Speech team wins conference title for tenth year in a row

by Rebecca Hill

Saturday, January 16th the Maquoketa Valley Speech teams headed to Alburnett High School to compete in Conference Large Group Speech Contest. Twenty-nine groups performed resulting in twenty-three ones, five twos, and One-Act performing for comments only. The Maquoketa Valley 10th-12th speech team kept the Eagle, the conference championship title, for the tenth year in a row.

Nine performances ranked in the top three based on judges' selection on Saturday. Radio Broadcasting, RUOK (Kristi Goedken, Natalie Neuzil, Laisee Shakespeare, Dylan Wright, Cassiddy Wilson, and Cassi Westhoff); Ensemble Acting, Film Noir (Shaylyn Trenkamp and Alex McCusker); 9th grade Readers Theatre, The Nameless Princess (Blake Becker, Lane Coyle, Katilyn Deutmeyer, Maci Freiburger, Faith Hunt, Daniel Hunter, Hannah Lahr, Kristin Lucas, Izzy Niehaus, Megan Rausch, Kelsey Ries, Chloe Roling, Jon Seibert, Katie Synder, Tate Trenkamp, and Brooke Wilson); Musical Theatre, Wicked (Taylor Guthrie and Riley Strenhagen); Group Improvisation (Erin Digmann, Megan McNamara, Brianna Mensen, Heath Gibbs, and Alex Mc-Cusker), all ranked first in their categories. Group Mime, Suffering in Silence (Megan Hogan, Lea Ries, BrieAnna Nielson, Han-



Mrs. Grant warms up with her readers theater group before its performance Saturday.

nah Clemen, Amanda Engelken, and Megan Wulfekhule); and Solo Mime, **Today's Lesson** (Taylor Guthrie); Readers Theatre, **Brief Interviews with Internet Cats** (Macy Anderegg, Shawnae Hoeger, Emily Krapfl, Emily LaGrant, Briana March, Brooke Snyder, Kelsey Snyder, Angie Wilson, Mikayla Callan, Clint Krapfl, Cassiddy Wilson, Garrett Hogan, Abby Holtz, and Tyson Tucker); and **Group Improvisation** (Maddy Anderegg, Hunter Farrand, Emma McDowell, Madison McIntyre, and Brooke Wilson) ranked second in their events. All nine of these groups earned ones with their performances.

Many other groups also had the honor of receiving ones. These groups included Choral Reading, **Paper Hearts** (Caitlyn Gibbs, Megan Hogan, Emily Krapfl, Emily LaGrant, Riley Sternhagen, Shaylyn Trenkamp, Danica Fjelstul, Amanda Fortman,, Rebekah Hill, Kendra Ries, Taylor White, McKenzie Lansing, Adrianne Supple, and Paula Wear); Ensemble Acting, Eve and Adam: The Untold Story (Patrick Hansen, Abby Holtz, Victoria Lane, and Josie Young); Group Improvisation (Angie Wilson, Amanda Fortman, Brenden Hogan, Angel Rumbo, and Rejji Smith); Group Improvisation (Ali Sheehy, Becky Thompson, Taylor White, Garrett Hogan, and Mitchell Neuzil); Group Improvisation (Kaela Chesnut, Katilyn Deutmeyer, Adam Goedken, Izzy Niehaus, and Lucas Rumbo); Group Mime, At Dawn, Pearl Harbor Slept (Caitlyn Gibbs, Danica Fjelstul, Rebekah Hill, Maeva Luis, Kendra Ries, and Lawson Roof); Radio Broadcasting, HOBO (Kristin Brehm, Erin Digmann, Colin Wendt, Brittany Hines, Madison Imler, and Rejji Smith); Radio Broadcasting, TECK (Evan Hoefer, Stefanie Hansen, Lucas Johnson, Megan Rausch, Jon Seibert, and Shana Timm); Short Film Be-YOU-tiful (Tamala Askeland, BrieAnna Nielson, Amanda Engelken, Josy Harmon, Macy Hoeger, Sean Hucker, Madison Imler, McKenzie

Lansing, Brittany Sabers, Kiesha Stelken,

and Adrianne Supple); continued on next page

T.A.T.U. students begin lessons

by Nichole Lucas

This year Maquoketa Valley's T.A.T.U. group is made up of 21 students. For those of you not sure what T.A.T.U. stands for, it stands for Teens Against Tobacco Use. For six weeks this group will go over to the sixth grade classrooms to lead hands-on activities to teach the sixth graders about tobacco products and the dangers that come with them.

