

## Four musicians audition for elite band

by Paige Winter

A lot went on this week at MV. Conference Volleyball, Districts Cross Country, and Football vs Lisbon tonight. In fact so much went on this week that you may have missed something special that four of our Wildcats did this week. Juniors Matthew Brehm, Michael Van Meter, and Emma Richter, and Senior Madeline Gellerson submitted auditions for All-State Band this week.

If this was a regular audition, the students would have traveled to Independence to audition in front of judges. However this year, to protect everyone involved the auditions were recorded and submitted online on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Madeline commented that online recording has been, “a double edged sword.” Though you can record your audition as many times as you want, “at some point you have to say this is good enough and send it in.”

Though the audition process has changed, the audition has stayed very much the same. Each student had to play a solo, scales, and multiples smaller skill based pieces called etudes.

Our students who are auditioning have been preparing for All-State since August and the beginning of the school year. Matthew mentioned that he had been practicing most days, Emma said she had been working on the music on weekends, and Madeline mentioned that she had been practicing after school.

It's obvious that these students have put in a lot of effort and work to their auditions. So it would mean a lot to them to make it into All-State. Madeline said, “It would mean a lot because I've been trying out since sophomore year when Mr. Ford gave me the idea. It would be a huge honor and knowing all of your hard work has paid off.” Emma also mentioned that if she made it it would feel nice to earn something with all of the hard work she put in.

All this hard work also obviously paid off because even if our Wildcat mu-

sicians aren't given the honor of All-State, they still gained a lot from the experience of the audition process. An audition like this could prepare you for future auditions if they are planning to take their music far into their future. Matthew commented, “When I first saw it, I thought there's no way I could ever be able to play this, but eventually I was able to do it. It was reassuring to myself to my abilities.” Emma said that this process helped her learn to play music under pressure when she's nervous, and Madeline said, “I'm a better mu-

sician all the way around. You learn a lot of hard techniques. Rather than just trying out, the whole process is beneficial, not just making it to All-State.”

The list of who made All-State is scheduled to be posted late Saturday.

It's obvious that these Wildcat musicians have put in a lot of time and effort to audition for All-State. Make sure to tell them good job on their audition, and stay tuned for the results!

## Fashion Design students sew masks



Students in the Fashion Design classes have been busy making masks and other projects.

by Kaitlyn Nolan

Over the course of this crazy year, we have learned to embrace the better things in life. Thanks to the students in Fashion Design, great things have been accomplished.

These students have made 150 masks during the course of the school year. These black, yellow, and white face masks were created following a pattern created by their teacher, Mrs. Downs.

The work was divided up by the group, the group being students from both Fashion Design and Advanced Fashion Design which is a doubled up class. They helped each other out along the way to finish all of the masks. Each student roughly

made around 10 to 20 masks each to finish their goal.

The students in Fashion Design are: Holli Hogan, Emma Gray, Jamie Pitts, Isabel Imler, Isabel Landas, Kylynn Clary, and Karla Chavez. The two students in Advanced Fashion Design are Madeline Gellersen and Cheyenne Cooksley.

Throughout the creating and making of the masks, they have also learned the basics of fashion and sewing as well. According to Isabel Imler, she has learned that “sewing takes a lot of practice and patience.”

What more can we get from these students? We'll have to wait and see as this new, crazy year continues on.

# Sports Connection

## Volleyball team advances to conference tourney, season ends at regionals

by Tara Goedken

When the fall sports season started, no one knew what the season would look like or how long it would last. MV volleyball started the season strong and didn't let some quarantining slow them down throughout the season and proved to be a top contender in the conference. The season may now be over with a loss in the second round of post-season play, but this season will always be one to remember.

Last Thursday, the Wildcats hosted five other teams in a conference tournament. They ended the night 2-1.

They won against Ed-Co with scores of 22-20 and 21-12. Emerson Whittenbaugh led in kills with 12, followed by Taya Tucker with 8 kills. Carissa Sabers led in assists with 13. Sabers led in serves with 10 for 10 and following closely behind was Whittenbaugh with 9 for 9 serves. On defense, Ella Imler led in digs with 12. Tucker led in blocks with 3 blocks.

The Wildcats won against East Buchanan with scores of 21-16, 21-17, and



**Emerson Whittenbaugh recorded her 1000th kill last Thursday night at the conference round-robin tournament. (photos by Lesa Parmely)**

15-10. Whittenbaugh led in kills with 17 and Tucker followed behind with 9 kills. Sabers led in assists with 24. Sabers led in serves with 11 followed by Imler with 10 serves. On defense, Imler led in digs with 18 followed by Whittenbaugh with 11 digs.

