

Photo by Addi Hove



The volleyball C team ended their season on a perfect note, with a win over Colman-Egan, finishing 17-0 for their 2020 campaign.



Garretson High School Student Newspaper

Garretson, SD

October 30, 2020

Volume 8, Issue 10

# Lady Dragons end regular season tonight

Last game before post-season opportunities

by Peyton Hove  
staff writer

The Garretson Blue Dragon volleyball team’s upcoming postseason is putting everyone on the edge of their seat. The Blue Dragon’s last regular season game is tonight against the Dell Rapids St. Mary Cardinals, who are currently 9-7. This past week Garreston played the Sioux Valley Cossacks and Colman-Egan Hawks at home.

This season is by far one of the best seasons GHS has had in awhile, with the Lady Dragons currently 17-4 (43.190 points). As of right now the Blue Dragons are second in their region, falling between Sioux Falls Christian (23-1, 46.792 points) and Baltic (14-5, 42.842). The Dragons’ goal is to keep the second seed to get a first round bye, then they would host the winner of Baltic and Dell Rapids. After that is the SoDak 16, where last year the Blue Dragons played MCM and fell short on their ticket to state.

Last Tuesday (October, 20), Garreston had their last regular season away game against the West Central Trojans. The visitors started on a high note, winning the first two sets:

25-19, 25-22; however, they fell short of a clean sweep and lost the third set, 17-25. But Garreston came right back and won the fourth set, 25-15. The team ended the night with 80 digs, 53 kills, 52 assists, and seven aces.

### Leaders

- **Digs-** Kennedy Buckneberg: 28, Lexi Gawarecki: 20, Peyton Hove & Lily Ranschau: 9
- **Kills-** Buckneberg: 19, Ranschau: 13, Logan Bly: 6, Anna Jones: 5
- **Assists-** Peyton Hove: 23, Jaelyn Benson: 18

With almost a week “break” the Dragons played on Monday October, 26 against the Sioux Valley Cossacks (now 11-15) in the Dragons’ Lair. The “C” team and JV started off the night strong, both winning their games. Carrying the momentum onto the



Kennedy Buckneberg goes up for one of her team high 11 kills against the Cossacks. Teammates Lizzie Olson and Lily Ranschau cover. The Blue Dragons took down Sioux Valley in three straight sets.

Photo by MaKayla Heesch

varsity court, the Lady Dragons were focused and in high spirits starting off the game with a 5-1 run. Even though it wasn’t their best game, the Blue won 3-0: 25-15, 25-20, 25-19. Rounding out the night, the Blue-Dragons tallied up 44 digs, 40 kills, 40 assists, and six aces.

### Leaders

- **Digs-** Ranschau, Buckneberg, L. Gawarecki: 9 digs (each)
- **Kills-** Buckneberg: 11, Ranschau: 9, Bly: 6, Jones: 5
- **Assists-** P. Hove- 19, Benson: 9

Continued on page 4

## This Week’s Need to Know

**FACT OF THE WEEK:** The first citywide Halloween celebration was in Anoka, Minnesota in 1921.

**LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK:** On Halloween, any kid can get a free scary face Halloween pancake at IHOP.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** Why are ghosts so bad at telling lies?

**BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK:** Solve this rebus puzzle.

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

PLAYING

SIDE

## Upcoming Events

- Friday, October 30**
- JHVB v. DR St. Mary’s (4:00/5:00)
  - VB v. DR St. Mary’s (6:15/7:15)
- Saturday, October 31**
- Happy Halloween
- Sunday, November 1**
- Daylight Saving Time ends—turn clocks back one hour
- Tuesday, November 3**
- VB @ 1st Rd Regions (TBD)
- Thursday, November 4**
- VB @ 2nd Rd Regions (TBD)

## Worth Mentioning

**Turn back** your clocks one hour this weekend.

**Thank you** Blue Dragons for continuing to wear your mask properly (covering mouth and nose) and doing your part to keep yourself and others safe as well as keep us in the school. #BlueDragonPride

**Congratulations** to Preston Bohl for his 11th place finish at the State Cross Country Meet last weekend, earning all-state status. The girls team (MaKayla Heesch, Payton Campbell, Tayler Benson, Kylie Christensen, Adair Hanisch, Lucie Frewaldt, Serie Risty-alt) also competed in the snowy day. They finished 12th as a team.

