

Issue 3
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Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Homecoming 2020: Our Time to Shine



Maquoketa Valley will celebrate its homecoming the week of Sept. 21 with the theme of “Our Time to Shine.” Homecoming queen candidates are, front row from left: Payton Beaman, Ella Imler, Claire Krapfl and Emerson Whittenbaugh. King candidates are, from left to right: Miguel Bojorquez, Andrew Holtz, Owen Mensen and Parker Sternhagen.

by Kaitlyn Nolan

This year’s Homecoming will definitely be different, but even with everything going on, it will still happen. The theme this year is “Our Time to Shine.”

Homecoming week starts off on the 20th of September when students come in at 4:00pm to decorate the hallways. Monday is Pajama Day, and Tuesday is Dynamic Duo Day where you and a friend dress up as a “dynamic duo.” There is no school Wednesday because of teachers’ professional development. On Thursday, each class will dress up in specific colors: red for the freshmen, pink for the sophomores, white for the juniors, and blue for the seniors. Homecoming Friday, of course, is the day we wear black and gold!

Friday is when a normal schedule is run, but there is dismissal for all high-school students at 12:30 to go out to the football field. There will be a grill out followed up by games from the student council. At 2:00, the pep rally begins. Parents can attend the pep rally if wanted. After-

wards, all middle school and high school students will be dismissed for the parade at 2:30.

The football game is against Bellevue and starts at 7:00. King and Queen

coronation will occur during halftime. There is no Homecoming dance this year due to COVID-19.

Have a great week, and go Cats!

Fall play rehearsals are underway



Paige Panosh, Carlie Lewin, Allie Dunn, Logan Johnson, Andrew Hildebrand and Madeline Gellersen rehearse a scene from this fall’s play *The Velveteen Rabbit*. (photo by Mrs. Teymer)

MV adapts to school during a pandemic

by Paige Winter

Covid-19 is something that has affected everyone in the world in different ways, and Maquoketa Valley is no different. Here at MV we are also making changes to the way that we do things to help protect ourselves and keep our school up and running.

The biggest thing that has changed here at MV is probably the wearing of masks every day. Students and staff are all doing their part by wearing a face covering every day.

Though this is the most obvious change, another big one was moving to a block schedule. Many of us were skeptical at first, but many students and teachers have taken a liking to the new schedule. Brock Trenkamp says, "I like it because it gives you a lot more time to do your homework and the day feels shorter and easier." Mrs. Downs commented, "I'm slowly getting used to it, and in my labs I love it." Nolan Ries also added that he likes having long study halls.

Granted this may be one change that worked out, there are downsides. Michael Van Meter says, "I don't see as many people during the school day which makes me feel a little bit sad."

We can see that there is good and bad in the new schedule, but one effect of Covid that most students love is the new lunch period. Meals are served in to-go bags with disposable containers. Students may eat outside (weather-permitting), in the gym, in classrooms with teacher permission or in select areas of the cafeteria. Just this week, MV families learned that all breakfasts and lunches will be free until Dec. 31 or when funds run out.



Juniors pick up lunch at the lower hallway. (photos by Paige Winter)

Brock Trenkamp indicated the change wasn't all bad: "Lunch is quieter and it's easier to talk to each other." Molly Anderegg also added that she likes the shorter wait in line and getting to choose where to eat. Eating outside gives students a chance to get fresh air, which is something that Molly enjoys when the weather is nice.

However, despite students' opinions, for our hard working ladies in the kitchen these changes have been very stressful. Preparing meals in to-go containers is harder, and more time consuming. Most of these ladies said they would, "go back to plates in a heartbeat." So make sure to give our favorite ladies in the kitchen an extra thank you this week for all they do.

These are effects that have been obvious in both students' and teachers' lives, but one thing that may have flown under the radar is the cleaning teachers have to do. Most teachers use their whole passing time to disinfect desks. Mrs. DeVore's said, "I understand why, but it's probably one of my least favorite times of

the day. There's no longer time to breathe in between classes." This change is one for the negative column as teachers are sacrificing their already short break.

Another big change is virtual learning. You may have noticed some kids in your classes learning through Google Meets. Mrs. Besler said virtual learning can be tough at times: "Keeping up with the online people is time consuming and it overwhelms me sometimes." At MV, students who are learning virtually are expected to login during class time to learn live and be able to participate with their peers.

These don't even begin to cover all of the things that have changed at our school and in the world, but they are small ways that MV is doing our part to prevent the spread of Covid-19. As we all know these changes are affecting everyone in different ways, one thing I've heard from a lot of people is, "I miss seeing everyone's smiles in the hallways." But we can all help and support each other through this difficult time. Some of these changes are negative and some positive, but they will all help us keep our school up and running.



