

Lights...Camera...Dance!!!

by Maggie Seibert

As you all know Basketball season is quickly coming up. Not only do we get to see the Cats get ready for it but also the drill team is getting pumped up to dance. We have been very busy getting prepared for upcoming events.

The following people are all members of the MV drill team this year for 04-05: Michelle Boge, Brianna Boies, Jodi Hendricks, Ashleigh Hunt, Brooke Robinson, Amy Salow, Miranda Knake, Lalaina Rabary, Laura Seibert, Michelle Durey, Audrey Salow, Allison Supple, Stephanie Tanner and Maggie Seibert. We have all been working very hard so far on many sorts of things.

Over the summer we have been fairly busy with learning new routines and dances to perform. What we have left is only to critique and to run through the dances so they stay fresh in our mind. In the middle of summer, we were told that we could possibly go to Australia in summer 2005. Knowing that some of us wanted to go, we started to get the word out and started to fundraise. We have been doing many sorts of things to earn money: pop can drive, dunk tank at Earlville 4th of July

and at Delhi Days, a pool gala, and also went to the Good Neighbor Home and the Penn Center to do community service. We even had a float in the Delhi Days Parade for people to help us.

Since school has started, the drill team is now working on a dance for state... STATE??...yes, state! This is our first year of participating in a state dance competition. We are all getting very excited and also pumped up. The state competition will be held in December in Des Moines. It would be awesome if we could get big supporters and people from MV to come down and help cheer us on...Hint! Hint!

We all have been doing a great job keeping up and cooperating. Our coach, Jackie Niehaus, is there for us 100%. Her great aggressiveness and enthusiasm helps us all work together and focus. She is a great coach to have on the dance team. All of us get along very well which makes practices and get togethers fun and exciting. Drill team is like another family. I recommend it to all the people who don't know if they want to try out next year or just love dancing to go for it! Drill team is a great experience!

MV Band Takes Second at Marion



Field commanders Adam Ries and Megan Besler signal the band is ready to perform.

by Allison Offerman

Last Saturday the MV Wildcat Marching Band traveled to the Marion football field for the first of three competitions this season. For the first competition, the band fared well, collecting a second place trophy in the class 2A. Other contenders for the class 2A title were Dyersville Beckman, Davis County and Eddyville-Blakesburg.

Bands are judged in four areas of critique, which are marching and maneuvering general effect, marching and maneuvering execution, music execution and music general effect. Maquoketa Valley received 215, 170, 151 and 210 in their respective areas. The percussion received a total score of 74. The colorguard also competed and received a score of 74, only one point behind Eddyville-Blakesburg, who was named Best Guard.

Field Commander, Megan Besler, stated, "We did a lot better than I think everyone thought we would!"

Once the final scores were tallied, Maquoketa Valley came in second place with a score of 73.6 with Eddyville-Blakesburg winning the class with their score of 82.8. Overall, out of a total of fourteen bands, the band placed a well deserved fifth. Congratulations band!



Audrey Salow, Ashleigh Hunt and Brooke Robinson practice their routine. (photo by Amy Cummings)