

Wildcat Echo

Issue 28
May 4, 2018

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Drama department gets a little 'Wilde' this weekend

by McKenzie Lansing

The set is prepared, the curtains are at the ready, and it's almost show time! The cast of *Wilde Tales* by Jeremy Blum have been hard at work to put on this witty production since March. The smaller cast of 31 total participants was faced with the challenge of performing five different children's stories, written by Oscar Wilde, all in one night!

The night will start with "The Happy Prince." In this story a little Swallow meets the statue of a Prince who has passed away. When the dead prince was once alive, he never noticed the suffering of his people. When the Swallow met him, he was terribly sad that his people were poor, starving or ill. With the help of this little bird, the Prince was able to see the happiness of his suffering people. In this story you will see the statue of a prince test the limits of generosity.

The second story is "The Nightingale and the Rose." In this story you will see the power of love and selfishness. In this story, you will see how love can be tricky and isn't always the most important



Cast members rehearse a scene of this weekend's drama production. Mr. and Mrs. DeVore are directing the show.

thing in your life.

The end of Act I will conclude with "The Selfish Giant." This story revolves around a Giant and his garden. The Giant proves to be too selfish when he doesn't allow children to play in his garden. Hence, there is an eternal winter until he proves he is no longer selfish.

Act II begins with the "Devoted Friend." In this story, you will see examples of good and bad friends and how it af-

fects people as a mother duck explains the moral of the story to her ducklings.

The night will end with a few talking fireworks in the "The Remarkable Rocket." In this story, a rocket finally sees what his purpose is. He learns that he is not entirely what he thought he was meant to be. He meets multiple different characters on his way.

Tickets have been on sale and you can buy them from the office! Come out to enjoy this witty night with us Friday or Saturday at 7:00 pm! We would love to see you there!

Royalty announced



Heath Gibbs and Macy Hoeger were crowned prom royalty at Saturday night's Garden of Lights event.

Lahr, Downs compete in World Food Prize



Maddie Lahr and Chance Downs competed in the World Food Prize competition Monday. The event was held at Iowa State University, and they explored critical global food security issues and discovered academic and career paths in STEM fields. Prior to the event, the two submitted research essays on a food crisis.

Band, choir seniors recognized



The high school band (both concert and jazz) and choir performed Tuesday night and recognized the seniors for their contributions to the programs. Ryan Dunn was awarded the John Philip Sousa Award, and Megan Beaman earned the Iowa Choral Director's Association Outstanding Musicianship Award. Above: The high school jazz band performs. Below: The choir performs under the direction of Mrs. Mueller.



Ag students lead Farm Safety Day last week



Ag students hosted the elementary students last Friday at the annual Farm Safety Day. During the day, students learned about various aspects of safety including tractor safety, lawnmower safety, seatbelt safety and fire safety.

It was also Drive Your Tractor to School Day. Right: Nathan Weber helps some students out of a tractor.

Guest conductor lends talent to band

by Kelly Winter

Last week there was a guest visiting the band. Dr. Michel Golemo drove up from Iowa State and worked with our band. Dr. Golemo is the Director of Bands at Iowa State (Mr. Ford's alma mater) and actually composed one of the songs that we're playing right now for contest. It was a really fun experience to work with the composer and understand his vision of the song.



Hunter Glass said that it was awesome to hear his input and that it was "a great learning experience and benefited us all as individuals and as a whole."

Kristin Lucas stated, "He is an expert on the piece and was the best person to critique us and help us improve."

Overall the band was very appreciative of Dr. Golemo and we hope that there's more experiences like this for us in the future.

The band (and choir) will compete at state large group contest tomorrow in Tipton.

Mr. Ford is optimistic about the band's potential: "It should be a good time on Saturday."



FFA represented well at state convention

Submitted by Reporters: Holli Hogan and Tara Goedken

On Sunday April 22 through April 24, 17 members from the MV FFA went to the State FFA Convention in Ames to compete in various events and were recognized for their hard work.

Monday morning students participate in the Meals from the Heartland service project packing meals for the less fortunate.

Chapter President Mason Kruse and Secretary Amber Engelken served as delegates voting in the 2018-19 officer team for the State FFA.

Six members received their Iowa Degrees while at convention. Members

who received their Iowa Degrees included: Cole Kruse, Cassi Westhoff, Josie Young, Adam Goedken, Nathan Weber and Zac Lansing. Cole Kruse was also recognized for being named one of the six Stars in Ag Business finalists.

