



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

- Homecoming is next week! Prep your outfits this weekend.
- GERMAN PHRASE OF THE WEEK
- Finally Friday
 - Endlich Freitag
 - Thanks to Johanna Knauer for providing the Phrase of the Week.

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Garretson, SD



GARRETSON
BLUE DRAGONS

Blue Ink



Homecoming overtakes next week's events

One of the most exciting weeks of the year is finally here

The excitement has been building since the calendar flipped to September and the week is finally just around the corner. Homecoming takes over Garretson starting next Monday, September 22 through 26.

This week finally made it seem real as the king and queen candidates were announced. King candidates are Jake Jones, Cole Schleuter, Joey Tonsay, Levi Top, and Brecken Weir. Queen candidates are Lucie Frewaldt, Ava Ockenga, Alyssa Olson, Serie Risty, and Brooklyn Trudeau.

High school students voted for their king and queen choices today

during first period but will have to wait until coronation on Monday before hearing the results.

Monday is a jam-packed day with Ruff 'n' Tuff volleyball opening up the morning and Powderpuff football rounding out the evening.

Also happening during the week are dress up days, athletic events, FFA contests, marching band competitions, among other homecoming activities like the parade, dragon olympics, and the pep rally.

Look in this issue or the school website for more information.



The homecoming royalty was officially announced earlier this week. Congratulations to king candidates Jake Jones, Joey Tonsay, Levi Top, Brecken Weir, and Cole Schleuter. And a congratulations as well to the queen candidates Ava Ockenga, Alyssa Olson, Brooklyn Trudeau, Serie Risty, and Lucie Frewaldt.

Photo taken by Garrick Moritz, Courtesy of The Garretson Gazette

HOCO WEEK

SEPTEMBER

22-26

2025

COLOR DAY

Ruff 'n' Tuff Volleyball - 8:30-9:45

Coronation - 7:00

Powder Puff Football - Following Coronation

MON
22

TUES
23

DISNEY DAY

Palisades Manner - 2:15-3:00

- Seniors, Cheerleaders, Band

FANTASY FOOTBALL VS. FANTASY

WED
24

THUR
25

GAME NIGHT

SPIRIT DAY

Pep Rally for Elementary - 8:30

- Royalty, Senior Athletes, Cheerleaders

Dragon Olympics - 9:15

MS Kickball - 9:45

Float Building - 11:15

Parade - 1:30

Community Pep Rally - Following Parade

FRI
26

EVENTS THROUGHOUT HOMECOMING WEEK

Football flies over Hawks

Gridiron gang snags second win of season

by **Blake Benson & Cade Risty**
staff writers

Last Friday, the Garretson football team (1-2) travelled to Canistota (2-1) in a highly anticipated matchup. Even though it was Canistota's homecoming, Garretson ended up with the unexpected win.

On Garretson's first drive in the first quarter, backup quarterback Colton Buchholz launched a deep ball to Jackson Arend for a 70 yard touchdown! Garretson then kept their foot on the gas with Colton Buchholz throwing another three touchdowns to Jackson Arend, Chase Costello, and

Jack Adler.

In the end, Garretson held on to the lead to defeat the Canistota Hawks 35-14.

"It was a fun game and we played very well," said Garretson wide receiver Jackson Arend.

The Dragons go into a bye week this week. Next week Garretson's big homecoming game will be against the Viborg/Hurley Cougars. Both teams are currently 2-2 and both teams are looking to go above .500.

The Blue Dragons have a tough battle but are hoping to leave the field with a win at home.

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Stats from Friday @ Canistota on pg 2

Cross country continues to build on success

Team expands
varsity runners,
keeps improving

by **Shea Smidt & Bence Bonte**
staff writers & infographic creators

The Garretson cross country team went to Viborg this Tuesday for their 5th meet of the year. The varsity team got 1st place overall. Carter Siemonsma came in 2nd. Followed closely by Nathanael and Ethan in 4th and 5th. Miles Sievers wrapped up the varsity team earning 11th place. For the JV squad, Bence Bonte came in 14th and Cooper Danforth followed in 15th.

Here’s what some runners had to say about cross country. They were asked how they feel about cross country, and how do you

see your future in cross country. Cooper Danforth, “I like cross country because it keeps me in shape and gets me out of school.” “I see myself being on varsity and being a lot better and winning some meets”. Layne Rogers, “it has been very good, but also very challenging, mentally and physically” and “I see myself doing it again next year, I really like the challenge it gives me and the accomplishment I feel when done”. Ethan McGregor, “I feel like it's actually going very well”, and “Good very good, I’m on varsity it's pretty awesome”. As you can tell the cross country squad is feeling very accomplished and excited for the rest of the season!

Gun violence takes a toll

This has been just one of
over 10,00 gun-related
deaths in 2025

by **Colton Buchholz, Chase Costello, Zach Hermanson**
staff writers

On September 10, 2025, a tragedy occurred on the collegiate campus of University of Utah. Charlie Kirk, a speaker, a debater, and a politician, was killed while speaking at a rally. He was inspirational to some, and disliked by others, but most importantly, Kirk was a father of two girls and the husband of Erika Kirk.

