

Wildcat Echo

Issue 29
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A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

After 35 years of teaching, Spellerberg begins new chapter in life

by Brittany Sabers

As we know Mrs. Spellerberg will no longer be with us next year and we will miss her greatly. Mrs. Spellerberg has offered so much to our school district and to our students. Because of Mrs. Spellerberg, Maquoketa Valley students have had the opportunity to get some college credits under their belt before they get to college which will save us time and money in the future. Mrs. Spellerberg has also bent over backwards to set up job shadows for students. She makes sure that everyone gets the chance to experience what it is they might want to do in the future as well as try out new career possibilities. I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Mrs. Spellerberg and ask her a few questions about her retirement.

What inspired you to be a teacher? Originally I wanted to be an elementary teacher, but then I took an accounting class and realized that I wanted to be a business teacher. **How many years have you taught here at Maquoketa Valley?** 35

What have you enjoyed most about teaching at Maquoketa Valley? At Maquoketa Valley I have most enjoyed the people I work with. The staff, students, and families are great people to be around.

What has been your biggest achievement as a teacher? I would say my big-



At the end of the school year, Mrs. Huber, Mrs. Seibert, Mrs. Jurgens and Mrs. Spellerberg will be retiring. They were recently honored at a district retirement celebration.

gest achievement has been being able to offer college credit classes and setting up job shadows for students that they otherwise might not have had the opportunity to do. **How has teaching changed over the years? How is teaching different now than when you first started?** Over the years there has been a huge increase in the use of technology in the classroom. Students also seem to have less of an emphasis on school because they now have much busier schedules and have way more involvement both inside and outside of the school with extracurriculars and jobs.

What are your hopes for future students? In the future I would like to see students continue to work hard, explore career options with job shadows, and see students taking college credit classes.

What are your plans for after retirement? After retirement I tell people that I am going to do whatever I want. I am looking forward to having more free time and I would like to travel more.

Let's all give Mrs. Spellerberg a big THANK YOU for everything she has contributed to our learning and our school community!



Ms. Dass

Miss Dass (as she was known before she became Mrs. Spellerberg) in 1985

TEL students prepare for trip

by Kelly Winter

Exciting news is coming your way, wildcats! This year our own MV TEL group has been invited to attend a conference in Florida this summer. It's a five-day, all expense paid, learning trip.

Nurse Mary selected 7 students to attend, they include: Emma McDowell, Kristin Lucas, Maddie Lahr, Chloe Roling, Kelly Winter, Kara Orcutt and Madison Imler. Nurse Mary selected these particular students because of their hard work and constant participation in TEL.

During that week, the students will be attending meetings to discuss better ways to spread drug and alcohol messages. They will also be working on a community project plan. This means they will decide on a change they would like to see in their community, develop a plan and come back next fall and put that plan into action. Nurse Mary is really excited for this opportunity and so are the TEL members!

This trip is made possible by Helping Services of Eastern Iowa.

Wednesday night festivities honor academic success



Wednesday night included the induction to the National Honor Society. New members include, front row from left: Hannah Lahr, Chloe Roling, Chance Downs, Lydia Helle, Carter Hildebrand, Mason Lubben, Shelby March and Summer Schmuecker. Current members include, second row from left: Madison Imler, Brody Severt, Brock Hillers, Mitchell Neuzil, Sam Wall, Brooke Wilson, Kelly Winter, Norm Wilson, Faith Hunt and Olivia Hoeger; third row: Jon Seibert, Emma McDowell, Maddie Lahr, Kelsey Ries, Mady Moenck, Macy Hoeger and Dany Schuman; fourth row: Tyson Tucker, Amanda Engelken, Brittany Sabers, McKenzie Lansing, Abby Holtz, Heath Gibbs and Payton Ries. Not pictured is Josie Young.



Senior Academic Excellent honorees with their mentors: Brittany Sabers and Mrs. Downs, Heath Gibbs and Mr. Conner, Amanda Engelken and Jennifer Zumbach.



Freshmen honored with Academic Excellence were Olivia Hanken-Arlen, Paige Panosh and Kim Sellner.



Juniors who earned Academic Excellence were Faith Hunt, Chloe Roling, Hannah Lahr, Sam Wall, Emma McDowell, Brooke Wilson, Megan Rausch and Norman Wilson.