Michael VanMeter and Brock Trenkamp eat lunch in the hallway.



Kendra Hillers and Avery Krapfl don their masks in American Lit.

Wildcat football brings home a revenge win

by Kylie Chesnut

Last Friday, the team traveled to Winthrop taking on the Buccaneers in an intense game of rain filled football. It was a tight game, going 0-0 until the last 28 seconds when the Wildcats finally scored, taking the win 8-0.

Offensively the Wildcats came ready to play. Quarterback Parker Sternhagen passed for a total of 120 yards, making contact with Owen Mensen for 69 yards, Andrew Kloser for 23 yards, and AJ Ambundo and Avery Holtz for 14 yards each.

Rushing yards were led by Stenrhaven, who kept the ball for himself for 81 yards in 12 attempts, Ambundo carried the ball for 10 in 10 carries, and Zach Digman gained 5 yards in 3 carries.

Late in the game, the Wildcats made contact in the endzone 2 times, once for a TD and once for a 2-point conversion. The touchdown was scored by Sternhagen with a one yard run, and the conversion was taken care of by Mensen.

Defensively the Wildcats were strong and aggressive, keeping the game exciting. Coach Arnold adds, "Our defense played phenomenal and came up with stops four separate times when East Buch had the ball inside the 15 yard line." Tim Harmon led the team in total tackles with 11.5, followed by Andrew Kloser and Aiden Salow with 7 tackles each. Sternhagen and Kloser



Owen Mensen makes a big catch that sets the Wildcats up for a TD. Mensen caught for 69 yards on the night. (photo by Lesa Parmely)

also both had a fumble recovering each.

Kick off was handled by Ambundo, for 65 yards in 2 kicks. Punting duties were taken care of by Tony Offerman, 210 yards in 6 punts.

Tonight, the Wildcats are staying home to take on the North Linn Lynx. Varsity kickoff is to be at 7:30. The theme for the game is USA. Be proud and cheer loud!

The cross country meet from last Saturday was canceled due to wet course conditions. Last night the Wildcats ran at the Cascade meet. Details will be in next week's issue.

Volleyball team gets another conference win

by Tara Goedken

Last Thursday night, the Lady Wildcats hosted Easton Valley. The ladies ended the night with a 3-0 win with scores of 25-18, 25-15, 25-15.

Leading in kills was Emerson Whittenbaugh with 17 kills, Kylie Chesnut with 7, and Payton Beaman with 6 kills. Carissa Sabers led in assists with 27 and Molly Anderegg with 4 assists. Sabers led in serves with 22 total followed by Ella Imler with 12 and Whittenbaugh and Avery Krapfl each had 9 serves.

On defense, Imler led in digs with 15 followed by Whittenbaugh and Sabers with 13 digs each. Krista Ries and Chestnut each had 3 blocks.

Last night the Wildcats traveled to take on the Ed-Co Vikings. Details will be in next week's issue.

Emerson Whittenbaugh puts it down as Amaya Hunt and Krista Ries prepare for the block in the game against Easton Valley last week. (photo by Lesa Parmely)



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Travis Pohlman



Why does kindness matter? A simple act of kindness can turn a bad day into a good day. Happiness is spread through each and every one of us. By taking the time to help others, we not only give them a better day, but their satisfaction and gratitude can make ours better as well.

What is the nicest thing anyone has done for you? The nicest thing someone has done is listen to me to understand, not just to reply.

What is the key to world peace? Having empathy and knowledge is the key to world peace.

“Travis always knows how to put a smile on my face with his stories and kindness. Nearly every 7th hour, Travis has helped me clean desks. He has also been helping Mr. Dunlap in ceramics class. Recently, Travis played some music for the class that helped students feel less anxious during a quiz.” —Mrs. DeVore

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Andrew Hildebrand
Activity: Fall play

What is your role in the fall play?

I am the velveteen rabbit

What do you enjoy most about being a part of this show?

just spending time with friends and laughing a lot

What will audience members enjoy most about the play?

I think most of the audience will enjoy it because they have heard the story and will enjoy seeing it live

If you could star in any TV show, what would it be?

Roadkill

Name: Madeline Gellersen
Activity: Fall play

What is your role in the fall play?

I am a toy soldier.

What do you enjoy most about being a part of this show?

I enjoy spending time with my classmates and creating something from the ground up.

What will audience members enjoy most about the play?

I feel like the audience will enjoy the heartfelt message that this play portrays.

If you could star in any TV show, what would it be?

