

FFA chapter has more reasons to celebrate

by Kristi Goedken

This past Wednesday night allowed for a lot of success for the Maquoketa Valley FFA Chapter. Mrs. Mausser took two students, Kristi Goedken and Kaleb Kruse, for District Officer Interviews at Midland High School. After an interview in front of the nominating committee, they had to go back in for a group interview. Once that was completed they were able to talk to other members from various schools who were running also. Both candidates said it was a great experience.

Mrs. Mausser was busy getting the proficiencies judged also. She had five members fill out a paper and hoping for it to advance to state convention. Dylan Salow, Kristi Goedken, Clay Willenbring, Matthew Lansing and Andrew Palmersheim all had theirs judged. After a long night, the results came back! Three of the five proficiencies

will be moving on to be judged at the state level on February 21.

- 1) Dylan Salow - 1st Gold - Ag Mech Design and Fabrication
- 2) Andrew Palmersheim - 2nd Gold - Beef Entrepreneurship
- 3) Kristi Goedken - 2nd Bronze - Ag Communications

Another one of the chapters successful moments was when 13 Iowa Degrees were confirmed. The following students will receive this degree in April at the State Convention in Ames: Kody Orcutt, Curtis Nefzger, Kristin Brehm, Cassie Burkle, Laisee Shakespeare, Kaleb Handel, Kaleb Kruse, Andrew Palmersheim, Andy Huber, Calvin Orcutt, Alex Richter, Ryan Goedken and Travis Knipper.

As you can tell the night at Wyoming was very successful for the chapter. Having both Kristi and Kaleb be balloted for

North East Sub District Vice President is quite an honor! It'll be a great opportunity to have either one of those two serving on the Northeast District Officer team! Another congratulations to the three proficiencies that moved on along with the 13 Iowa Degrees!

Definitely be sure to congratulate all Maquoketa Valley FFA members who continue to excel in such a great program!

Name: Kristi Goedken
Current MV Position: Secretary

Why did you run for district office?

I always had passionate people to look up to on the District Officer teams my sophomore and junior year. By running for office, it will allow me to step out of my comfort zone and share my passion for FFA.

Three characteristics that describe you:

Responsible, organized, respectful

Name someone that you look up to and explain why. I look up to Iowa FFA President Abrah Meyer. She is a great role model, loves FFA, and is very inspiring.



Name: Kaleb Kruse
Current MV Position: Vice President

Why did you run for district office?

It was always my dream to be a district officer.

Three characteristics that describe you:

Hardworking, outgoing, goal-oriented

Name someone that you look up to and explain why. Grandpa Delbert is a great supporter and has been there a lot for me including a famous trip as a driver to District Livestock at Kirkwood and snacks at Culvers with my team.



Dance team hosts talent-packed showcase

The crowd was energized last Saturday night at the dance team's showcase.

The dance team performed its many routines, as did the youth dancers, a guest dance team and soloists. (photos by Annie Fjelstul)



Wrestlers take second at conference tourney, succeed at other meets

by Emily Krapfl

The wrestling team is on a roll as they head into sectional wrestling this weekend. They've recently competed in two meets and the conference tournament.

Last Thursday night the Wildcat Wrestlers traveled to Maquoketa to face Midland, CPU, and Maquoketa. Maquoketa Valley came out on top by winning all three duals.

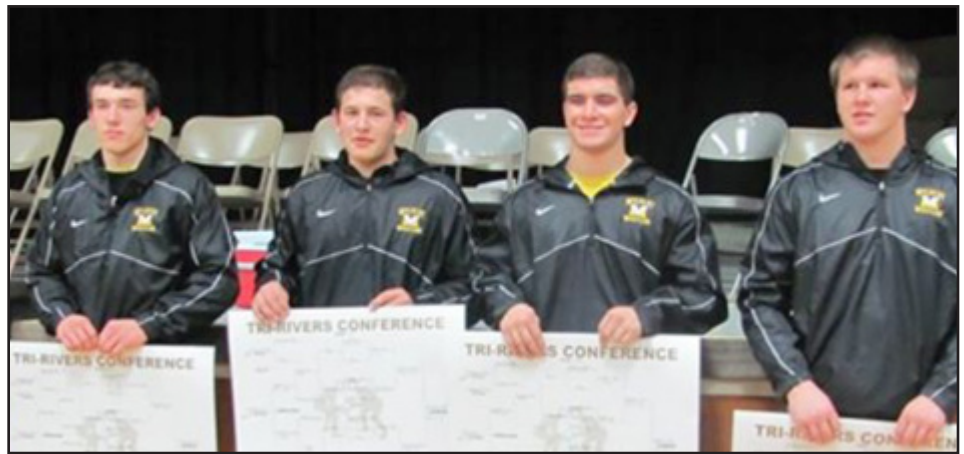
"I thought this was one of the better nights we had as an entire team performance," stated Coach Andrews. "The guys came out and were ready to battle for six minutes and the results showed."