**COUNTDOWN TO BREAK:** 26 Days  
Next break is November 25 through 29 —Thanksgiving break.

# Annual Red Ribbon Week spreads awareness

by Rebekah Roth  
staff writer

This week, there has been a buzzing excitement throughout Garretson school for a variety of reasons. Not only is tomorrow Halloween, but this past week was also the annual Red Ribbon Week campaign, which aims to spread awareness about drug violence prevention. Middle and high school student counselor Michelle Pliska and the Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU) members worked together to bring activities to Garretson school in honor of this week.

Red Ribbon Week runs through the end of October, from the 23rd to the 31st. TATU believes it’s crucial for students to learn about drug violence prevention, considering that it’s a topic that can heavily affect teens and young adults. For this reason, the members set up a series of games and activities to engage middle and high school students to educate them on Red Ribbon Week.

The activities so far have included dress-up days, a scavenger hunt, and a selfie station. Today, the middle school students will participate in a celebration of “natural highs,” which will consist of glow dodgeball and nine-square-in-the-air.

Mrs. Pliska stated, “I’ve been impressed with the participation that we have had. We’ve seen at least a quarter of the middle schoolers, depending on the day, dressing up. The jar is definitely filling up from the scavenger hunt and I get at least 10 photos every day from stu-

dents that are posting pictures of themselves and what their natural high is.”

During this past week, TATU has aimed to educate students about the dangers associated with different drugs and the problems they can cause in people’s lives and bodies. Pliska explained that this year, TATU is emphasizing “natural highs,” or safe and natural ways to have fun.

For Red Ribbon Week, TATU is teaching Garretson students to “be happy, be brave, and be drug-free,” by incorporating activities into the week, showing how to be happy without the use of drugs.



Upstairs, another Red Ribbon Week display encourages students to write their natural highs and take a selfie. The natural highs are posted on the wall and the photos are on the table.

Photo by Rebekah Roth

**JOKE:** Because you can see right through them

**BRAINTEASER:** Playing outside



# Ancient origins of Halloween

by **Oliviyah Thornton**  
staff writer

Halloween originates from the Celtic people and their festival of Samhain. The Celts lived 2,000 years and their land was located in areas of present-day Ireland, the United Kingdom, and Northern France.

The festival marked the end of harvesting and summer and the beginning of the cold winter, a time of year associated with death. The new year was on November 1 but the day before, October 31, was when they celebrated Samhain.

On October 31, they believed that the boundary between the living and the dead became blurred and that the presence of otherworldly spirits made it easier for the Druids or Celtic priests to predict the future.

To celebrate the event, Druids would build huge sacred bonfires, so people could gather to burn crops and sacrifice animals to the Celtic deities. During the celebration, they would wear costumes which typically consisted of animal heads and skins, and this, they believed, would ward off ghosts.

Later, Americans would take this tradition of wearing costumes and combine them with other European traditions. People, in hopes of not being recognized by ghosts, would wear costumes or masks if they left the house after dark because they believed that ghosts came back to the real world. This didn't happen until the mid-1900s.



By 43 A.D. the Roman Empire had taken over parts of the Celtic lands and in their rule of 400 years, two Roman festival traditions, Feralia and Pomona, began to influence and combine with the traditional Celtic celebration of Samhain. In the 9th century, Christianity (All Hallow's Eve) began to also influence the Celtic lands and their traditions.

When "Halloween" made its way over to America, it started to become what modern Halloween is today. The first celebration was called Play Parties, public events held to celebrate the harvest. Neighbors would share stories of the dead, tell each other's fortunes, dance, and sing which is very similar to the Celtic festival.

During these events, they also told ghost stories and by the middle of the 19th century, annual autumn festivities were common, but it wasn't until the second half of the 19th century when many immigrants began moving to America, that Halloween became more popular and spread farther into the country and the holiday began to become celebrated nationally.

Halloween, over time, has been given many names and wasn't always known as Halloween, but it has evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festival gatherings, donning costumes, and eating treats. It occurs Saturday, October 31st.

# Trick-or-Treat or Trunk-or-Treat

by **Morgan Pierret**  
staff writer

This year, the Garretson Commercial Club decided to hold a Trunk-or-Treat at Split Rock Park. The Trunk-or-Treat will run from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on October 31. This is an alternative option to trick-or-treating since the CDC lists it as a high-risk activity.