Grey's Anatomy



Athletes of the Week

Name: Andrew Holtz
Sport: Football

What do you enjoy most about football? There are a lot of good things about football and it first it kind of seems hard to decide what could be the best part. But my favorite has to be how together you feel when you play. We always talk about football games as being war, because when the play is over the guys on the other side of the line don't care if you get up; in fact, they try to make it so you can't. And so because of how physical of a game it is, you get a huge feeling of being together which is my favorite.

What lessons about life have you learned from the sport?

From all sports you can learn different life lessons about things like being on time, and working together. But one football really helps with is being persistent. You are always going to get knocked down but it's important that you get back up and keep fighting.

How have you changed as an athlete over the past few years? A lot of different things change as you get older but a really big one is becoming more of a leader and helping others.

Why is football a sport worth going out for?

It's a different feeling than any other sport. Friday nights under the lights and just the feeling you get is unmatched.

Who is your football role model? I look up to a lot of my friends like Parker and Kloser but also Coach Arnold.

Name: McKenna Thompson
Sport: Dance

What do you enjoy most about dance team? I enjoy the friendships I've made and getting to perform.

What's the hardest part of it? Learning a new dance a week and being completely prepared is very difficult.

What's your favorite routine? I really like our state hip hop we were going to perform before state was cancelled, it's so different than anything we've done!

What's something about dance most people don't realize? We work super hard but only get to show off what we do at one game once a week.

If you could choreograph a routine, what would it be? I would do a jazz/hip hop dance to "Take A Hint" from Victorious



Meet the Freshmen



Cecily, Noah, Tyreese, Logan

Name: Logan Long
Siblings: 2 older brothers and 3 older sisters
Activities you plan to be in: Football and track
Favorite subject: Math
Career aspirations: Doctor
Hobbies: Video games
Something cool about you: Football is my favorite sport

Name: Cecily Trenkamp
Siblings: Shaylyn, Tate, Annisten, and Brock
Activities you plan to be in: Cross country, dance, golf, band, and choir
Favorite subject: Math
Career aspirations: Craft artist/business owner
Hobbies: Knitting, crocheting, and skiing
Something cool about you: I can slalom ski

Name: Noah Ingles
Siblings: Nate, Cassandra, and Courtney
Activities you plan to be in: Basketball, band, choir, and soccer
Favorite subject: Science
Career aspirations: None
Hobbies: Swimming
Something cool about you: None

Name: Tyreese Crippen
Siblings: 3
Activities you plan to be in: Wrestling, football, and track
Favorite subject: Wrestling
Career aspirations: None
Hobbies: Showing
Something cool about you: I've been wrestling for 9 years now

—typist: Leah Ries

Hall Smarts

by Cadence Freiburger
Hall Smarts



The topic of Hall Smarts this week is COVID-19 because it affects our life an awful lot now. So I decided to test Emma Beitz, Noah DeVore, Anna Deutmeyer and Kaitlyn Nolan's knowledge on the statistics and facts about COVID-19.

As of September 15, 2020, which state has had the most total CoronaVirus cases?
Emma Beitz: Florida
Noah DeVore: Texas
Anna Deutmeyer: Florida
Kaitlyn Nolan: Florida
Answer: California (with 757,778 cases)

What month holds the title for the most CoronaVirus cases (according to September 15th data)?
Emma Beitz: July
Noah DeVore: July
Anna Deutmeyer: July
Kaitlyn Nolan: June
Answer: July (the 17th with 14,916 cases)

About how many total cases were reported in the United States on September 15th?
Emma Beitz: 1 Million
Noah DeVore: Too Many
Anna Deutmeyer: 789, 567
Kaitlyn Nolan: 500,000
Answer: 6.59 M

How many COVID-19 cases were there total in Delaware County as of September 14th?
Emma Beitz: 6,000
Noah DeVore: 700,000ish
Anna Deutmeyer: 35
Kaitlyn Nolan: 100
Answer: 287 cases

Stay safe and stay healthy, Wildcats!

Cutie



by Paige Winter

This cutie is a freshman involved in basketball and golf. His favorite school lunch is chicken nuggets. He loves "cheez," and his eyes are blue. He also has 2 siblings.

MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Paige Panosh
Teens who start drinking

before 15 are more likely to develop an alcohol dependency later in life. This leads to the statistic that

1 in 8 adults meet the criteria for having an alcohol use disorder.

-Information according to healthline.com

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Paige Panosh

What is an astronaut's favorite part of the computer?

The space bar.

Can I tell you a vegan joke?

I promise it won't be cheesy.

Why can't Elsa have a balloon?

Because she'll let it go.

Where does the General keep his armies?

In his sleeves.