Right: Caitlin Schuman leads an activity this past week. (photo by Emily Krapfl)



Wildcats defeat Springville

Brock Hillers,
Garrett Hogan
and Kalvin
Orcutt plan
their defense
against West
Delaware
Saturday
night. (photo
courtesy of
MV Athletic
Boosters)



by McKenzie Lansing

Last Thursday, the boys travelled to Edgewood to play Ed-Co. The guys played hard again last Thursday, and again had their chances to win. After coming out of halftime, down 5 points, they fought hard to get some turnovers and points. They took the lead, 39-36 in the third quarter. It was a very time game after, until late in the fourth quarter, we fell a little short," states Coach Dunlap.

The top three scorers were Brock Hillers with 26 points, Jacob Bonert with 14 points, and Kyle Wilson with 10 points. The team had a total of 28 rebounds. The top rebounders were Jacob Bonert with 6 rebounds, Garrett Hogan with 5, and Kalvin Orcutt, Clint Krapfl, and Kyle Wilson each with 4 rebounds.

"Kalvin Orcutt and Brock Hillers had a nice scoring night and Jacob had a great night scoring 16 points and picking up 6 rebounds," says Coach Dunlap. The boys did pretty good on the Free Throw line, the team making 61% of their shots. Kalvin Orcutt had a great night making 87.5% of his Free Throws.

The boys then faced the West Delaware Hawks on the Wildcat's court on Saturday. They suffered a tough loss, with a final score of 26-71, a win for the Hawks. "The boys had a great first quarter, but we lost our intensity," says Coach Dunlap. He goes on to say, "We need to continue to push ourselves and keep up the intensity."

Our top scorers for this game were Brock Hillers with a total of 9 points, and Kalvin Orcutt, Clint Krapfl, and Jacob Bonert each scoring 4 points.

The boys picked up a total of 20 rebounds. The top rebounders were Kalvin with 4 rebounds, and Brock Hillers, Garrett Hogan, Clint Krapfl, and Jacob Bonert each with 3 rebounds.

This game could've been greatly

improved; however, some good things did happen. Kalvin Orcutt and Kyle Wilson each made 100% of their Free Throws and Trevor Elgin made 50% of his.

This Tuesday, the boys travelled to Springville to face the Orioles. They played a fantastic game with the final score being 51-47, a win for the Wildcats.

"It took everyone to get this win at Springville," says Coach Dunlap. "Our guys have been working really hard in practice and have been upbeat, which can be difficult to do when you don't get the wins you deserve."

"The posts played physical and set the tone, making Springville respect us down low. That helped open things up on the outside," states Coach Dunlap.

Our top scorers were Brock Hillers with a total of 17 points, Ryan Geodken with a total of 10 points, and Kalvin Orcutt and Jacob Bonert each scoring 8 points for the team.

We had a total of 31 rebounds. The top rebounders were Jacob Bonert with 12 rebounds, and Brock Hillers, Kalvin Orcutt, and Kyle Wilson each picking up 5 rebounds.

The boys had a great game. They made 60% of their Free Throws. Kalvin made 75% of his free throws. Brock Hillers and Garrett Hogan made 50% of their 3- pointers. "Ryan Goedken shot well, going four for seven on the night. Brock Hillers poured in 17 points and Jacob Bonert had 12 rebounds," says Coach Dunlap. He adds, "Kyle Wilson had 4 assists and Clint Krapfl had 2. This was a really nice team victory."

The boys travelled to Starmont last night to face the Stars. The stats for that game will be in the next Echo.

Come out to Calamus- Wheatland tonight to support your Wildcats against the Warriors!

Girls team headed in right direction

by Kristi Goedken

The Maquoketa Valley Wildcat girls are continuing to take steps forward during their conference games. Last Thursday our very own Wildcats traveled north to take on the Vikings of Ed-Co in a non-conference game.

As Ed-Co got off to a great start in their game, the Wildcats quickly responded. At the end of the first quarter, MV led 24-11 and didn't slow down. After playing a hard fought game for 32 minutes, the Wildcats were able to to add another win to their record with a 70-35 win.

