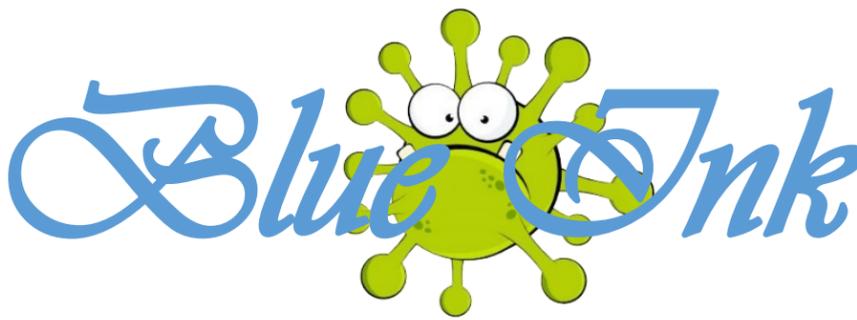


Some restrictions have been eased but the coronavirus threat remains. If you can stay home, stay home. If you have to go out, be SAFE!



Years of memories, a lifetime of influence

First grade teacher Julie Hersom hangs up her teaching shoes, ready for retirement

After dedicating herself to her students, fellow teachers, classroom, and Garretson for 40 years, Ms. Julie Hersom is ready for her next journey.

Ms. Hersom has been a staple in Garretson. She can often be found at football games, concerts, and her students' many activities in addition to all the time she spends in her classroom.

Ms. Hersom has positively impacted many students and fellow teachers during her time here. Posted in the elementary wing bulletin board is a collection of notes, letters, and pictures from current and former students and teachers.



This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: On this day in 1886, Coca-Cola was first sold to the public. This occurred at Jacob's Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: The color yellow decreases melatonin, the hormone that makes you sleepy. Surround yourself with yellow to aid in focusing.

CROATIAN WORD OF THE WEEK: Home = doma (doh-mah)

JOKE OF THE WEEK: In honor of Star Wars Day on Monday: What do you call a droid that takes the long way around?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: Why is it when you find something, it is always in the last place you look?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

- Friday, May 8**
 - No School—Online Learning
 - Elementary drop off last week's learning packets/technology/books, pick up new ones
- Monday, May 11**
 - No School—Online Learning
- Tuesday, May 12**
 - No School—Online Learning
- Wednesday, May 13**
 - No School—Online Learning
- Thursday, May 14**
 - No School—Online Learning
 - Elementary drop off last week's learning packets, pick up new ones
- Friday, May 15**
 - No School—Online Learning

Worth Mentioning

COUNTDOWN TO RETURN: Garretson continues to follow the original recommendation of schools closed through May 31.

YEARBOOK REQUEST We are in a unique experience. If any students want to contribute "online learning" pictures for the yearbook that would be great! It can be screen shots of work, struggles you've had or major successes! Be creative.

GRADUATION is now June 20

Last One

by **Kylie UHL**
senior writer—editorial

These past four years have been crazy to say the least. I would like to say my favorite memory of high school was in Mrs. B's classroom, but it wasn't. I made lots of memories in that classroom and I have my classmates and Mrs. B for that. One of my favorites in that classroom was sophomore year speech class. The whole class was a great memory because we definitely pushed Mrs. B's limits and had a lot of different personalities in that class.



Kylie's no nonsense attitude and willingness to tell it like it is makes her a wonderful journalist. She knows her strengths and makes sure to choose articles that fit that as well as her interests. Kylie will be attending Iowa Lakes for Athletic Training next year.

Next I'd have to say my favorite memory in Steckler's class would have to be taking naps in his class. Something about taking naps in his class. It's not that the content is boring, it's just that it's really easy to fall asleep in I think mostly because they're no windows. Risk it all and just take that nap.

Mr. Bohl's this one is a hard one because I hate math with a passion and when you don't like the topic you're learning about it's hard to enjoy. My junior year third period was algebra 2 and I always brought snacks. I brought this tub of animal crackers and Top and Jimmy took out all the crackers and sorted them out on our desks and ate all the different groups of animals.

Sophomore year Mr. Furness' biology I honestly don't

remember what happened in that class but I can still hear Furn's voice telling all the boys "to quit being a dude." Or the "who's got the volume."

