

# Wildcat Echo

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

## Vocal jazz groups compete at state competition

Last Thursday afternoon, MV hosted the Iowa High School Music Association vocal jazz contest. At contest, Smooth Harmony received a Division I rating, and Jazz XPress earned a Division II rating. After their performance, each group participated in a clinic with the judges to get further feedback and instruction.

On Friday, the vocal jazz groups will compete at Solon, participate in clinics, and attend a concert that evening.

**Members of Smooth Harmony perform at the Iowa High School Music Association State Vocal Jazz Festival Thursday night at MV.**



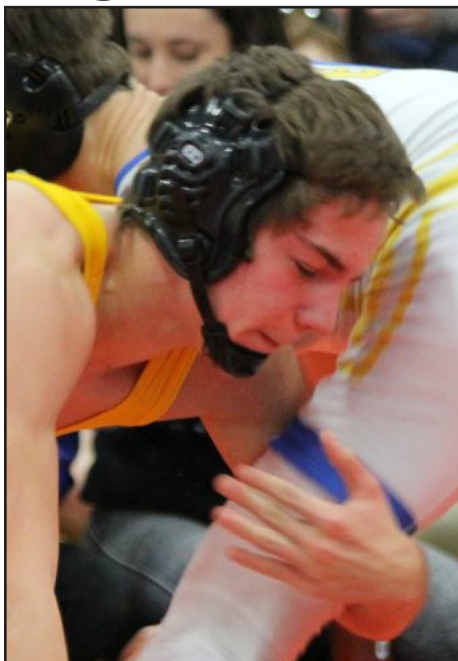
## Downs and Sternhagen hit the mat in Wells Fargo

by Chance Downs

This past Saturday, Maquoketa Valley's seven district wrestling qualifiers competed in Jesup at the Class 1A #2 District. This short, but action packed day provided a ton of entertainment for those who managed to fit in the gym. At the District meet, the top two place winners at each weight will earn a qualification for the State Tournament. Each bracket contained four wrestlers so one way or another, you had to win at least two matches. If you lose first round there still is hope due to the "wrestle-back" rule.

At the end of the day, the Wildcats advanced 120 pound Parker Sternhagen and 145 pound Chance Downs to the 2018 Iowa High School State Wrestling Tournament in Des Moines. Robert Hildebrand and Mitch Smith both received 3rd place. Carson Wright, Cole Kruse, and Michael Feldmann all earned 4th place. Maquoketa Valley tied for third place in team scores along side Hudson, with 44 points.

Coach Andrews had this to say about the team's performance. "[Saturday's] meet was definitely a roller coaster of emotions as the day progressed. To have two qualifiers come out of such a tough district is a good accomplishment. We knew



it was going to be tough going in and I am truly thankful for how every single one of our wrestler's battled until the end. It is very tough to see our seniors' careers come to an end but am truly thankful for the four years our coaches and myself got to work with them and not only help make them better wrestler's, but hopefully better people as well. Although we wanted more and some



guys came up short of their goals it helped watching Parker and Chance achieve their goals and can now represent the rest of the team the best way they can down at Wells Fargo."

Parker and Chance will begin their quest for state wrestling glory tonight at 6pm at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.



## All-State Speech Groups



Ensemble acting



Group improv



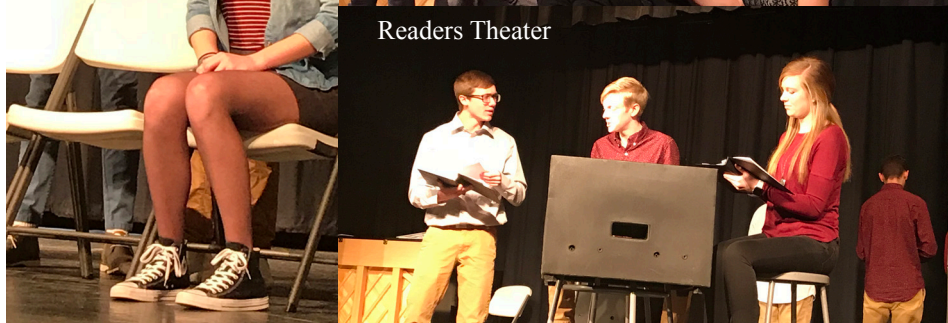
9th grade choral reading



Ensemble acting



Varsity choral reading



Readers Theater

## FFA members earn multiple awards

Feb. 7 was District Review night for FFA members. Students who competed spent hours filling out applications in hopes to earn their Iowa Degrees or advance in a proficiency area.

Members who are receiving their Iowa Degrees at State Convention in April include Cole Kruse, Josie Young, Cassi Westhoff, Nathan Weber, Zac Lansing and Adam Goedken. Only two percent of Iowa's FFA members earn this degree.

In the proficiency area, six students competed. Eric Brehm earned a bronze in Beef Production Placement. Amanda Engelken earned a silver in Ag Education. Cole Kruse earned a Gold in Dairy Entrepreneurship and advanced to state. Maddie Lahr earned a silver in Ag Services and also advanced to state. Nathan Weber earned a bronze in Forage Production.