Jordyn Kemp, Chance Downs, Mason Lubben, Lydia Helle, Shelby March, Carter Hildebrand, Summer Schmuecker and Kailyn Hogan were sophomores honored at Academic Excellence.

Girls earn fourth place at conference meet, Wall sets new school record

by McKenzie Lansing

Happy final Friday, Seniors and welcome back, Wildcat Fans! On Monday the girls competed in the co-ed Conference Meet at Central City. The girls finished in fourth place with a total of 68 points.

Starting with the field events, Lydia Helle placed in both the discus and shot put. Helle threw a 108' in the discus, placing first and gaining ten team points. In the shot put, Helle threw a 34'4" placing second and gaining eight team points.

In the running events, Sam Wall placed first in the 100m dash with a time of 13.01, gaining ten team points. Wall also competed in the 200m dash, where she placed second with a time of 26.36 and gaining eight team points. Despite a second place finish, Wall broke the school record in this event! Casey Fry ran a 2:51.93 in the 800m run, placing eighth and gaining one team point. In the 3000m run, Reiji Smith ran a 15:20.72, placing seventh and gaining two team points. Kara Orcutt competed in both the 100m and 400m hurdles. In the 100m hurdles, she placed third with a time

of 17.42 while gaining six team points. In the 400m hurdles, Orcutt ran a 1:14.88, placing third and again gaining six team points.

In the relay events, starting with the 4x100m relay, Payton Beaman, Kailyn Hogan, Brooke Wilson, and Sam Wall competed with a time of 53.48, placing fifth and gaining four team points. Emerson Whittenbaugh, Maddy Anderegg, Brooke Wilson, and Kailyn Hogan competed in the 4x200m relay. They placed eighth with a time of 2:01.20, and gained one team point. In the 4x400m relay, Payton Beaman, Allison Knipper, Kara Orcutt, and Sam Wall ran a 4:25.82, placing fourth and gaining five team points. In the 4x800m relay, Casey Fry, Emerson Whittenbaugh, Jaiden Porter, and Reiji Smith ran a 12:10.72, placing seventh and gaining two team points. In the Distance Medley relay, Brooke Wilson, Taya Tucker, Jaiden Porter, and Casey Fry ran a 5:03.80, placing sixth and gaining three team points. In the Shuttle Hurdle relay, Kara Orcutt, Kailyn Hogan, Payton Beaman, and Shelby March ran a 1:17.69,



Jaiden Porter and Casey Fry take off in the 800 at the conference meet. Fry went on to finish eighth. (photos by Lesa Parmely)

placing seventh and gaining two points.

The girls competed in their District meet at Edgewood-Colesburg last night.

Boys take home fourth in conference track meet

by McKenzie Lansing

The boys competed in the Conference meet at Central City on Monday. At this meet, the boys finished in fourth place with a total of 96 points.

Starting with the field events, in the discus, Blake Becker threw a 126'10" while placing fourth and gaining five team points. Brian Heims also competed in this event with a throw of 119.' He placed sixth

while gaining three team points. In the shot put, Michael Feldmann threw a 38' 4.5" placing seventh and gaining two team points. In the high jump, Gianpaolo Pillon competed with a jump of 5'4" placing eighth and gaining one team point.

In the running events, Mitchell Neuzil ran in the 100m dash. He placed seventh with a time of 11.91, while gaining two team points. In the 800m run, Chance Downs ran a 2:06.91, bringing him up to fourth place and gaining five team points. In the 1600m run, Brenden Hogan placed third with a time of 4:49.12, and gaining six team points. In the 3200m run, Tate Trenkamp ran an 11:45.81, placing sixth and gaining three team points. In the 110m hurdles, Chad Neuzil ran a 15.80, placing first and gaining ten team points. Brock Hillers also competed in this event with a time of 16.04, placing third and gaining six team points. In the 400m hurdles, Brock Hillers ran a 1:00.65, placing second and gaining eight team points.

