

# THE GMS GAZETTE

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## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JOHANNA WALKER BY SALMA RODRIGUEZ

GMS student, Johanna Walker is this month's student spotlight. Her special talent is photography! Johanna competed in a photograph competition for 4H that took place in state agencies and Fairs here in Kansas! Walker states, "I take photos of anything I can and try to get meaning behind them. I have never thought so much of photography until I joined 4H and when I started snapping the photos and I fell in love with it." 4H is something fun to do and offers great opportunities, in which she learned

leadership, dog obedience, poultry and more.

On January 29, 2019, Johanna went to competition in Topeka, Kansas where she went to a Kansas day ceremony to receive awards and congratulations. During her visit, she met Kansas Senator Richard



EIGHTH GRADE - First place  
Johanna Walker, Franklin  
Memories in Bloom

Hilderbrand and had the opportunity to sit in the president of the senate's seat. Many people find photography as something "easy to do," but really it's harder than you think to capture lighting and the perfect setting. Though photography is more free styled, it does come with rules in competition. Miss Walker says that people viewing her photos feels good because she knows they are out there and that others can view the art that makes people happy.

## CHRISTMAS IN JANUARY

BY JACQUELINE ENG-BARBER AND  
AMIAH ROBERTS

The GMS band and choir kids had their annual Christmas concert in... January. Due to an emergency, the Christmas concert was postponed until January 24, 2019. The choir sang three songs: "The Colors of Winter", "Who's Up There", and "Sites of Christmas." The angelic voices filled the auditorium, proving the group had a fair amount of practice. The concert was a packed house, every seat in the GMS auditorium was filled with friends, and family. The Seventh and Eighth grade band played

three songs as well: “Christmas Greetings”, “Christmas Medley”, and “Abominable Snowman Chase.” “The Snowman Chase” was the band students’ favorite to perform. During the seventh and eighth grade band concert, the percussion, brass, and woodwinds were able to stand out. The music was beautiful. The multi-beat songs took lots of time and effort to perfect. Although the performance was delayed for a month, the concert was definitely worth the wait. The chorus and band kids gave an unforgettable performance, and the spring concert will be another one to remember.



## TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: MS. DENT

BY EBONEY LOVE

This year the 8th grade has a new student teacher in Math. Her name is Ms. Sydney Dent. She is a student from Pittsburg State University. Ms. Dent always wanted to be a teacher. She mentioned, “My mom was a teacher, and I saw her help a lot of kids through high school, and I really liked that. I want to be able to help students the way she did.” Ms. Dent loves helping students and seeing them understand the equations.



She hasn’t always thought about being a middle school teacher. She stated, “I was going to be a high school for a long time, and then I started working with middle school students, and I absolutely loved you guys.” She teaches the students every once in a while, but soon, she will be teaching full time to all of the classes. She doesn’t want to teach high school right now, until she looks more mature in the face. She explained “ I want to be a teacher the rest of my life, Hopefully! Until I

retire, but one of the reasons I wanted to be a teacher is so I could be a good mom... so I will be able to be there when they’re home.” If Ms. Dent had to teach another subject than math, she would choose English. “I love to read books, it’s one of the things I do the most, outside of school, is I read. I read and I do puzzles.” She also loves to do sports at Pitt State she is in the Pitt State Club Volleyball Team. She has basically done all sports, she’s done volleyball, track, basketball, and softball and she loves them all. She says that throughout her summer, she is Monday through Sunday constantly playing in softball all tournaments, but she says she loves softball the most.

Ms. Dent is a very active and competitive person and would even consider being a volleyball or track coach. She is a very thoughtful and kind person. Ms. Dent would love to find a job at Girard, but she is also hoping to find a job in this area. Whatever her future holds, we know that GMS is lucky to have Ms. Dent this semester!

## S-P-E-L-L-I-N-G B-E-E

BY SALMA RODRIGUEZ

January means means it is time for the GMS Annual Spelling Bee. This year's spelling bee had a range of student from 6th to 8th grade. On the morning of January 30, about twenty students made their way to the auditorium to compete. Many challenged their abilities to spell and did well, but there had to be a winner. In First Place: Zoe Rhodes, Second Place: Laklyn Arthur, and in Third Place: Trey Collins. These local students will now head to the county spelling bee with a mix of languages such as Greek and German. If they complete the county spelling bee, they have a shot at moving on to Kansas State spelling bee where they will compete against other Kansans. We hope they make it! GMS wishes you G-O-O-D L-U-C-K!



