

The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon performed their play at the state one-act festival in Rapid City this morning.



Opportunities to learn the significance of Black History Month

by **Rebekah Roth**
staff writer

Since 1976, February has been recognized as a national celebration of Black History by every U.S. president. The tradition of annually celebrating African American history and acknowledging their many accomplishments has even spread across the globe, with countries like Canada and the United Kingdom taking part in honoring Black History Month in addition.

Originally however, only the second week of February was designated as a time to commemorate the contributions of African Americans by the Association for the Study of African American Life (ASALH) in 1926. February was chosen due to the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass being within the month, as the two were huge benefactors in abolishing slavery.

President Gerald Ford devoted this month to recognize the often overlooked achievements of Black Americans throughout U.S. history. This was in response to colleges that had begun dedicating February to learning more about African American history after the civil rights movement. Now, schools, universities, and businesses around America celebrate the history and rich culture of Black Americans with events and educational programs in honor of Black History Month.

Even amid the coronavirus pandemic, there are still methods to appreciate Black History Month virtually and local activities to get involved in with the proper precautions for COVID-19. Many organizations are providing opportunities for people to participate in safe ways.

Virtual Ideas

One way to get engaged this month is to register for the Smith-



In Illinois, the Chicago Children's Choir hosts a socially distanced concert for online listeners in honor of Black History Month.
Photo from CNN at cnn.com

sonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) free virtual events that preserve the attainments of African Americans throughout history. The main event will feature renowned authors like Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha Blain, who recently collaborated together to create their newest work, "Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019." These authors will hold a discussion over their book and U.S. history from the perspective of Black Americans. More information on registration can be found on the NMAAHC website.

Another idea is to take some time to learn about the history and improvements to the nation made by African Americans. Some ways to do this are by watching documentaries, reading books or articles, and viewing online museum exhibits. Google Arts and Culture is offering online art galleries, virtual tours, and digital stories to honor and teach about Black History.

Additionally, supporting small, online, black-owned businesses not only assists the business to continue, but promotes diversity as well. Purchasing products/goods from these companies or recommending them

to others are some ways to support them.

Local In-Person Ideas

The South Dakota Historical Society in Pierre is celebrating Black History Month by featuring the State Archives' African American collections. These collections showcase Black Americans in South Dakota's history, their works, and their lives. The hours for the Historical Society are from 8am-5pm on weekdays.

In Sioux Falls, there's the African American History Museum at the Washington Pavilion. This provides an in-person opportunity to learn more about the struggles and achievements of African Americans throughout South Dakota's history.

Also, instead of just supporting online black-owned businesses, there's the option to support small, local establishments too. This helps keep small businesses thriving in the local community, and encourages diversity in the state.

Black History Month honors the many accomplishments of African Americans throughout the history of the U.S. These contributions have helped shape the country and society into what is known today, and inspire citizens to continuously push for diversity and equality.

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Maine is the only state that has a one-syllable name.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Apples are actually more powerful than caffeine in efforts to help keep you awake.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What do you call a happy cowboy?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: Solve this rebus puzzle.

M CE
M CE
M CE

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

- Friday, February 5**
 - State One-Act Competition
 - Wrestling v. BEC/LCC Conference Tourney (4:00)
 - JHBBB @ MCM (4:00/5:00)
 - BBB @ MCM (6:15/7:30)
- Saturday, February 6**
 - GBB @ Colman-Egan (1:00)
- Monday, February 8**
 - JH/JV Wrestling @ Tri-Valley (4:30)
- Tuesday, February 9**
 - GBB @ Beresford (4:00/6:30)
 - BBB @ Beresford (5:15/8:00)
- Wednesday, February 10**
 - One-Act @ Region Competition in Madison (9:00)
- Thursday, February 11**
 - Early Out (1:30)
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (2:30-8:30)
- Friday, February 12**
 - No School—Teacher In-Service
 - GBB @ Flandreau (6:15/7:30)
- Saturday, February 13**
 - GBB @ MCM (6:15/7:30)
- Monday, February 15**
 - No School