The first dual of the night was against Maquoketa, where the Wildcats won with a final team score of 58-24. Wrestlers who were successful in this dual were Greg Guetzko (pin), Bryant Meyer-Kemp (forfeit), Tanner Parmely (pin), Carter Klostermann (19-6 decision), Cole Kruse (pin), Trevor Koopmann (pin), Alec McDowell (pin), Steve Huber (pin), Eric Heims (pin), and Ryan Parmely (pin).

Next, the Wildcats wrestled Midland, and beat them with a team score of 61-20. Wrestlers who helped get these points were Tanner Parmely (pin), Bryant Meyer-Kemp (forfeit), Mitch Smith (pin), Dylan Wright (13-11 decision), Trevor Koopmann (pin), Alec McDowell (forfeit), Steve Huber (forfeit), Ryan Parmely (forfeit), and Kaleb Kruse (forfeit).

Lastly, MV wrestled CPU, beating them with a final team score of 51-30. Wrestlers who won their matches during this dual were Carter Klostermann (pin), Cole Kruse (pin), Dylan Wright (pin), Trevor Koopmann (pin), Alec McDowell (5-1 decision), Huber (pin), Heims (pin), Ryan Parmely (pin), and Guetzko (pin).

The Wildcats traveled to Midland for



MV's conference wrestling champions were Trevor Koopmann, Eric Heims, Steve Huber and Ryan Parmely. Ryan is MV's 15th wrestler to be a four-time conference champion.

the Tri-Rivers Conference Tournament last Saturday. As a team, MV was 10 points shy of winning the conference title and ended up taking second place behind Alburnett. The Wildcats ended the day with four conference champions, five third place finishers, two fourth place finishers, and three fifth place finishers.

Coach Andrews said, "Overall I was happy with how the guys wrestled. Coming up just 10 points short hurts a little bit but understanding Alburnett has been ranked #1 or #2 in the state all year makes us put things into perspective."

Trevor Koopmann (160), Steve Huber (182), Eric Heims (195), and Ryan Parmely (220) all received first place in the conference. Koopmann finished 2-0 with two pins. Huber was 2-0 with one pin, and a 12-6 decision. Heims was 2-0 with two pins. Parmely finished 2-0 with two pins. This was Steve Huber's 2nd conference title and Ryan Parmely's 4th.

Receiving third place were wrestlers

Guetzko (106), Hermanson (126), Dylan Wright (152), McDowell (170), and Kaleb Kruse (285). Guetzko was 1-1 with a pin, Hermanson was 2-1 with a pin and an 8-1 decision, Wright was 3-1 with three pins, McDowell was 3-1 with three pins, and Kruse was 1-1 with a pin.

Finishing in fourth place were wrestlers Carson Wright (113), and Tanner Parmely (120). Wright was 0-2, and Parmely was 1-2 with a pin.

Klostermann (132), Robert Hildebrand (138), and Cole Kruse (145) were all fifth place finishers. Klostermann was 0-2, Hildebrand was 1-2 with a pin, and Kruse was 1-2 with a 10-0 decision.

Tuesday night the MV Wrestling team traveled to Colesburg to take on the Ed-Co Vikings and the Beckman Blazers.

The Wildcats started off the night by defeating Beckman with a team score of 61-16. Helping to win the dual were wrestlers Guetzko (forfeit), Carson Wright (forfeit), Tanner Parmely (forfeit), Hermanson (3-1 decision), Klostermann (forfeit), Dylan Wright (pin), Koopmann (forfeit), McDowell (14-0 decision), Huber (pin), Logan Fronatt (forfeit), Ryan Parmely (pin).

Next, MV faced Ed-Co and won with a final team score of 66-18. Wrestlers who were successful in this dual were Tanner Parmely (forfeit), Hermanson (forfeit), Cody Gibbs (forfeit), Cole Kruse (pin), Koopmann (pin), McDowell (forfeit), Huber (pin), Heims (pin), Ryan Parmely (forfeit), Kaleb Kruse (forfeit), and Guetzko (forfeit).

"This was a good way to finish out the regular season," said Coach Andrews. "We were able to widen the scores with both these teams from the first time we wrestled them so that was good to see."