Trunk-or-Treat has happened in the past in Garretson, at the school and at Main Street, but this year they decided to have it at Split Rock to hopefully create a "spooky trail."

On Saturday, the cars participating in this activity will park in open camp sites and decorate that site and their car as they please.

All vehicles and participants are encouraged to keep social distancing at this event to hopefully help stop the spread of COVID. Face coverings will also be expected from all participants and encouraged for all the trick or treaters.

Whether you're going trick or treating, trunk or treating, or neither, remember to be safe and practice social distancing!

# COVID-19 on the rise

by **Camas Johnston**  
staff writer

New Confirmed Cases  
**918**

2020 has been a very chaotic and unpredictable year. Everything seems to have been turned upside down. Everything seems to have been changed and the norm has changed very drastically.

In South Dakota the total number of COVID-19 cases are 40,730, and 375 people have passed away. Many people say that this is the third wave of cases. And others say that COVID-19 could be here to stay and come back every year like the flu.

Overall America has 8.85 million total cases, and 227,000 deaths. All over the world the cases have increased, but not as much as the USA.

It is highly recommended by the CDC that everyone wear your mask when you're out in public, make sure your mask covers your nose and mouth. And make sure you wash your hands or sanitize them frequently.

Active Cases  
**12,462**

# Garretson Hike of Horrors receives positive feedback from students

by **Rebekah Roth**  
staff writer

This last weekend, the Hike of Horrors was reintroduced to Garretson. Held and directed by the Jesse James Players, this Halloween-themed hike is located by the Garretson athletic complex. The hike was operated on the October 23-24, and will also be in operation today and tomorrow, on Halloween. The event runs from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 pm and costs \$15.

This guided walk provides Garretson residents, especially students, to engage themselves in a fear-inducing, outdoor adventure during the Halloween season. As it is held outdoors, the Hike of Horrors helps reduce the likelihood of mass spread of the COVID-19 virus, and offers thrill-seekers a safe alternative celebration.

An abundance of Garretson students were anticipating the opening of the hike, excited to participate in the terrifying Halloween activity.

"I thought it was very fun and exhilarating to go to and be a part of. I don't think the price shouldn't have been \$15 though," stated sophomore Breydon Lee when asked how he felt about the Hike of Horrors.

Jakob Gnadt, an 8th grader who worked with the Hike of Horrors, said, "It was a lot of fun. There was lots of stuff to do," said Gnadt after being asked about his experience with working the hike. He mentioned that while he enjoyed being both a guest and working in the Hike of Horrors, that working was more entertaining as he could scare the guests that walked by.

Gnadt was also asked about the turnout of guests compared to other years and said, "Last Saturday there were 170 people, it was a bit lower because of the snow. On Friday there were 270 I think, so it was a little bit higher because it was the first day."

"The modifications to the trail included the hike being shortened, as well as lengthening the maze. It seems that despite these changes, Garretson students have had positive reports on their experiences with the Hike of Horrors.

# HIKE OF HORRORS

OCT 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>  
7:30 PM TO 10:30 PM

**Garretson, SD**  
**Outdoor Hike • \$15 at Gate**  
**Follow the Event!**

Parking in Garretson Football Complex (go East on Dows Street)  
Appropriate shoes recommended • NOT wheelchair accessible  
Recommended ages 10+ Parents STRONGLY caution

**CALL 605-321-6207 WITH QUESTIONS**



# Halloween in elementary is a-DOOR-able

by **Morgan Pierret**  
staff writer

This year, the elementary staff came up with some fun ideas and activities for Halloween. They’re trying to make this week as fun as possible for the kids that are not going trick-or-treating due to COVID. Throughout the week, teachers and their students have been decorating their classroom doors for Halloween. They have also been playing a guessing game over the intercom where they guess which teacher is speaking the spooky poem of the day, and they’ve been doing many more activities.

Mrs. Hulscher and a couple other elementary teachers came up with the idea to do a door decorating contest. Each class decorated their door to match the Halloween theme they were assigned. Preschool and Kindergarten was assigned the theme festive, second and third grade was assigned spooky, and fourth and fifth grade had the theme trick-or-treat.