Tucker led in blocks with 1.

The Wildcats lost against Springfield with scores of 17-21 and 14-21. On offense, Whittenbaugh led in kills with 12 and Tucker and 7 kills. Sabers led in assists with 19. Sabers led in serves with 8 followed by Anna Deutmeyer with 6 serves. On defense, Whittenbaugh led in digs with 21 followed by Imler with 15 digs. Whittenbaugh and Haley Ronnebaum each had 1 block. Whittenbaugh reached another volleyball milestone with her 1000th kill.

From the 2 wins and 1 loss on Thursday night, the Wildcats advanced to play Saturday in the conference finals tournament at Easton Valley. They ended the day 1-1. They won against Easton Valley with scores of 25-19, 19-25, and 15-9. The Wildcats fell against Lisbon with scores of 25-20, 22-25, and 16-18. Carissa Sabers hit 1,000 assists at the conference tourney! Lisbon went on to win the tournament.

On Wednesday night the Wildcats traveled to Starmont to the Stars for the regional quarterfinals match. They ended their season with a 1-3 loss against the Starmont. The scores of each set included 19-25, 25-14, 18-25, and 20-25.

## Conference champs



**MV boys brought home the conference title from the meet last Thursday. Pictured are, front: Mitch Heims; back: Nolan Ries, Toby Grimm, Brock Trenkamp, Landin Frasher, Cy Huber and Michael Schaul. The Cats run at state qualifying tonight.**



## Athletes of the Week

Name: Emerson Whittenbaugh

**What do you enjoy most about volleyball?** Being with my team, and being able to show my emotion and passion out on the court.

**What's your favorite drill in practice?** Hitting lines of course.)

Love being able to swing away

**What's your least favorite drill in practice?** Net shuffles or hitting and blocking sequence at the net. They are killers

**What's your goal for the team this season?** To place high in the conference tournament and to make it to state and compete the best we can. Also to go out every night and put our hearts and bodies on the line for each other.

**What has made this year unique for you?** This is senior year, that is unique enough but I would say playing again after an injury and feeling incredible. I never thought the day would come that I would be able to play with my teammates again. It is something that I will never take for granted again.



Name: Carter Klaren

**What do you enjoy most about football?**

Friday nights.

**What lessons about life have you learned from the sport?**

I have learned that as long as you work hard you can

achieve what you are working for.

**How have you changed as an athlete over the past few years?** I have gotten stronger and more aggressive.

**Why is football a sport worth going out for?** Because it is the only sport you can have fun and hit people at the same time.

**Who is your football role model?** Jamal Adams



## Coach Arnold: A Football Passion

by Parker Sternhagen

When it comes to the sport of football, Trevor Arnold has always had a passion for the game. It all started when he was a little kid. Growing up, Arnold's dad was a high school football coach. This connection opened the gate for Arnold's love for the game. Trevor got to hang out at and around the field at a very young age. He absolutely loved it. "From the age of four I remember going to football practice with my dad after school. It was always a good time." Years went on, and he was finally able to start playing the game. This transitioned into him playing football for his dad in high school and later becoming the head football coach at Maquoketa Valley.

Ever since the fourth grade, Arnold knew he wanted to be a football coach just like his dad. This idea of being a football coach never really left his mind all throughout high school too. Even after playing football in high school, Arnold's love for the game didn't stop. He became a coach himself, and he coached at other schools in Iowa before coming to Maquoketa Valley. There, he transformed players into better athletes, football players, and people. Currently, Trevor Arnold is heading into his 12th total year of being a football coach, and his 2nd year as a head coach at Maquoketa Valley. When it came to choosing a school to become the new athletic director and high school football coach at, it was a clear decision for him. All of the things Arnold was looking for in a school to come to, Maquoketa Valley met the criteria for him. "There's only a few opportunities available like this across the entire state. Very rarely does anybody have something negative to say about Maquoketa Valley. This was also a good place for my kids and family to grow up." Arnold said that there was only about 15 total head football coaching and athletic director jobs at the same school in all of Iowa. He just knew that Maquoketa Valley would be the right choice.

Football has always been very important to Coach Arnold, and from playing the game, it helped him become the person he is today. "Football is a great example of life. Things aren't always easy, but when things are going good, it gets fun quick. It takes a lot of people to make it work and be successful. That's why football is so important to me." Arnold preaches about how football is so good at teaching you life les-



sons that can help in your life every single day. Football truly is more than just a sport.