In the relay events, starting with the 4x100m relay, Mitchell Neuzil, Gianpaolo Pillon, Chad Neuzil, and Daniel Hunter ran a 45.57, placing second and gaining eight team points. In the 4x200m relay, Mitchell Neuzil, Evan Hoefer, Daniel Hunter,



Mitchell Neuzil sprints his way to the finish at the conference meet.

and Derek Becker ran a 1:34.86, placing second and gaining eight team points. In the 4x400m relay, Derek Becker, Chance Downs, Brock Hillers, and Alex McCusker ran a 3:34.98, placing third and gaining six team points. In the 4x800m relay, Chance Downs, Derek Becker, Brenden Hogan, and Derek Mensen ran an 8:37.76, placing third and gaining six team points. In the Sprint Medley, Mitchell Neuzil, Zach Digman, Chad Neuzil, and Daniel Hunter ran a 1:42.30, placing fourth and gaining five team points. In the Distance Medley relay, Zach Digman, Evan Hoefer, Chance Downs, and Brenden Hogan ran a 3:53.36, placing fifth and gaining four team points. In the Shuttle Hurdle relay, Brock Hillers, Derek Becker, Tiege Hunt, and Chad Neuzil ran a 1:02.11, placing second and gaining eight team points.

The boys competed at Edgewood-Colesburg last night in their District Meet.

State qualifiers for both the boys and girls will become final later today hopefully. The state meet is next Thursday-Saturday at Drake University in Des Moines.

What's happening around MV



The Anatomy & Physiology students under the guidance of Mr. Bruening started dissecting cats last week.



The National Guard set up a rock-climbing wall for the PE classes. Kayla Chesnut makes her way up.



TEL students helped work at the elementary health fair this week.



The Spanish IV class used their Spanish on their field trip to a tapas restaurant in Iowa City where they tried a variety of foods including octopus.



The band and choir competed at IHSMA Large Group Festival this past Saturday at Tipton. The Concert Band, Bass Clef Chorus and Mixed Chorus all received a Division II. The Treble Clef Chorus was awarded a Division I rating for their performance.

Right: Cassi Westhoff, Amanda Engelken and Mason Kruse competed Friday in the District FFA Agronomy and Nursery Landscape contest. They placed fifth.



Girls finish sixth at conference, Winter earns all-conference medal

A little rain didn't stop the Wildcats from competing against North Linn last Thursday night at Three Elms Golf Course.

"Although it was a very rainy and wet day the kids competed and got through it," stated Coach Andrews. "Hopefully the weather will cooperate with us as we move towards post season play."

North Linn defeated MV in the boys meet, 178-243. Scores included:

Varsity

Austin Snyder: 46
Tony Offerman: 60
Morgan Hermanson: 66
Garrett Lahr: 71

JV

Nick Gibbs: 69
Dylan Lane: 69

In the girls competition, MV won 220-257. Kelly Winter was the medalist with a 50. Faith Hunt and Erika Supple tied for runner-up medalist with a 56.

Other scores:

Chloe Roling: 65
Maddie Lahr: 58
Ci'Ann Richardson: 71

The girls competed in the Tri-Rivers conference golf meet Monday where they finished sixth with a 437. East Buchanan won the conference title with a 414.

Winter was MV's top finisher. She placed ninth with a 104. Other scores include:

Erika Supple: 107
Faith Hunt: 108
Chloe Roling: 118
Ci'Ann Richardson: 126
Maddie Lahr: 130

"Overall I liked how the girls competed today in a very competitive conference tournament," stated Coach Andrews. "Coming in I knew any one of the top seven teams would have a chance to make a run at the title. We didn't quite finish where we had hoped as a team today



Austin Snyder scopes out his plan of attack during a rainy meet with North Linn. (photo by Lesa Parmely)

but hopefully we can use this as motivation as we move towards post season play next week."

Tuesday night the girls team made up a meet with Ed-Co at Lone Pine Golf Course in Colesburg.

MV squeaked out a 213-216 win over Ed-Co. Bellevue Marquette was also there but did not have a full team. Winter was the runner up medalist with a 49. Other scores included:

Faith Hunt: 54
Chloe Roling: 57
Erika Supple: 53
Maddie Lahr: 70
Ci'Ann Richardson: 75

The boys golfed at Woods Edge Golf Course in Edgewood. MV did not have a full team. Scores were:

Austin Snyder: 52
Tony Offerman: 63
Garrett Lahr: 81

"Overall I was happy to see us battle through some adversity and get the scores that we got," stated Coach Andrews. "I was also happy to see the girls come away with a team victory versus an Ed-Co squad that placed ahead of us at the conference meet the day before.:

Regionals for the girls are Monday. Today the boys are golfing at sectionals.