With a core group of six seniors leading the way, Megan, Shawnae, Angie, Erin, Kristi, and Sienna, those six girls were able to account for 34 of the teams 70 points. The senior girls connected on 13 of their 16 shots.

Statistical leaders were junior Brianna Mensen with 21 points, followed be Megan Mensen with 13 and Erin Digmann with 12. Digmann shot 75% from 3-point range connecting on 3 of 4 3-pointers. Caitlin Schumann was able to grab 5 boards while Freshman Sam Wall pulled down 4. B. Mensen was able to dish 6 assists. The Wildcats were able to get 20 steals against the Vikings which turned into easy points for MV.

"I have to give Ed-Co a lot of credit in this game," stated Coach Moenck. "They really came out and punched us in the mouth right away. We really weren't ready for that. It was good for us to have to get over the hump. We really settled down late in the first quarter and played really good defense and finished around the bucket. I was very proud of Megan Mensen with how aggressive she was offensively. She did a great job of attacking the bucket. We have a lot of room to grow but we are for sure heading in the right direction."

Stats from the Pink Out Cats' victory over West Delaware will be in next week's issue. MV won with a final score of 49-31. Check next week for stats over MV's loss to Springville and game with Starmont.



by McKenzie Lansing

If you had one wish, what would you wish for?

Brooklyn Sands- more wishes Caitlyn Gibbs- Nothing Cassandra Ingles- Money for college Megan Beaman- 40 cats Mitchell Neuzil- Cure for cancer Norman Wilson- Success Paula Wear- Homes for homeless veterans Amanda Engelken- Warmer weather Blake Becker- More wishes Pedro Chavez- to travel anywhere I wanted to for free Brock Hillers- World peace Kari Nefzger- College paid for Brittany Hines- to be rich Sidney Pritchard- Finish everything on my **Bucket List** Josie Young- Unlimited spending amount at American Eagle Even Hoefer- More wishes Ty Domeyer- everything I ever wanted Mitchell Smith- a mansion

The right moves



The dance team performed a hip-hop routine during Saturday night's Pink Out. (photo courtesy of MV Athletic **Boosters**)

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Kaleb Handel Activity: Speech

What event are you in for speech? One Act Play What do you enjoy most about large group speech? Going to speech



events and meeting new people

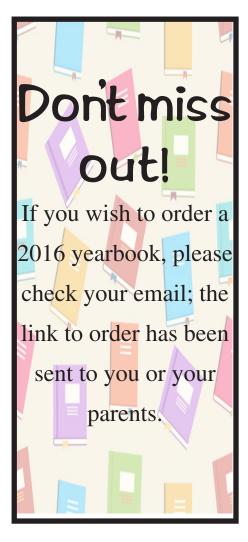
there.

What have you learned through this event?

You can't be worried about what you look like or sound like on stage. If you worry to much then people

Who is your speech role model? Matthew Lansing for sophomore year helping me with my first year in speech. If you could judge a large group speech event, what would it be? Why?

Improv because they are really interesting



Athletes of the Week

Name: Kaleb Kruse Sport: Wrestling

What weight are you wrestling at this year? Heavyweight

What are your goals this year? Make it to districts

What's the hardest part of wrestling? Sprints after wrestling six minutes What's something about wrestling non-wrestlers may not know? It is a lot of hard work, takes a lot of time and

Do you have any pre-meet traditions? Have fun on the bus rides to the meets

Name: Briana March Sport: Dance team

commitment

What do you enjoy most about dance team?

I enjoy being able to see what we are able to do in such a short time. As a



team we are able to learn and perform a dance in 3 to 4 days. I also love being around the girls and forming friendships with all of them.

What's the hardest part of it? The hardest part of dance is staying focused at practice. We have a lot to do in a short amount of time.

What's your favorite routine you've ever been a part of? What did you like about it? I don't know if I have just one routine that is my favorite. There is parts of all the routines that I like. I just enjoy performing them all.

What's something about dance most people don't realize? I don't think most people realize how difficult it is to be a dancer. People think that dancing is "easy" but its really not. I have been a part of many teams and dancing is very strenuous on your body. Many people don't like to think that dance is a sport but it is. We work as hard as any other team but we our working is doing a dance over and over again until it is perfect. Our routines are like a play in basketball. If the players don't memorize and perfect the play the team won't score. If we don't memorize and perfect our dances we won't perform well.

