

Wildcat Echo

Issue 20
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A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Speech students excel at state contest NHS hosts blood drive



Students selected for All-State for individual speech are, from left: Jazz Niehaus, Natalie Neuzil, Faith Hunt, Emily LaGrant and Macy Anderegg.

by Emily LaGrant

The speech team traveled to Dubuque Senior last Saturday to participate in Individual State competition. The team received 39 Division I ratings and 8 Division II ratings throughout the day.

On Monday, 5 individuals received All-State nominations including: Emily LaGrant (Expository Address), Natalie Neuzil (Poetry), Macy Anderegg (Review), Jazz Niehaus (Original Oratory) and Faith Hunt (Public Address).

"Our students got audience members to feel, to laugh and to cry. It was a brilliant day for everyone," said Mrs. DeVore. "We saw a lot of improvements on Saturday. Seeing so many students perform their best performance to date is exciting. I'm very proud."

The following students received Division I ratings: Shawnae Hoeger (Acting), Riley Sternhagen (After Dinner), Hannah Lahr (Lit. Program), Brooke Wilson (Public Address), Laisee Shakespeare (Public Address), Faith Hunt (Public Address), Abby Holtz (Radio News), Amanda Fortman (Original Oratory), Danielle Schuman (Literary Program), Cassiddy Wilson (Public Address), Stefanie Hansen (Poetry), Shaylyn Trenkamp (Review), Macy Anderegg (Review), Patrick Hansen

(Acting), Kelsey Ries (Poetry), Brooke Wilson (Expository Address), Taylor Guthrie (Musical Theatre), Megan McNamara (Improv), Angie Wilson (After Dinner), Emily LaGrant (Expository Address), Chloe Roling (Storytelling), Josie Young (Storytelling), Adrienne Supple (Prose), BrieAnna Nielson (Poetry), Ali Sheehy (Storytelling), Kendra Ries (Expository Address), Katilyn Deutmeyer (After Dinner), Alex McCusker (Improv), Megan Mensen (Prose), Sam Wall (Prose), Natalie Neuzil (Poetry), Sean Hucker (Expository Address), Colin Wendt (After Dinner), Nichole Winter (Prose), Emma McDowell (After Dinner), Faith Hunt (Original Oratory), Jazz Niehaus (Original Oratory), Megan Hogan (Original Oratory) and Megan Beaman (Acting).

These students received Division II ratings: Bekah Hill (Lit. Program), Sienna Becker (Public Address), Brittany Sabers (Review), Kiesha Stelken (Poetry), Nichole Lucas (Radio Broadcasting), Brianna Mensen (Spontaneous Speaking), Kaela Chesnut (Storytelling) and Mac Callan (Lit Program).

A huge congratulations to all the performers for a job well done! All-State will be held at UNI on April 4th.



MV's National Honor Society chapter hosted a blood drive Mar. 8 and collected 34 units. Above: Laisee Shakespeare is all smiles as she finishes up her donation.

FFA week concludes with Ag Olympics



The FFA chapter members led a fun-filled celebration of agriculture to culminate FFA week Feb. 26. Above, FFA member Angie Wilson provides encouragement to Flavia Xavier and Andy Huber attempt to make butter.

FFA students elect new officers, compete at districts

Newly elected FFA officers include, from left: Amanda Fortman, president; Cole Kruse, vice-president; Josie Young, secretary; Justin Wessel, treasurer; Heath Gibbs and Shelby Westhoff, reporters; and Rejji Smith, sentinel.



Several FFA students competed in the district competition last Saturday.

Last Saturday MV FFA students competed at district FFA competition at Midland High School. In the category of Chapter Quiz, the MV team of Amanda Engelken, Josie Young and Kristi Goedken earned a gold and finished as district champions. Individually, Engelken finished third and Young, eighth. Rejji Smith earned a silver, and Cole Kruse and Seth Deutmeyer earned a bronze. In the Greenhand Quiz, Zach Lansing and Maddie Lahr earned silvers while Justin Wessels, Nathan Weber and Jake Recker earned bronzes. Amanda Fortman earned a gold alternate to state for public speaking. Shelby Westhoff earned a silver in creed speaking. Kaleb Kruse earned a silver in extemporaneous speaking, and he passed off his district FFA officer position.