Freshman year in Mr. Hughess class I remember that a classmate brought these gum balls that were like red hot chili flavored and Stots and Bean ate them and almost started to cry.

Mrs. K's Ag class my junior year was a blur; there were six girls. Chloe was always the highlight of the class she always came into class singing "Deeper than the Holler" and it made my day.

Mrs. McGee this last year was honestly one of my favorite teachers. The caramels she made were the best overall. Clearly she knew how to win over a bunch of teenagers and that's by food. However whenever Bean would try to distract her it was very entertaining to listen to their conversation.

P.E. Sophomore year with Mr. Mudder we played matball all the time and honestly when Jacob started to get Jayden really riled up and they would just go at it that was honestly so entertaining.

High school was crazy and my best advice to any underclassman is to enjoy it and get over everything, don't hold that grudge, go to that basketball game, ask that person to prom or even take that class that seems hard.

I say that as someone who knows what's it's like to miss out on your last 9 weeks of high school, just go for it and hope for the best. If it doesn't work out just keep on

Thank you Blue Ink

by **Mason Hofer**
senior writer

After four years of writing for the Blue Ink, due to the early out for COVID-19, this will be my final article. When I was a freshman I seriously considered dropping journalism because I didn't think I could handle writing an article every week, and here I am, four years later, writing my last article as a senior. Journalism has helped me grow as a student and a person, I will miss the talks and sports debates we had almost everyday at the end of the day.

I am so glad Mrs. Buchholz has kept the journalism class and the

Blue Ink paper going strong. She works very hard every week helping her students with the paper, putting it together, and on top of that, doing the yearbook, all because she cares about journalism.

The class trips the journalism class has taken the past years have been very beneficial for all journalism students. We've been to radio station centers, KSFY, and multiple journalism conventions. All of these, especially the conventions, have been very beneficial for me and my classmates. They've helped me become an overall better journalist with picture taking, news writing, editorials, etc.

As I mentioned earlier, journalism

had not only made me a better writer, but also a better student. In my early years of high school my GPA was very lackluster, around a 2.5. But, with Mrs. Buchholz encouragement and help, I was able to bring it up to a cumulative 3.0 GPA.

I want to conclude my final article the only way that seems right, by thanking Mrs. Buchholz for being the best teacher I have ever had and helping me through the struggles of high school. Thank you for consistently making 8th period my favorite period of the day, and pushing me to become an overall better man.

Signing Off,
Mason Hofer



Ready to walk out the door after the first week freshman year to becoming a four-year writer, Mason quickly made himself an essential contributor to the Blue Ink. His passion for sports, politics, and hard news stories has not only improved his writing but kept the Garretson community informed. Mason is continuing his education at South Dakota State University.

Esports on the rise in wake of standstill sports season

by **Nobel Nothstine**
senior writer

Sports across the US have come to a standstill. Fans everywhere are asking when seasons will start again, who decides the dates, and how this pandemic will affect the future of all athletic events. See below for some individually sport-sectioned updates.

MLB: Everyone is hoping they will continue spring training in late May and begin to play games as early as June. They will also likely have a shortened season.

NHL: The league has shown the determination to play a full 82-game season in 2020-21. So far, there's not a set start date, but best case scenario I would say July.

NBA: The rumored goal is be able to finish The Finals by Labor Day Weekend, which would require starting by at least July.

Tennis Majors: The French Open, which is normally played in late May around Memorial Day weekend, has been pushed back to September 20. The USTA has said that it is toying with the idea of pushing back its start date to October.

Golf Majors: The Masters and PGA Championship have already been postponed and the U.S. Open will likely do the same. The U.S. Open, which is supposed to take place in June in New York, will absolutely be postponed to a different time/place

as well.

Horse Racing Triple Crown: The Kentucky Derby has changed their original early May date and postponed it to September 5. The other two "legs" of the race are attempting to find dates for the Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes.

Though it seems like forever away, sports will return, fans will return to their bleachers and arenas, and life will resume – no one can know exactly when, but it's never as far as it appears.

On the bright side, these downfalls also come with some perks. Namely- the rise of esports and the Twitch gameplay streaming platform. Just within the last few days, Twitch has added a directory to their main page because esports are beginning to really boom. For the most part, this has been received well – and as an example, professional drivers have been racing from their homes in iRacing, a racing simulator, and the races have been broadcast live on NBC and Fox.