If you could choreograph a routine, what kind would it be? I enjoy choreographing Country Hip Hop.

Meet the Freshmen



Sam, Jon & Katie

Name: Sam Wall

Siblings: Kelli Kregel, Kendra Kregel,

Kelsey Wall

Activities you plan to be involved in: cross country, basketball, speech, track, Spanish

club

Favorite subject: Math

Career aspirations: something in the medi-

cal field

Hobbies: hanging with friends, playing

sports, watching movies

Something cool about you: I've been to

almost to every state

Name: Katie Snyder

Siblings: Brooke and Kelsey

Activities you plan to be involved in: speech, musical, play, Spanish club,

Favorite subject: Spanish

Career aspirations: Nurse Hobbies: hanging out with friends

Something cool about you: I have twin

sisters

Name: Jon Seibert

Siblings: Laura and Maggie

Activities you plan to be involved in: cross

country, baseball, speech, track

Favorite subject: Art

Career aspirations: some kind of engineer

Hobbies: baseball, sports, fishing

Something cool about you: I love baseball

—typist: Kristi Goedken

Do's and Don'ts of College/Real World Preparation

by Shaylyn Trenkamp



Seniors, we are now over halfway done with our last year of high school. Soon, we will be getting ready to tackle college or the workforce and the real world. Juniors, sophomores, and freshmen: believe it or not, you're not far behind! So, as many scholarships and the looming FAFSA roll around this time of year, I find it very fitting to hand out some hints on how to truly prepare for the next step in our lives.

Do complete the FAFSA. There are many tutorials out there if you get confused, and it's worth the trouble! Financial aid is free money; there's no reason not to apply for the help.

Don't stress about your future. It's okay to go into college undecided, or to wait a year to apply for college, to get your gen eds at a community college before going elsewhere, etc. Be thinking about your interests and goals, but know that you have time to figure it out. What you thought you wanted to do might not intrigue you anymore, and that's okay.

Do apply for all the scholarships you are eligible for! As the financial aid speaker last Friday night put it into perspective, "If you apply for 50 scholarships that take you about an hour's worth of work and receive \$2,500, you're getting \$50 per hour." When stated like that, I think that sounds like a heck of a deal, so put in the time and effort and hopefully you will benefit.

Don't listen to everyone else. You don't have to be a doctor because your dad wants you to. You don't have to go to Iowa State because your sister goes there. You don't have to listen to anyone but yourself. So think of what you want. Think of what will make you happy. And go after your dreams.

Do work hard now. Your grades in high school, your ACT scores, and your activities and/or achievements can all help you get scholarships and get into the school you want. Prioritize school and focus in class. Get yourself ahead of the game by keeping up with success now.

Don't lie to a possible roommate. Be honest with yourself and him or her. Are you messy? What time do you really go to sleep? Fabricating better-sounding answers will only hurt both of you in the long run.

Do cherish the moments you have now. We hear that so often, but it's necessary. Be grateful for speech competitions and a superior rating. Be grateful for the first win of the basketball season. Be grateful for the people you get to experience high school with and the people who are supporting you along the way. Be grateful for every day, good or bad, that you have spent in these halls because they have made us who we are.

Wrestlers compete in Cascade tourney, Wright finishes first

This past Saturday the Maquoketa Valley wrestling team traveled to Cascaded to compete in the Cascade Invitational.

"A shout out goes to Dylan Wright on winning the championship at 170 pounds," stated Coach Andrews. "Dylan continued what is a very successful season and hopefully he can keep it rolling as we head into the post season."

Individual results from the tournament are listed below.

106- Canyon Richardson - 6th place

113- Justin Krapfl - 6th place

120- Tanner Parmely - 4th place

126- Dylan Happel - 4th place

132- Mason Hermanson - 2nd place

145- Mitch Smith - 4th place

152- Zach Cornell - 6th place

160- Cody Gibbs - 4th place

170- Dylan Wright - 1st place

182- Alec McDowell - 2nd place

195- Jordy Downs - 5th place

220- Eric Heims - 2nd place

Hwt- Kaleb Kruse - 4th place

Conference speech, cont.

