

Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

It'll take more than a pandemic to stop speech season from happening

by Paige Winter

You may have already noticed some of our dedicated Wildcats occupying classrooms in the morning and after school practicing and preparing for contest speech. If you happen to be wondering what's going on with speech this year, great! Because we've got all the info for you.

This is an activity that has obviously had to change a lot because of COVID. This year the Maquoketa Valley Speech Team won't be traveling to other schools for contests. Instead, we will be having Districts and State Speech Contest right here at MV! Conference contest has been cancelled. So we are going to be the only school performing here. There will be one judge present for districts and three judges for state. You have to receive a one rating at districts to move on to the state contest.

Another obvious change to the season is that students will be wearing masks as they perform. This provides an extra challenge for performers since our voices aren't as clear or articulate through the mask, but it's just another problem that the team will conquer!

Some other things that the coaches have altered to keep everyone safe is the size of the groups. Mrs. DeVore mentioned that though you can up to 15 in a choral reading group, she only has seven this year. This is one of the smallest choral reading groups in years.

There are also still some unknowns this year. Because of the uncertainty times we live in, rules about spectators are still being debated. Some coaches have mentioned that the speech team might stick to the same two spectators per performer rule the sports have been using, but this decision is still up in the air.

Now that we've dealt with all that's different, let's focus on the good parts, and the excitement brewing in the speech team. Mrs. DeVore said, "There are a lot of things that excite me!" She made comments about all of the groups she's coaching including one act, a group that's making great progress at every practice, and choral reading, which includes a script that has been written by the performers themselves once again. Mrs. DeVore's ensemble acting group has also chosen a short

comedic piece, but have done some really nice things with it already! She's excited for both TV news groups she's coaching because they are both wildly different from each other, and short film because it's a group of freshmen who are excited for their first speech season. And these are just a few of the groups!

So there's a lot to look forward to this speech season. Though this season is very different, I think that it's one we are all going to remember. And in the wise words of Mrs. DeVore: "The best part is that the students will be able to perform because there *is* going to be a speech season."

Annisten Trenkamp, Jenavieve LeGasick and Anna Trenkamp rehearse a group improv before school.



Remote learning plan ready to go if needed

Remote Learning Daily Time Schedule A Day		Remote Learning Daily Time Schedule B Day		Minutes
1st Period	8:03 - 9:03	2nd Period	8:03 - 9:03	60 min
3rd Period	9:13 - 10:13	4th Period	9:13 - 10:13	60 min
5th Period	10:23 - 11:23	6th Period	10:23 - 11:23	60 min
7th Period	11:33 - 12:33	8th Period	11:33 - 12:33	60 min
Lunch	12:35 - 1:05	Lunch	12:35 - 1:05	30 min
Intervention Time	1:15-3:45	Intervention Time	1:15-3:45	120 min

If COVID case numbers warranted the move to remote learning, MV is ready. Although a plan for remote learning was create prior to the start of the school year, some updates have been made to the plan.

It is important to note that MV is currently not planning on moving to remote learning.

Learning will occur synchronously, which means students will use Google Meet to log in to their classes at a specific time (see schedule above). Attendance is required and will be kept as if we were face-to-face.

Students do not need to login to study hall.

We will still use the block schedule, but classes will now be one hour long.

The school calendar will not be modified. PD days and vacation days will still be in effect.

Students will have the opportunity to work online with teachers one-on-one or in small groups during intervention time from 1:15-3:45.

The remote learning plan for elementary students varies from the middle school and high school schedule.

Class organizes clothing drive



The Intro to Business class recently organized and promoted a clothing drive. After collecting the donations, the students delivered the items to The Tiny House in Hopkinton where the money raised from the clothing sale will be used for community betterment projects.

Best Buds/ *Cutest Couple*



Mrs. Hunt & her husband, Roger
by Amaya Hunt

For this week's edition, I decided to interview another couple amongst the staff in the high school. Mrs. Hunt, our beloved librarian, answered the questions for both her husband and herself.

How did you two meet each other? We actually met each other, ironically, through my old boyfriend!

In your youth, what were some of your favorite things to do together? Has that changed nowadays? We used to go to dances and parties all the time! That sure has changed, though... we don't dance much anymore. But nowadays, we love to watch movies at home (thank you, Netflix).

Both of your careers revolve around education... but if you weren't involved

with the MV Community, what would you absolutely love to do with your life? I am not sure about him, but personally, I would love to be a travel agent. This way, I could get great deals on trips- and take Rog along of course ;)

If you could choose to travel anywhere in the world with each other, where would you go and why? We would both love to go to Ireland. It would be great because that's where my ancestors came from.