Some of the biggest PC/console games on this directory include Rocket League, Valorant, League of Legends, Minecraft, Satisfactory, Call of Duty, Apex Legends, Fortnite, Overwatch, & Siege.

Twitch is also introducing a list of live matches, meaning easily joinable tournaments, a directory of pros, and personalized recommendations of games and tournaments based on viewing history. new esports directory is meant to show fans, old and new, that Twitch is the home for esports.

Winter recap

by **Grace Panning**
staff writer

Garretson had a pretty good winter. FFA members Drew Pederson and James Nussbaum qualified for state and Garretson received some state wide notice because of that. Cade Ulich placed fourth in creed speaking. In January, the Garretson High School One Act Play presented "Whispers" at the region contest, and took 4th. Two actresses received Outstanding performer awards: Amber Hulscher and Molly Hulscher.

Garretson High School Choir and Middle school choir per-

formed at their annual Christmas Concert in December. The choirs prepared their own musical numbers and then also performed with the Garretson Band. Prior to the concert, the music department hosted a pie social and then together the groups led the community in a number of Christmas carols.

Some teachers were praised for doing some awesome things. Mr. Steckler was acknowledged for being an athletic director for 4 years. Mr. Bohl was in the running for national high school coach. Which was an amazing honor, and had the whole school talking about it. Mr. Schrank won

teacher of the year. Mostly because of Multimedia and the YouTube channel that they started making videos for.

Girls basketball creamed our rivals (Baltic) with the score being 56 to 27, and had a pretty good season. The wrestlers had a tough start with a few meets being canceled due to harsh weather. Jayse miller and Preston bohl were both state qualifiers and placed 3rd in their weight classes.

Boys basketball had some pretty great wins as well. Overall Garretson's winter was an amazing season with many wins and long lasting memories.

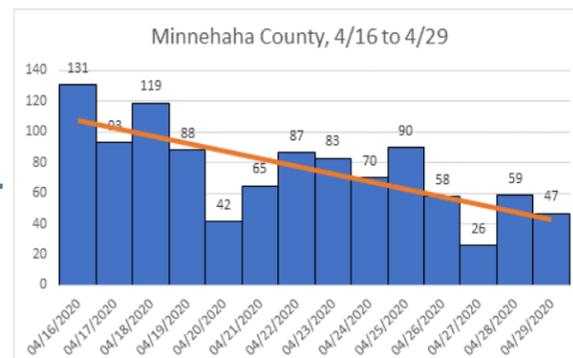
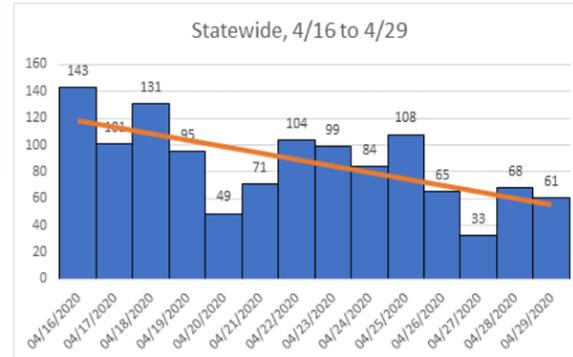
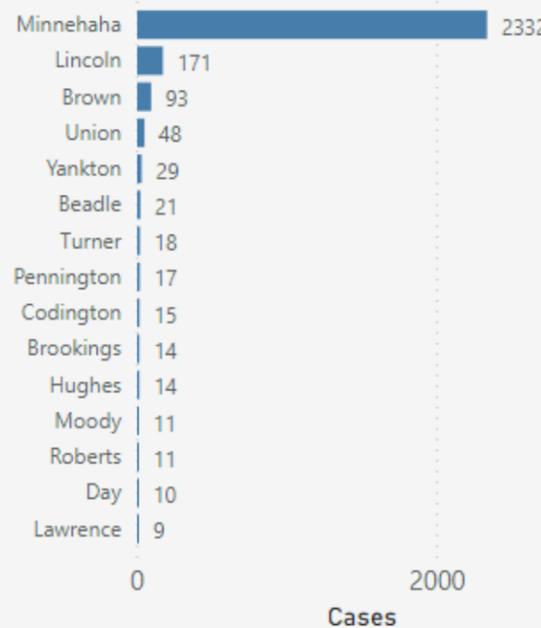
Local COVID-19 Update

Data from SD Dept of Health

Updated May 7



Cases by County of Residence



Are reptilians running the government?

by **Nobel Nothstine**
senior writer—editorial



Nobel is a multiyear journalist. Her fresh perspectives and wide variety of interests have made her an invaluable and essential part of the Blue Ink staff. Nobel will be attending the South Dakota School of Mines for Engineering.