Two members were recognized for winning proficiency in their SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) category. Cole was named first place in Dairy Entrepreneurship. Maddie Lahr placed second in Ag Services.

Megan Beaman was selected as a member of the Iowa FFA Chorus performing during numerous sessions.

Students also competed in various CDEs (Career Development Event). The

Farm Business Management Team earned 11th place Gold with Amanda Engelken serving on the team. Two freshmen members took the greenhand as well. Sarah Goedken and Krista Ries earned silver ratings. Last year's State winning Vet Science team that competed at nationals (Amanda Engelken and Mason Kruse) were also recognized.

Other members representing the chapter were officers Tara Goedken and Holli Hogan.

The Maquoketa Valley FFA Chapter still has summer CDE events coming up soon and is proud of its members' achievements throughout the past year and at this year's state convention.

Learning about possibilities

Several students interested in marketing job shadowed Monday at Mudd Advertising in Cedar Falls. The students include: Maci Freiburger, Gracie Gellersen, Brooklyn Sands, Emma McDowell, Megan Rausch, and Mitch Neuzil.



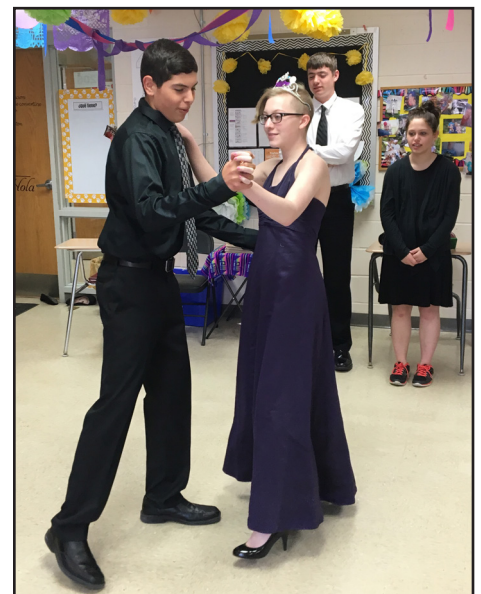
Fun times, good times



The student council organized a mini-Fun Day for the high school students Wednesday. Students enjoyed a picnic lunch served at the concession stand and then some lawn games. Right: Macy Hoeger, Adrienne Supple and Payton Ries give the fun day a thumbs up. (photos by Kara Orcutt)



Cultural experience



The two Spanish I classes celebrated a quinceañera Monday. In 4th hour Brianna (Alazne) Pohlman and Miguel (Lionel) Bojorquez served key roles.

Sports Connection

Golfers continue to improve

The weather has continued to cooperate with the golfers, and the athletes are constantly improving.

Last Thursday the boys and girls hosted Alburnett at Hart Ridge.

The girls won 207-259, and Kelly Winter and Faith Hunt were medalist and runner-up medalist, respectively.

Coach Andrews said he was encouraged by the consistency the team is showing, especially amongst the younger golfers. "We continue to have golfers getting personal records on the season so hopefully that can continue all the way through the regular season and into the post season."

Scores were:

Kelly Winter 47 (Medalist)

Faith Hunt 48 (Runner-Up Medalist)

Chloe Roling 55

Erika Supple 57

Maddie Lahr 59

Ci'Ann Richardson 65

In the boys competition, Alburnett won 181-233.

Varsity scores were:

Austin Snyder 53

Tony Offerman 55



Faith Hunt puts her skills to the test against Alburnett last week.



Nick Gibbs prepares for a drive. (photos courtesy of Connie Gibbs)

Morgan Hermanson 61

Garrett Lahr 64

The boys team competed in the Tri-Rivers conference golf meet Monday at Pin Oak in Manchester. The Wildcats finished 13th with a team score of 484 on 18 holes. East Buchanan won the meet with a 364.

I was very pleased with how the guys competed today," stated Coach Andrews. "Although it does not show it in the team race just yet, these guys have improved a lot. We have a couple first year golfers competing on the varsity level and with no seniors we have a lot to look forward to if the guys continue to put in the work like I think they will."

Results:

Morgan Hermanson 114

Austin Snyder 115

Tony Offerman 116

Garrett Lahr 139

Athletes of the Week

Name: Faith Hunt
Sport: Golf

What is your favorite part of playing golf? It's a sport that is truly only focused on during that season. It isn't treated as a year round sport.



