

NHS members would love to help you satisfy your sweet tooth with some hot chocolate. For \$1, you'll get a steaming hot cup of sweetness, and you'll get the sweet feeling of knowing you're helping a special Wild-cat family who needs a little boost right now. NHS members will be selling hot chocolate today, **Monday, Dec. 14, Friday, Dec. 18** and **Monday, Dec. 21**. Thanks for your support! Special thanks goes to Karelene Sellner and Erika Imler for their logistical help with this project.

Wrestlers take the mat at West Delaware, Ed-Co

by Kaitlyn Nolan

Last Saturday the MV wrestlers faced tough competition at the Bob Murphy Varsity Tournament at West Delaware. The team finished eighth overall.

Going into the Bob Murphy/West Delaware tournament, our main focus was on putting the hard work that we were doing in the practice room in competition," stated Coach Hatfield. "We were the only 1A school there that day. There were a lot of good schools for us to compete with. It was a good day for us to find out what is working for us and what we needed us to work on. The reason we asked to be in the tournament was because they wrestle out through 7-8th place. We wrestled in dual tournaments in the past and it just didn't work out for us with small numbers."

MV results:

At 132, Tyreese Crippen finished seventh.

Michael Schaul, at 145, had the highest finish of the team in third place. He finished the day with three pins.

Evan Elgin finished in fifth place with two pins for the day wrestling at 182.

Wrestling at 195, Carter Kruse finished the day in fifth place with two pins.

Aiden Salow, wrestling at 160, ended the day in sixth place with a fall and a bye.

Devin Smith at 220 came home with a fifth-place finish. In his fifth-place match, he won by a 7-0 decision.

"The six we had competing did a good, good job," Coach Hatfield commented. "We saw a lot of things we did great. I also saw some things that we have to work on to get ready for next week. Mike Schaul did very well on his feet. Cj Kruse and Evan Elgin were hammers on top."

Tuesday, the wrestling team travelled to Ed-Co where they lost their three duals. The scores were: Beckman, 64-6; Ed-Co, 48-30; and MFL MarMac, 72-12.

MV results:

Tyreese Crippen, wrestling at 132, and Brady Davis, wrestling at 285, received one forfeit each.

Michael Schaul wrestled at 145 and received a pin for the day.

Carter Kruse received one pin and one forfeit and wrestled at 195.

Wrestling at 220, Devin Smith had two pins and a forfeit.

The wrestlers compete at North Cedar tomorrow.



Michael Schaul takes on an opponent at the West Delaware tournament where he finished third. (photos by Lesa Parmely)

Boys go 1-1 in conference play in recent action



Mitch Heims, A.J. Ambundo and Avery Holtz set out to stop the Prince of Peace offense last Friday night.

by Chantel Crowley

On Friday, December 4th, the Wildcat Boys' Basketball team played a home game against Prince of Peace. Maquoketa Valley won forty-three to thirty-eight.

"Going into the game I expected some first-game jitters and some rust from the lack of summer playing and skill development, and I think we saw that," stated Coach Conner. "We want to play at a fast pace and force the other team into turnovers, but be under control and finish around the rim ourselves. This is something we talk about and work on daily. Throughout the first half, we let Prince of Peace dictate the pace of the game and that caused us to rush ourselves a bit."

As for top scores, Andrew Holtz scored 19 points, and Avery Holtz scored 12. AJ Ambundo scored nine, and Mitch Heims scored three.

Andrew Holtz and Mitch Heims had four rebounds, Avery Holtz had three rebounds, and AJ Ambundo had a total of six rebounds. Andrew, Avery, and Mitch all assisted once as well. Andrew Holtz had

two steals. Ambundo and Heims each had one steal as well.

Overall, Coach Conner was pleased with how the game went. "I was most proud of the patience that our guys displayed, stated Coach Conner. "We rushed ourselves a bit in the first half and didn't finish around the rim. A.J. Ambundo had some first half turnovers that were not very good, but he hit three huge shots for us in the third quarter that allowed us to build a 9 point lead. So I was really proud of the way that he responded and shot the ball well when it mattered. Lucas Orcutt got his first varsity minutes of his high school career, and I was very pleased with what we saw from him. He works his tail off every time he is on the floor and he made some big time hustle plays for us that don't show up in the stat column. All around, I am just so proud to be coaching this team. They are great young men and they work hard."

The boys played Easton Valley on Tuesday, December 8th. No stats were available at this time.

Tonight the boys host Cedar Valley Christian.

Wildcats add two more wins to their record

by Tara Goedken

Tri-Rivers conference play is in full swing, and MV has come away with two more wins.

Last Friday night the Wildcats took on Prince of Peace and ended the night with another win with the score of 67-41. In the first half the Wildcats were able to score 36 points and 31 points in the second half.

"I was very pleased with how we started the game," stated Coach Moenck. "We came out with a lot of energy and hit some shots. We also did a very nice job sharing the ball which led to some easy shots. The second quarter we settled for 3's when we probably needed to get the ball inside and get the ball moving side to side."