## TROJAN BOY'S BASKETBALL

BY EBONEY LOVE

This year's boys basketball season is off to a winning start! This set of 8th grade boys work hard and hustle as a team. They plan to worker even harder as a team and win more games, including winning the Winter Classic. Luke Niggemann and Alex Coester, starters of the A Team, have high hopes for their team.

Although the players don't really have "positions," Coester plays Center and Niggemann plays Forward. Jerry O'Rand the head coach, puts his players where he needs them to be at that moment. Coester hopes his team, "gets wins and starts shooting a better percentage as a team." Niggemann goals, however, are to "work on playing together and work harder as a team." Both teammates agree that Columbus is the team to beat this season, which they will play on February 7.

In addition to Niggemann and Coester, Aiden Damman, Brett Clevenger, and Dawson Stegman start the 8th Grade A games. All of the basketball boys, A and B Team, are great players. They love the team they play for and hope to succeed in the long run.

## BOYS BASKETBALL CHEER

BY ZOE RHODES

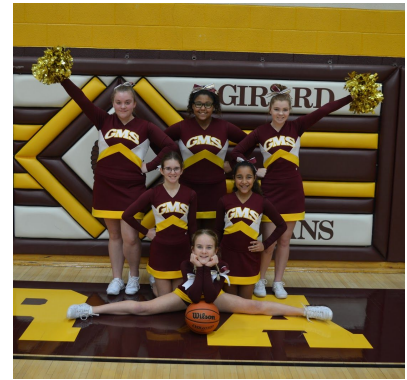
When the winter months roll around, it's not just boys' basketball that starts. Boys' season basketball cheer is one of the many sports that we have at GMS. This year, our cheer squad consists of eighth graders: Jayden Hawkins, Breanna Craddock, Eboney Love, Carlie Vail, Laklyn Arthur, and one 7th grader, Haley Schoeling. Mrs. Childers, GMS administrative



Aiden Damman  
Photo Credit: Zoe Rhodes

assistant and cheer head coach says, "Cheerleading is a tough sport, and these girls don't like to quit! They want to power through any pain they have."

Cheerleader Breanna Craddock adds that she hopes the girls will improve on being louder throughout the season. According to Mrs. Childers, she hopes that the girls can start stunting later in the season. The girls always remark about how they love bonding with their squad, and just having fun cheering. They loving working together and growing as a team, because cheer is tougher than it seems.



## RED DEAD REDEMPTION 2 REVIEW

BY AMIAH ROBERTS

Red Dead Redemption Two, is a game with a 97% metacore, developed by Rockstar Game,s the creators of Grand Theft Auto V and Red Dead Redemption one. RDR2 was released October 26, 2018 and is a brand new online multiplayer experience game available on PlayStation 4 and Xbox One consoles.

RDR2 is a tale of America's grim boondocks. It sets in America 1899 the Wild West era has ended. Bounty hunters and federal agents are looking for Arthur Morgan and his old gang Van Der Linde. The gang is forced to flee the town because a robbery gone wrong. Arthur is forced rob and fight his way across the unforgiving land. Playing the game further, problems threaten to tear the gang apart. Arthur must make a choice between his own virtues and





faithfulness to the gang that raised him (Metacritic.com).

My whole family plays this game and I got curious on why this game was so fun and thrilling to play. I decided that I would play this game and give my thoughts before and after I play the game. Before I played the game, I believed it was going to be fun but I won't understand many things because I'm starting somewhere in the middle of the story other than the beginning. January 29th I played the game and I personally think it is a fun game to play.

You have to lasso outlaws and you get chased by raiders, you can rob banks or even do missions in the game. There are many things to do in this game. There is also mature words in the game considering it is a Rated M for maturity; you should have supervision and consent of a parent or guardian in order to play this game. All in all RDR2 is a game for people who like action, adventure, and the old Western theme.

## A WEEK WITHOUT SOCIAL MEDIA

BY JAQUELINE ENG-BARBER



Adults may argue that this generation is addicted to social media. In journalism last week, we decided to do an article where the person who was most "addicted" would delete all social media's from their phone... that person was me. Similar to other people my age, I use Snapchat, Instagram,

and Twitter, but on Monday January 21st that changed. I wasn't nervous about deleting the apps, if anything I was nervous about losing my 427 day streak with Jeanelle. I just couldn't let it die! In the beginning it was difficult for me not to cheat, I really wanted to, but I kept going because I needed to finish what I started. As the week went on I noticed I didn't talk to as many people. Instead I spent my time texting only a few of my friends after school or

watching YouTube. I've heard that once you delete social media you will be more productive, that wasn't the case for me. I'm not sure if it was just because it wasn't summer, or the thought of going to school in 17 hours loomed over me, but I really didn't do anything new. Although I did watch a lot more Judge Judy than a normal person would.