It's Mother's Day!

Honor your Mother and buy her a floral gift at the Greenhouse!

The Greenhouse will be open Friday during WIN and Saturday from 7AM to 12PM.

We hope to see you there!



what's up

What are you looking forward to the most this summer?

by Chance Downs

Mason Lubben: No school

Erika Supple: Sleeping In

Isaac Kramer: Working

Kelly Winter: Golfing

Derek Becker: Minnesota fishing

Izabel Niehaus: Living on the Lake

Alex McCusker: Going to Imagine Dragons

Chad Neuzil: Fortnite all day

Derek Mensen: Summer running

Lydia Helle: Nice weather

Austin Snyder: Boating, kayaking, and hanging out with friends

Reece Mensen: Water skiing

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Gracie Gellersen

You were nominated for your good work in Street Law. What do you enjoy most about the class? I enjoy the fun conversations we have and it's cool having Deputy Holub come in and talk with the class.

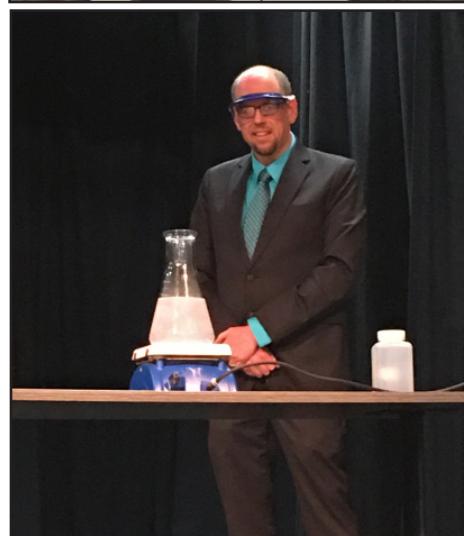


What have been the most interesting learnings from the class? I have learned about felonies, gangs, school shootings, drugs, Miranda rights, and the opioid crisis. Before street law, I wasn't fully aware of some of these things that occur on a daily basis.

Why would you recommend the class to other students? I would recommend other students take Street Law because you become more aware of problems in our society and the world we live in. Hearing what others have to say about different topics and having Holub talk about scenarios he has been in is also cool and interesting. The class is more laid back which is awesome, but you will have fun and learn lots!

She was nominated by Mr. Cassutt.

MV alumnus speaks at NHS, Academic Excellence night



At Wednesday night's NHS induction and Academic Excellence event, attendees had the pleasure of listening to MV's Smooth Harmony perform as well as hear guest speaker, Dr. Jeffrey Butikofer. Butikofer, a 1996 graduate of MV, is now a professor of chemistry at Upper Iowa University.

A sincere thank you

This issue is the seniors' last issue, and I'd like to thank them for all they've done to produce a solid student newspaper this year.

Reiji Smith, Kara Orcutt, Brittany Sabers and Tyson Tucker joined the staff this year, and I sincerely appreciate the fresh voice they provided. Kara was especially great about sending pictures of cool happenings around school, and Brittany was always game to fill in where I needed her.

Brody Severt has shown his creativity for the past two years as the master of Hall Smarts. Brody often has his column done by Monday which made my life much easier. I'm grateful for his sense of responsibility and quest of knowledge.



You joined band at semester. What made you decide to return to the band?

I watched band last year and I kind of missed it. But once I heard Mr. Hadley was leaving I was skeptical. But I found Mr. Ford was a good teacher so I decided to join at semester.

What instrument do you play?

The Baritone/Euphonium. Same instrument.

What do you enjoy most about band?

We have fun in class but we still get stuff done.

McKenzie Lansing's graduation leaves some big shoes to fill. I'm excited about McKenzie pursuing a degree in communications and hopefully continuing some work in journalism. She has the talent and commitment to make it in the field. She was an all-around utility player who covered everything from sports to fine arts to whatever was needed. For three years McKenzie has been a model staff member who showed responsibility and sincere interest in what she covered.

*Thank you for being the MV historians!
—Mrs. Temple*

Birthday Shoutouts!

by Chance Downs

It's never too early or too late to tell a fellow classmate Happy Birthday!