After all the years spent together, what has been your favorite memory with the other? After 42 years married and more before then just spent with one another, there are so many memories to choose from. If we had to pick, it's safe to say that becoming parents- and then grandparents!- definitely ranks the highest. We cherish travels with family and friends, as well.

If you could look back on all your years spent together, what would be one piece of advice you would give the younger generation? Our advice to the fellows would be: Treat your girlfriend like a lady- and ALWAYS be true to her!!! As for the ladies, if your boyfriend doesn't treat you like a lady- MOVE ON!!! Trust me... you will know when you have found Mr. Right!



Mentors needed, meeting scheduled

On Dec. 15 Meg Gelner, the Youth Mentoring Coordinator for Delaware County, will be joining our Junior class for their lunch hour.

Our school would like to begin participating in the Youth Mentoring Program again, as we have in the past. They need mentors who are willing to meet once a week with a younger student who would benefit from having a caring, compassionate, and consistent person in their lives. A lot of kids are struggling and falling through social and academic cracks due to COVID and other circumstances. Being a mentor is a wonderful way to serve others in the community, it looks great on a resume or a college or scholarship application, and it makes a world of difference to the kids involved in the program.

On the 15th, come talk to Meg about spending a minimal amount of your time to make a maximum amount of difference in someone else's life!

Donations needed

It is hard to believe that Christmas is quickly approaching. This year, we are encouraging students to donate personal care products for those in need. A holiday tree will be set up in the MS Commons, and there will be collection boxes for items such as shampoo, dish soap, body wash (no bar soap please), deodorant, laundry detergent, toothpaste, toilet paper, and tissues. All donations will be given to Operation New View. We will also collect nonperishable food items for the Delaware County Food Pantry. We will start collecting on November 30 and end on December 16. Thank you for your support and spirit of compassion and giving.

Sports Connection

Wildcats get the home W over Ed-Co



Taya Tucker and Emerson Whittenbaugh make double trouble for an Ed-Co opponent at MV's season opener Nov. 22. (photos courtesy of Pete Temple)

by Tara Goedken

The girls basketball team began its season last Tuesday night against Ed-Co with a win of 65-22. In the first half the Wildcats were able to score 36 points and 29 points in the second half.

Ed-Co came out ready to score, but MV soon answered back. "The start of the game we had a lot of defensive breakdowns and some turnovers that you wouldn't expect from our kids," stated Coach Moenck. "I think a lot of it was the girls were pretty excited to play. Once we settled in we were more patient on both sides of the floor."

On offense, leading in points were Emerson Whittenbaugh with 23 points followed by Ella Imler with 18 points and Taya Tucker with 15 points.

On defense, Imler led in steals

with 7 followed by Tucker with 5 rebounds. Tucker led in rebounds with 10 rebounds followed by Whittenbaugh with 7 rebounds and Kennedy Rausch with 5 rebounds.

"I thought all the kids really contributed in a lot of different ways," commented Coach Moenck. "We're still relatively a young team so the more we play the better we will get."

"I was really pleased with all of our team's effort tonight. It wasn't pretty at times and we made some bad mistakes but we did a very nice job of playing as a team, playing hard and making the extra pass for a better shot. We were very unselfish."

Tonight, the Wildcats will play against Prince of Peace. Join the livestream to watch.

Wrestlers start season at South Winn

The wrestling season is underway, and the Wildcats showed some prowess on the mat at a triangular at South Winn Tuesday night.

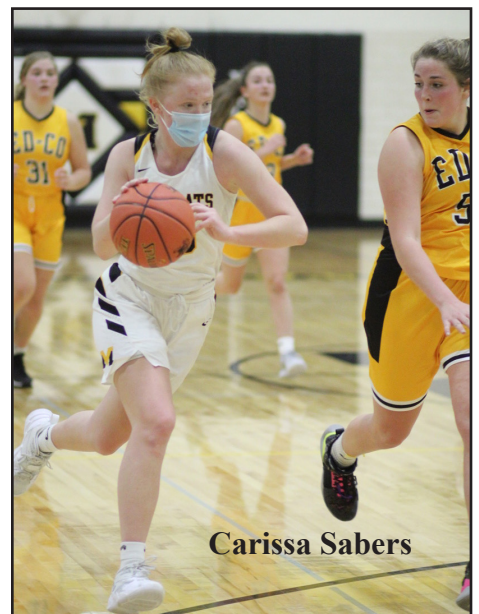
Despite having to forfeit several matches because of low numbers especially in the lower weights, those wrestlers who competed showed promise.

"We did a lot of good things," stated Coach Hatfield. "[Tonight's meet] also showed what we needed to work for Saturday. We were the best conditioned kids in the gym. I'm pretty proud how the kids kept fighting and moving forward."