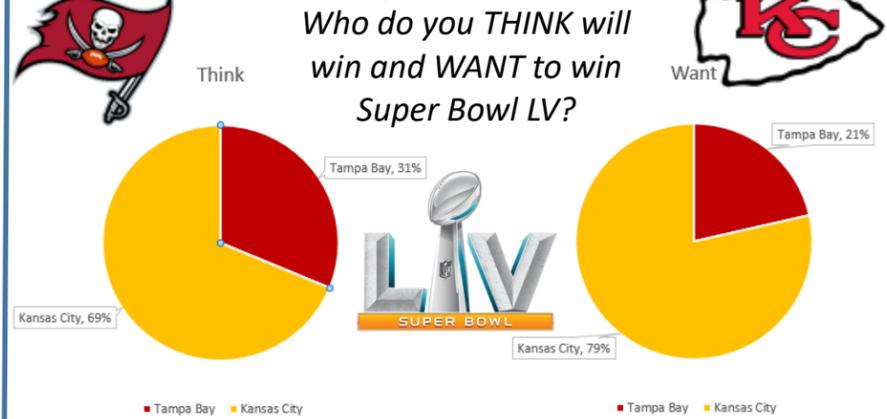
Pipeline down

by **Dustyn Winterton**
staff writer

Two weeks ago Joe Biden was inaugurated as President of the United States. He is suspected to revoke a permit for

the Canadian company TransCanada's to create the Keystone XL Pipeline. The pipeline's first section was finished in 2010 and has been adding sections ever since.

Student Opinion Poll



JOKE: A jolly rancher

BRAINTEASER: Three Blind Mice

Worth Mentioning

JUNIOR HIGH ATHLETICS end this week. The girls hosted MCM yesterday in their final contest of the year while the boys head to MCM tonight to wrap up their season.

COUNTDOWN TO BREAK: 7 Days
Next break is February 12 through February 15

Buzz off Bachelor

by **Trever Edmundson**
staff writer—editorial

This year kicked off with the 25th season of *The Bachelor*, and wow! it is just as terrible and bland as the 24 seasons that came before it. It's no shocker that they are just churning out the same garbage again since that's all they have been doing since day one, but for some reason people still buy into the fake drama and boring plot like it's something new or interesting.

The entire premise of the show is that a man gets paired with 30 women and has the rest of the season to pick and choose between them to find his ideal match, "breaking" many hearts along the way. Coincidentally every single season there is always a problematic woman or two in the group that everyone unanimously hates but still usually makes it extremely far into the show for no real apparent reason. Then the whole season the women are pitted against each other because none of them can get along since they all are so "madly in love" with the man.

Ignoring all the issues with the show in general it's also the fact that the entire ending of the show revolves



around them finding their true love and getting happily married. That would be great and all but *The Bachelor* has such an extremely poor success rate sitting at a low 11% that you can't help but laugh. On the other hand the show *Married at First Sight*, where they literally get married after meeting for the first time has a higher success rate sitting at 30%.

If you want to see a reality tv show that actually works consistently then I'd recommend *90 Day Fiancé* which has a less than 10 percent divorce rate. All of these reasons really help highlight the many obvious issues with *The Bachelor*, and hopefully someday the world will be lucky enough to see the day that *The Bachelor* finally gets canceled.

Bachelor Buzz

by **Peyton Hove**
staff writer—editorial

Week 5

THEY ARE GONE! Queen Victoria and mouthy Anna have been booted from Matt's journey. Kind of going to miss the pointless drama, but I'm glad Matt took control and got them out of there. The new girls can finally breathe! However, Victoria's comment to Matt will forever be iconic, "I honestly feel so sorry for you that you would listen to hearsay and not all the facts behind the situation. So goodbye."

Besides them leaving, Racheal got her one on one! She went shopping and it looked like a dream date. What could be better than that right? Well not only did she go shopping he said he's falling in love with her! They are so cute too!

The group date this week looked like it was shot in Garretson itself. I loved it! They were all in designer clothes only to clean up manure. That night Abigail got the rose and she deserved it.

Finally, Kit got a one on one. The one thing I got from it was Kit's famous quote, "My life was all gold Bentleys and fashion shows." Same girl, same.

Favorites

- Racheal
- Abigail
- Michelle

Go Home

- MJ

Overall, I can't wait for next week! Heather is coming to crash the show, and Tyler gets some screen time! What could be better?

Helping those who help our country

by **Morgan Swenson**
staff writer—editorial

Have you ever wondered what health problems Veterans, people in the military, and their family have and how to help them? People from the military can develop depression and or PTSD. There are ways to help with them though.