The school week ended on a Thursday giving my classmates a three day weekend, but giving me an incentive to cheat. Friday was painfully long and that night I was bored, so I may or may not have logged onto Instagram from Safari... whoops. Zoe was screaming at me to get off, so I did, and I regret that I couldn't go through the entire week without cheating. The rest of the weekend I stayed off social media and nothing really happened. I didn't want to get on as much as I had on Friday. By Monday it was over and I could get back on social media. I went on Instagram and saw that I didn't really miss much. The entire week was good for me. Looking back my screen time was 10% down and I think that's because instead of staying off my phone I found a different way to waste my time. The "experience" taught me I didn't need Snapchat or Instagram to survive, not that I thought that, but if I had it would have persuaded me. I didn't feel like I had to respond to people if I didn't want to like I used to. Honestly, if you just want to try something new I would recommend doing this, you won't miss anything and it can only benefit you.

## IS HORSE RIDING A SPORT?

BY AUBREE LERO

Horseback riding fulfills every definition of sport and is one of the oldest sports. Yet people think it is easy and doesn't require a lot of skill to ride. Often the only time people see horseback riding on TV, and those riders are professional riders and their skills are so good that they make it look effortless. Or the only horse they have rode is a ranch horse, where the only thing those horses do is walk and don't act up. What the non-riders don't see is that it takes a lot of practice to get the routine as flawlessly as possible. Sports require built fitness such as: balance, muscle strength, flexibility, body awareness, and agility. After a non-rider rides they will notice that certain

muscles are sore, like your thigh muscles, hand muscles, and maybe even shoulder muscles. It also takes a lot of control to use “rein, leg, and seat aids” to direct the horse. To direct the horse it takes “refined body awareness, somewhat similar to a gymnast,” (Blocksdorf).

The Australian Sports Commission defines a sport as “A human activity capable of achieving a result requiring physical exertion and/or physical skill, which, by its nature and organization, is competitive and is generally accepted as being a sport.” Memory, reasoning, skill, strategy, and confidence are required in most sports, it is no different in horse riding. So, by that definition horseback riding is a sport.

### **SPRING STAFF**

SPRING SEMESTER BRINGS 6 NEW STAFF MEMBERS TO THE GMS GAZETTE

**J**acqueline Eng is a 8th grade student at GMS. This is her first experience taking a journalism class. Out of school, she enjoys spending her free time watching Netflix and playing with her dog.

**A**ubree Lero is a GMS student. She likes to read, write, and listen to music. If you don't find her with her nose in a book, she is either reading or talking to her friends. One of her favorite hobbies is horse riding.

**E**boney Love is a 1st time journalist. She enjoys sarcasm and is brutally blunt. Her favorite music artist is Shawn Mendes. When she is not listening to music, she is playing with her dog Bud, or singing her heart out to Shawn Mendes songs.

**Z**oë Rhodes is an eighth grader at GMS. You can find her on the football field, wrestling, down in the gym, or throwing in track. Although she plays sports, she's more than just a jock. She has a strong passion for shoes, music, and creative writing.

**A**miah Roberts is a 8th grade GMS student. She enjoys being a basketball cheerleader. If you can't find her on her phone, you can find her drawing or talking with her friends. One of her favorite hobbies is drawing.

**S**alma Rodriguez is a a GMS student and first time journalist member. She is a creative, crafty, resourceful, and is hard working. You can find her doing in school and out of school activities such as art and volunteering.

### **BE MINE WITH PICK-UP LINES**

VALENTINE'S DAY CONTEST. STUDENTS ENTERED THEIR BEST VALENTINE'S DAY PICK-UP LINES TO BE FEATURED IN THE GAZETTE.

*“I thought I just had a heart attack because my heart skipped a beat when you smiled at me.”*

*--Haley Schoeling, 7th*

*“Call me Pooh Bear because you're my honey.”*

*--Jeriah Adolph, 6th*

*“Are you Australian? Because you meet all of my koala-fications.”*

*--Kenda Johnson, 8th*

*“I must be in a museum because you are truly a work of art.”*

*--Lauren Murphy, 6th*

*“Excuse me, do you have a bandaid? Because I scraped my knee falling for you.”*

*--Ava Hardwick, 6th*

*“Are you an alien? Because you are out of this world.”*

*--Kaleb Scales, 8th*

*“I think you're suffering from a lack of vitamin ME.”*

*--Madison Call, 6th*

*“Always tie your shoes...I don't want you falling for anyone else.”*

*--Graci Murphy, 6th*