MV students earn top finishes in the Voice of Democracy competition

Emily LaGrant, Shaylyn Trenkamp and Amanda Fortman pose with VFW members and former MV teacher Sig Bonebrake. Mr. Bonebrake awarded the students with cash prizes for the essays they wrote about their vision for America. Emily was the first place winner; Shaylyn, the second; and Amanda, the third.



Fine Artists of the Week: All-State Speech

Macy Anderegg

What is your event and topic for your speech for which you earned an All-State nomination?

I am in Reviewing and my topic is "The Wizard of Oz" the movie.

Why did you pick that topic/piece?

"The Wizard of Oz" is a classic and my favorite childhood movie. I grew up watching this movie day and night and it has gave me great memories that I cherish. I am very passionate about speech so I thought I would carry over a meaningful part of my life that I could present a magical review on its movie. I will never forget this speech.

What have you learned through this event?

I have learned that by digging deeper and looking further than the surface of the message, true meaning lies within each aspect in movies, in this case. I also knew that "The Wizard of Oz" was magical, but now I really appreciate all of the unknown magic that I have discovered throughout this speech season.

How will speech help you in the future?

Speech allows those to go outside of their comfort zone whether they were comfortable talking in front of a crowd/judge or not. Speech allows individuals to explore their creativity in ways that make them give remarkable and memorable performances. Speech has allowed me to find out what I can do with some words on a paper and making them into something really magical. I have not only learned from the activity of speech, but those who have coached me through the years. I have learned so much through my speech mentors and I cannot thank them enough for influencing me in such a positive way. I will always have this part of me and sadly it's now over.

Natalie Neuzil

What is your event and topic for your speech for which you earned an All-State nomination? I'm in poetry and my topic is the Columbine school shootings.

Why did you pick that topic/piece? It was very intense and I thought it had a lot of potential.

What have you learned through this event?

I learned that you can interpret poems in different ways and it was fun to try different ways of saying certain lines.

How will speech help you in the future?

I am so much more comfortable with

speaking in front of people and speech will help me be able to receive constructive criticism in the future and use it to better myself.

Emily LaGrant

What is your event and topic for your speech for which you earned an All-State nomination? I'm in an expos (informative speech) all about Mario.

Why did you pick that topic/piece? I had a Mario expos in mind for a while. It's really exciting to get the opportunity to turn an idea into reality. Mario is so much fun, and I knew that there wouldn't be a shortage of information or fun facts.

What have you learned through this event?

I'm not much of a video game person so I learned just about everything in my speech from where Mario got his name to how it all began.

How will speech help you in the future?

I would not be the speaker I am today if it wasn't for speech. The ability to walk in front of a crowd and confidently speak is a valuable one. I'll be grateful forever for speech.

Faith Hunt

What is your event and topic for your speech for which you earned an All-State nomination? Public Address and the speech is Jimmy Valvano's 1993 ESPY speech.

Why did you pick that topic/piece? I picked this piece because Jim Valvano is someone my dad and grandpa both admire a lot, and it seemed like it was an inspiring speech.

What have you learned through this event?

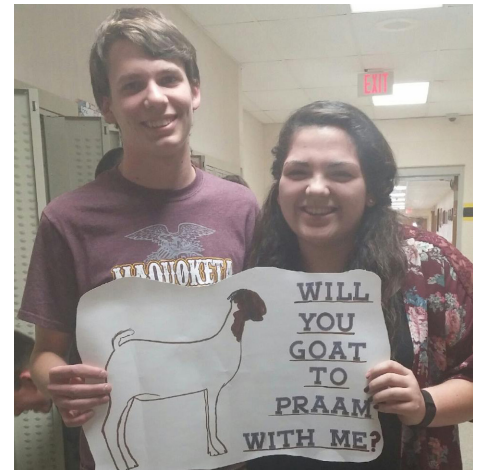
To be confidence in what are saying and to pick a speech that you can personally connect with. Personally connecting with your piece will help make your performance better altogether.

How will speech help you in the future?

It will help me in becoming a better public speaker, which could also help me get a good job in the future. For example, for a job interview you may be asked to give a presentation to people and they will evaluate you on how well you can speak in front of those people.

Promposal

by Kristi Goedken



Heath Gibbs & Amanda Fortman

What made you want to ask Heath to Prom?

Well I needed a date and he's a guy that I get along with, so basically he was my only option.

How did you get that idea? I got the idea from searching Pinterest for about two hours until my mom finally gave me this great idea.