Short Film, The Assignment (Natalie Neuzil, Laisee Shakespeare, Ryanne Flanagan, Nichole Winter, Brenden Hogan, Kara Orcutt, Cassi Westhoff, and Megan Wulfekhule); Solo Mime, Taxi Fare Warning (Dustin Heims); TV News, QWRK (Megan Mensen, Brooke Snyder, Kelsey Snyder, Dylan Wright, Maeva Luis, Bryant Meyer-Kemp, Josy Harmon, Danielle Schuman, and Carson Wright); TV News, ANML (Sienna Becker, Shawnae Hoeger, Clint Krapfl, Nichole Winter, Eric Deutmeyer, and Kara Orcutt); TV News, RDNK (Maddy Anderegg, Blake Becker, Lucas Johnson, Emma McDowell, Madison McIntyre, Maddy Naab, Katie Snyder, Tate Trenkamp, and Sam Wall).

The performances receiving twos were: 9th grade Choral Reading, Talk Nerdy to Me (Lane Coyle, Hunter Farrand, Stefanie Hansen, Brian Heims, Olivia Hoeger, Faith Hunt, Hannah Lahr, Kara Leibold, Kristin Lucas, Maddy Naab, Chloe Roling, Brooklyn Sands, Shana Timm, Sam Wall, and Kelly Winter); Ensemble Acting, From the Mouth of Babes (Sienna Becker, Megan Beaman, Mitchell Neuzil, and Tyson Tucker); Group Mime, TXT U L8R (Briana March, Megan Mensen, Macy Hoeger, Payton Ries, and Josie Young); Musical Theatre, A New Brain (Megan Beaman, Patrick Hansen, and Sean Hucker); and Solo Mime, Momma? (Mikayla Callan).

One Act only performing for comments was, What NOT To Do At Districts (Macy Anderegg, Tamala Askeland, Kristi Goedken, Kaleb Handel, Katlyn Handel, Nichole Lucas, Megan McNamara, Brianna Mensen, Cassie Schwandt, Ali Sheehy, Colin Wendt, Hannah Clemen, Dustin Heims, Brittany Sabers, Brody Sevart, Kiesha Stelken, and Paula Wear). For their performances in One Act, Colin Wendt received the Best Actor Award, Macy Anderegg received the Best Actress Award, and Kaleb Handel received the Best Supporting Actor Award.

The team will compete at districts at Cascade tomorrow. Act Proud. Speak Loud. Dream Big!

Musicians join forces with other conference students





Representing MV at the Tri-Rivers **Conference Honor Band Festival on** Monday were, front row, Kelly Winter, Maddie Lahr, **Shaylyn Trenkamp** and Nichole Winter; second row: Tamala Askeland, Emily La-Grant, Riley Sternhagen and Taylor Guthrie; back row: Colin Wendt, Bryant Meyer-Kemp and Jon Seibert.

by Emily LaGrant

On a cold Monday morning, 11 students headed off to Alburnett to participate in the Tri-Rivers Conference Honor Band. There they worked under the a direction of Thad Driskell from Jefferson High School.

The students played a mixture of pieces from a calming ballad to the music from *Guardians of the Galaxy* for the concert at 7:00.

"It's always a great experience for students to play under a different director as well as with a much larger band," said Mr. Hadley.

Students viewed the event positively. Riley Sternhagen said, "It's always an amazing experience to play with such a large band. It's an event no one regrets going to."

Students participating were seniors Tamala Askeland, Emily LaGrant, Shaylyn Trenkamp, Riley Sternhagen, and Taylor Guthrie; juniors Colin Wendt, Nichole Winter and Bryant Meyer-Kemp; and freshmen Kelly Winter, Maddie Lahr and Jon Seibert.

New cook joins staff

by Nichole Winter

In case you haven't seen her in the kitchen yet, we have a new cook! Her name is Kendra Langel. She has been working in the kitchen for



a couple of weeks now so we decided to drop in and ask her a few questions to get to know her.

Tell us about your family. "I'm married. I have a 6 year-old son Teagan, a 3 year-old daughter Anniston, and a 13 year-old step daughter Alyssa."

We understand that you are a Maquoketa Valley graduate. What year did you graduate, and who were some of your teachers? "1998 and some of my teachers were Mrs. Temple, Mr. Huegel, Mrs. Spellerburg and Pam."