On offense, it was the senior triple threat again: Taya Tucker led with 21 points followed by Emerson Whittenbaugh with 16 and Ella Imler with 15. Carissa Sabers added seven, and freshman Haley Ronnebaum had five points. Kennedy Rausch rounded out the scoring with three points.

On defense, Ella Imler led in steals with 5 followed by Kylie Chestnut with 4 steals and Tucker and Whittenbaugh each had 3 steals. Whittenbaugh led in rebounds with 11 rebounds followed by Tucker with 7 rebounds.

"We have to do a better job on the defensive side of the ball," Coach Moenck noted. "We didn't do a very good job of lo-

cating their best players and they hit shots on us. We have to grow in that part of the game."

On Tuesday night, the Wildcats traveled to Easton Valley and came home with another win with the score of 49-29. In the first half the Wildcats were able to score 24 points and 25 points in the second half of the game.

"This was our first road test for our kids so I was really interested to see how we responded. We got off to a great start," stated Coach Moenck. "We were hitting shots and we were really guarding well. A couple of kids got in early foul trouble and we just weren't patient on offense. Taya Tucker really had a nice game. She was very solid on both ends of the floor all night. Easton Valley did some things that we hadn't seen before and we really struggled with that. I was very proud of Carissa Sabers and Kennedy Rausch. Both of these kids really stepped up and hit some big shots for us. At the end of the day, our kids weren't a very well-coached team on Tuesday. I need to do better making sure we are prepared

Stats for the Easton Valley game were not available at press time.

Tonight the Wildcats play against Cedar Valley Christian.

On Saturday, the Wildcats will travel to Lisbon to take on the Lions.



Kennedy Rausch fights for position for a rebound. (photos by Lesa Parmely)

Student Council update

by Paige Winter

With all the athletics, speech, and music going on at MV right now, something that may have flown under the radar is the Maquoketa Valley Student Council.

This year the student council has a tough job, trying to design fun games for the students while following covid restrictions. Though we were able to have some class competitions during homecoming, the plans that they had for before Thanksgiving break were cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

However, as our situation is changing all the time with new announcements from the governor, student council member Amaya Hunt mentioned, "With these guidelines potentially being lifted, we might be able to do something similar to what we had planned for Thanksgiving before Christmas break instead, but don't take my word for it, as we still just aren't sure yet."

Make sure to thank these hard working students for still trying to find ways to improve our school with all of the messiness going on in our lives right now.

Dance team is back on the floor



The MVDT is back in action after a busy fall season of performing at the football games. The team performed a pom routine last Friday night and will take the floor against tonight with a new routine.

Athletes of the Week



Name: Devin Smith

What do you enjoy most about wrestling? I enjoy how wrestling is an individual sport as well as a team sport. Wrestling shows what you need to work on as an individual to get better and after you work on them and get better, the whole team gets better and everything would start to fall into place.

How is wrestling during COVID different than past years? Wrestling isn't that different because we don't have to wear masks while we wrestle, but we do everywhere else. So not much is different.

How do you mentally prepare for a match? I mentally prepare for a match by thinking about how I'm going to start off right off the whistle. I think about my best move, my go to move that I would use the most. I think about how I am going to start the match and use everything I've got to try and get the win.

What's your goal this season? My goal this season is to finish with a record above .500, and to place at conference and sectionals.

Who's your wrestling role model? My wrestling role model is Cael Sanderson

MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Paige Panosh

In 2019, an estimated **414,000** adolescents ages 12–17 (1.7 percent of this age group) had Alcohol Use Disorder. This number includes 163,000 males (1.3 percent of males in this age group) and 251,000 females (2.1 percent of females in this age group)

Information brought to you by NIAAA



Name: Allie Dunn

What do you enjoy most about the dance team? I love the family atmosphere we create. There is never a dull moment with this team and I am very happy to be apart of the magic we create.

You have been with Coach Teymer since she started. How would you describe her as a coach? Coach Teymer is truly like a mom to us. She treats us all individually and takes the time to personally bond with each of her dancers. Teymer is a one-of-a-kind coach. She puts her soul into this team, and you do not see that very often. She will move mountains for us, for dance and outside of the gym floor.

What's your favorite routine you've ever been a part of? Sophomore year State Pom. I absolutely loved that dance because the music was a compilation of all my favorite rock songs. That routine was truly first dance where I forced myself to work over the moon and be the best I could. It lit a fire in my heart for dance.

If you could choreograph a routine, what kind would it be and what song would you use? I will be choreographing a high energy Pom routine to a combination of rock songs.

Name: Annisten Trenkamp

What do you enjoy most about dance team? I have always loved dancing, and the feeling I get from perfecting the choreography. This year has an added bonus because I get to dance with my little sister.

You have been with Coach Teymer since she started. How would you describe her as a coach? She's very passionate about dance and making sure we look good as a team. **What's your favorite routine you've ever been a part of?** Many dances come to mind, especially any of Kate's hip-hop ones, but I'd have to say MV Slay will always be my favorite. The music is so easy to get into, and the dance takes all your effort.

If you could choreograph a routine, what kind would it be and what song would you use? Anybody who knows me knows I'm a pom girl through and through. I would choreograph a pom routine to the song "Dance with Me Tonight" by Olly Murs.