Sectionals are at North Linn at noon on Saturday.

Parmely commits to Upper Iowa

Ryan Parmely signed his letter of intent to play football and to wrestle at Upper Iowa University Wednesday morning. He is pictured with MV head wrestling coach/assistant football coach Tim Andrews and Ryan's father, Matt Parmely.



what's up?

by Riley Kay Sternhagen

If you could pick any two teams to be in the next superbowl, who would you choose?

Jillian Thompson: Steelers vs Patriots

Laisee Shakespeare: Unicorns vs Butterflies

Kinsey Johnson: Cat vs Mouse

Zach Smith: Narwhals vs Pink Unicorns

Hannah Clemens: Packers vs Zach Smith

Cody Gibbs & Mrs. McDermott: Ravens vs Broncos

Katlyn Handel: Maquoketa Valley Wildcats vs Natalie Neuzil

Alex McCusker: Rainbow Unicorns vs Bedazzled White Tigers

Cassie Hird: Packers vs Mrs. McDermott

Michael Lewis: Mustaches vs Razors

Keegan Hayne: Honey Badgers vs Keegan & Derek Lubben

Emily LaGrant: Patriots vs The Guthrie Family (Go Guthries!!)

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Dylan Salow



What do you enjoy most about the class?

-I enjoy discussing current events and listening to Mr. Meehan give his passionate views.

What has been some of the most valuable information you've learned?

- How the government works overall and how each branch contributes.

How do you plan to be involved in local government or beyond?

- Whether it is just voting in elections or being on a council I will stay involved with all forms of government.

—Dylan was nominated by Mr. Cassutt

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Megan Beaman

Activity: Speech

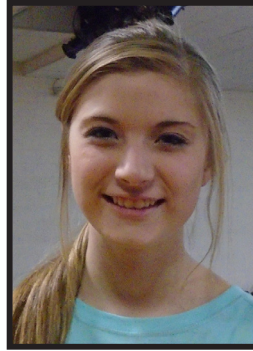
What event are you in for speech? I'm in short film, musical theatre, and individual acting

What do you enjoy most about large group speech? Hanging out, and having fun with the people in my events. Also going to the competitions.

What have you learned through this event? With musical theatre, it helped me to be more confidence with singing.

Who is your speech role model? Raven, she works really hard in her event.

If you could create a new large group speech event, what would it be? I wouldn't make a new group, just make longer time limits.



Name: Zach Salow

Activity: Art class

What art class are you in? Fundamentals of Art 1

You've recently been working on a water color piece. Tell us about it.

It is a picture of a man in a boat paddling with a city in the background

What do you enjoy most about your artwork? Working on it around my class and Mr. Dunlap is ok too

What project would you like to tackle next? Another water color piece

Why does art matter? It lets people show their creativity



Athletes of the Week

Name: Erin Digmann

Sport: Basketball

What positions do you play? I play the 2

What do you enjoy most about basketball? The atmosphere and how we play together.

How does this year's team differ from past teams? Well the past teams didn't have to suffer as many injuries and problems that we have had to deal with this year. But every year we have a great team that is fun to play with.

What's your favorite drill in practice? Rotation Rebounding

What's your least favorite drill? 1 on 1 zig zag

How do you mentally prepare for the game?

Listen to the coaches and game plan and zone in to how I'm going to play.

What's the best motivational song out right now? "The Champ"

Name: Eric Heims

Sport: Wrestling

What weight are you wrestling at this year? 195 pounds

What are your goals this year? My goal this year is to qualify for state

What's the hardest part of wrestling? the sprints after a live match

What's something about wrestling non-wrestlers may not know? It is a lot of fun because you get to learn more about your strength and what you can do

What's a great warm-up song? "Eye of the Tiger"



Quotastic

by Mikaela Reth

“Dreams don’t work unless you do.” ~ Unknown

I will be the first to admit I am a notorious dreamer. I will often catch myself daydreaming during classes or other activities. I have dreams just like everyone else. However, if these dreams are to become reality, effort must be put into them. We, unfortunately, are not all lucky enough to be child prodigies. We do not all come from families with a lot of money to fund our dreams from day one. We have to put our heart, soul, blood, sweat, and tears into them.

Of course, not everybody can be a professional athlete, musician or actor. Those are not the only dreams we can have. For example, my dream is to move to the city and have a job that I love. My long term dream is to move back home to work. Obviously, I cannot just wake up tomorrow morning, pack up and leave and expect to have that happen. I will have to attend college, get a degree and a license, then apply for the job and prove myself worthy. That is what we all have to do in some variation or another.