What color will you be wearing? I will be wearing green. And I assume his tux will be black or something.

Are you going with a group or by yourselves? We are riding the junior bus.



Cassi Westhoff & Kaleb Kruse

What made you want to ask Cassi to Prom?

I thought she would be fun to go with.

How did you get that idea? I got the idea from the internet.

What color will you be wearing? I have no idea what color I will be wearing, but my guess is a color to match her dress.

Are you going with a group or by yourselves? We are going with a group.

Vocal jazz groups perform here and there



The vocal jazz groups, Smooth Harmony and Jazz X-press, have been sharing their talents in various locations.

Recently they have performed at a clinic at Kirkwood Community College, and last weekend Smooth Harmony attended a vocal jazz festival in Illinois. At the festival, Riley Sternhagen and Shaylyn Trenkamp were recognized as outstanding soloists.

Last night, the groups, along with the jazz band, performed a home concert. The concert featured selections by all three groups along with solos by Shaylyn Trenkamp, Lawson Roof and Riley Sternhagen.

Smooth Harmony's next performance will be at the Iowa Vocal Jazz Championships on Mar. 29 at West Des Moines Valley High School.

Above: Smooth Harmony poses last Saturday with Kerry Marsh of Vertical Voices.

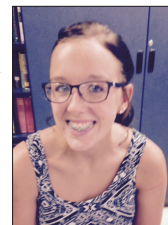
Right: Ryan Dunn performs a bari sax solo with the jazz band.



Jazz XPress members perform at Kirkwood.

Do's and Don'ts of Spring

by Shaylyn Trenkamp



"I'm melting, I'm melting!" the snow seems to have been screeching. What does this mean? You betcha, spring is almost here! With spring comes many things: track, Easter, play, puddles, golf, April Fool's day, warm weather, hope, and more. This week, I've come up with some tips to get you through it all and make the most of your spring of 2016:

Do take advantage of our convenient spring break this year! Along with a bonus early out today, we have an early out Thursday, March 24th, and we don't come back until the following Wednesday! Spring break is the real deal this year, so soak up the sun while you can!

Don't fall behind. No need to slack, spring break will be here soon for you to recharge and come back swinging. Hold on, it'll benefit you more!

Do get active! You don't have to be in track to take advantage of the spring weather and go for a jog! Walk your dog, lift weights, spend a day golfing, play some tennis, go biking, etc. etc. Find your own way to get exercising and get healthy!

Don't take time with your family and friends for granted. As a senior, this seems to be a theme this year as I look on to next year. In a short five months, I won't see my favorite people every day. Make memories, laugh, and cherish the time you spend every day with the people you love.

Do practice, practice, practice! Work hard at whatever you do and surprise yourself with unbelievable success! Whether it be applying to a bunch of scholarships, memorizing play lines and trying new interpretations, or training to run that 100m dash faster than you ever have, make your goals a reality this season.

Don't let anyone get you down. You are strong, you are beautiful, and you are important. Take spring as a sign that your days are only going to get brighter and better. I believe in you.

Do support, support, support! Track and golf meets will be starting before we know it, and the teams can always use more fans coming out! Also, keep the spring play in mind for your May 6th and/or 7th plans!

Best Buds



Mitch Stender & Dalton Becker
by Nichole Winter

How long have you been friends?

Since freshmen year.

What is your favorite activity to do together?

Mitch- Insult each other

Dalton- We went paintballin' once.

Mitch- Always wear protection.

Nicknames?

Dalton- Stender Bender

Mitch- Dolphin or Daltina

What is your streak on Snapchat?

Mitch- 0

Dalton- I have no idea.

Mitch- We don't Snapchat each other.

Dalton- We can start one.

What is your favorite thing about each other?

Mitch- He is an odd duck.

Dalton- Because he has a potato gun.

Mitch- That's why you like me?

Dalton- Yep.

Signs of Spring



Horticulture students have been busy preparing for their annual plant sale which is schedule to begin toward the end of April. Above: Cole Willenbring and Kyle Richter transplant some plants.



Binge Worthy

Rebekah & Amanda:

The Duff: Hilarious, adorable, and oh, so relatable. When high school senior, Bianca, finds out she's the DUFF or Designated Ugly Fat Friend of her friend group, she will do anything in her power to change this. She recruits her handsome neighbor Wesley to help reinvent herself. With the help of her friends, Bianca learns that sometimes true beauty comes from confidence and just being yourself. Also, this movie has my favorite lines, "You've gotta a uniboob. Your posture sucks. You need to start dressing less like Wreck-It Ralph. Boom! Real talk!" Oh Wesley, just another reason to love this already hilarious movie.