What's the most frustrating part of the sport? When the weather doesn't cooperate.

How long have you played? Since freshman year.

Who's your golf role model? Kelly's dad because he always comes to watch Kelly and me at meets and he's a great golfer.

Name: Krista Ries
Sport: Track

What do you enjoy most about track? My favorite thing about track is during practices when Lydia and I make fun of each other to motivate one another.



What do you think your best event will be? I think my best event is shot.

What life lessons have you learned through track? I've learned that things don't just happen right away you have to work and practice to achieve the goal that you want to.

What's the hardest part of practice? The hardest part of practice is when we do core and agility workouts.

Who is your track role model? My track role model would have to be Lydia Helle. She does such a good job in her events and is always motivating me to keep going.

Girls track team competes at Cascade, Independence

by McKenzie Lansing

Welcome back, Wildcats! The girls ended their busy week with a co-ed meet at Cascade last Friday. Overall, the girls placed fifth with a total of 58 points.

Starting out with the field events, Lydia Helle competed in both the shot put and discus throw. Helle threw 33' 5.5" in the shot put while placing fourth. She threw 103' 6" in the discus, placing third.

In the running events, Sam Wall competed in the 100m dash. She ran a 12.97, placing first. In the 200m dash, Kara Orcutt ran a 27.31, placing second. Orcutt also competed in the 100m hurdles. In this event she ran an 18.02, placing third and gaining six team points.

Moving on to the rely events, the ladies scored in five of their rely events at this meet. Starting with the 4x100m relay, Kara Orcutt, Brooke Wilson, Kailyn Hogan, and Sam Wall ran a 55.45, placing third overall. In the 4x200m relay, Maddy Anderegg, Brooke Wilson, Emerson Whittenbaugh, and Sam Wall ran a 2:04.60,

placing fifth. Payton Beaman, Allie Knipper, Kara Orcutt, and Sam Wall competed in the 4x400m relay, placing third with a time of 4:46.66. In the Sprint Medley relay, Maddy Anderegg, Brooke Wilson, Taya Tucker, and Allie Knipper ran a 2:12.17, placing fifth. Ella Imler, Kailyn Hogan, Payton Beaman, and Casey Fry ran a 5:15.23 in the Distance Medley relay, finishing in sixth place.

The girls started this week with a meet on Monday at Independence. They placed eleventh with a total of 22 points.

In the field events, Lydia Helle competed in the shot put. In this event she threw a 34' 3" and placed fifth.

In the running events, Sam Wall ran a 13.20 in the 100m dash. She placed third. Sam Wall also ran in the 200m. She ran a 26.89, bringing her up to second place. In the 400m hurdles, Kara Orcutt placed fourth with a time of 1:17.60.

In the relay events, the shuttle hurdle team of Kara Orcutt, Kailyn Hogan, Payton Beaman and Shelby March ran a



Sam Wall finishes her sprint strong at the Independence meet. (photo courtesy of Lesa Parmely)

1:22.03, leading them to a fifth place finish.

The girls will compete in the Tri-Rivers Conference at Central City Monday night.

Cascade, Marion provide opportunities for improvement for boys

by McKenzie Lansing

The boys ended their week last Friday with a meet at Cascade. The boys finished in fifth place with 82 points.

Starting in the field events, Gianpaolo Pillon competed in the high jump. He jumped a 5' 4" and placed fifth. In the shot put, Michael Feldmann threw a 42' 5.25", placing sixth. In the discus throw, Blake Becker threw a 125' 8", placing sixth.

In the running events, Daniel Hunter competed in the 100m dash and finished with a time of 12.19, placing eighth.



Senior Brock Hillers clears a hurdle at the Marion meet. (photo courtesy of Pete Temple)

In the 200m dash, Zach Digman ran a 24.39, placing fifth. In the 400m dash, Alex McCusker ran a 58.72, placing eighth overall. In the 1600m run, Brenden Hogan ran a 5:00.81, bringing him up to third place. Ethan Doyl also ran in this event with a time of 5:22.73. Doyl placed eighth. In the 3200m run, Tate Trenkamp ran a 12:16.77. He also placed eighth. Brock Hillers and Chad Neuzil ran in the 110m hurdles. Chad ran a 15.86 and Brock ran a 16.13. Chad placed second while Brock Hillers placed third. Hillers placed fifth in the 400m hurdles with a time of 1:04.15.