Trevor can almost always be found doing something football related. Whether it's watching film over those Friday night games, preparing game plans, or creating practice plans going forward for the week, football is almost always on his mind. He is always looking for ways to help those around him improve and reach their goals in football and in life. A lot of this goes under the radar by those around him. Arnold is constantly helping players in school, teaching them life lessons, opening the weight room, and helping them work hard on the football field. When it comes to the well being of MV football players and those around him, nobody cares about them more than Trevor Arnold. Coach Arnold may just seem like a regular old high school football coach from the outside, but from the inside he is a true inspiration to those around him. The way that Arnold goes about his life day in and day out impacting those around him, people around him truly look up to him for the things he does. Even more than being a football coach, Trevor Arnold is able to positively impact the lives of those around him everyday.

For the future of MV football, Arnold has a positive outlook for it. "It takes time to change things," he stated. "We need to get back to doing what we're capable of doing. Working hard for what we want to achieve." For the next seasons to come, it will take a lot of hard work and effort to get MV football back to where it wants to be. Even with Covid changing the outlook of this season, Coach Arnold is still very optimistic for the future seasons to come.

## Meet the Freshmen



### Livia, Addie, Lily, George & Aidan

Name: Liva Hermanson

Siblings: 3 brothers: Devin, Mason, and Morgan

Activities you plan to be in: Volleyball, dance, and play

Favorite subject: Beginning foods

Career aspirations: CSI, Teacher, Physical Therapist

Hobbies: Volleyball and water skiing

Something cool about you: I'm on a ski team

Name: Lily Huber

Siblings: Cy

Activities you plan to be in: Volleyball, softball, track or golf

Favorite subject: Beginning foods

Career aspirations: Go to college and travel the world

Hobbies: Cooking and crafting

Something cool about you: I'm not a picky eater

Name: George Livingston

Siblings: Caleb and Henry

Activities you plan to be in: Cross country and basketball

Favorite subject: English

Career aspirations: Teacher, Educator, or Philosopher

Hobbies: Reading, writing, questioning, and talking

Something cool about you: I have a unique fashion sense

Name: Addie Hucker

Siblings: Sean, Lucy, and Donavon

Activities you plan to be in: Volleyball and softball

Favorite subject: Beginning foods

Career aspirations: Psychiatry

Hobbies: Softball

Something cool about you: I have seizures periodically

Name: Aidan Salow

Siblings: 1

Activities you plan you be in: Football, wrestling, and track

Favorite subject: Physical Education

Career aspirations: To own a business

Something cool about you: I like water

—typist: Leah Ries

## Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Amanda Mohr

What is your role in the fall play?

I am the nursery magic fairy.

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

I love the fun atmosphere that this show creates.

The creativity that is used and the laughter at practices makes this show so enjoyable!



What will audience members enjoy most about the play?

The audience will enjoy all of the funny moments that the Boy and the Velveteen Rabbit create, along with the emotion that the toys add to the scenes.

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

Any Marvel show because I love all of them!



What was your favorite Halloween costume you've ever worn?

by Paige Winter

Macy Thompson: chicken

Emma Doyl: Jasmine

Emma Richter: hannah montana

Madeline Gellersen: darla from finding nemo

Jake Gellerson: jelly beans

Nolan Ries: spider-man

Mrs. Besler: a pumpkin

Toby Grimm: Dwight Schrute

Mitch Hiems: bloody skeleton

Michael Schaul: Harambe

## MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Paige Panosh

86% The percentage of teenagers that knows someone who smokes, drinks or uses drugs during the school day.

—NCDAS

## Best Buds



Isabel Landas & Kaelynn Clark  
by Amaya Hunt

How did you two become friends?

Kaelynn: I first met Isabella through dance, but we got closer at the end of the school year last year.

Isabel: We met through dance, and now we just hand out all the time.

If you two were to spend an entire day together doing your favorite things, what would that look like?

Kaelynn: We would probably go skateboarding, go eat sushi, go thrifting, and listen to awful music, like "What Does The Fox Say" just for fun. There is never a dull moment when we're together.

Isabel: We would probably go get sushi somewhere, swim the rest of the day away, and then go skateboarding that night.

If you could both travel somewhere (anywhere in the world) together, where you would go and why?

Kaelynn: Nebraska (iykyk)

Isabel: I don't know where we would go, but I do know that it definitely would not be Nebraska.

What's your favorite quality about the other? And what annoys you the most about them?