MV fell 30-45 to Jesup. Earning points for MV were Tyrese Crippen at 132 who pinned his opponent at 2:46. Michael Schaul at 145 won by fall at 4:00. Evan Elgin at 182 won by fall in a quick 0:55. Carter Kruse at 195 won by forfeit, and Devin Smith at 285 won by fall in 0:47.

South Winn defeated MV 51-22. Schaul won by major decision 16-5. Kruse won by fall in 5:14. Smith won by fall in 0:55 at 220. Crippen won by fall in 0:44.

The wrestlers compete this Saturday at West Delaware.



Carissa Sabers

Athletes of the Week

Name: Ella Imler
What position do you play? Point guard
Spectator numbers are limited this year. How does that affect your mental state while playing?



It feels a little different with limited fans, but we all know that people are still supporting us by watching on the live stream.

What's been a favorite basketball memory? I have a lot of favorite memories but scaring each other in the locker room, team bonding and team meal, and listening to music before games are some of my top memories.

Who's your basketball role model? Sam Wall

Name: Brock Trenkamp

What position do you play? I am able to play every position besides point guard, but in games and practice I mostly play 3 or 4 and sometimes I might play 5



How does this year's season feel different from past years?

For me this year is different because I put a lot more time into the offseason. During the summer I spent a lot of time playing, and that has already made a difference for me so far. Yes, I've improved skill wise but one of the biggest differences is I've learned to love the game. I used to try and be razor focused on this goal of playing super amazing every time I played, but in the end that mindset just makes you play worse. Obviously I could also talk about COVID, but for me it's not really that different, of course there is the masks, but for me I've been on JV every year so I've always played in a sparsely populated gym, nothing is going to be a drastic change for me this year besides the way I play.

What's been a favorite basketball memory? My favorite basketball memory happened in the weightroom during lift-

ing. Pretty much everyone had finished up their workout except for me and maybe a couple of other people. I was on my last or maybe second to last plank and I decided I would probably go like 45 seconds and maybe a minute if it felt good. Well it was a hard set so I decided I would do 45 and Teige Hunt grabbed a 45-pound plate while I was planking and put it on my back. The thing that made it worse was he grabbed my phone and wouldn't tell me the time so he just kept telling me 15 more seconds every time I asked. Finally he stopped me after at least two minutes. This is my favorite memory because it really portrays the kind of work ethic our team teaches and it helped show me that I always have more to give than I think.

Who's your basketball role model? Obviously I love all the greats, like Michael Jordan for his all around game, Allen Iverson for his success even while undersized, and especially Kobe for his unbeatable work ethic. My role models are a little bit different than those players though. People who know basketball well enough will definitely laugh at me but my real role models are the underestimated players like Alex Caruso, Duncan Robinson, Jeremy Lin, and Udonis Haslem. These guys were undrafted yet they still fought their way to the NBA and they made a career. They aren't the superstars of their teams, but these guys have made their way to starting roles after going undrafted, and to me I just love how much work they had to do to get into the positions they made it to today.

what's up?

What is something in your life that brings you joy?

by Paige Winter

Cy Huber: running (5 miles)

Keziah Ambundo: my dog

Carlie Lewin: vocal jazz

Mrs. Besler: my kids' giggles

Avery Krapfl: Christmas time

Leighton Deutmeyer: screwing around with my friends

Macy Thompson: my friends

Jake Gellersen: fishing

Taylor Schmuecker: Christmas

Tony Offerman: baseball, competition, puppies, food, lifting

Quoted

by Matthew Brehm



In a new column I will be writing, titled, "Quoted," I will be pondering over interesting quotes I find, whether they are from people, books, songs, movies, or somewhere else.

This week's quote is, **"What benefit would there be in prosperity... or how could one's own prosperity be guarded and preserved without friends?"** - Aristotle.

One of Aristotle's closest friends was Hermias, with whom he formed a strong bond while they were both under the teaching of Plato. When a mercenary was sent to capture Hermias, Aristotle persuaded the soldier otherwise. He vouched for him to other rulers and honored him with a statue after his death. Aristotle travelled across western Europe with the support of his friend. His writing provided much of what we know about Hermias today. It's safe to say that the philosopher knew the importance of friendship. Even though he was alive almost two and a half thousand years ago, Aristotle's words still hold true today: Success without someone to share it with is not as enjoyable.

Think about when you're playing a game by yourself versus when you are playing a game with friends. Beating a level or setting a new high score as a group is cause for celebration, whereas doing so by yourself will probably lead to quiet pride.

Friends are always helpful to keep you in check and ensure that you are making the right decisions. Once you have reached a degree of prosperity, sometimes it can be extremely difficult to maintain it. This is the case with money, fame, or even just general noteworthiness amongst the people in your life. Your companions help to ground you and keep your composure, as well as celebrate you. They also stick up for you when others try to bring you down. Friends are people you can trust with anything.