Regardless of where

someone stands on their political views, violence like this is not the answer and is not the right direction for the country. Freedom of speech is a constitutional right to which people have the ability to exercise. It is okay to have different views and disagree. It is not okay to resort to extreme violence. It is not okay to be living in fear of this gun violence either.

Safe to say, it is very sad and unfortunate what



happened to Kirk and his family, and to all those who have suffered from senseless tragedies.

Garretson Football

Last Friday Garretson traveled to Canistota for there week 4 game. They ended up winning 35-14. Bringing the team record 2-2. They have a bye this week then they have 2-2 Viborg/Hurley



Graphic created by Chase Arend

Team Totals				
Total Plays	53	67		
Total Yards	355	223		
Passing Yards	273	136		
Rushing Yards	82	87		
First Downs	9	13		
Third Down Efficiency	2-11 (18%)	3-11 (27%)		
Fourth Down Efficiency	3-4 (75%)	3-8 (38%)		
Turnovers	1	1		
Fumbles Lost	1	1		
Interceptions Thrown	0	0		
Penalties	7	5		
Yards	53	40		
Stats provided by Hudl, shared by Coach Hughes				

Soccer finds the net a dozen times

Garretson returned to the field earlier this week in a rematch with Vermillion.

The Blue Dragons stunned the Tanagers in a 5-4 victory a week ago and this week Garretson traveled down to

Vermillion on Tuesday.

The Blue Dragons kept the ball rolling, literally. Garretson netted a dozen goals on the evening, winning 12-5 and taking down the Tanagers for the second time in a week.

Upcoming Fan Themes

Tuesday, Sept 23: Volleyball @ Dell Rapids - Country
Thursday, Sept 25: Volleyball @ Chester - PJs
Friday, Sept 26: Football v. Viborg-Hurley - Blue Out
Themes posted on Instagram at @ghstthemes

This Week’s Need to Know

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 20

- JH FB @ Hanson Jamboree (10:00)

Monday, September 22

- CLASS COLOR DAY
- Ruff ‘n’ Tuff (8:30)
- XC @ Dell Rapids (2:00)
- JH FB v. Viborg-Hurley (3:30)
- JH VB @ West Central (4:00)
- JV FB v. Viborg-Hurley (4:30)
- Coronation (7:00)
- Powderpuff (following coronation)

Tuesday, September 23

- DISNEY DAY
- Palisades Manor (2:15)
- JH VB @ Dell Rapids (4:00)
- Soccer v. Dakota Valley (5:00)
- VB @ Dell Rapids (5:00/6:00/7:15)

Wednesday, September 24

- FANTASY FOOTBALL vs. FANTASY
- FFA @ Southeast Regional Land Judging (TBD)

Thursday, September 25

- GAME NIGHT
- Marching Band @ Arlington (10:30)
- JH VB @ Chester (3:15/4:00)
- Volleyball @ Chester (5:00/6:00/7:15)
- Soccer @ SF Christian (6:30)

Friday, September 26

- SPIRIT DAY
- Pep Rally for Elementary (8:30)
- Game Show & Dragon Olympics (9:15)
- MS Kickball (9:45)
- Float Building (11:15)
- Homecoming Parade (1:30)
- Community Pep Rally (following parade)
- Football v. Viborg-Hurley (7:00)

Saturday, September 20

- JH FB @ Hanson Jamboree (9:00)

Worth Mentioning

HOMEcoming is next week. Please make sure you check your emails for updates and changes to classes due to extra homecoming activities.

DRESS UP DAYS are fun but still make sure your outfit still falls in the dress code guidelines.

END OF 1ST QUARTER is in just a month. Now is the time to double check grades and assignments.

BE CAREFUL STUDENTS of the Lunch Ramp Railing. Please do not pull or sit on it. It is heavy and a pain to reinforce. Please help take care of our school.

‘24-’25 YEARBOOKS are still available. They are \$30 each, a steal for the millions of memories made last year. Please come find Dr. Buchholz if you are interested.

Fully packed week of homecoming fun

by **Gracie Fiegen**
staff writers & infographic creator

Homecoming is just next week and it becomes so busy at Garretson High School with fun activities and sporting events. The high number of competitions within these five days gives students many opportunities to encourage their schoolmates. The importance of this week is to inspire school spirit for all students, but especially the athletes. Homecoming is the perfect occasion to create bonds and memories that can last a lifetime.

MONDAY

The theme for Monday is class color day. The day will start off strong with competitive matches off Ruff N Tuff men's volleyball and a normal rest of the day. There will be athletic events in the afternoon with Cross Country racing at 2:00 at the Dell Rapids Invitational. The junior varsity and junior high football teams might show a glimpse into Friday's outcome by playing the homecoming opponent Viborg-Hurley. The football JV will be playing at 3:30 and the JH will be playing at 4:30 both on the home field. Junior high volleyball will be playing at West Central starting at 4:00.