The boys did a phenomenal job in their relay events, while placing in every relay. Starting with the 4x100m relay, Mitch Neuzil, Pillon, Chad Neuzil, and Daniel Hunter ran a 46.36, placing second. In the 4x200m relay, Mitch Neuzil, Evan Hofer, Hunter, and Derek Becker ran a 1:39.57. This team placed fourth and gained five team points. The 4x400m relay team of Becker, Mitch Neuzil, McCusker, and Hillers ran a 3:43.11 bringing them up to a third place finish. In the 4x800m relay, Hogan, Becker, Doyl, and Derek Mensen competed with a time of 9:29.75. This time brought them up to fourth place. Mitch Neuzil, McCusker, Chad Neuzil, and Hunter competed in the Sprint Medley relay. They had a time of 1:44.87 while finishing fifth place. In the Distance Medley relay, Digman, Owen Mensen, Andrew Kloser and Mason Lubben ran 4:29.88 and placed seventh and gained two points. In

the 4x110m Shuttle Hurdle relay, Hillers, Becker, Teige Hunt, and Chad Neuzil finished in first place with a time of 1:03.49.

On Monday, the boys travelled to Marion. They scored a total of 24 points and placed 12th overall.

In the running events, Mitch Neuzil ran a 12.36 in the 100m dash. He placed eighth overall. Both Hillers and Chad Neuzil ran in the 110m hurdles. Chad ran a 16.40, placing fourth. Hillers followed with a close 16.42, placing fifth and gaining four team points.

In the relay events, Mitch Neuzil, Pillon, Chad Neuzil, and Hunter competed in the 4x100m relay. This team placed fifth with a time of 46.27 and gained four team points. The weight man's 4x100m relay of Becker, Feldmann, Andrew Hildebrand, and Brian Heims scored a first place finish with a time of 52.62. In the 4x200m relay, Mitch Neuzil, Hofer, Hunter, and Becker ran a 1:36.87, placing eighth. In the 4x400m relay, Becker, Hunter, Hillers, and McCusker, ran a 3:37.02, placing fifth. In the Distance Medley relay, Digman, Chad Neuzil, McCusker, and Hogan ran a 3:54.67, placing sixth overall. In the Shuttle hurdle relay, Hillers, Becker, Hunt, and Chad Neuzil ran a 1:03.71, placing sixth.

The boys will run in the conference meet Monday at Central City.

Districts will be Thursday night at Ed-Co.

Interior design students tour famous house



The Interior Design students toured the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed house in Quasqueton on Thursday. The house is referred to as the Walter House at Cedar Rock.

Brain Teaser

by Mason Lubben

What 4 letter word can be written forward, backward, or upside down and can still be read from left to right?

Answer: NOON

Did you know?

by Emma McDowell

- The birthstone for the month of May is an emerald.
- People used to say "Get married in May and you'll rue the day" and considered the month of May to be unlucky.
- May is national smile month!
- It is also national barbecue month.
- Anoxiphobia is the fear of May.
- The month was named after the goddess, Maia.
- No president has died during the month of May.
- May is the birth month for Taurus and Gemini.
- This is the last month of spring!
- Hawthorn and the lily of the valley are the flowers of May.



Netflix & Chill

by Emma McDowell

There I was, sitting home alone on a Friday night, trying to find something to watch on Netflix. I was scrolling through and saw the movie that I would end up quoting for the rest of my life. *Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story* is one of the funniest movies on Netflix. From the very beginning I was laughing out loud at the ridiculous jokes and over the top acting. John C. Reilly stars in this movie and brings his usual absurdity. If you liked him in *Step-Brothers* I can guarantee that you'll love him in *Walk Hard*. Fair warning, the movie gets pretty raunchy and definitely deserves its R rating, so don't watch it with your parents.

Cutie



by Brooklyn Sands

This cutie is a junior. She lives in Earlville and she plays golf. She has one younger sister and one older sister. She has two cats that she loves very much :)

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:

Reece Mensen - 5/5

Krista Ries - 5/8

Ethan Doyle - 5/10

Maci Freiburger - 5/11

what's up?

