ISSUE #36

GCHS Weekly

GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL

September 21, 2026

BBQ cooks in first contest of year

by: Sydnee Gully

The BBQ team put their first competition in the books just a couple of days ago at the Greenwood Volunteer Fire Department. The team - called the Sandbar Smokehouse - showed up ready to cook and show off the skills they've been developing.

They placed 7th in chicken, 9th in pork, 4th in brisket, 5th in pork belly burnt ends, and earned the champion title in ribs!

In Jr. KidsQ, Logan Hillger placed 2nd. Over in Sr. KidsQ, Trevor Garcia finished in 6th, Grady Ivins placed 3rd, Nick Howard earned 2nd, and Aubrey Halfmann finished with the champion title. Overall, they were 5th place.

The group is showing a lot of promise for the upcoming year, and they are ready for their next competitions!







Cross Country Races at Big Spring Meet

by: Claire Eggemeyer

The cross country team traveled to Big Spring for the second time this season searching for improvement.

The boys started off the morning running at 9 a.m. and Thomas Hillger led the team, placing 28th (19:26). Right behind him in 54th place was Kannon Flores (20:12) and in 90th was Korbin Cervantes (21:20). Not long after Clayton Hiller finished in 143rd place (23:25) and Cade Baker in 165th place (24:32). Rene Cano had a good effort coming in 179th with a time of 25:12.

The girls ran next at 9:45, with Sophie Sullivan leading the way and coming in 15th place (13:43). Following behind her were Claire Eggemeyer placing 31st (14:29) and Tori Anderson placing 40th (14:44). Not far behind was Landry Baker placing 45th (14:57) and Reagan Hiller placing 62nd (15:31). Lastly, Ella Brinkley had a good finish placing 79th (16:42).

The team's next meet is in Irion County on Wednesday, September 23rd.

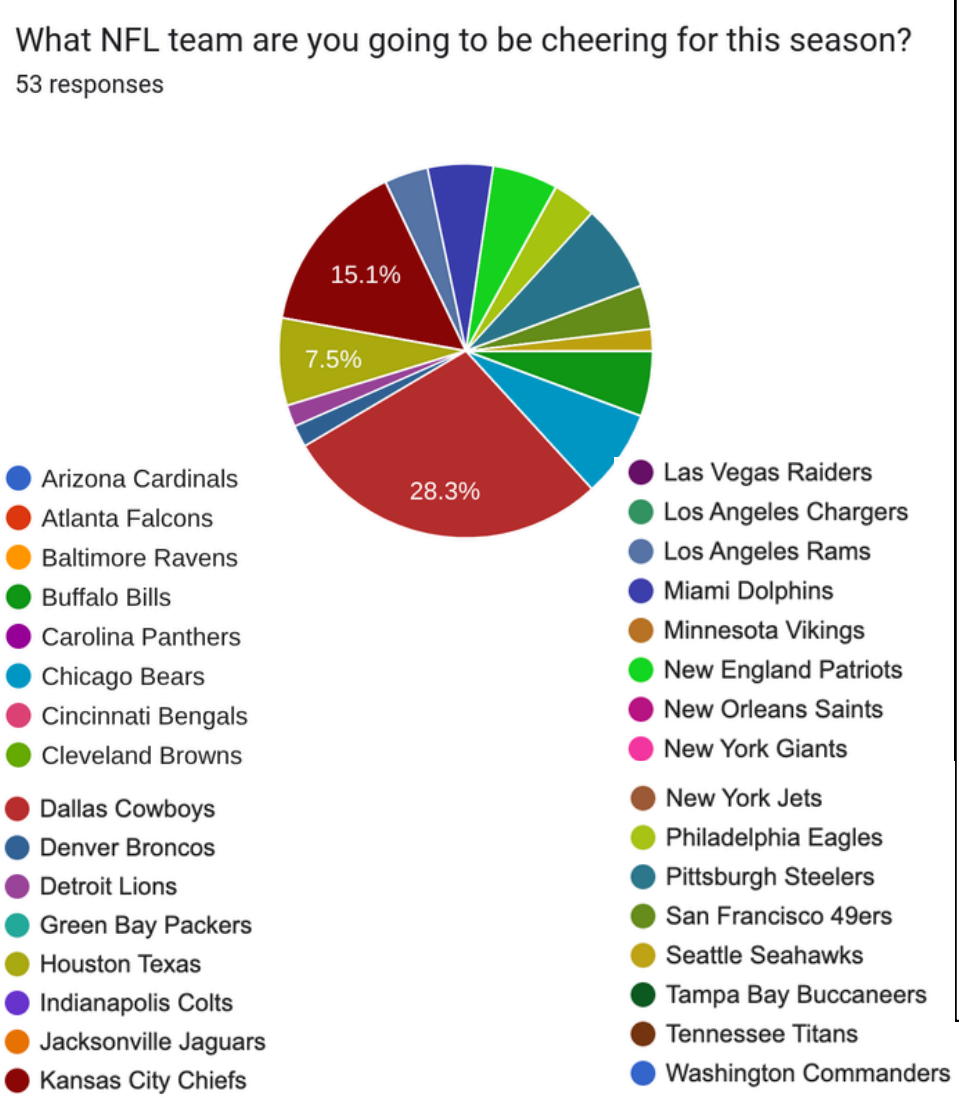
Fall tennis group kicks off year with first rounds of play