This was a student driven activity, so the students got to choose what they wanted their door to look like. Each class competed against each other and to-day a winner will be picked. The elementary students will go around and decide which door is their favorite and take a vote. Whichever door has the most votes and is the best decorated, wins.

Every morning, Norinda announced over the intercom the spooky poem of the day. It was a recording an elementary teacher did prior to when it was played over the intercom, so that it wouldn’t give it away to his/her students if he/she was gone from class during the time of the poem. The teachers spoke in a spooky voice to try and trick their students; the elementary classes would then guess during lunch who they thought was saying the poem.

As of yesterday, Mrs. Bly and Mrs. Stoterau’s class is tied for first with two correct guesses. Mrs. HV, Ms. Neugebauer, Ms. Backer, and Ms. Williamson are all tied for second. On Monday, the voice of the spooky poem was Mrs. Danforth. On Tuesday Mrs. HV was the voice of the spooky poem and Mrs. Mac was the voice on Wednesday. Yesterday, was Ms. Radford, and Ms. Brown spoke this morning.

The elementary students also got a Halloween lunch today. They got a small Halloween treat on their lunch tray that was served from dressed up cooks. They also had Halloween music playing while they ate and fun table decor to help set the Halloween mood.

Today, they dressed up in their class colors. They had the option to either wear the color they were assigned, or they could dress in something that is that color. For example, if their color was orange, they could dress as a pumpkin. They dressed in their class colors to go along with the book each class will be reading called, “The Day The Crayons Quit.” The teachers will read the pages of the book where their students color “quits” and the students will have to act out what happens to their color.

Each classroom had their own type of celebrations during this week, as well. Some classes, like Mrs. HV’s, decorated inside their classroom and even hung bats from the ceiling of the bathroom. Mrs. Bly’s class also did some fun things.

“My favorite thing was the candy corn map. We had to make an array out of candy corn,” said third grader Jada, who is going to be a nerd this year for Halloween. “And then we got to eat it,” pitched in Lydia, another third grader in Mrs. Bly’s class.

The elementary staff wanted to give their students an opportunity to participate in these activities, since a lot of things have been taken away from them due to COVID. Mrs. Hulscher has worked hard to organize these events, and it allowed the students to still celebrate Halloween by giving them an alternative to trick-or-treating that was COVID friendly.



Tricks and treats were the focus of upper elementary door decorations. Mrs. Etrheim’s fourth graders focused on the tricks while Mrs. Shockman’s fifth graders right across the hall gave treats.



The second and third graders had to focus on a spooky theme. Ms. Williamson’s third graders turned their door into a mummy (above) while Ms. Neugebauer’s second graders’ door was attacked by spiders (below).

Photos by Morgan Pierret



Kindergarten and first grade were tasked with the festive Halloween theme. Ms. HV’s kindergarteners (above) turned their door into a haunted mansion. Mrs. Backer’s first graders transformed their door into a pumpkin patch (below)

Photos by Morgan Pierret



The kindergarteners have been busy learning about mammals as well as preparing for the Halloween season. Spooky bats are hanging from the ceiling in Mrs. HV’s kindergarten classroom.  
Photo by Ms. Lundberg



# E-Learning

by **Lacey Lumpkin**  
staff writer—editorial

This school year is different from all the others. Last school year we ended the year with e-learning due to the coronavirus. This year students had a choice to make: go to school and wear a mask, or stay at home and e-learn. A few students decided to e-learn, because we had loved ones at risk of the coronavirus, or we didn't want to, or couldn't, wear a mask for eight hours. I decided to stay home because I couldn't wear a mask for that long.

This year's e-learning is different from last year's experience, however. This year students are required to be logged into class on class hours. My advice for students e-learning:

- Treat e-learning like you are actually in school, that also helps me to stay focused
- Don't be afraid to ask questions because the teachers will help you.

When I first started e-learning, I thought it was way harder and I wanted to quit, but then I got used to the way it worked. I think it's just about the same as being in school, but I am learning through a screen.

It's easy for me to stay motivated in school because I want to succeed in school, and I want to get good grades. To stay focused is a lot harder when I have all the distractions of being at home, I try to just clear my head and pay close attention in class.

The teachers have been cooperative and helpful to me while I was trying to get used to the whole learning online deal. I was really scared on my first day because I only knew a few of my teachers, and I had know clue what class they taught, but they introduced themselves and told me what class they taught and that helped me get everything under control.