No, I am not saying that we should all give up bigger dreams for something less. Just know that the bigger a dream, the bigger the workload to get there. A goal is only a dream until you write it down and put your entire being into it, so why wait to start? The earlier a goal begins to be worked on, the sooner it has potential to come to life.

Vocalists perform in honor choir



Angie's Angle

by Angie Wilson

Go with the Flow

Everyone has goals. Everyone has a place they want to live, what they want to do, the money they want to make, and the family they want to raise. If you don't have that then you have to have imagined an extravagant life one time or another. Some individuals just like to dream and others are determined to get to that life. Some have a strict plan and blueprints of how their life is going to go.

Blueprints can lead to broken hearts. I think it's wonderful to have a goal in mind of your future life, but to map every detail out seems sketchy to me. Just because of this thing I know called "life." Life can throw some mean curve balls and if you are beating to your own drum you might be set off guard. What I am trying to say is, don't plan out your life down to a T. Be able to live in the moment and let the chips fall where they may.

My message to you is to realize that if plan A doesn't succeed don't forget that there are 25 other letters in the alphabet.



Do's and Don'ts of Winter

Sickness

by Shaylyn Trenkamp



Lately there's been a lot of sickness going around, and whether it be Influenza A or the common cold, it's definitely unenjoyable. Here's some do's and don'ts that will hopefully help you avoid the sickness, or conquer it if it's already gotten to you.

Do get some rest. Seriously, don't skip out on sleep. It will help you stay on your A game otherwise, but especially with your health. If you already are sick, sleep even more! It's one of the best things for you!

Don't spread it. If you're sick, stay home and take care of yourself. One day of recovery is worth missing one day of school and activities, but a week of "toughin' it out" and getting others sick in the process? Not so fun.

Do hydrate, hydrate, hydrate. Water is vital for defeating or preventing sickness. (Want to go one step further? Try adding a lemon to your water for that extra health boost!)

Don't forget basic hygiene. Wash your hands, cover your mouth, don't share water bottles, etc.

Do eat amazing get-well foods. (If you're already sick OR if you don't want to get sick!) Fish, soup, citrus fruits, vegetables. Zinc, Vitamin C, and Omega-3 are great nutrients to keep in mind.

Don't stress. When your body undergoes stress consistently, it is harder for your body to work to protect you from sickness. So relax and stay healthy. :)

MV vocalists Riley Sternhagen, Shaylyn Trenkamp, Zach Salow and Matthew Lansing under the guidance of Mrs. Mueller participated in Wartburg's Meistersingers honor choir in Waverly this past weekend. The students rehearsed during the day Saturday and had a concert that evening.

Boys basketball team goes 1-1 in recent play

A third quarter rush led the Wildcats to a conference win last Friday night. MV defeated East Buchanan 45-42.

The teams kept it close throughout the first half with a 11-12 first quarter score and 20-22, East Buchanan half-time lead.

Zach Salow had 13 points for the night, with six of those points from the three-point range. He also had three rebounds and three steals.

Kalvin Orcutt had 10 points and 10 rebounds and two blocks.

Rounding out the scoring was Brock Hillers with four, Ryan Goedken with six, Jordan Schindler with seven and Kody Orcutt with five. Hillers, Kyle Wilson and Schindler each had a steal. Schindler pulled down seven rebounds.

Tuesday night MV traveled to take on the Lynx at North Linn and lost 28-56. The Cats hung in there in the first quarter, 9-9; however, North Linn outscored MV 22-4 in the second quarter which was just too much for MV to make up.

Scoring was distributed throughout the lineup. Wilson had seven points, and Salow chipped in six. Calvin Or-



Freshman Brock Hillers places up a shot after one of his many times storming the court in Maquoketa Valley's game against Lisbon. (photo by Shaylyn Trenkamp)

cutt added four to the mix. Goedken was good for three while Brock Hillers, Jordan Schindler, Kody Orcutt and Garrett Hogan each had two points.

Schindler and Salow had four and

three rebounds, respectively. Salow had one assist, steal and block. Both Orcutts each had a block.

Tonight the Cats take on Alburnett in Pirate territory.

Best Buds



Zach Salow & Derek Salow

by Heather Sabers

How long have you been friends?

Forever

What do you do for fun?

Make fun of each other

What's your memorable moment together?

Almost getting shot by Heather's neighbors after tping her.

Describe your friendship in one word.

Humdinger

Cutie



by Annie Fjelstul

This week's cutie is a senior.

He has hazel eyes.

He plays two sports.