by: Sydnee Gully

Tennis season kicked off last week with the fall tennis season. Bronc Gass, Luke Eggemyer, Jesus Garcilita, Katelyn Ezell, and Cooper Baker all traveled to Big Lake to compete against new, tough competition to start off their year. They were able to play a decent amount of matches in order to help them improve for the upcoming year.









Staff Spotlight

by: Emily Easterling

This week, Coach Bates was chosen to be featured for our Staff Spotlight! This is his third year here, and he currently teaches inclusion, proctors dual credit classes, and coaches girls' basketball and track.

Coach Bates attended Tarleton State University and majored in Exercise and Sports Studies; however, growing up, he dreamed of pursuing a different career.

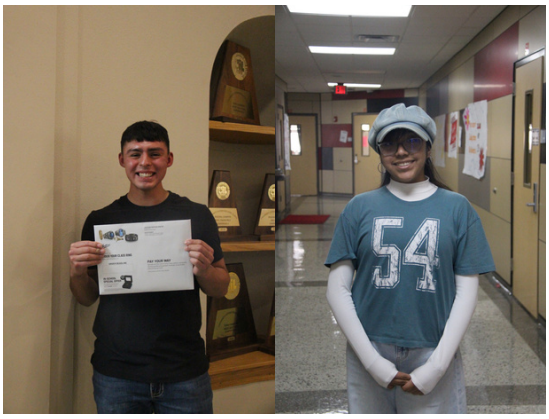
"A professional athlete, like every young boy does," he stated

Bates' favorite teacher in school was his math teacher, Mrs. Tanner, because of her teaching style and reward system.

"Miss Tanner, the math teacher, because she was business all the time. And she gave us cool stickers when we got good grades," said Bates.

He is very excited for the basketball season this year, with his main goal being to become a better leader.

Coach Bates has done an amazing job with his students and athletes during his time here, so be sure to give him a huge 'thank you' when you see him in the hallways!



Students of the Week

by: Claire Eggemeyer

This week we have two awesome students to spotlight.

First up is junior Jesiah Talamantes who wants to go to Texas Tech for mechanical engineering, because he likes to work on things. His goal for this year is to go far in basketball and his favorite part about this school is the lunch food. When asked who his role model is, he said, “Jesus because he is the best.”

Talamantes’s favorite teacher is Mrs. Martin and his favorite class is physics, because he is intrigued by friction and velocity. In his free time he likes to play basketball, ride his scooter, and play hackysack. If he could give some advice to other students in high school, it would be, “Don’t do drugs.”

Next is freshman Samantha Cortes who wants to be an astronomer when she grows up and go to a really big college. Her favorite teacher is Mrs. Hoelscher and her favorite class is floral design, where she feels like she can express herself. When asked who her role model is, she said, “My mom, because she’s shown me how to be disciplined and organized.”

Cortes’s goal for this year is to get all A’s and her favorite part about school is seeing her friends. In her free time she likes origami, painting, and studying astronomy. If she could give some advice to other students, it would be, “If things don’t work out the first time, don’t give up.”

In the Classroom with Mr. Barfield

by: Landry Baker

Mr. Barfield's Finance has been working on how to become a millionaire. Following along Dave Ramsey’s course Mr. Barfield is teaching the students how important it is to save, budget, and deal with money. The juniors are learning how important it is to deal with money in a positive way.

Known as a “jack of all trades and master of none,” Mr. Barfield brings his wide range of knowledge and experience into the classroom. His goal is to help students understand how the financial decisions they make now can affect their future.The class goes beyond simply learning about finances, with students discussing spending habits, setting goals, and thinking about their financial futures. If your ever in a pickle with your money, you know who to ask!

In dual credit, he is helping students get through their college level classes by answering any questions and helping them out when he can. His geometry class is learning about the area and perimeter of two-dimensional objects. Additionally, they're starting to identify three-dimensional objects for their upcoming lessons. FInally, financial math students are beginning to understand how to budget for college and life after high school through a series of lessons and assignments.