Rebekah:

Snow White and the Huntsman: A different twist on a classic fairytale. You take a look at Snow White in a different light. Kristen Stewart and the rest of the cast make for a great movie. We see the life of Snow White as her evil step-mother takes over the kingdom, hiding Snow White in a tower. There is even a twist on the seven dwarfs. Chris Hemsworth isn't too bad to look at either!

Black-ish: Watching the live of the Johnson family, this cast takes you on funny journey. Through the eyes of Dre Johnson you see his family. Their success, problems, failures, feuds, and their endless love. A hilarious must watch.

There You'll Find Me by Jenny B. Jones:

Finley is the girl, that every teenage girl wants to be. Abroad study in Ireland and musically gifted.. Everyone thinks that Beckett Rush is the best guy ever born. Amazing actor and good looks, do you need anything else? However, both of them have things to hide. What happens when they cross paths? Will they be able to overcome everything that they hide inside?

Amanda:

Insurgent: My picks this week are all in honor of the upcoming release of the movie Allegiant based on the book by Veronica Roth. In the second movie we see Tris transform into a kick butt heroine, as she tries to protect divergents and her loved ones. As Jeanie hunts down all divergents, Tris and Four must discover the secrets of the past in order to save their future. (Theo James is so perfect it hurts.)

Star-Crossed: If you enjoyed the Divergent trilogy you will love this show. Ten years after aliens crash landed on Earth, a few teen are integrated into high school to see if the two factions can intermingle. Emily a human, and Roman, an alien, fall for one another but their relationship is threatened by those who want to see these two communities stay separate.

Divergent by Veronica Roth: In an post apocalyptic Chicago, the city is separated into five factions; Abnegation-the selfless, Dauntless-the brave, Erudite-the intelligent, Amity-the peaceful, and Candor-the honest. Tris Prior is faced with the decision of where she belongs, but she has something to hide, she is Divergent.

****CHECK OUT ALLEGIANT IN THEATERS THIS WEEKEND****

Hall Smarts

by Shawnae Hoeger

We took a look at the United States a few weeks ago, let's zoom in and take a look at the great state of Iowa this week. Contestants are Macy Anderegg, Caleb Thompson, Dani Schuman and Dylan Happel.

1. Where is the home of the largest strawberry?

Macy: Strawberry Point

Caleb: Strawberry Point

Dani: Strawberry Point

Dylan: Strawberry Point

Answer: Strawberry Point

2. What is the largest cereal company in the world, located in Cedar Rapids?

Macy: Quaker Oats

Caleb: Quaker Oats

Dani: Oatmeal Place

Dylan: Quaker Oats

Answer: Quaker Oats

3. Who is the governor of Iowa?

Macy: Terry Branstad

Caleb: Chuck Grassley

Dani: idk

Dylan: Brans

Answer: Terry Branstad

4. Name one Senator of Iowa.

Macy: Dan Zumbach

Caleb: I cannot tell you that

Dani: idk

Dylan: idk

Answer: Joni Ernst or Chuck Grassley

5. What is Iowa's nickname?

Macy: Hawkeye State

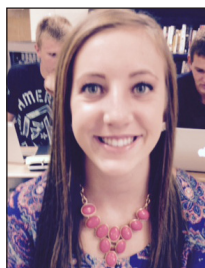
Caleb: Corn State

Dani: Corn State

Dylan: idk

Answer: The Hawkeye State

Looks like Macy came in first with four points. Trailing behind Macy was Caleb and Dylan with 2 points a piece. In last came Dani with 1 point. Nice try, pal. :-)



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MV

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2016

1. 3rd Quarter Grades Due - Teachers: Please Have Your Grades in Power School by 10:00 AM