Upcoming birthdays are:

Derek Becker - 5/13
Nathan Weber - 5/19
Cole Willenbring - 5/27
Katie Snyder - 5/30

Carter Kruse - 6/1
Kaylynn Smith, Andrew Holtz - 6/8

Morgan Hermanson - 6/9
Mason Lubben - 6/11
Brycen Askeland, Jaiden Porter - 6/15
Payton Beaman - 6/16
Hannah Clemen - 6/21
Madalynne Naab - 6/22
Abbie Sheehy - 6/23
Lane Coyle - 6/24
Maddy Anderegg - 6/26
Jon Seibert - 6/27
Hunter Glass, Aden Atwell - 6/28

Tiffany Kelly - 7/1
Kara Orcutt - 7/6
Zoey Mulford - 7/7
Gracie Gellerson, Derek Mensen - 7/8
Andrew Kloser - 7/9
Evan Hoefer, Carter Hildebrand - 7/10
Hannah Lahr - 7/13
Trayce Klostermann - 7/15
Frankie Mast - 7/17
Amanda Engelken - 7/22
Annie Trenkamp - 7/23
Dustin Heims - 7/30

Comedy Corner

compiled by McKenzie Lansing

As my senior year ends, here are some funny senior quotes you can find on the internet

“This wasn’t like High School Musical at all.”

“Hannah Montana says nobody’s perfect, but here I am.”

“The only reason I went to school is to distract myself from the fact that I will never be Beyoncé.”

“Don’t follow your dreams, follow my Twitter.”

“I hate having to explain to everyone why I wear a hijab but if everyone must know: Voldemort has possessed me and his face is living on the back of my head.”

Hall Smarts

by Brody Severt

Hello, Wildcats, and welcome to the seniors' last time being in a Hall Smarts. For my final Hall Smarts I decided to ask four seniors some reminiscent questions about their final year of high school. The seniors are Mitchell Neuzil, Brock Hillers, Macy Hoeger and Tyson Tucker.

Who was this year's Homecoming queen?
Mitchell: Rejji
Brock: Rejji
Macy: Rejji
Tyson: Rejji
A: Rejji

What new teachers did we get?
Mitchell: Mr. Ford and Mr. Bruening
Brock: Mr. Ford and Mr. Bruening
Macy: Mr. Bruening Mr. Ford
Tyson: Mr. Ford and Mr. Bruening
A: Mr. Bruening and Mr. Ford

Who became the student body president?
Mitchell: I don't like politics
Brock: Heath “can you hear me now” Gibbs
Macy: Megan
Tyson: Megan Beaman
A: Megan Beaman

Whom did we play for Homecoming?
Mitchell: Shoot the Stars
Brock: Trash the Tigers
Macy: Ed-co
Tyson: Smoke the bears
A: West Branch

About how many naps did Heath take?
Mitchell: 256
Brock: 122
Macy: 150
Tyson: about 200
A: 2/day = 320

Good job to all of the senior Wildcats on their last Hall Smarts. That's all I have for you this year, Wildcats. Have a nice summer and juniors get ready for the next step.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MV the week of May 14, 2018

MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018

- HS V Girls Regional at Midland HS - 9:00 AM (Suburban Leaves @ 7:00 AM)
- MV Fine Arts Boosters Meeting - MS Commons - 5:30 PM

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018

- AP Calculus Exam - HS Library - 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM
- 5th Grade Band Rehearsal - MS Multi-Purpose Room - 2:00 PM
 - 5th Grade Band Concert for Grades 3rd & 4th - MS Multi-Purpose Room - 2:30 PM
 - HS Softball & Baseball Media Day - HS Ball Diamonds - 5:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2018

- 4th Grade Class Trip to Osborne Nature Center - 9:30 AM (Bus Leaves at 8:30 AM)
- HS Seniors' Graduation Practice - High School Gym - 9:00 AM
- Maquoketa Valley High School Commencement - HS Gymnasium - 7:30 PM

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018

- State Boys & Girls Track Meet in Des Moines

FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2018

- State Boys & Girls Track Meet in Des Moines
- Kindergarten Pizza Party Day - Bulicek's in Delhi (Bus Leaves at 10:45 AM)

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018

- State Boys & Girls Track Meet in Des Moines
- MV Athletic Boosters Gym Floor Customized Pieces Selection by Patrons - HS Gym - 10:00 AM to Noon