He's attending a four-year university next fall.

Last week's Cuties were Annie Fjelstul and Colton Nefzger.

Sign of spring



Horticulture students start the greenhouse from seeds and are currently transplanting.

The Cat Box Hall Smarts

opinions, ideas and random thoughts from the staff of *The Wildcat Echo*



A meow to filling out schedules. Isn't it fun thinking about next year?



A furball to not planning ahead on scheduling and realizing you have too many required classes to take.



A meow to the excitement of State Speech, but a furball to being at school at 4:40am!



A meow to the outstanding musicians who have participated in Wartburg's honor band and choir.



A meow to Kristi Goedken and Kaleb Kruse for interviewing for FFA district officer. Another meow to the FFA students who are working to earn their Iowa Degree.



A meow to Spanish episodios!



A furball to the snow, but thanks for a three-day weekend.



A furball to the immature fight toward the end of the NFL championship game.



A meow to dancing sharks. You can never go wrong with them, right?



A meow to the amazing talent of the dance team. Thank you for all the effort you put into your sport.



A huge, hissy, saliva-filled furball to DVRs breaking and not realizing.



A meow to Mr. Tuetken and the rest of the administration for showing they value teachers' emotional health by having a motivational speaker during inservice this week.



A meow to students who have taken the lesson from the character WIN lesson to heart and have practiced acts of kindness.



A furball to the student who photobombed the MV honor choir picture.

by Emily LaGrant



This last Sunday was the ever-exciting Super Bowl XLIX. I'm sure most of us tuned in but how well did we pay attention? The contestants are: Paula Wear, Kendra Ries, David Boyles and Morgan Manternach.

1) Who played in the Super Bowl this year?

Paula: Patriots and Seahawks
Kendra: Patriots and Seahawks
David: Seahawks & Patriots
Morgan: Seahawks and Patriots
A: Patriots and Seahawks

2) What team won?

Paula: Patriots
Kendra: Patriots
David: Patriots
Morgan: Patriots
A: Patriots

3) Who was the quarterback of the winning team?

Paula: I don't know
Kendra: Something Brady (½ credit)
David: Tom Brady
Morgan: Peyton Manning
A: Tom Brady

4) Who performed at halftime?

Paula: Katy Perry
Kendra: Katy Perry
David: Baby Jesus
Morgan: Katy Perry
A: Katy Perry

5) Where was the Super Bowl this year?

Paula: Texas
Kendra: Arizona
David: Hawaii
Morgan: Arizona
A: Arizona

Our winner this week was Kendra with 4.5 points and Morgan right behind her with 4 points. David and Paula tied for last with three points each. Looks like our Wildcats really know their stuff about football. Great job, everyone!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MV the week of FEBRUARY 9, 2015

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2015

1. Jr. High 7th & 8th Boys Basketball - HOME (MS Multi-Purpose Room) - Startmont - 4:00 PM
2. MV Fine Arts Boosters Meeting - HS Cafeteria - 5:30 PM
3. IHSMA Vocal Jazz Festival - HS Gym, Auditorium, Cafeteria, Library - Performances Begin at 6:00 PM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015

1. 5th Grade Trip to "Arc Attack" at Gallagher Bluedorne in Cedar Falls (Bus & 2 Vans Leave at 11:00 AM)
2. 7th & 8th Homework Assistance - After School until 4:00 PM
3. HS JV/V Boys Basketball at Easton Valley in Preston - 6:15 PM (Bus Leaves at 4:10 PM)
4. Jr. High 7th & 8th Boys Basketball - HOME (MS Multi-Purpose Room) - Monticello - 4:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2015

1. 7th & 8th Homework Assistance - After School until 4:00 PM
2. MV Alignment Steering Committee Meeting - MS Conference Room - 6:00 PM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2015

1. Jr. High 7th & 8th Boys Basketball at Alburnett - 4:00 PM (Bus Leaves at 2:50 PM)
2. 7th & 8th Homework Assistance - After School until 4:00 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2015

1. HS & JH Proficiencies and Deficiencies Due - Please Take to the Office
2. Post Prom Delhi Elementary Fun Night - MS Multipurpose Room - 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM
3. Post Prom MS Dance for 7th & 8th Graders - MS Commons - 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2015

1. HS FFA to Iowa Beef Expo in Des Moines (2 Vans Leave at 6:00 AM)
2. HS Varsity District Wrestling at Jesup - Noon (Bus Leaves at 9:00 AM)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2015

1. Youth Wrestling Practice - HS Wrestling Room - PreK through 2nd 4:00 -