What is your top priority this summer?

by Tyson Tucker

Mitch Neuzil - Hang out with friends as much as possible

Michael Feldmann - Get big for football
Gracie Gellersen - Hang out with friends, family, save money

Kara Orcutt - Complete CNA course

Carson Wright - Get money

Adrienne Supple - Working

Payton Ries - Have fun

Brock Hillers - Make money, State Tournament

Heath Gibbs - Baseball, Dollars

Brody Severt - Learn a lot

Dustin Heims - Make money, but have fun

Izabel Niehaus - Make money, have fun

**Remember to order your yearbook online from Jostens.
Don't miss out on this publication! \$60.**

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Cole Kruse



You were recently named a state FFA star finalist in agribusiness and a first place state Dairy Entrepreneurship proficiency winner. Tell us about your agribusiness project. My agribusiness project is called KCKK Genetics. KCKK is owned and operated by my brothers and me, where we market and selling, cattle and embryos all over the world.

What did you have to do to earn gold on your dairy entrepreneurship proficiency? To earn gold I had to fill out a 23 page about my project, like my record books, paid and unpaid hours and prices on animals.

What has been your most beneficial FFA experience? The most beneficial thing about FFA is getting to meet new people. The people that I meet I could make life long friends with.

What has been your most fun FFA experience? When we go to Ames we get to go to Hickory Park and that never disappoints.

Comedy Corner —compiled by McKenzie Lansing

I am terrified of elevators. I plan on taking steps to avoid them.

How many apples can grow on a tree? All of them.

Wanna hear a joke about paper? Nevermind, it's tearable.

Where can you learn to make ice cream? Sundee School.

Can February March? No, but April May!

Hall Smarts

by Brody Sevart

Hello, Wildcats, and welcome to one of the last issues of Hall Smarts. This week I felt inspired by my Comp II portfolio to ask questions about books and authors. Our contestants this week are Dustin Heims, Jordyn Kemp, Jon Seibert and Payton Beaman.



Who wrote The Hobbit?

Dustin: J.K. Rowling

Jordyn: JRR Tolkien

Jon: JK Rowling

Payton: JRR Tolkien

A: JRR Tolkien

How many books in Harry Potter?

Dustin: 7

Jordyn: 7

Jon: 7

Payton: 6

A: 7

What book has sold the most copies?

Dustin: The Bible

Jordyn: Fifty Shades

Jon: The Bible

Payton: Harry Potter

A: The Bible

Who wrote It?

Dustin: Steven Hemsworth

Jordyn: Shania Twain

Jon: Heath

Payton: Stephen King

A: Stephen King

Around the world, 1 in how many adults are illiterate?

Dustin: 4 or 5

Jordyn: 50

Jon: 7

Payton: 18

A: 5

Great job to all of our Wildcat contestants. Just a quick reminder to keep up with all of your school work in these final days. Seniors have 5, and others have 15.

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018

1. MV HS Baccalaureate for Seniors - HS Auditorium - 1:30 PM
2. MV Dollars for Scholars Senior Awards Day - MV Multi-Purpose Room - 3:00 PM

MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018

1. HS TRC V Girls' Golf Meet at Pin Oak Pubs & Links - 9:00 AM
2. MV FFA Senior Farewell Meeting at Beckman High School - 7:00 PM

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018

1. HS AP Physics Exam - HS Library - Noon until 4:30 PM
2. HS FFA to Dist. Food Science & Flora at Hawkeye C.C. in Waterloo - 3:00 PM
3. HS 11th & 12th Sign Up for Dual Credit Classes / NICC - HS Cafeteria - 2:50 PM until 3:20 PM
4. JH Boys Tri Rivers Conference Track Meet - HOME - 4:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018

1. MV HS FFA Greenhouse Open - 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM
2. MV HS Academic Excellence / National Honor Society Banquet - Auditorium & HS Cafeteria - 6:30 PM

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018

1. 1st Class for MV Driver's Ed - HS Room # 310 - 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM
2. HS Girls District Track Meet at Ed/Co in Edgewood - 4:00 PM (Bus Leave at 2:15 PM) - Make up May 11
4. HS Boys District Track Meet at Ed/Co in Edgewood - 4:00 PM (Bus Leave at 2:15 PM) - Make up May 11
5. HS Dance Team End-of-the-Year Dinner - MS Commons - 5:30 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018

1. HS Seniors Last Day of School
2. MV Driver's Ed Class - HS Room # 310 - 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM
3. HS AP History Exam - HS Library - 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM
4. HS V Boys' Sectional Golf at Buffalo Creek Golf Course in Winthrop
6. MV HS Speech & Drama Awards Night - Aud & HS Cafeteria - 6:30 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018

1. MV HS FFA Greenhouse Open - 7:00 AM until Noon
2. MV Athletic Boosters Softball Tournament - 8:00 AM

Kiesha Stelken

Activities involved in during high school: Contest speech (individual and group), vocal jazz, dance team, musical, spring play, choir

Which activity affected you the most? How? I would say that dance has affected me the most because I feel that I have grown the most as a dancer than I have in any other activity. I went from not feeling as a part of the team (being an alternate) to being treated like a captain even though I wasn't a captain.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? I would say that my favorite middle school memory would be when Anthony surprised me by coming home for the weekend.