Kaelynn: My favorite thing about Isabella is how open minded she is to trying things that I love even if she knows she is going to hate it. And something that annoys me is when she eats HAM.

Isabel: I love Kaelynn's ability to have fun doing anything.... But the thing that annoys me the most is that she watches & listens to ASMR videos when she goes to bed.

continued on next page



# Coaching Hardships

by Emerson Whittenbaugh

Coaching isn't for everyone; it takes a special type of person. Coaching can bring many different challenges to the table. Some people choose to run from these challenges while others choose to face those challenges and use them towards their success. Coach Whittenbaugh chooses to be one of those rare people that chooses to use the challenges that come to her to help her team be successful. "It is a selfless act of giving back. It is about something bigger than yourself. If you don't do it for the athlete you are doing it for the wrong reason." Whittenbaugh goes through those challenges to benefit her athletes, not herself.

Coach Whittenbaugh started her volleyball coaching career in 1997, her first four years being at Oelwein High School. She then transitioned to Clarion Goldfield High School for another four years. "Coaching is hard every time, every day, every minute." Whittenbaugh took a small break from coaching. She quickly realized that she needed to get back into the swing of things. She then returned to coaching at Maquoketa Valley High School in 2017. Many reasons exist as to why people go into coaching. "There was a huge need for coaches who know the sport, love the sport, and can teach the sport." Volleyball took a hit for a while at Maquoketa Valley. They were swept under the rug. When 2017 came and a new coach arrived, it all took a turn for the better. Whittenbaugh took a losing record team and gradually improved to the point of a conference championship in 2019. A conference championship that hasn't been won in 23 years.

Throughout the seasons, Many teams have worked with Whittenbaugh as their coach. Each team has its own special niche, but for Coach, "their drive, enthusiasm, cohesiveness, work ethic, and intelligence" is what makes a team standout. Teams can go far when they possess the characteristics coach listed. Great accomplishments come to the surface when everyone buys in. With years of coaching comes many opportunities for Whittenbaugh to be able to see teams be successful. For example, "I was able to be a part of a team that made it to a substate final with a losing record the prior year. That same team also defeated a number one ranked team in the state." It goes to show that when teams have the drive, enthusiasm, cohesiveness,



and intelligence, they can do just about anything. Another example of a team that possessed all of the characteristics Whittenbaugh listed was the team that won a conference championship in 2019. "They knew that it was a huge accomplishment to achieve. They knew what it was going to take, so they put their mind to it and they did it. They didn't let anything stop them," Whittenbaugh states. She adds, "I gotta watch that happen and it was a joy. Not very many coaches can say that they can enjoy an accomplishment like that. Most are worried about the stress of winning."

Now coaching is viewed differently by everyone, no one takes the same path. Some people's paths are long and others get cut short. Whittenbaugh hits hard when talking about how coaching isn't for everybody. "When your integrity, ability and your decision making is questioned, you begin to question yourself." It takes a hard headed and thick skinned person to be able to put up with what gets thrown a coaches way.

Coaching isn't easy. It takes a special type of person. The challenges that come along with coaching make some people run and hide. One person that chooses to stand up to the challenges is Coach Whittenbaugh. Whittenbaugh contains a special characteristic. She doesn't care what she gets out of coaching. She only cares about how successful her athletes can be. "If you don't do it for the athlete, you are doing it for the wrong reason."

## Best Buds, continued

If you had to pick one song that reminds you of the other, what would it be?

Kaelynn: "Home" by Edward Sharpe & The Magnetic Zeros

Isabel: "Cover Me Up" by Morgan Wallen

**What's your favorite memory created together?**

Kaelynn: One of my many favorite memories was sneaking out of my own house at 2am to swim in my own pool with all of my siblings.

Isabel: The night in Monticello... iykyk :)

**As always... Where do you see each other in five years?**

Kaelynn: She will most definitely not be in Iowa.. which makes me sad, but she always talks about how much she wants to travel and have a big family. But sometimes she's not so bright so she might still be in high school.

Isabel: Kaelynn will probably be doing something involving cosmetology, or she'll be a nurse... or both.

**Best wishes  
to the football  
team as the  
Wildcats take on  
Lisbon tonight  
in the  
second round of  
the playoffs.  
Go Wildcats!**

## Comedy Corner

—compiled by Paige Panosh

Why are there gates surrounding cemeteries?

Because people are dying to get in.

Why did the baby strawberry cry?

His parents were in a jam.

Which school subject was the witch's favorite?

Spelling!

How do vampires start letters?

Tomb it may concern...