According to a Public Policy Polling survey, approximately 4% of Americans (roughly 12 million people) believe in the lizard people theory.* You may now, understandably, be asking yourself - "What's the lizard people theory?"

To simply summarize, people believe that reptilian humanoids, or anthropomorphic reptiles, live amongst us or even rule us. One of the most notable believers

is David Icke, an English conspiracy theorist, a former soccer player, and a sports broadcaster. He has written 20+ books and has given public lectures in 25+ countries. Icke has released both a documentary, "Alien Reptilian Legacy", and book, "Children of the Matrix", regarding the lizard people theory. This theory began growing in popularity during the early 2000's, though it's maintained a steady number of believers throughout the years. For some background, the world's earliest known reptiles are theorized to have first originated around 312 million years ago, a vast difference compared to humans - who are thought to have evolved just 66 million years ago. So, the theory believes that the already evolutionarily bi-pedal evolved reptiles interbred with the first homosapians and branched into both a reptilian sector and a fully human one. Some of Icke's most popularly convincing findings of lizard people begin back with references in Bible passages. A few of his examples include a crafty snake tricking Eve into eating a forbidden apple, the Nephilim's cross-breeding with people, and Satan's/Lucifer's characterization as a reptilian blooded or related being (often a serpent or dragon). Biblical interpretations generally play a large role in this belief system. Since biblical phrasing is often vague and ambiguous anyways, it's rather easy to connect

Some names you may recognize that have been suspected and rumored of being reptilian for years are: Justin Bieber, Queen Elizabeth II, Miley Cyrus, Donald Trump, Mark Zuckerberg, Obama, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, Madonna, Britney Spears, Angelina Jolie, Katy Perry, and Hillary Clinton.

Some believers even go so far as to state that these reptilians are carnivorous and eat humans, but because of the increasing popularity of fast food, that the lizard people in power vigorously pushed to popularize a more vegetarian/vegan lifestyle. Another branch of the theory rumors that only a select few of the reptilians actually live amongst us, and the rest live in a series of connected cave systems throughout the U.S. At first, this seems preposterous. But in con-

sideration, we haven't fully explored or even discovered many caves in the U.S. yet, and the map of unexplained missing people in America mysteriously almost exactly lines up with our detected and known cave systems (see attached). Coincidence? You tell me.

So, go ahead and ask yourself the same question you saw at the beginning of this article. Are reptilians running the government? Maybe now - you're a little more unsure. Don't believe everything you've been told.

In the words of David Icke, "I'm not afraid to go where information leads me."

*Keep in mind that this survey: was in 2013, had a relatively small polling pool, and like every survey, had the possibility of participants throwing their votes.

them to something "crazy" like a lizard people theory. If taken as true - the entirety of mankind has been manipulated and controlled by a completely elite group of shapeshifting reptiles. INITIALLY...this all seems impossible to comprehend, much less to believe. In an attempt to prove their claims, many believers have sought to expose royalty, politicians, influencers, popular entertainers, or other similar people for actually being reptilians.

To further help facilitate this conspiratorial movement, Philip Bump, an Ohio State University graduate and a national correspondent for The Washington Post, wrote an article titled "How to Spot the Reptilians Running the U.S. Government". Some of the characteristics he included in his work were: piercing green, hazel, or blue eyes, true red/reddish lineaged hair, low blood pressure, great sight/hearing, a love of space and science, unexplained scars on body, psychic abilities, and electrokinesis.

them to something "crazy" like a lizard people theory.

If taken as true - the entirety of mankind has been manipulated and controlled by a completely elite group of shapeshifting reptiles. INITIALLY...this all seems impossible to comprehend, much less to believe. In an attempt to prove their claims, many believers have sought to expose royalty, politicians, influencers, popular entertainers, or other similar people for actually being reptilians.