If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? Enjoy your time in high school it will go by fast.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? I appreciate that you can go to any of the teachers for anything, whether it be school related or personal. They will listen to what you have to say.

If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why? I would relive the Saturday last year that I spent twelve hours at school with Mrs. DeVore, Hannah Clemen, and Maddie Lahr. We were helping with set design. By the last hour we were screaming Disney songs at the top of our lungs. When we were done we sat in the commons for another half hour because we didn't want to leave school.

Who is your most inspirational teacher? Why? I would say that Mrs. DeVore is the most inspirational teacher to me. She is a motherly figure at school. You can go to her for anything and when she is giving advice to people she puts herself in your shoes to give you the best advice. She makes play practice fun and always comes up with creative sets with the supplies that we have.

If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be? I would want people to remember me from the song "In my Dreams" from 20th Centuries Fox movie Anastasia.

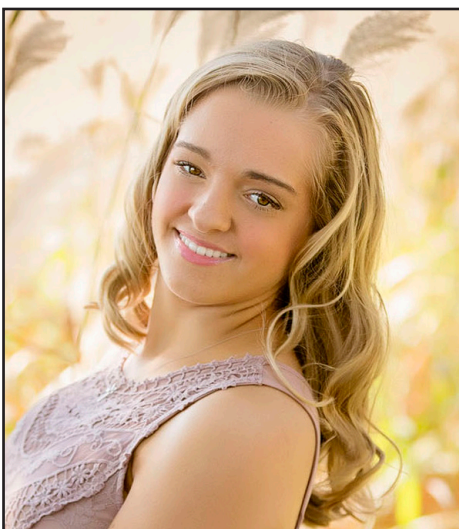
What does your future (college and career) look like? I will be attending Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge to get my RN degree.

What is your dream job? Currently my dream job is to become a flight nurse. I'm still contemplating whether or not to join ROTC when I transfer colleges after I receive my RN at Iowa Central.

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? The hardest thing would be judging dance tryouts. It was hard because I didn't want to be rude and let others down that deserve to be on the team. It was also hard for me because I didn't want to be too harsh.

What one event has most impacted your life so far? One event that has impacted my life would be my grandpa getting diagnosed with cancer. He has pushed me to treat everyday like it is my last. And do the best that I can with whatever I do.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? I would want people to remember Alex catching an arrow in his hand during practice when Amanda Fortman was shooting him in the back for the ending scene of "Game of Tiaras."



Madison Imler

Activities involved in during high school: Basketball, Volleyball, Track,

NHS, TEL, TATU, FCA, Mentoring, Large Group Speech

Which activity affected you the most?

How? Basketball and Track - Getting injured in basketball

which lead me to have surgery. I ended up sitting out the end of my senior basketball season, and I wasn't able to run track.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Going to Macy's house and making up our own dances.

If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? Don't procrastinate an assignment or project for the day it is due. It will put a lot of stress on you. I would also tell everyone to step out of their comfort zone and try new things. Get involved. Have fun with your friends because it's over before you know it.

What do you appreciate most about MV? How willing the teachers are to work with students if they need extra help. A lot of the teachers stay late, or come to school early to help students.

If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why? Friday nights during football season. Cheering on the boys was always fun and the bonfires after.

Who is your most inspirational teacher? Why? Mrs. Spellerberg. She was always willing to work with me when I needed help. When I didn't understand something, she would explain it in a better way. She also encouraged me to go on many different job shadows to help me decide what I wanted to do in the future.

What does your future look like? I will attend the University of Iowa in the fall and major in Elementary Education. I am thinking about minoring in Special Education.

What is your dream job? Work in a bigger school, as an 1st grade teacher.

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Just experiencing all of the "lasts." Playing my last basketball and volleyball game. Running my last track meet. Performing at my last speech competition. Leaving all of my underclassmen teammates.



Abe Miles



If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? Take everything one step at a time. Grades are not eternal.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? I love the faculty here. They are all so kind and caring, but they can also joke around with you as well.

