

# Wildcat Echo

Issue 16  
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A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

## Students learn more about career in construction

**Eric Heims and Garrett Hogan experiment with the construction simulator.**



On Thursday, January 19, Mr. Drew and four Maquoketa Valley students attended a Construction Equipment Simulator Hands-On Experience and Portzen Construction Business Tour in Dubuque. Participating students included Kyle Richter, Garrett Hogan, Dalton Becker, and Eric Heims.

Using the simulator, students had the opportunity to operate an excavator, forklift, and other pieces of construction equipment. Students also listened to a construction careers presentation by area construction companies, toured the NICC carpentry lab, and toured Portzen Construction in Dubuque.

## Dance team holds annual dance showcase



by Nichole Winter

The dance team's Strut Your Stuff event takes place this Saturday the 28th at 5:30 p.m. in the high school gym. The dance team will perform 10 dances from this season, including the WD Hip Hop. Kids grades K - 8 will also dance at Strut Your Stuff. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for students. It is going to be a fun-filled night with strong performances from our own classmates.

## Speech team advances 26 events to State

On Saturday, the MV speech teams performed at district contest in Cascade. They had an excellent day with 26 of 28 groups earning Division I ratings.

The 9th grade team had six groups perform and five of them received Division 1 ratings: Choral Reading, Ensemble Acting, Radio Broadcasting, Readers Theatre, and Solo Mime Cloie Wilson. The TV News received a Division 2.

The 10-12 grade had 22 teams perform and 21 received Division 1 ratings: Choral Reading, all three Ensemble Actings, all three Group Improvisations, all three Group Mimes, Musical Theatre, One Act, Radio News (RIPT), Readers Theatre, both Short Films, all three Solo Mimes (Dustin Heims, Katilyn Deutmeyer and Patrick Hansen), and both TV News programs. DSNY Radio received a Division 2.

Those who received a 1 rating will perform at state on Saturday, February 4 at Dubuque Senior.

## Mensen honored



Yesterday afternoon Scott Saville and a cameraman from KCRG TV interviewed senior Brianna Mensen as Athlete of the Week. The interview can be seen at <http://www.kcrg.com/content/sports/Athlete-of-the-Week-Brianna-Mensen-411941825.html>

## Wrestlers finish second in TRC duals

Last Thursday night the Wildcat traveled to East Buchanan to take on the Buchaneers and the Lisbon Lions. MV went 1-1 for the night, securing a second place conference duals finish.

MV defeated East Buchanan 49-18. Zach Cornell won by major decision 13-0. Norman Wilson won 9-2. Alec McDowell won by injury default. Cole Kruse pinned his opponent as did Eric Heims and Canyon Richardson. Winning by forfeit were Chad Neuzil, Carter Stahlberg and Mason Kruse.

A statewide respected Lisbon program came out to claim the conference duals title by defeating MV 60-12. Alec McDowell pinned his opponent at 3:40 and Cole Kruse won by forfeit.

Coach Andrews stated, "I was happy how we ended the night with a big victory over East Buchanan. The guys really responded after dropping the first dual to Lisbon. Our dual team record is now 27-4 and a large part of that is to the guys buying in and working hard every single day. Finishing the dual team regular season in second place with our only losses to the #1 ranked team in state in the best conference in I A is something these seniors can hang their hat on and this team can build upon."

The team wrestled at Maquoketa last night and will compete at the Tri-Rivers meet tomorrow at North Linn.

## Boys basketball go 1-2 recently, defeat Orioles in OT

by McKenzie Lansing

The boys ended last week with a home game against Calamus-Wheatland on Friday. Unfortunately, our boys lost in a close game with a final score of 56-68, a win for the Warriors.

"Offensively, we did a great job handling defensive pressure and running offenses," commented Coach Dunlap, "We had way too many turnovers and also fouled too much. Therefore, we need to do a better job defensively."

The top scorers of this game were Tyson Tucker, Jacob Bonert, Garrett Hogan and Brock Hillers. Jacob and Tyson scored 12 points each. Garrett scored 9 points total and Brock scored 8 points.

The top rebounders were Bonert, Tucker and Hogan. Jacob picked up 9 rebounds. Tyson had 6 rebounds. Garrett had

## Mensen hits 1000, Cats defeat Orioles

Monday night was a big night for the Wildcats as the team defeated top-ranked Springville 48-38. Additionally, senior Brianna Mensen scored her 1000th career point.

"It was a great win for our kids and our program," stated Coach Moenck. "I am really proud and happy for them. I truly am. One of the biggest rewards of this job is walking into the locker room and seeing kids smiling and laughing and enjoying living in the moment. I thought we played not scared. It sounds easy, but we just battled. We made shots when we needed to, got rebounds when we had to and just really, really played hard and played together."