Mr. Barfield's classes are starting to make real progress in their material for the year as they learn about different things and subjects.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BEGINNING OF 2ND SIX WEEK	REPORT CARD NIGHT	JH/HS CROSS COUNTRY AT IRION COUNTY	SEE YOU AT THE POLE	HOMECOMING
	CLASS OLYMPICS		ASVAB (JUNIORS)	VARSITY FOOTBALL VS ROBERT LEE
	TRI STATE FAIR PUBLIC SPEAKING		JH/JV FOOTBALL AT ROBERT LEE	

In the Classroom with Mrs. Brinkley

by: Emily Easterling

This week in Mrs. Brinkley's 7th grade ELAR class, students continued their novel study of Restart by Gordon Korman. As they read, students worked to build a portfolio, helping them dive deeper into the novel. They have been analyzing characters' actions and perspectives, making inferences, finding evidence from the text, and tracking how the main character changes throughout the story.

Students have also been practicing a reading strategy called FIRE, which stands for Find Features, Investigate Questions, Read + GIST, and Eliminate Choices. This strategy helps students become more intentional readers and provides them with tools they can use during both class assignments and STAAR-style questions. One of the main skills they are focusing on is identifying the main idea of a section using only a few words instead of attempting to summarize every detail.

On Friday, students took a break from their novel study to work on their scrapbook projects. Throughout the year, they will be creating scrapbook pages that combine personal writing and creativity. These projects give students a chance to practice their writing skills while getting to create something personal that shows their growth and reflects their experiences during seventh grade.



Joke of the Week

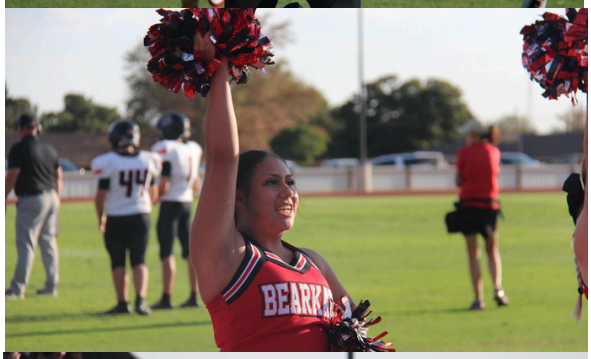
What is an astronaut's favorite part on a computer?

The space bar.

Football takes on Sands Mustangs

by: Sydnee Gully







The varsity football team traveled to Sands to take on a talented Mustangs team. They went in ready to focus, play hard, and fight to the end. Unfortunately, at the end of the first quarter, the Bearkats were down 16-0. Going into the second quarter, they struggled to find momentum and settle into the game, making the score 40-8. However, to end the half, junior Kelton Fuchs found a gap in the Mustang defense to run the ball in for the first Bearkat touchdown of the game. As Cohen Batla topped it off with a kick, the score was set to 40-8. Keeping the same energy, the defense took over to end the half on a high note as Thomas Hillger and Wyatt Everett worked to sack their quarterback.

Going into the third quarter, the boys came out with energy. Brody Walts started by making a long pass to Miles Colunga for a touchdown, and Batla made the kick to make the score 40-16. However, the Mustangs fought back with a touchdown of their own. However, tough Bearkat pressure forced them to miss the extra point attempt to keep the score at 52-16.

Both teams kept similar momentum for the rest of the game, going back and forth scoring touchdowns. Walts and Fuchs both found themselves in the endzone throughout the rest of the half, and Batla added on points with some extra points. However, the Mustang's team ended up on top of a high scoring game and the clock ran out showing a score of 98-54 in Sands' favor.

This week, the Bearkats are looking to focus on the mistakes they made and look for even more improvement. They are looking to take on the Robert Lee Steers on Friday at Bearkat Stadium for homecoming night. With their ability to work together and never give up, the game is sure to be thrilling.

Girls Basketball Kicks Off Fall League Games

by: Sydnee Gully



On Monday night, the girls varsity basketball team traveled to Greenwood to compete in their first week of fall league play. Each game lasted about 40 minutes with 2-twenty minute halves with a running clock.