One of the hardest parts of e-learning has been trying to get zoom to do what you want it to do, but it is the easiest part of e-learning when it actually works. I have struggled getting zoom to get me to my classes on time.

Another down about e-learning for me is that I feel as if I can't ask the questions I want to about the subject we're learning because I'm shy about that, but if I was at school I wouldn't have a problem about asking questions. For me, Algebra is probably the hardest class to follow online, but I found if I follow along with the book as if I was at school, I can follow along a lot better.

At first when I started e-learning, I really felt disconnected from my classmates, but then I realized that I'm not so disconnected from them because they would talk to me from zoom, and I was also able to see my friends in person when I had them over I went to their house. I still think being in school is better than the online learning because I am actually in class and I actually get to be around my friends. I think some e-learners might be missing out on vital social skills, but not really, because it's not like you have to stay locked in your house, you can still get out and see people like friends, neighbors, or family. I don't agree with the school, however, that e-learners can't do any school activities, I think it's important that the e-learners have those activities too, so they can get out if they want to and interact with people.

With all the downs of e-learning there are still benefits. It's a sacrifice, but being at home I'm able to breathe freely and not damage my health and lungs, which is a sacrifice worth making. Also being at home I get to sleep in a little longer, have whatever lunch I want, and I get to have a lot more family time. I also realized that being at home, I don't have any homework, or work after school.

For whatever reason if we have to switch to e-learning for a while, I hope we will all be able to succeed in school just like how we do at school. I hope that my advice will be somewhat helpful, and that soon we will all be back in school together.



# Senior Spotlight

*Peyton Hove*

**Activities Involved In:**  
Volleyball, Golf, Basketball, Student Council, NHS, Marching Band, Journalism, Football Stats

**Best Part of Senior Year:**  
Senior Privs & Steck's class

**What Will You Miss Most:**  
My sisters and practices, jam sessions and bonding with my teammates (bb & vb)

**Plans for Next Year:** Attend 4-year university and major in biology



*James Nussbaum*

**Activities Involved In:**  
FFA, 4-H

**Best Part of Senior Year:**  
Senior Privs

**What Will You Miss Most:**  
Teachers

**Plans for Next Year:** Attend Lake Area Tech for livestock production management and ag business



# Volleyball continued

*From page 1*

The following night, the Blue Dragons hosted the Colman-Egan Hawks. Not only was it a big match, it was also senior night. Garretson volleyball seniors consist of Kennedy Buckneberg, Mattea Fiegen, Lauren Heesch, Peyton Hove, Madden Lardy, and Lizzie Olson. Although it wasn't technically their last home game, "C" team had their last game and capped off their season perfectly, winning all 17 games. JV fought hard, but ended the night losing 0-2, which was their second loss of the season.

After the JV game, the senior night ceremony took place, then warmups, and finally game time. With emotions running high and heads not entirely in the game, the Blue Dragons fell short the first

two sets: 19-25, 18-25. However, after Garretson decided to step up and fight back, they won the next two: 25-18, 25-18.

With momentum clearly on the Blue Dragons' side, they were ready to get that fifth set. Winning the coin toss, the Dragons served the first ball and battled back and forth (no team getting more than a two point lead) until the home team went down 8-11. Coach Northrup called a timeout to talk to his team, following that the Blue Dragons scored two consecutive points causing Colman-Egan to call a timeout themselves. Soon after, the game was all tied up,



13-13. Unfortunately Garretson fell short 13-15 and walked away with their fourth loss of the season and first loss at home. In all, the Hawks outscored the Blue Dragons by just one point on the night. Garretson ended the night with 91 digs, 51 kills, 43 assists, and six aces.

Tonight is the Blue Dragons' last regular season game. Next week playoffs begin; everyone's record is the same: 0-0.

When asked how they are preparing for the postseason, Buckneberg replied, "We are getting mentally prepared and

focused with having great practices beforehand." Ranschau added, "I will be working hard in practice and practice like I would in a game, so I will be prepared come game time."

While everyone's goal is to make it to state, sophomore Anna Jones expressed, "I hope to make it to state, but we are going to focus one game at a time." State A volleyball will be October 19-21 at the Watertown Civic Center.