14% of people develop depression while in the military making it the more popular health condition. 19% of veterans have reported brain injuries during or from combat. A lot of the brain injuries cause depression in the veterans.

Additionally families of veterans or current members in the military tend to go through depression because of the family member being gone. Some symptoms to look for would be social isolation, feeling helpless or hopelessness, sleeping too much or too little, suicidal thoughts or behaviors. For some of the more severe cases they might form some physical behavior like delusions, or hallucinations.

Some symptoms for children of military parents might be change in

their eating habits, struggling in school, and sometimes social isolation. If you have noticed one or more of these talk to someone, a doctor, counsel or the suicide hotline. They will help you and they could point you to a counselor if they are thinking that you need more help.

Some of the reason that military members suffer from depression could be because of sexual assault or sexual harassment. It's one of the scarier reasons for depression. The likelihood of sexual harassment happening in the military is 80% for females and 38% for males. The likelihood of sexual assault for men is about 30% and 52% for women. In 2011 it was found that women are more likely to be raped by fellow soldiers than to be killed in combat.

The assault or harassment can lead to PTSD, depression, anxiety, social phobias, suicidal or self-harm behavior. If someone mentions it, ask if they want to bring it to the police and press charges. If they press charges there will be a likelihood of the percentage to go down.

PTSD is also another thing that military and veterans go through.

About 11-20% of people from the military developed PTSD. 41.5% of females get diagnosed with PTSD and about 4% of men. 10.9% of people that were non-dependent got or have PTSD.

Some symptoms of PTSD are most of the time or always waking up with nightmares, they are jumpy or on edge because of loud noises, they develop insomnia or have a difficult time sleeping. Some people develop destruction addiction. Sometimes they feel or are disconnected from their loved ones.

Ways to help or get help with PTSD is first get tested to see if that is what they're suffering from. People can get help with this with therapy. They're many different types of therapy to try. If that doesn't work then talk to a doctor and they can prescribe medications.

It's likely that people will develop depression or PTSD, from being in the military. There are also chances of getting harassed or assaulted while in the military. Just remember there are ways to get help. People don't have to suffer.

Uhlich honored as scholar of the week

Press Release by **Sioux Valley Energy**

Brookings, S.D. – Rave Uhlich, a student at Garretson High School, has been chosen as a Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 'Scholar of the Week.' Rave was recognized with a cash award by Sioux Valley Energy and was featured on Dakota News Now for his accomplishments. He is the son of Benjamin and Winter Uhlich of Sherman.

This program was founded on the four pillars of Touchstone Energy: Integrity, Accountability, Innovation, and a Commitment to Community.

"Rave is a talented young person

who has an extensive list of accomplishments both in and out of the classroom. He is an example of what we need in our future leaders, and we are proud that he was chosen as a Touchstone Energy Scholar of the Week," said Tim McCarthy, Sioux Valley Energy General Manager/CEO.

On his nomination form, Garretson School Counselor, Michelle Pliska, listed Rave's academic and sports accomplishments but also described his personal attributes which made him worthy of this honor, "He is a natural leader. He is the type of human being that is best captured in person. Every person he

interacts with walks away feeling valued and genuinely respected. Rave is kind, empathetic, driven, positive and well balanced. He is welcoming to others and does not pass judgment. I have watched Rave overcome obstacles, all the while balancing a full academic course load, work, and multiple school activities. Besides being a responsible student and a role model, Rave is a joy to work with. Rave possesses good judgment, emotional maturity, and problem-solving skills. This young man is truly a well-rounded individual – bright, fun, skilled communicator and compassionate."

Blue Dragon Social Media

Keep in touch with what is happening in the school and with our Blue Dragon athletics.

SCHOOL: @GHSBlueDragons
BOOSTERS: @BDDragonBoosters
FOOTBALL: @BlueDragonFB
VOLLEYBALL: @BlueDragonVB
SOCCER: @GarretsonSoccer
BOYS BASKETBALL: @BlueDragonBBB
GIRLS BASKETBALL: @BlueDragonHoops
GOLF: @ghs_golf2017

You can also follow the *Blue Ink* on snapchat at ghs_blueink.



New face brings new change

Biden's first few weeks in office come with mixed

by Peyton Hove
staff writer

It's been over two weeks since America got a new face in the White House and President Joe Biden has made himself at home. With new bills being past and current ones being revoked, President Biden is taking initiative on his plan to "build back better for all Americans."