Any time you are at conflict with others, remember how important it is to have a friend. Sometimes it isn't worth it to win the argument if you lose someone you care about. Keep them close. You are always stronger with others than you are on your own. When you are surrounded by people you enjoy, good times become great times, and bad times become better times.

Meet the Freshmen



Paige, Devin & Brady

Name: Devin Meeks
Siblings: Two
Activities you plan to be in: Football and basketball
Favorite subject: Ag
Career aspirations: Military
Hobbies: Hanging out with friends
Something cool about you: Everything

Name: Paige Aulwes
Siblings: 1
Activities you plan to be in: None
Favorite subject: Math
Career aspirations: Hair and nail stylist
Hobbies: Being outside and being with friends
Something cool about you: I don't know

Name: Braden Hogan
Siblings: KD, Colton, Maddie, and Lilly
Activities you plan to be in: FFA, 4-H, football, and basketball
Favorite subject: Ag
Career aspirations: Diesel Mechanic
Hobbies: I raise cows and sheep
Something cool about you: I'm restoring a truck

—typist: Leah Ries

MV TEL-ALL

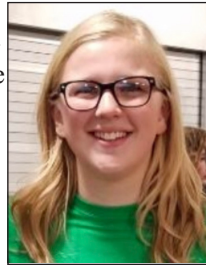
compiled by Paige Panosh

About 7 of every 100 middle school students (7.2%) and about 20 of every 100 high school students (20.2%) reported current use of some type of tobacco product

Hall Smarts

by Cadence Freiburger

Since December is recognized as the most festive month, I thought it would be fun to ask a few high schoolers — Kaitlyn Nolan, Chantel Crowley, Jordan Staner, and Logan Long — if they could answer these trivia questions about Christmas.



1. In *Frosty the Snowman*, what made Frosty come to life?

Kaitlyn Nolan: The Magic Hat
Chantel Crowley: His hat
Jordan Staner: Magic Hat
Logan Long: Magic Top Hat
Answer: Old Silk Hat

2. What hated Christmas treat is known for its long shelf life?

Kaitlyn Nolan: Fruitcake
Chantel Crowley: Candy Canes
Jordan Staner: I don't know
Logan Long: Pine
Answer: Fruitcake

3. In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, what was Mr. Scrooge's first name?

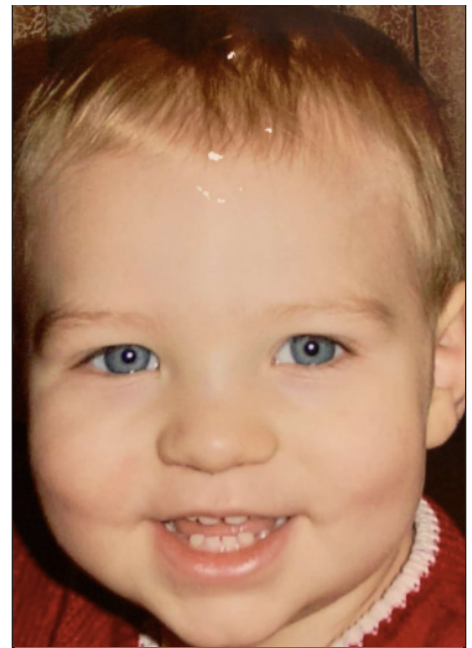
Kaitlyn Nolan: Ebenezer
Chantel Crowley: Dave
Jordan Staner: I don't know
Logan Long: I don't know
Answer: Ebenezer

4. What Bing Crosby song is the best-selling single ever?

Kaitlyn Nolan: "Jingle Bells"
Chantel Crowley: "White Christmas"
Jordan Staner: "Holy Night"
Logan Long: "Baby, It's Cold Outside"
Answer: "White Christmas"

Have a Happy Holidays!

Cutie



by Matthew Brehm

This cutie is a junior. He lives in Manchester. This cutie is blonde and enjoys hanging out with friends and playing basketball. He also likes bacon cheeseburgers. He's involved in speech, TEL, band, choir, drama and speech.

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Paige Panosh

Two guys were out walking their dogs on a hot day when they pass by a bar. The first guy says, "Let's go in there for a pint of root beer."

The second guy says, "They won't let us in with our dogs."

First guy: "Sure they will, just follow my lead."

He goes up to the pub, and sure enough, the bouncer says, "I can't let you in here with that dog."

He replies, "Oh, I'm blind and this is my seeing-eye dog."

The bouncer says, "Ok then, come on in."

The second guy sees this and does the same thing. The bouncer says, "You can't come in here with a dog."

He replies, "I'm blind and this is my seeing-eye dog."

The bouncer responds, "You have a Chihuahua for a seeing-eye dog?"

The second guy exclaims, "They gave me a Chihuahua?"