To further help facilitate this conspiratorial movement, Philip Bump, an Ohio State University graduate and a national correspondent for The Washington Post, wrote an article titled "How to Spot the Reptilians Running the U.S. Government". Some of the characteristics he included in his work were: piercing green, hazel, or blue eyes, true red/reddish lineaged hair, low blood pressure, great sight/hearing, a love of space and science, unexplained scars on body, psychic abilities, and electrokinesis.



Senior Spotlights

Aliah Lymon



SENIOR PROJECT:
Making surgical hats for the Sanford Children's Hospital

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Choir, NHS, Soccer

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
My dog (Coco Chanel)

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend the University of Minnesota Rochester for Health Sciences



JB Narigon

SENIOR PROJECT: Building and dynoing an engine
MISS MOST: Mr. Steckler
PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Go to a 2-year college for Engines



Brayden Beaner

SENIOR PROJECT: Building picnic tables
WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST: Sending with the Boyz

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN: Football, Chess club
PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Find myself and attend SDSU

Treyson Buckneberg

SENIOR PROJECT: Rebuilding an engine in a 1969 F-100

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN: Football, Basketball, Baseball

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST: The Boyz

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Attend SDSU for Construction Management



NBA updates

by **Hayden Olofson**
senior writer

Lately a few of the top high school basketball players in the country are skipping college and taking a new route to the nba. Jalen Green, Isaiah Todd and Daishen Nix are all entering the NBA G League instead of attending college or playing overseas. The NBA G League is the NBA's minor league, preparing players, officials, coaches and GM's for the NBA.

By joining the G league straight out of high school it gives that player a chance to make the money they deserve. "In my opinion, the G League is the second-best basketball league in the world and why not keep those kids right here at home where they've got a chance to develop and grow. You're going to learn the NBA game, you're going to be around NBA coaches and you're going to be playing against NBA or borderline NBA players. There's really no negative to it. The only negative is that it used to be they couldn't make as much money and now there's an opportunity or chance to make good money. I think it's a healthy, good option for these



Hayden's first experience in journalism didn't come until senior year but Hayden's laid back attitude, flexibility on what to cover, and willingness to learn and improve made him an ideal journalist. Hayden will be attending SDSU next fall.

young guys." said by Donnie Tyndall. Many people might ask if they can be brought up to the NBA during their year. But each player has to stay in the G League for at least 1 year. This is good because it gives them time to develop to this level of play.

The NBA finally is ready to reopen the practice facilities in the states that guidelines are mostly uplifted. There are still some rules even though they are open. There can be no more than four players at the facility at one time, no head or assistant coaches could participate, group activity remains prohibited including practices or scrimmages, and finally players remain prohibited from using non- team facilities such as public fitness centers or gyms.

No NBA games have been played since early March. It has been way too long without the NBA, and seeing that they are getting back in the practice facilities is good. I'm sure that many people are very excited for the NBA to continue.



Senior Spotlights



Austin Davis

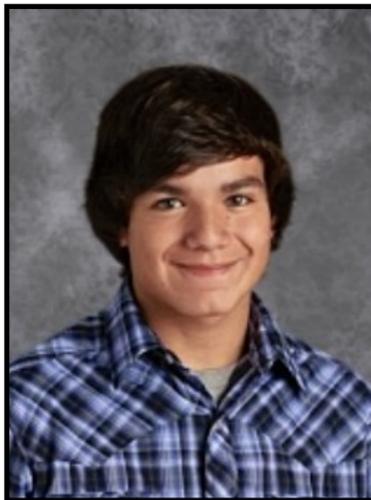
SENIOR PROJECT:
Working on my car

NEXT YEAR:
Marines



Kennedy Lee

SENIOR PROJECT:
Learning the Korean language
ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Band



Gregorio Arana

SENIOR PROJECT:
Painting my '79 Dodge W150

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
My girlfriend

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Football

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Go to a tech school

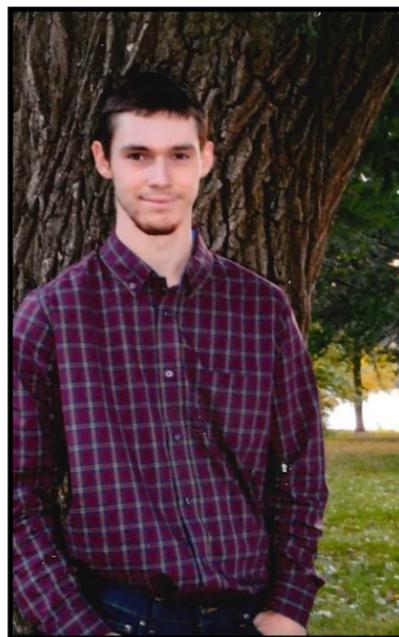
Hayden Stoterau



Mckenzie Northrup

SENIOR PROJECT:
Disability Awareness
WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
My girls and our pre-game jam sessions at my house