President Biden signed 17 executive orders in his first day in office. These next four years will bring a new change to the United States

Done so far

- Expanded access to Affordable Care Act
- Requiring mask-wearing on federal property
- Rejoined the Paris Climate Accord
- Revoked the permit to continue building the Keystone XL Oil Pipeline
- Extended pause of student loan payments

"I am not a fan of what Biden has done in his first few weeks in office. I am not in support of Joe Biden dropping the Keystone XL Pipeline for one instance. By shutting down the pipeline, he has unemployed nearly 15,000 people in the workforce," stated senior Caeden Bunde. Bunde is currently working for the SD legislative working in the page program.

Plans to do

- Spend \$130 billion to reopen schools
- Pass \$1.9 trillion stimulus plan to repair damage caused by the pandemic
- Provide additional \$1,400 stimulus checks
- Raise the minimum wage to \$15
- Sign executive order to make the country carbon-neutral by 2050]

"I believe big changes will be coming," expressed Bunde

Joe Biden has signed over 28 executive orders, and does not plan on slowing down. During Trump's first two weeks in office, he signed eight executive orders; Obama signed 14, and Bush penned two. The Biden-Harris administration is committing on climate change, creating jobs, building infrastructure, and delivering environmental justice.

On the other hand, former President Donald Trump is facing his impeachment trial. The House of Representatives has filed one article of impeachment, accusing Donald Trump of "incitement of insurrection." They made this claim following the Capitol riots.

If Trump were to get impeached he would lose his chance of running for president in 2024 and the benefits it comes with being the president of the United States. These benefits include: a pension of about \$200,000 yearly, and annual \$1 million travel stipend, and money for staff.

Blue Dragon thoughts

If you had a magic wand and could change one thing in the school, what would it be and why?

by Blue Ink journalists
staff writers



GARRETSON
BLUE DRAGONS

"I would change the food in the school into something that tastes better," - Sage S, freshman

"I would add nap time, especially recently because we've had morning play practices and I've been waking up really early. It'd nice to be able to get that nap in and be refreshed." - Lizzie O, senior

"I would definitely bring back the old, old school lunches, bring back the old food like the popcorn chicken, mini

tacos, and crispitos. That's it!" - Maverick H, sophomore

"I'd love not having to test all the time because that's been terrible." - Madden L, senior

"I'd add more language classes, so I could have more options to learn new languages to have in my back pocket." - Lauren F, junior

"I would get rid of the bipolar weather in the school because it's always too cold or too hot." -Sam Shellum, Madi Decker, Mataya Trower, juniors

Senior Spotlight

Sophia Mosley

Activities Involved In:
Wrestling Cheer
Track & Field
Choir

Best Part of Senior Year:
Prom...when and if we have it

What Will You Miss Most:
Teachers and Classmates

Plans for Next Year:
Go to Southeast Tech to be a Vet Tech



Keisha Veldkamp



Activities Involved In:
4-H
FFA
UBRA
Ice Skating

Best Part of Senior Year:
Teachers are more lenient...and Privs

What Will You Miss Most:
My friends

Plans for Next Year:
To attend a college for either vet tech or sports management



Blue Ink birthday shout outs

Feb. 1—Caleb Roth (freshman): **Favorite Gift:** "My favorite gift I received was a bike when I was six. It made me so happy."

Feb. 3—Lucas Draper (senior): **Favorite Gift:** "I think my favorite was probably my first Nintendo DS. Without it, gaming probably wouldn't be my biggest hobby (or even exist), and I'd miss out on all the hard work and incredible stories game developers create."

Feb. 3—Lisa Danforth (staff): **Favorite Gift:** "I don't remember a gift, but I do remember a pretty rockin' Cabbage Patch Doll cake my mom got for me when I was little!"

Feb. 4—Julie Gnadt (staff): **Favorite Gift:** "Money, because I can spend it on whatever I want or need."

Feb. 5—Alli Gawarecki (freshman): **Favorite Gift:** "A tie blanket."

Feb. 7—Sam Shellum (junior): **Favorite Gift:** "Shoes; I have an obsession."

Feb. 18—Darcy McGee (staff): **Favorite Gift:** "Certificates from my kids to do an activity with me (kayak, bike ride, etc)."

Feb. 27—Chloe Schleuter (junior): **Favorite Tradition:** "Going to state wrestling"

