start.

The opening week of the National Football League season kicked off with a bang when the San Francisco 49ers played against the Los Angeles Rams in Australia and beat the hyped Los Angeles Rams 27-7 in an impressive show of dominance that saw Brock Purdy throw three touchdowns.

To top it all off to end the slate of games the Kansas City Chiefs beat the Denver Broncos 31-10 thanks to two touchdown throws from Patrick Mahomes. It was a week of amazing displays from some of the best players on the planet and saw the NFL tie the Super Bowl era record for the most points in Week 1.

That is not all there was in terms of exciting football action. There was another big surprise during the Sunday games as the Arizona Cardinals pulled off a stunning 26-14 upset, against the Los Angeles Chargers.

Game created by Autumn Genzler

THIS or THAT

THIS	THAT
Hot	Cold
Chocolate	Vanilla
Favorite Song on repeat	Favorite Movie on repeat
Teleportation	Flying
20 mins early	10 mins late
Beach	Mountains
Pause time	Rewind time
Unlimited Time	Unlimited Food
Wet Pillow	Wet Socks
Never cut hair again	Never cut nails again
Sweatshirts everyday	Shorts everyday

This Week's Need to Know

Upcoming Events

Friday, September 18
- JH Football @ Estelline/Hendricks in Estelline (4:30)
- Football @ Estelline/Hendricks (7:00)

Saturday, September 19
- JH Football @ Hanson Jamboree (9:00)

Monday, September 21
- XC @ Dell Rapids (2:00)
- JV FB @ Baltic (4:00)
- JH VB v. West Central (4:00)

Tuesday, September 22
- Soccer @ Dakota Valley (5:00)
- JH VB v. Dell Rapids (4:00)
- VB v. Dell Rapids (5:00/6:00/7:15)

Thursday, September 24
- Marching Band @ Arlington (10:30)
- JH VB v. Chester (4:00)
- VB v. Chester (4:30/6:00/7:15)
- Soccer v. SF Christian (6:00)

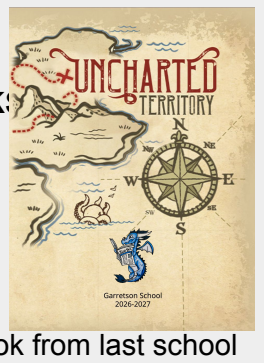
Friday, September 25
- Marching Band @ Beresford (10:00)

Saturday, September 26
- Marching Band @ Luverne (9:30)

Worth Mentioning

CONGRATULATIONS to the Cross Country team with another successful meet in Chamberlain yesterday. Senior Carter Siemonsma took home second place for the Blue Dragons as well..

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.



ORDER YOUR '26-'27 YEARBOOKS 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.

All-State choir singers chosen

Musical talent shines in Garretson choir as all-state quartet and alternates are announced