Hopefully these athletes and their supporters will be done and in the stands for the king and queen to be crowned Monday night at 7:00 on the football field. Immediately following the coronation, there will be a cutthroat women's Powder Puff football tournament. After those games, there will be a free hotdog meal for all attendees while the big G burns on the hill thanks to the Garretson Food Center.

TUESDAY

The theme on Tuesday will be Disney day.

Royalty, senior athletes, and the band will head to Palisade Manor on Tuesday at 2:15. After school there are women's athletics students can attend to support their peers. All ages of volleyball will battle at Dell Rapids school with JH starting at 4:00 and Varsity playing at 7:00. The varsity soccer team will host Dakota Valley on the home field at 5:00 with JV to follow.

WEDNESDAY

The theme for Wednesday will be fantasy vs. fantasy football. This will be a day of rest with a completely normal schedule. There will be the usual 1:30 out and no sports games.

THURSDAY

The theme for Thursday is board games where each of the grades will have its own game. The school day will be regular, but be ready for more post-school sporting events. Volleyball has another away game at the home of the Chester Flyers. Junior high volleyball will start at 3:15 with a rolling schedule with the varsity estimated to start at 6:00. Soccer will also play its second game of the week at Sioux Falls Christian. This time the JV will start at 5:00 and the varsity will be after that at 6:30. Cross Country will have a makeup meet in Chamberlain due to a rained out race.

FRIDAY

The theme for Friday is spirit day, so the whole school will be decked out in blue and white. Meet with your class in the first period, but shortly after that at 9:15 the high school will compete in the great Dragon Olympics. The elementary pep rally will begin bright and early at 8:30. Middle school will attend the beginning of Dragon Olympics and then at 9:45 will travel to the football field for kickball. After that, the high school will transition

into float building at 11:15. High school has a quick lunch before heading to the parade. Each high school grade will get to wave to the community from their seat on the float at 1:30. Immediately after the parade ends, there will be a great pep rally to cheer on the football team to hopefully bring home a homecoming win. Before the big game, there will be a tailgate meal. Finally, the 2025 homecoming football game will start at 7:00.

This week is a great time to get together with classmates. Take lots of pictures, but try to stay in the moment. Throughout the week, give everything 100%. Have competitiveness amongst the grades in games, dress up as much as possible, and cheer loud for school spirit.

High School Homecoming 2025 Dress Up Days

Monday- Class Colors

Example:

- Senior-Black
- Junior-Orange
- Sophomore-Green
- Freshman-Pink
- Eighth-White
- Seventh-Red
- Sixth-Purple

Tuesday- Disney Day

Example: Any Disney character

Wednesday- Fantasy vs. Fantasy Football

Example: Any make believe character or football merch

Thursday- Game Night

Example:

- Senior- Mario Cart
- Junior- Jumanji
- Sophomore- Candy Land
- Freshman- The Game of Life
- Eighth- Clue
- Seventh- Operation
- Sixth- Monopoly

Friday- Spirit Day

Example: Show your Blue Dragon Pride!

Infographic created by Gracie Fiegen



The class of '26 after winning Powderpuff during last year's homecoming is looking for a repeat heading into their senior year. Ruff 'n' Tuff is scheduled for Monday morning and Powderpuff is Monday evening.

Photo from Gracie Fiegen

by **Cece Fiegen & Harper Hanisch** and more.
staff writers

Homecoming is drawing near and its anticipation is building. The events that surround the week have always been lots of fun for everyone, but what's it like when it's your last year? This year's seniors share what they're excited for, what they'll miss,

Something Old

Many seniors have memorabilia from homecomings in years past and traditions that are still alive today. Elizabeth Roth tells how much she will miss it when she goes to college. "This is my last year that I will have a homecoming like this, and we're all

One last hurrah

just trying to make memories." Homecoming has made positive memories for generations and continues to do so with these seniors.

Something New

Despite celebrating homecoming for many years, being a part of the court adds a whole new level of excitement for the seniors. The royalty members explained that they didn't expect to be on court and were very thrilled to find out. Many members say that they themselves would like to win queen or king, while others express wanting their friends to win over them. "I was just really happy. My dad was the homecoming king, so I hope to carry on the legacy," says Jake Jones.

Something Exciting

The seniors share their enthusiasm for other events happening throughout the week such

as the powderpuff games, the dress up days, and the Dragon Olympics. When asked what she is most looking forward to for the homecoming week, Lucie Frewaldt shares a general excitement. "All the fun activities throughout the week and making it memorable because it's my last year."

Something Blue

"I'll probably miss the actual homecoming day, like all the activities on Friday, cause it'll be so different in college," commented Brooklyn Jacobson. Seniors deck out head to toe in school pride as they attend the assemblies, participate in the parade, and attend all of the activities on the game day Friday. All of which lead up to the big homecoming football game where they cheer on their friends on the field.