Tuesday night the Cats hosted Lisbon for senior night. Seniors McKenna Wenthe, Caitlin Schuman, Nichole Winter and Brianna Mensen were recognized. The Cats won 73-30.

Last Friday night the Cats hosted Calamus-Wheatland and won 66-28.

"We came out very sluggish in this game and got off to a slow start," stated Coach Moenck, despite the team's 37-15 half-time lead. "I was very pleased with how we responded in the second quarter. I thought we picked it up defensively which led to some run out points. At times we play some really good basketball and at other times we struggle. We need to be more consistent on the positive side. We have gotten better. I am very proud of our kids how well they play together. We're doing



Caitlin Schuman wrestles for position against a Cal-Wheat opponent.

ing a much better job of sharing the ball."

Mensen led team scoring with 21 points with Sam Wall contributing 17 points and five assists. Payton Ries had nine, Gracie Gellersen had seven, Maci Freiburger had five, Maddy Anderegg added three and Rejji Smith had two points.

Gellersen and Brooke Wilson each had a block. Mensen had three steals.

Last night MV traveled to Monticello and won a hard-fought game by two points.

Yesterday, Brianna Mensen was recognized as KCRG's Athlete of the Week. Scott Saville challenged her to a shootout which she won. Saville then took on Jean Wall in a shootout at her house and lost. The interview aired last night.

a total of 5 rebounds.

Overall, the team did an excellent job rebounding, picking up a total of 34 as a team. They also had a good overall free throw percentage of 72.73%. Trevor also individually had a total of 3 steals.

"We needed to do a better job at not allowing Cal-Wheat's big guy to have second chance shots," said Coach Dunlap, "There is a chance we could see them in the postseason and I think we could beat them."

Next, the boys started out their busy week with a home game against Springville. After four quarters and one overtime, the boys pulled out a victory, with a final score of 62- 61.

"It was a great overtime win for us at home," commented Coach Dunlap. "The team as a whole was much better with the ball and did a better job limiting turnovers."

The top scorers of this game were Hogan, Hillers and Tucker. Garrett scored a total of 20 points. Brock scored a total of 13 points. Tyson scored a total of 12 points.

The top rebounders of this game were Tucker, Bonert and Hogan. Tyson picked up 7 rebounds. Jacob had 5 rebounds. Garrett added 5 rebounds.

"Garrett Hogan played like a man possessed!" stated Coach Dunlap, "He finished the night with 20 points, 4 rebounds, and shot 75% from the free throw line. Heath Gibbs also played a very good game. He came off of the bench and did excellent defensively. We also did a great job getting after rebounds, out rebounding Springville by 12 total."

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## Vocalists join Meistersinger honor choir



**Megan Beaman, Lawson Roof, Patrick Hansen and Nicholas Chen pose with MV alumna and Wartburg choir member Taylor Guthrie.**  
by Lawson Roof

On Sunday, four members of the Maquoketa Valley high school choir, Megan Beaman, Lawson Roof, Patrick Hansen, and Nicholas Chen, traveled to Wartburg College to attend the Meistersinger Honor Choir. For two days, the four students practiced three songs composed by Jake Runestad, a leading composer in the modern-day classical music industry. Jake Runestad is a young composer of about 30 who has had his music commissioned for All-State choirs, collegiate groups, and even for performers who performed for Pope Francis I at the Sistine Chapel. Jake Runestad himself was there to help direct the choir and talk about his career as a composer and conductor.

The 2016 Meistersinger Honor Choir consisted of about 400 high school students from Iowa and Minnesota. 80 different schools were represented at the event. On Monday night, the choir performed in the Neumann Auditorium at Wartburg Col-

lege. About the experience, Megan Beaman said, "It was a fun experience to be with singers who had a passion, and I learned many new musical techniques."

Patrick Hansen felt just the same about the choir. "I got to spend two days with hundreds of other people who love music as much as I do," Patrick recounted. "In two days we practiced and practiced nonstop to ace our three songs so they were concert ready. I got to learn new ways to improve my voice and it was wonderful getting to work with the man who composed our music. That isn't something many people can say, so I consider myself pretty lucky to have had that experience."

For me, personally, the event was such a wonderful experience because I got to participate in such a dedicated choir. Making music with people is such a bonding experience, and getting to see so many people work so hard and care so much about one purpose, the unity of music, just pulls at my heartstrings.

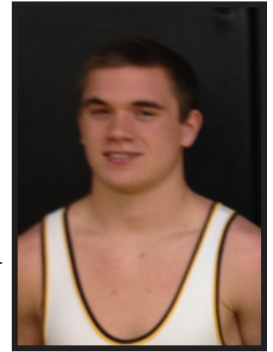
## Athletes of the Week

Name: Mitch Smith

Sport: Wrestling

**What weight are you wrestling at this year?**  
152 and 160

**What are your goals this year?**  
To get first at conference and try to make it to state



**What's the hardest part of wrestling?**  
When you reach that point during practice and you want to quit.

**What's something about wrestling non-wrestlers may not know?** It's one of the hardest sport with a really, really hot room.