by **Colton Buchholz**
staff writer

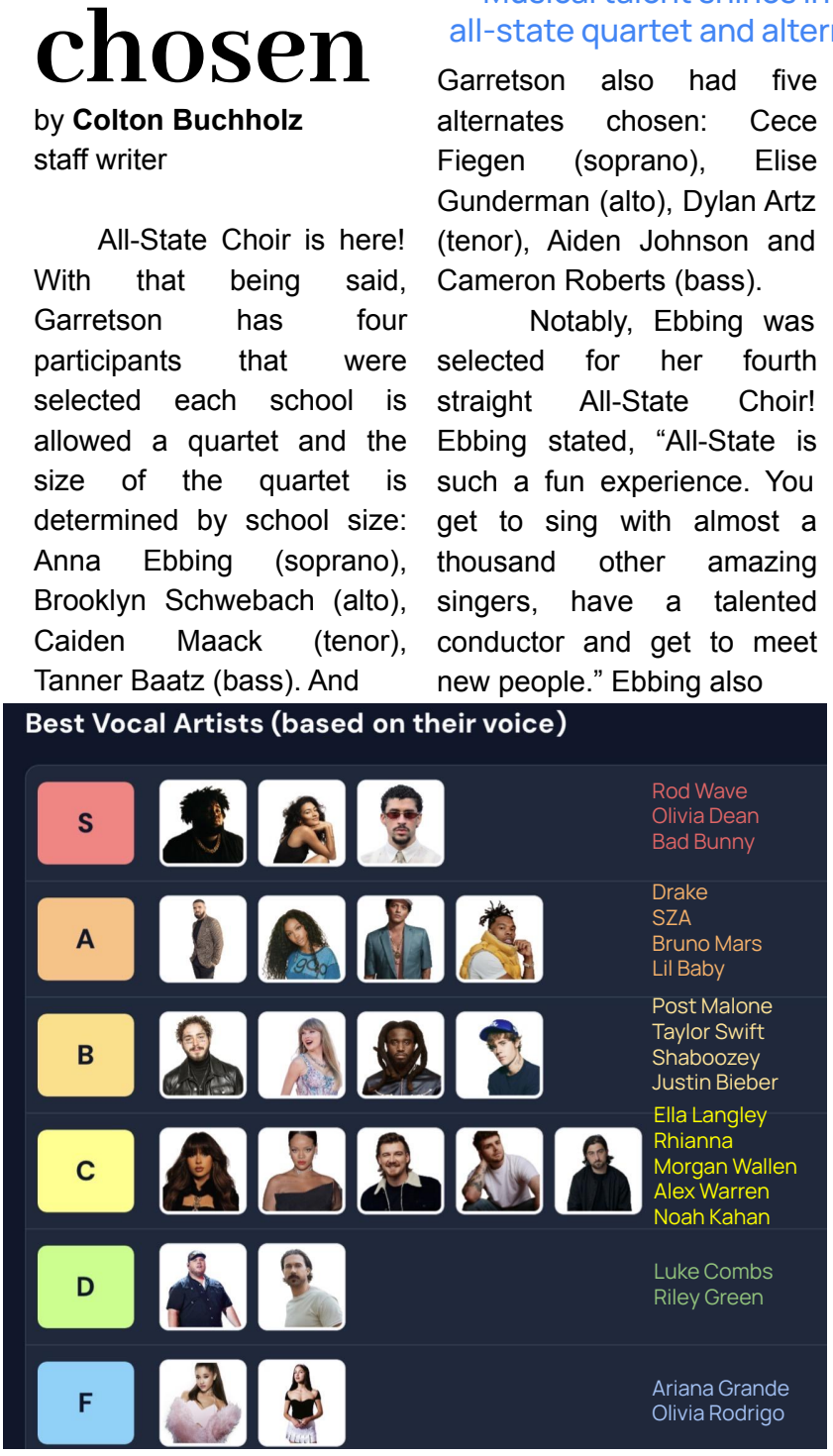
All-State Choir is here! With that being said, Garretson has four participants that were selected each school is allowed a quartet and the size of the quartet is determined by school size: Anna Ebbing (soprano), Brooklyn Schwebach (alto), Caiden Maack (tenor), Tanner Baatz (bass). And Garretson also had five alternates chosen: Cece Fiegen (soprano), Elise Gunderman (alto), Dylan Artz (tenor), Aiden Johnson and Cameron Roberts (bass).

Notably, Ebbing was selected for her fourth straight All-State Choir! Ebbing stated, "All-State is such a fun experience. You get to sing with almost a thousand other amazing singers, have a talented conductor and get to meet new people." Ebbing also plans on singing in choir when she attends college.

It is also Brooklyn Schwebach, Roberts, Artz, and Fiegen's first year being selected for this honor. Roberts talked about his selection, "It's a lot different than regular concert music. But I do like that there is a smaller group and we get to travel to Rapid City."

Each year, every school sends their respective quartets to either Sioux Falls or Rapid City. The choir members have one day to rehearse with each other the day before, which in this case, is Friday, October 30. There are generally around 1,000 students that participate in All-State Choir. This tradition has been held every year since 1952 and was originally and still run by the SDHSAA (South Dakota High School Activities Association).

All-State is at the Monument in Rapid City this year with the public performance on Saturday, October 31.





Pics of the Week



Above: The Kindergarten classroom is busy expanding their vocabulary and sentence writing abilities. The Class of 2039 follows Mrs. Leicester's guidance and instruction as they create their own books focusing on the word of the day, "a".

Photo by the Autumn Genzler







Right: Garretson soccer came alive while playing the Vermillion Tanagers. After defeating Vermillion on the Tanagers field 7-1 just one week ago, the Blue Dragons were able to back it up with a victory on their home turf, 7-0, on Tuesday this week, giving them their fourth win of the season and tying their win total from all of last year. The Blue Dragons are led by a strong senior core including Ella Frerk (above right with ball), Anna Ebbing, Amaya Millwood, Meiah Olson, and Elizabeth Krantz (Dell Rapids). However, they also have a strong, talented, young core. Freshmen Malena Qualm (right), Tenley Siemonsma, and Lydia Frerk have been consistent offensive presences and they are bolstered by strong play all around but especially on the defensive side by Stella Frewaldt, Taylynn Luedtke, and Leighton Kindopp (Dell Rapids).

Photos by Caylix Buchholz