Who is your most inspirational teacher? Why? It's impossible for me to choose only one. All of my teachers have inspired me in some way.

What does your future (college and career) look like? I will be attending Hawkeye Community College for a nursing major. After I earn my associates of applied science degree, I will transfer to a four year school to earn my bachelors of science degree. After all of that, I don't know. I'll just have to see where God takes me.

What is your dream job? Nursing

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Step outside of my comfort zone

Cassi Westhoff



Activities involved in during high school: Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, Track, Large Group Speech, TATU, TEL, TSN, Play, Mentoring Program, FFA, Senoir Mentoring, Spanish Club

Which activity affected you the most? FFA, it has taught me leadership skills and I have met so many people from around the country.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Having sleepovers with Kara Orcutt and Brittany Sabers doing each others makeup with all eyeshadow.

Advice to freshmen: Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone! High school is the time to personally grow and learn about yourself.

What do you appreciate most about MV? I has always liked the small classes and knowing most of the students. Another thing that I appreciate was how the teachers care for all the students.

If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be? Going on roadtrips to sporting activities with my friends and cheering in the stands.

Who is your most inspirational teacher? Mrs. Mausser because she always pushes me to do my best and always willing to help in with anything.

What does your future look like? I will be attending Kirkwood Community College for nursing and transferring to Mount Mercy to receive my BSN.

What is your dream job? My dream job is working at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital as a pediatric nurse.

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Managing time between school work, work and friends and family.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? All of the memories we have made together throughout the years with prom, homecoming, football games, etc.

Ryan Dunn



Activities involved in during high school:

I was involved in musical freshman and sophomore years. Also, I was involved with Jazz Express as sophomore along with the play that year. I have been in jazz band all four years.

Which activity affected you the most?

They have all affected me in one way or another and without participating in these I wouldn't be the person I would be today. All of the activities have taught me to be appreciative of the friends that I now have.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? When Megan Beaman convinced everyone in second grade that I was a girl.

If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? Get your feet wet with all of the activities. Try a little bit of everything don't be afraid to do something because you will end up regretting it in the end. Trust me I'm the kind of person who hates regrets and I've got a few of them.

What do you appreciate most about MV? The fact that I know there is no other school out there like Maquoketa Valley.

If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be? If I had a chance to go back in time I would not go back, I like to reminisce about the past but i wish to never relive it.

Who is your most inspirational teacher? Mr. B. Because of the Cactus couch.

If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be? Andy Grammer - "Keep Your Head Up"

What does your future look like? I plan on going to Kirkwood next year and major in Culinary Arts and minor in Psychology.

What is your dream job? Owning and cooking in my own restaurant.

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Make up my mind about what I want to do for the rest of my life.

Megan Beaman

Activities involved in during high school: FFA, Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Vocal Jazz, Large Group Speech, Individual Speech, Drama, Musical, Student Council, Mentoring, Senior Leadership, Cross Country, Soccer, TEL, Spanish Club

Which activity affected you the most? How? Choir, without it I wouldn't be who I am today. The funny part about it was I wasn't involved in choir for the first few days of high school. I don't know why I quit, but my freshman mind had some great reasoning behind. Then Mrs. Mueller hunted me down and said I should probably join again. If I didn't join choir I wouldn't have participated in the musicals, vocal jazz, audition for speech (when I bombed the Fresh Prince of Bel Air theme song) and Allstate or have the confidence to do much else. Choir has made me appreciate music more than I ever would have and has given me a musical family of friends.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Back at Johnston Elementary Casey and I claimed that on days we had chicken strips it was our "best friend day," and we would race to see who could finish all of their food first. Somebody couldn't handle the heat and almost choked trying to win this bet.

If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? You're going to face struggles in high school, and they may not always be related to education. At the time they may seem detrimental but hold on. From them you will learn lessons and gain skills to help combat them next time they arise. Make sure you're surrounding yourself with people who will help you through them. You're also going to make mistakes. They're a part of life, but the only time they become a failure is when you don't learn from them. (See the poster in Mr. Huegel's room.) You're not going to be perfect nor will you ever be and remember that no one else is. Try your best in everything you do and you will see results. Watch out for yourself and others, but you will easily find peace when you stop caring what others think of you. How you dress and what your hair looks like doesn't compare to who you are. One bad hair day (or in my case every day) will not matter in a few years or even a few weeks, what really matters is who you are and how you treat others.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? I appreciate the teachers here at Maq Valley. Not only do the teachers care about our academic lives but our lives outside of school. It's nice to have a teacher say good luck for an upcoming competition or a big test. I like how most of the teachers have a sense of humor when grading my homework, and it's easy to have a conversation with them. Or place a bet with them, like the time in seventh hour Intro to Psychology when Mrs. Hunt and I tested whether or not we could tell the difference between Coke and Pepsi. (The result concluded that a difference could be tasted.)

