

Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Schindler Sisters Travel to Germany

by Allison Offerman

From September 16th through the 27th, two Maquoketa Valley students traveled with their family across the Atlantic Ocean to Germany. They traveled to Germany to visit their dad's cousin and to just get away from Iowa for awhile. Both Amanda and Monica Schindler enjoyed their stay there. They visited Munich and Rothenburg (a medieval, walled-in city) among many other places.

But Oktoberfest seemed to top off their stay. "We met a lot of interesting people," commented Amanda when questioned about why she liked Oktoberfest so much. They also visited numerous castles during their stay.

The worst part about Germany was going to a soldier's welcome back party. "We went right after we got off the plane and I was really tired," according to Monica. The worst part for Amanda was the plane ride: "The food sucked!"

One thing Amanda noticed about the younger German generation was that they spoke more English than the older people. Monica commented, "Old people would just come up to you and start asking



Monica and Amanda Schindler ride the train with Kristi Lahr Kolthoff and her husband, Kyle. Kristi is a 1987 MV graduate.

questions and I had no idea what they were saying!" A new phrase Monica picked up in Germany was Bitte, Bitte. "It means please, please."

We Raised the Bar Day

by Miranda Knake

Most, if not all of you, have heard about our free day next Thursday, October 21st. Hopefully all of you signed up in the lobby for some activity this Thursday. This free day is a reward for the outstanding Homecoming this year.

The day is planned as follows: We will have classes 1-5 with lunch as usual. After lunch students have the option of staying at school and participating in activities or joining in some form of community service. The teachers will be chaperoning these different activities and the activities selected were volleyball, watching one of three movies ("8 Seconds," "Day After Tomorrow," or "Blue Collar Comedy Tour"), a video game tournament, or board games/cards. Students could also sign up for the following forms of community service: visiting the Good Neighbor Home, possibly visiting some elementary classrooms, raking leaves or painting, or highway roadside clean up.

The perks for Community Service include eating first on Thursday the 21st and getting free ice cream on Monday, October 25th. Community service may also work for government class and would look good on any application or resume.

The student council has been working hard to organize this free day reward. This is another chance for the student body to get some time off and show that Maquoketa Valley High School is exceptional and deserves the rewards offered to them. Let's take advantage of this opportunity! Enjoy your upcoming free day!



Band, Drumline, Guard Take I's at State

by Allison Offerman

Saturday at the IHSMA State Large Group Marching Band contest, the MV band was able to fare well by walking away with three division I ratings. The band performed in Kingston Stadium and played the show of their lives.

They both marched and sounded great and received an overall score of 79.5. The drumline also played very well and received a 35 out of 50. The color guard amazed the judges again and received an 81 out of 100.

Mr. Smith said, "This year's band has exceeded my expectations."

Band members were also positive about the performances. Katie Hoffmann also said of the color guard's performance, "Saturday was our best performance that we've had this year. I'm glad to make my last year go out like this." Philip Mueller added about the drumline, "I think we did well because we watched Adam, played dynamically and didn't overplay."

The MV band has now gotten two consecutive division I rating, the only two in the history of MV marching band. A round of applause goes to the band for their start of a marching band "tradition" and for raising the bar of future bands. Congratulations!

Academic Awards Presented

Junior Adam Kracke receives his academic award from Miss Hollinrake at Wednesday's assembly. Outstanding MV sophomores, juniors and seniors were recognized for their GPAs. (photo by Kathie Palmersheim)