"I have so much love and respect for these two. They have been with me since day one. We started as "freshman" together & have been through a lot these last 4 years. I'm sad the season is not what we had initially planned. But I am eternally grateful for what these two have taught me, their team and each other." —Coach Teymer

what's up?

The burning question on everyone's mind - Texas Roadhouse rolls, Olive Garden breadsticks, or Dairy Queen toast?

by Paige Winter

Kendra Hillers: Roadhouse
Haley Ronnebuam: Texas Roadhouse rolls
Taylor Jones: Olive Garden breadsticks
Trista Elgin: Texas Roadhouse
Trayce Klostermann: Texas Roadhouse
Taya Tucker: breadsticks
Lane Domeyer: I've never had Texas Roadhouse or Olive Garden and DQ toast sucks
Ella Mensen: Dairy Queen toast
Grace Rowan: Dairy Queen toast
Mr. Arnold: Texas Roadhouse
Brylie Pohlman: all 3 in a sandwich
Keziah Ambundo: Texas Roadhouse
Mr. Dunlap: Roadhouse, but with no butter. Why would I even eat it?
Maddyx Rieniets: Texas Roadhouse rolls

With a survey representative of the school, Texas Roadhouse rolls are victorious!

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Paige Panosh

When a daydreaming taxi driver accidentally drove past his destination, his passenger gently tapped him on the shoulder from the back seat.

Startled, the driver went through a red light and almost hit a bus before he pulled over. As he tried to catch his breath, the passenger said, "I'm sorry I gave you a jolt—it was my fault."

"No, it was mine," the driver said. "This is my first day driving a cab. For the past 25 years, I drove a hearse."

A zookeeper spotted a visitor throwing \$10 bills into the elephant exhibit...

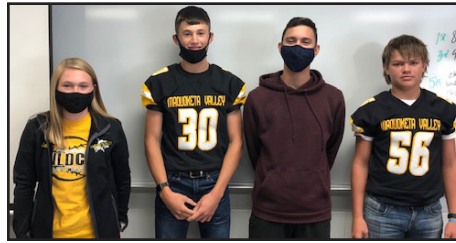
"Why are you doing that?" asked the keeper.

"The sign says it's okay," replied the visitor.

"No, it doesn't."

"Yes, it does. It says, 'Do not feed. \$10 fine.'"

Meet the Freshmen



Maddyx, Lance, Jesus, Ethen

Name: Jesus Rumbo
Siblings: Lucas, Angel, Harold, and Kevin
Activities you plan to be in: Basketball
Favorite subject: Earth Science
Hobbies: Soccer and basketball
Something cool about you: I'm a fast typer

Name: Maddyx Rieniets
Siblings: 4 brothers
Activities you plan to be in: Dance, softball, and track
Favorite subject: Algebra
Career aspirations: Surgeon
Hobbies: Hiking

Name: Ethen Brockhohn
Siblings: 1 sister
Activities you plan to be in: Football and FFA
Favorite subject: Math
Career aspirations: Farming, mechanic
Hobbies: Farming
Something cool about you: I own 5 goats with my cousin

Name: Lance McShane
Siblings: 1
Activities you plan to be in: Football, track, basketball, baseball, and FFA
Favorite subject: Ag
Career aspirations: Mechanic or farmer
Hobbies: Fishing and hunting
Something cool about you: I can juggle
—typist: Leah Ries

Pep band fills a void

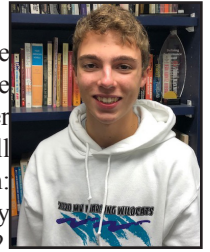
The gym just feels more full with the sounds of the pep band adding energy to the atmosphere at basketball games. Participants are limited to two fans each.



Quoted

by Matthew Brehm

As kids, we were always told to be unique, and to never forget who we are at all costs. I wonder, though, how often do we actually stick to that philosophy?



This week's quote is, **"People moving all the time, inside a perfectly straight line. Don't you wanna just curve away?"** - Coldplay.

This lyric is from a song called "Strawberry Swing." The very title, along with the lyrics, has a youthful feel to them. Its music video features a stunning chalk stop motion animation in which a super-hero-costumed Chris Martin goes on a quest to save a damsel in distress. He eventually realizes that he can draw the solution to his problem and flies to freedom with the girl.

Life isn't always as easy as drawing the answers; however, life is as easy as deciding what you want out of it and turning it into reality. No one is going to magically make your life into your life. It's up to you to take that first step off the path and invent yourself. Just as the quote says, we are moving all the time; it's just a matter of whether we are following everyone else's lead, or creating our own.

I understand the intensity of societal pressures as well as anyone and just how hard they can be to overcome. This can be especially difficult for teenagers, as we are constantly bombarded with pictures of what perfection is supposed to be, the ideal way of life, etc. Conformity lures you, but don't always let it catch you. Fitting into the crowd might not be the best option if it strains your mental health. When you do your own thing, you inspire others to take that extra step as well.

If no one ever stepped off the easy path, we would never make shortcuts. We would never venture out to see what the rest of the world has to offer.