If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why? I would want to relive Grease or Oklahoma (without the "Persian Goodbye" and "Oklahoma Hello," sorry Angel and Brian) one more time. Those two musicals were the cast truly became a family. It would be great to perform with my best friends by my side on last time. Also within Grease I would want to relive the time I stole Angel's shoes and made him wear a leather skirt and perform the final number with Patrick one more time. He was a better Sandy in that moment than I ever could be.

Who is your most inspirational teacher? Why? Mr. Huegel, although he has a terrible taste in potato chips, he focuses on people's character and not their abilities. His character and leadership class was a real eye opener for me to see people for who they are and not what they can do.

If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be? "You'll Be in My Heart," - Phil Collins

What does your future look like? I plan on attending NICC in Peosta next fall. After two years at NICC I plan to apply to the Peace Corps.

What is your dream job? My dream job would be to open up and run a camp for children in the foster system and help prepare them for adoption and their lives in the future, or become the next Kardashian (become famous for doing absolutely nothing and be rich.)

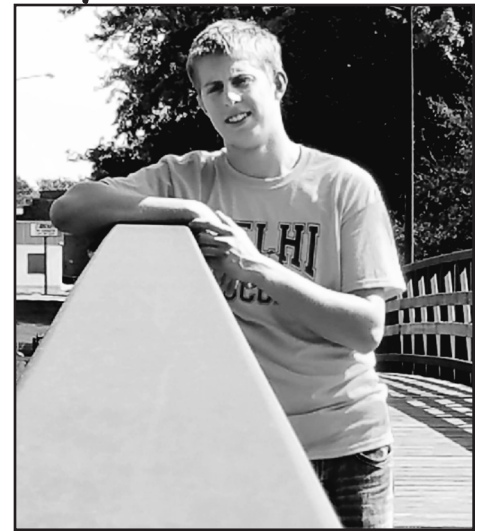
What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Realize I have grown apart from old friends. (And making sure these questions got turned in on time.)

What one event has most impacted your life so far? My junior year. I was getting to the school almost every day at six and sometimes not leaving until 11:00. I would go to a morning practice, get ready at school, go to Allstate practice, go to school, XC practice, soccer, and then go to musical practice. I barely had time to eat! Then on the weekends I'd stay at my job at Pictured Rocks, a summer camp, and work. That's when I learned what it's like to be completely exhausted. Plus at the time my parents were going through a divorce, but thankfully I was so busy that I didn't have time to think about it. That year taught me how to balance my time and money, and I really relied on my friends to help me through it. So, face the struggle because you're going to learn a ton from it than if you were to stay in your comfort zone.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? Any of the band room shenanigans. (ex. The peep funeral, Mr. Ford moving to Seattle, or blessing the fruit punch.) Or the times when a teacher was grading my homework, would stop class and discuss the matter. For example #DaddyIssues on a world history test for Mr. Huegel or my expert essay on flirting for comp.



Brycen Askeland



What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Blaize Batterton hitting into Dalton Sprau in P.E

If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be? Don't act like you run the school when you are just a freshman

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? Being able to enjoy the new gym floor next year

If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why? Cole Kruse breaking stuff in the lunch lines

Who is your most inspirational teacher? Mrs. Down, Mrs. Lewin, Mrs. Spellerberg.

I probably would not be graduating this year if it was not for these teachers. Mrs. Downs always tried to make me stay on task and get my work done. Mrs. Lewin always was showing me that I should have a happier attitude around the school and that the day goes by faster when I am not upset. Mrs. Spellerberg helped me do a lot of assignments when I would be really far behind and would be open to help me anytime during the day no matter what her schedule was.

If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be? "Do What I Want" - Lil Uzi Vert

What does your future look like? Work
What is your dream job? Start my own construction business

What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? Watch Eric Deutmeyer (Golf) and Garrett Hogan (Cummins) destroy their vehicles with all their mods

What one event has most impacted your life so far? Cole wrecking his car

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? Cole Kruse spending all of his time in Mr. O's office