2. 5th Grade "Open Stand" Band Night - MS Commons - 6:30 PM

3. MV School Board Meeting - MS Conference Room - 7:00 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2016

1. Early Dismissal - 1:05 PM in Delhi / 1:15 in Earlville & Hopkinton (Parent/Teacher Conferences)

2. Parent/Teacher Conferences - All Centers - 3:00 until 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016

1. Backpacks Sent Home at High School, Middle School, and all Elementary Centers

2. NO 7th or 8th Grade Homework Assistance

3. HS Spring Sports Media Day - HS Gymnasium - 3:10 PM

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2016

1. Early Dismissal - 1:05 PM in Delhi / 1:15 in Earlville & Hopkinton (Parent/Teacher Conferences)

2. Parent/Teacher Conferences - All Centers - 3:00 until 7:00 PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2016

1. NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2016

1. NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

2. SCHOOL BUS INSPECTION - Delhi Bus Barn - 10:30 AM

3. MV FFA Banquet - HS Gym & Cafeteria - 6:00 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2016

1. NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

2. HS "Smooth Harmony" to IA Jazz Championships at Valley in West Des Moines (Vans Leaves at 5:00 AM)

3. HS G & B JV/V Golf - with Springfield at Hartridge Golf Course in Manchester - 4:00 PM

4. HS Boys Track at West Delaware in Manchester - 4:30 PM (Bus Leaves at 3:15 PM)

Independent Living students exchange 'vows'



The students in Independent Living class celebrated the culmination of their wedding planning project by hosting a mock wedding between Cassandra Ingles and David Boyles. Students played various roles for the event ranging from wedding party to food committee to officiant.





THIS is MV

photos by
Flavia Xavier



what's up?

**If you caught a leprechaun,
what would you name it?**

by Riley Kay Sternhagen

Emily LaGrant: Leppy

Olivia Hoeger: Fabio

Jazz Niehaus: Leperoacy

Mr. Hadley: Patty

Sean Hucker: Bob

Katilyn Duetmeyer: Lucky

Kara Leibold: Shorty

Ryan Dunn: George Junior

Chloe Roling: Elf

Emma McDowell: Mark



CTE advisory committee meeting held



The Career and Technical Education (CTE) department held its annual advisory committee meeting in Mrs. Downs' room. Mr. Drew, Mrs. Spellerberg, Mrs. Mausser and Mrs. Downs spoke with parents and community members about their programs. The meal was catered by the students who run Club 109. Below, Club 109 students Austin Stogdill and Mason Hermanson prepare to serve.

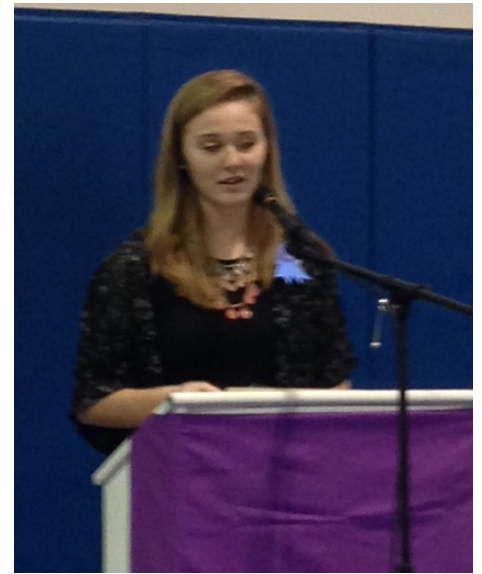


Band students showcase talent



The MV band students of all ages hosted a Parade of Bands concert Mar. 1 in the multi-purpose room.

Poem shared

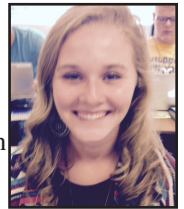


Angie Wilson shares her award winning poem at the Eastern Iowa Reading Council's awards banquet last Thursday.

Angie's Angle

by Angie Wilson

Empty Spaces



Sometimes I open my cupboard to find nothing. In most cases I open my wallet to find no cash. When I walk into my brother's room I find only empty drawers and an empty bed. There are instances where I go to the bathroom to find just the toilet paper roll. I grab the glass to replenish my thirst, only to find the glass bone dry. White walls, white carpet, absent of life, and an absence of mind.

I don't know about you but these things make me sad. No food and no thoughts. In a way it kind of makes me depressed. Let's be honest, these things can be picked out of a regular day. That is if you have a negative look on life. My best friend said something in class the other day that hit home. "Nothing is something." She is right. If we dwell on the things we don't have how will we ever be able to create something? It's okay to be empty handed, it's okay to be in a place of white walls. It's okay to have no opinion on something. For if we have nothing, it still means we have something.