Why did you choose to work as a cook for Maquoketa Valley? "I did it to be more involved with the school district and to have a more similar schedule to my kids."

What is your favorite school lunch? "So far it's the taco salad."

If you haven't met Kendra yet, stop by the kitchen and say hi!

The Cat Box Hall Smarts

opinions, ideas and random thoughts from the staff of The Wildcat Echo



A meow goes out to Lawson Roof who has stepped up to fill in for a



A meow for students who are gearing up to participate in the caucuses.



A good luck meow to the students competing in district speech tomor-



A meow to Mr. Dunlap who does a great job of displaying student

Angie's Angle

by Angie Wilson Grenade

One bad choice equals one grenade. You make choices for yourself. As human nature we take



in consideration the positive and negatives things we will gain or lose when making a choice. When you choose the dark road that leads to regret, you choose those consequences that follow it. Every time we make a choice, we are self aware what might happen to us. But do we really make choices just for ourselves? If you don't have the decency of making the right decision for yourself, at least make the right decision for those who surround you.

I know individuals who chose to take that road of darkness, and they seem to forget one thing. Through that entire journey of bad choices and bad decisions, they put those consequences not only on themselves but the people who mean the most to them. Most of those who chose this journey lack self respect, and they lack self love. But my message to you is to not forget your teachers, your coaches, your best friends, your siblings, your innocent grandma, or the old lady in the neighborhood who has been watching you since you were little. These are the people who are really facing the consequences of your poor choices. You have the ability of becoming a grenade and disappointing everyone in your reach just by one choice.

by Shawnae Hoeger

Let's see how smart this week's contestants are with plural words. This week's contestants are Angie Wilson, Kaela Chesnut. Carter Klostermann



with help from Zak Harbach and Ben Brown.

1. What is the plural word of cactus?

Angie: cacti Kalea: cacti C&Z: cacti Ben: cacti Answer: Cacti

2. What is the plural word of dice?

Angie: die Kaela: die C&Z: die Ben: die Answer: Die

3. What is the plural word of goose?

Angie: geese Kaela: geese C&Z: geese Ben: geese Answer: Geese

4. What is the plural word of ox?

Angie: oxen Kaela: oxen C&Z: oxen Ben: oxen Answer: Oxen

5. What is the plural word of syllabus?

Angie: syllabi Kaela: syllabi

C&Z: plural word is syllabus

Ben: syllabi Answer: syllabi

Looks like everyone tied for first but the duo of Carter and Zak came in second. Better luck next time, guys!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MV the week of JANUARY 25, 2016

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016

- 1. Jr High (7th & 8th) Boys Basketball at East Buchanan in Winthrop - 4:00 PM (Bus Leaves at 3:00 PM)
- 2. FFA Soup Supper HS Cafeteria 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM
- 3. HS JV/V Girls & Boys Basketball -HOME - Monticello - JV 4:45 PM / V 6:15 PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016 Youth Wrestling Practice - HS WR Room

- PreK through 4th 6:00 - 7:00 PM / 5th-8th 7:00 - 8:15 PM

HS JV/V G & B BB at Lisbon - JV 4:00 PM / V 6:15 PM (JV Bus @ 2:15 PM / V

Bus @ 4:15 PM)

Homework Assistance for 7th & 8th Graders - After School until 4:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2016

1. Homework Assistance for 7th & 8th Graders - After School until 4:00 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016

- 1. HS JV/Varsity Wrestling at C.P.U. (with Maquoketa & Midland) - 6:00 PM (Bus Leaves at 4:00 PM)
- 2. Jr High 7th & 8th Boys Basketball -HOME (MS Multipurpose Rm) - North Linn - 4:00 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016

1. HS JV/V Girls & Boys Basketball -HOME - East Buchanan - JV 4:45 PM / V 6:15 PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2016

1. HS Tri-Rivers Conference Varsity Wrestling Tournament - HOME (HS Gym) - Noon

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2016

Youth Wrestling Practice - HS Wrestling Room - PreK through 4th 4:00 - 5:00 PM

/ 5th-8th 5:00 - 6:00 PM

2. HS Vocal to Meistersinger Festival at Wartburg College (Van Leaves at 7:30 AM - Back Monday night)







THIS IS MV

photos by Flavia Xavier









