

# Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

## Two MV Students Make All-State Speech



Receiving I ratings at State speech contest were: front: Felicia Harbach, Brando Hills, Michelle Durey, Audrey Salow, Miranda Knake, Annie Ehlt; back: Curtis Wolf, Beth Klostermann, Bill Durey and Jennifer Schooley. Not pictured: Jackie Melchert, Adam Graybill and Aaron Dunham.

by Allison Offerman

On Saturday, March 19th the students who qualified for the 2005 State Individual Speech Contest traveled to West Union. Twenty-six events qualified for the large honor. Maquoketa Valley had a total of 18 I ratings and 8 II ratings.

Those students who received Division I's at the State contest were: Jennifer Schooley (Acting & Literary Program), Curtis Wolf (Expository Address), Felicia Harbach (Spontaneous Speaking & Radio News), Annie Ehlt (Literary Program), Miranda Knake (Original Oratory & Expository Address), Audrey Salow (Poetry & Prose), Brando Hills (Prose), Bill Durey (Storytelling), Michelle Durey (Literary Program), Jackie Melchert (Poetry), Aaron Dunham (Improvisational Acting), and Adam Graybill (Improvisational Acting).

Those students who received Division II's at the State contest were: Bill Durey (Acting), Ashley Heims (Public Address), Renee Pritchard (Review), Megan Sawyer (Acting), Allison Offerman (Spontaneous Speaking), Megan Besler (Prose), Casi Orr (After Dinner Speaking) and Katie Reth (Storytelling).

Out of 9000 students that started off at the district level, only 400 of them are chosen for the highest honor of All-

State. Two of the 400 are from MV: Bill Durey and Jennifer Schooley were chosen for their Storytelling and Literary Program, respectively.

Both coaches, Mrs. Bonebrake and Mr. DeVore said participation in speech is a worthwhile activity.

"Aside from honing their public speaking skills, speech students gain confidence in themselves, learn organization and self discipline, and expand their social skills," stated Mrs. Bonebrake. Most of the kids have met and become friends with speech students from other schools and support one another in their performances. Speech is an excellent, all around activity."

Mr. DeVore added, "I hope they are gaining the ability to speak in front of people...whether it be in a small group or a large room. Speech is an activity that will be with you the rest of your life...guaranteed!"

Congratulations to all of the student who qualified for State contest. Read more about Jen and Bill in the Fine Artists of the Week feature. Have fun, Bill and Jen, at the All-State Program at the University of Northern Iowa this Monday!

## The 'Tonight Show' Hits the Stage

by Amanda Heims

Friday and Saturday, Dimensions will take place at the high school with the theme of "The Tonight Show." With many choir and band students performing in the show, it is sure to be a hit.

The music department has been working extremely hard to put on a great show. They have been practicing after school, in the mornings and even during their spring vacation.

Dimensions is the first show that has been put on for the home crowd featuring Smooth Harmony, Jazz Express and Kaleidosteps.

The pre-show takes place in the choir room with many soloists performing. The main show is in the auditorium.

Megan Sawyer commented that "Dimensions has been a lot of work, but it will all be worth it in the end."

The main show will include interview, skits, and commercials. The second act will include our very own jazz band which will also be performing a number of songs.

Miranda Knake also commented "This is a creative showcasing comedic and musical talent in our very own high school."

The pre-show starts at 7:00 and the main show starts at 8:00. Tickets will cost \$6 for adults and \$4 for students-this includes the show and the pre-show. If you just want to attend the main show tickets will cost \$4 for adults and \$3 for students. Tickets are available in the office, so get yours today!



Right: Megan Sawyer, Lalaina Rabary and Casi Orr rehearse a dance number.