**What's a great warm-up song?**  
Black Beatles

**Do you have any pre-meet traditions?** I usually pray before each meet

Name: Eric Heims  
Sport: Wrestling

**What weight are you wrestling at this year?** 220 lbs

**What are your goals this year?**  
Place at state



**What's the hardest part of wrestling?** Always trying to do better with moves and staying in great condition

**What's something about wrestling non-wrestlers may not know?** It isn't all about strength; it is how bad you want it along with your mentality

**What's a great warm-up song?** "Danger Zone" from *Top Gun*

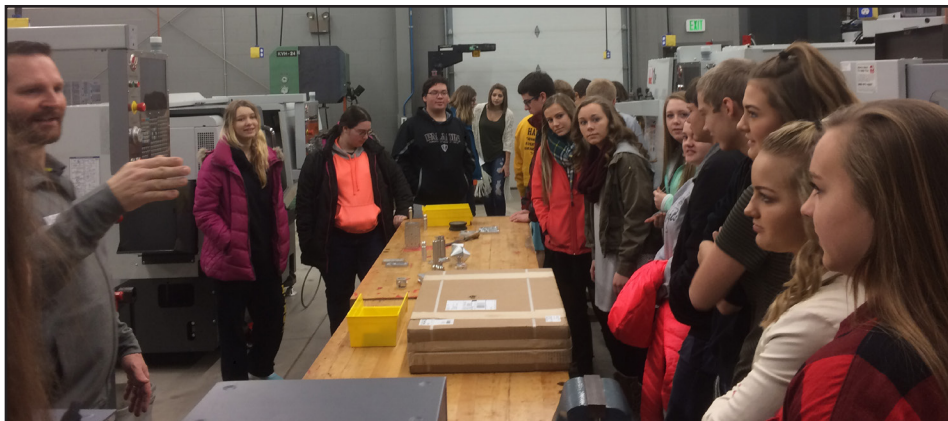
**Do you have any pre-meet traditions?**  
Think about farming stuff to relax and get mentally focused and cracking teammates' backs

## Students explore health career options



**MV students Josey Harmon, Adrienne Supple and Cassi Westhoff participate in a Career Learning Link health care lesson last week. They got to explore health careers by studying in a synthetic cadaver lab.**

# Sophomores tour JREC



The sophomores traveled to Monticello Tuesday to tour the Jones Regional Education Center so they could learn more about the Kirkwood Academies offered there. Mr. Tuetken said he'd like to recommend the sophomore class for the way they handled themselves at their Kirkwood visit today. "They were polite, respectful, listened intently and asked great questions," Mr. Tuetken added. "They represented MV with class." Craig Stadtmueller also sent an email commending the class. (photo by Emma McDowell)

## Fans show their newsworthy side



The student section at the basketball games Monday night showed their school spirit and support of the team by creating an ESPN theme. (photo courtesy of Megan McNamara)

## Brain Teaser

by Mason Lubben

Three lives have I. Gentle enough to soften the skin. Light enough to caress the sky. Hard enough to break bones. What am I?

A: Water

## Birthday Shoutouts!

by Chance Downs

*It's never too early or too late to tell a fellow classmate Happy Birthday!*

This week's birthdays are:

1/29 - Pablo Ostos

1/31 - Cassi Westhoff

2/1 - Casey Fry, Tyson Tucker

2/2 - Maddie Lahr

## what's up?

**If you had as much money as you wanted, what's the first thing you'd do?**

by Kelly Winter

Kristin Lucas: buy a lot of ice cream!

Jon Seibert: buy a turtle

Shelby March: get a truck

Rylie Aldrich: get a mansion

Mrs. Mausser: pay off all my debt

Faith Hunt: leave iowa

Chloe Roling: go to a foreign country

Mr. Hadley: quit and travel

Evan Hoefer: party and celebrate

Norman Wilson: donate

Kelsey Ries: go somewhere else

Lawson Roof: open a "no kill" animal shelter

Mac Callan: I would invest it so I could get more money.

Brianna Mensen: travel around the world

Amanda Fortman: give my parents money

Cassy Wilson: put a track in my backyard

Taylor White: buy my own really expensive cat and name it Cindy Crawford

Mr. Tuetken: I would establish a early childhood learning center so families in need could bring their kids in, then I would go live in Hawaii.

Mr. Andrews: First build a new wrestling room at MV, and then take a one-year vacation around the world, and then I would come back to Iowa

Izabel Niehaus: invest

## Cutie

by Emma McDowell

This sophomore cutie has two younger siblings. Her favorite food is seafood, and she loves *Grey's Anatomy*.