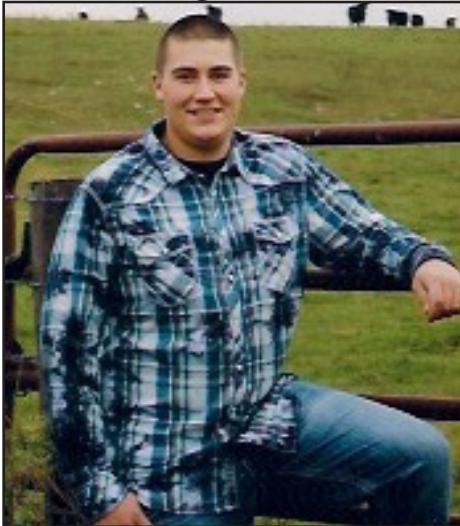
Brain Teaser

by Mason Lubben

A man was driving a black truck. His lights were not on. The moon was not out. A lady was crossing the street. How did the man see her?

Answer: It was daytime.

Alex Elgin



Activities involved in during high school:

Baseball and FFA

Which activity affected you the most?

How? FFA because it made me get involved and talk to people that I didn't know.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Getting yelled at in 4th grade by Mrs. Glanz for messing with a broken water fountain.

If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? Enjoy your senior year because it will go by very fast.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The teachers care about the students and the teachers aren't here to fail you.

If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why? The week of homecoming TP-ing.

Who is your most inspirational teacher?

Why? Mr. Drew. He will taught us everything to know about safety.

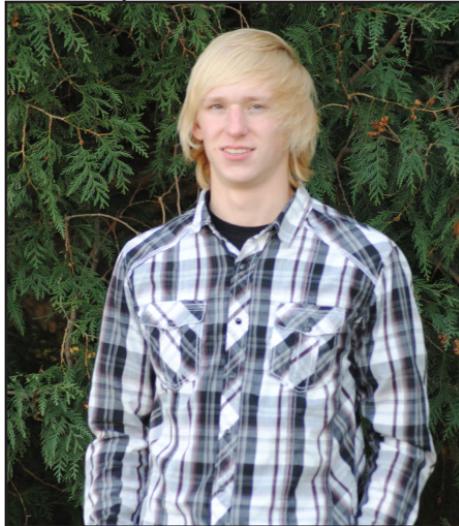
What does your future (college and career) look like? I'm going to do an apprenticeship in the electrical field.

What is your dream job? Owning my own electrical company and running our family farm on the side.

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Passing algebra freshman year.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? Watching classmates TP the wrong house.

Cody Gibbs



Activities involved in during high school:

FFA, West Delaware Soccer, Football, Cross Country, Wrestling, Golf, Band, and Choir

If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? Do your homework and don't screw around because your GPA is pretty much determined by that first year and it only goes down from there.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The teachers go out of their way to help us out as much as they can.

What does your future (college and career) look like? I am going to Iowa State University as an undecided engineering major with plans of graduating from there in the spring of 2022.

What is your dream job? Being an Engineer for a fishing company and getting to design rods and reels.

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Pulling 16 spark plugs out of a 2006 5.7L Hemi Dodge Durango that has over 214,000 miles on it.

What one event has most impacted your life so far? My parents getting divorced.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? The time we got caught TPing a classmate's house and his mom came out screaming at us and was going to call the cops on us. Some of the kids that got away could still hear her half a mile away.

Jake Jones



Activities involved in during high school: choir

Which activity affected you the most?

How? Choir, because it showed me that I had talents that I didn't know I had.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? The day a student took off for home and Mr. Helle had to go to his house to get him or when Coye and Keenan ran off and Keenan ran up a tree.

If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? Don't smart off to any upperclassmen. You're freshman aka lower than dirt.

What do you appreciate most about MV? The staff, they all want to see you succeed.

If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why? Having one of the lead roles in *Oklahoma* and when the screen came down right in the middle of the performance.

Who is your most inspirational teacher? Mrs. Maurer, though she is not a teacher she has helped me out a lot.

If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be? "I'm A Little More Country Than That"

What does your future look like? I plan on going to NICC for Diesel Mechanics and hopefully get a local job in this field.

What is your dream job? Restoring classic cars and having my own business.

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Watch Bryce Askeland destroy the Stratus.

What one event has most impacted your life so far? Getting my license because I got my license freshman year.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? Getting caught TPing and I don't have to name names because everyone knows who I'm talking about.