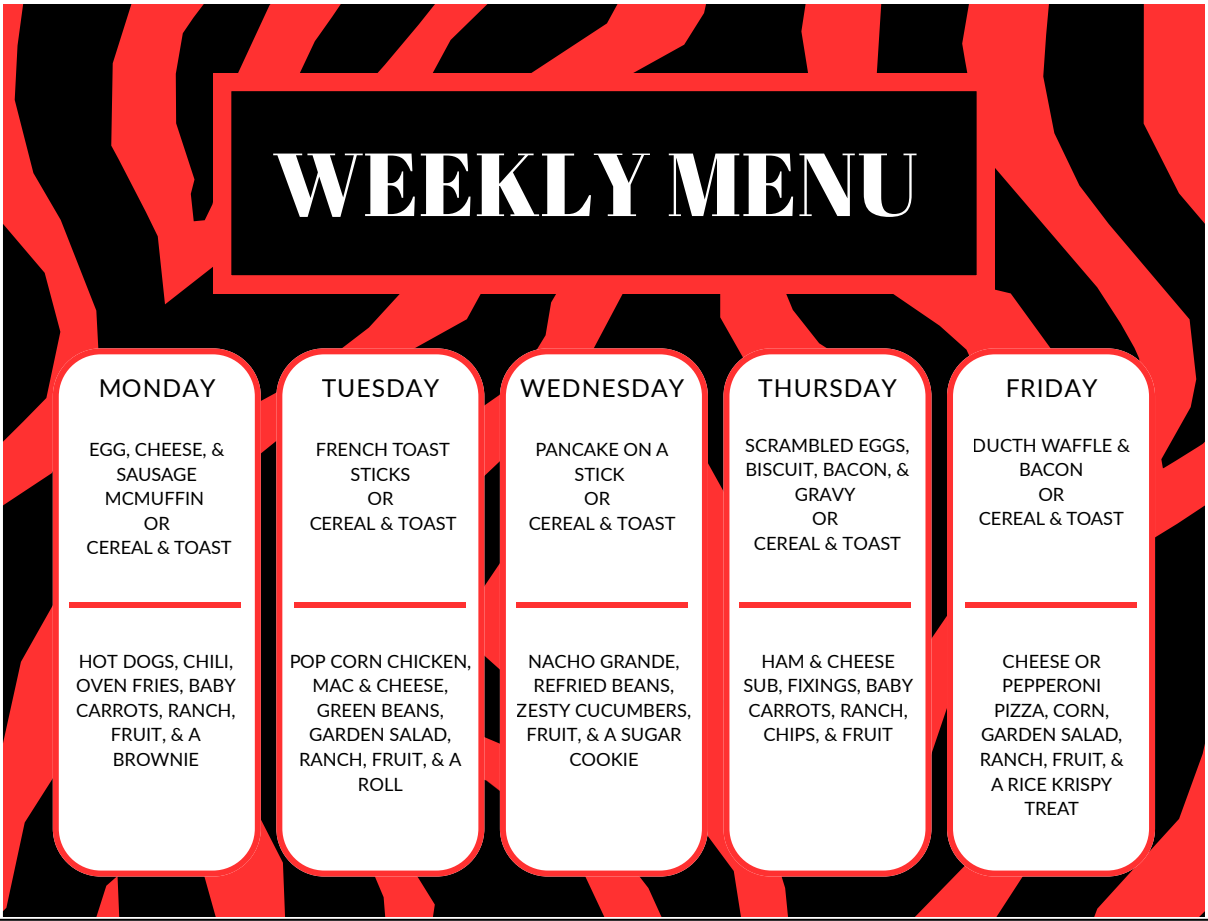
Their first game was at 5:30 against the host team, Greenwood. Despite being a bigger school, they were able to play well with the competition. At one point, they had a 10 point lead after they made a big run of scoring. However, the Rangerettes fought back with a run of their own, making the score 12-12 at halftime.

Going into the next half, they picked up some more momentum. Working together with great communication and encouraging each other, they were able to play a close game with tight defense and competitive offense. However, when the clock ran out, it was a tied game at 26-26. With this, they entered "Sudden Death" where the next team to score won the game.

The Lady Kats got the ball off of the jump, but weren't able to do anything with the possession. Then, they played connected defense to stop the other team from taking over. Finally, the game ended with a perfect pass from Addi Goodwin to Ella Brinkley to score 2 points, securing an exciting win.

The next game was against Andrews. Although all of the girls were tired, they were excited to take on another team. This game, they focused on some of their mistakes from the first game, hoping to make improvements. This strategy worked well as they quickly picked up momentum to make a big score gap. By the end of the game, the score was 50-27 in favor of the Lady Kats.

Next week, they're going to be taking on two very talented teams. Still, they're going to go in with confidence and a drive to win. Their ability to work together on both sides of the ball and continually encourage each other is something that they can hold on to in the games to come.



FCCLA hosts Recruitment Week

by: Sydnee Gully

Last week, FCCLA members worked to promote the organization during FCCLA Recruitment Week. They held dress up days each day that related to FCCLA, and students were welcome to dress the parts. Students across the high school and junior high wore their best gear, ready to show off their FCCLA pride!

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you."

-Walt Whitman