—Amanda Engleken, reporter

## Hall Smarts

by Brody Severt



Hello, Wildcats, and welcome to another week of Hall Smarts. This week I will be asking our contestants about some good ole fashion geography. Our cartographers (map makers) of the week are Trace Klostermann, Kiesha Stelken, Nathan Weber and Mrs. Mueller.

Where does the Missouri River start?

Trace: Missouri

Kiesha: Missouri

Nathan: Nebraska

Mrs. Mueller: Montana

Answer: Montana

Which state borders Maine?

Trace: Vermont

Kiesha: Rhode Island

Nathan: Washington D.C.

Mrs. Mueller: New Hampshire

Answer: New Hampshire

How many Islands does Hawaii have?

Trace: 12

Kiesha: 7

Nathan: 1

Mrs. Mueller: 6

Answer: 8

Which state is farthest east?

Trace: Florida

Kiesha: Alaska

Nathan: New York

Mrs. Mueller: Alaska

Answer: Alaska

How many states on the Gulf Coast?

Trace: 4

Kiesha: 5

Nathan: 4

Mrs. Mueller: 5

Answer: 5

Great job to all of the contestants this week. That's all for you this week. Make sure to keep up with all your work in the chaos of school. Have a great weekend.



## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

*Michael Feldmann & Chance Downs*



**You recently helped lead a physical science class when Mrs. Besler was gone. Why did you do it?**

Michael: I helped set up the video because Mr. Hansen didn't know how. Then Chance and I helped explain what the video talked about.

Chance: Due to Mrs. Besler's absence, she was not there to help students who were having difficulties with a particular subject. As a leader and a student who understood the material, I felt it was my duty to help my fellow classmates when they were struggling and confused.

**Could you see yourself as an educator? Why or why not?**

Michael: Maybe, just because I enjoy helping people and teaching them how to do stuff.

Chance: Absolutely. I have always enjoyed helping and teaching others, it just depends on what setting I will choose to do this in.

**What qualities make for a good teacher?**

Michael: Being able to understand that kids learn in different ways and at different paces.

Chance: First of all, you have to know what you're talking about. Second, I think it is important to have give/take personal skills. Being able to identify someone's problem is one thing but being able to help them, patiently, is another.

## 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:

Miguel Bojorquez - 2/18

Abby Holtz - 2/19

Abe Miles, Daniel Hunter - 2/20

Garrett Lahr - 2/21

Mitch Smith - 2/22

## Athletes of the Week

Name: Emerson Whittenbaugh

Sport: Basketball

**What position do you play?** Shooting guard

**What do you enjoy most about playing basketball?** Playing with my team and accomplishing great things

**What's something about the sport that others may not know about?** It takes a whole team. If are not there for one another things just don't work

**What's been a favorite basketball memory?** We had team bonding at pub and grub and we all just sat there singing for a long time.

**Who's your basketball role model?**

Brianna Mensen



Name: Maci Freiburger

Sport: Basketball

**What position do you play?**

post

**What do you enjoy most about playing basketball?** Everyone is always helping each other out on and off the court.

**What's something about the sport that others may not know about?** We do everything as a team and we don't leave anyone behind.

**What's been a favorite basketball memory?** playing 15 and a half during practice

**Who's your basketball role model?**

Abby Holtz



Name: Carson Wright

Sport: Wrestling

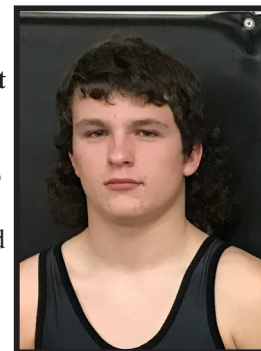
**What do you enjoy most about wrestling?** The moment right before you go out to wrestle. You are so pumped up and ready to go; you feel great.

**What's something about wrestling that others might not know?** The practices are usually extremely intense with a lot of conditioning and the heaters are always on while we are in the wrestling room.

**How do you mentally prepare for a match?** I usually listen to music and go over moves with fellow wrestlers. I make sure that I keep all other thoughts out of my head and just focus on winning the match.

**What have you been most proud of this season?** Making it to districts.

**Who's your wrestling role model?** Cole Kruse and Robert Hildebrand



Congratulations to Junior Sam Wall who joined the 1000 Career Point Club!

## Comedy Corner

—compiled by McKenzie Lansing

More Valentine's Day Puns

How did the garden express its love to you? By loving you gnome matter what!

What did the cats say to flirt? You are very purrrety.

What would you say to your single friends on Valentine's Day? Happy Independence Day!

What did the Star Wars fan say to his girlfriend? Yoda one for me!

What did the maker of cheese say to his wife? Brie mine!

## Brain Teaser

by Mason Lubben

Why are Christmas trees bad at knitting?

Answer: Because they always drop their needles!