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Volleyball and Dance
PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend Lake Area for business and cosmetology



Noah Reed

SENIOR PROJECT:
Helping veterans Trapshooting

MISS MOST:
Mr. Hughes
NEXT YEAR:
Get a job and work until I decide if I want to go to college

SENIOR PROJECT: Motor swap in a 2003 Oldsmobile Alero

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST: Tessa, Bella, and Austin Top

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN: Football, Wrestling, Trapshooting

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Work

SENIOR PROJECT:
Building a mobile smoker

mood, has a positive attitude and gets me involved in class even when we are learning something boring

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
FFA

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend a 2-year college for diesel tech and go to auctioneer school and become South Dakota's best auctioneer

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Announcing for the soccer team. And Mr. Steckler because he is always in a good



Jacob Schmidt



A look at the beginning of the school year

by **Nika Sapunar**
staff writer

This school year started on a good note despite how it ended. We had our ups and downs but we started the year strong with Lady Blue Dragons taking down Mustangs in season opener, and with a good start of our soccer team with a new head coach as Amber Williamson slid up from assistant into the head coaching position.

Soccer started slow but it's getting better. They started the season with a big win, and after a long season of hard work, falling and getting up, they made it to the playoffs, but didn't go far.

Volleyball started the season strong and has performed at the level that most of the people have never seen before. They continued winning in this historic season. They had a really good season and after 20 years they finally got to SoDak 16.

Football season started rough with a loss against Webster Area Bearcats. After losing a lot of good players last year, and a record with 10-1, now they must complete in a harder division. With a rough start they came to a big win in Forestburg, unfortunately they did not make it to the state title game.

XC first home meet, hosting their annual Jesse James individual Cross Country meet. The start of the season went great with Varsity girls placing

seventh out of eight teams. They did a good job this year on their seventh meet. At the regions the girls team placed 2nd. Garretson placed fifth at state.

Except for sports, we had some new teachers that we couldn't do without. Ms. Carley Kueter is the new fifth-grade teacher and also serves as the assistant soccer coach. Mr. Jake Heumiller the science guy, started teaching biology and everyone loved him and got the teacher FIRE award.

Homecoming week was a blast, but it ended with a rough football game loss. At least we had fun at a Fall Formal dance under the stars.

Every up has its down. Elective favorite, Film Appreciations, turned into a club, and many students were disappointed. Now it became a club holding its meeting on Fridays during lunch. Many kids complained about the new lunch program, they said it has more options than last year but that it is less good.

This year was Garretson's year. Senior privileges started during homecoming week, what usually starts in 2nd semester with a lot of benefits. Chief Omar leaves a good, heart-warming impact while helping locals by giving them free food to suffering families or picking up big amounts of trash and taking it to the garbage landfill. Tornado tears up Sioux Falls and almost Garretson. There was a lot of folding in the Palisade State Park.

Senior Spotlights

Felisha McKay



Caleb Roder



Josue Vargas



Jimmy Widrig



SENIOR PROJECT:
Building a garage

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Football

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Sleeping in

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Work

Word Search

```

Z P U E V V F L O Q P U P J W
T F M U P N R L Z X R J P O L
H I X B D O Q F G J R H X U M
W S E U T P O O L G E V W W M
O H R L I F S H M B Z Z F Z O
T I F S U N B U R N I H Z S D
Z N F K C X B F H R Y S U N W
V G L F O E D A Q W X P O Q C
N M D A R E K X S G O A E O Q
N S P Y K I W F G E V Q E N L
R D I U W E E N E V B Y O A G
C H C S K X P N Q K J A M P I
E O N F T T J B D Y P T L J B
U T I C S T V M R S K C I L E
I W C N S U M M E R J I D B C
    
```

Baseball
Summer
Sun

Fishing
Picnic
Hot

Friends
Lake

Sunburn
Pool

TIC TAC TOE

