

Two seniors recount their experience at basic training

A Desire to Serve by Carter Hildebrand

“Always ready. Always there.” These four words are those that Chad Neuzil has been trained to live by. As many may know, this senior at Maquoketa Valley High School signed with the Iowa Army/National Guard last December. For the



Chad gets experience with artillery.

next eight years, he will dedicate time and effort to serving the citizens of the state of Iowa. Although he describes this tireless journey as very difficult, grueling, and even stupid, he loves the process that comes with being an Iowa National Guard soldier.

From a young age, Chad has always considered joining the armed forces. He loved being part of sports teams in school and sought to be a part of various activities. This desire to be a part of something bigger than himself made the Iowa National Guard a natural fit.

After enlisting and participating in monthly training exercises, Chad took his first major step in May when he left for basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon arrival, he came to realize the true meaning of this group: brotherhood. In the Alfa 1-50 Company, the strict sergeants preached team cooperation. “If one person fails, everyone fails,” Chad recalled being told. “You must be able to trust the guys next to you, even though you only met them a few weeks ago.” Although many lessons were learned while at basic training, he remembers that the heat, averaging in the 90s each day, was unbearable, which was only compounded by the high levels of humidity. He even went as far as to say that his favorite part of training was coming home.

With only half of his training complete, Chad will return to Fort Benning next summer for specialty job training. This training includes preparing for his job of indirect-fire infantry or mortarman. These thirteen weeks will not be easy, but this strong young man looks forward to the more laid back atmosphere that greatly differs from his previous training. This will prepare him for his possible deployment in the coming years.

Through these experiences, Chad has been shaped into a well-rounded individual. Due to the many long runs, the hours of discipline, and the various other experiences, the Iowa Army/National Guard has taught him lessons that money can't buy.

The Future Isn't That Far Away

by Jaiden Porter

“It was just downright horrible” and “It's actually quite a bit of fun.” These two lines can be quite contradictory. But with Morgan Hermanson, this feeling is exactly right. This past summer (our junior year) Morgan spent in Oklahoma at basic training for the National Guard. He found a love for the National Guard and its scholarship options for college. Morgan wanted to join the National Guard because he can now enhance his education without being in debt like normal college students. He wants to “propel” his life faster. This means the faster he can have a well-paying job, a car, a house, and a family. He joined basic training last summer because he wants to “eat up” his contract faster. This means the sooner he joins basic, the sooner he can be deployed.

Morgan plans on graduating early in January and leaving once again for training. Training will be in South Carolina where former graduate Chloe Roling is currently. This will last nine weeks where he will be considered “fresh meat.” Once the nine weeks are over, he will be deployed and sent on to complete his planned future.

“Embrace the suck” Physically the heat was hard to embrace. It was always around 110 degrees every day. With no A/C, only sweaty guys. He had to drink what felt like gallons of water every day. This resulted in being covered in sweat from head to toe. Mentally it was hard for him to be away from family. “Letters can only do so much” as Morgan states. He missed his family, but he remembers that it would all be worth it in the end. He just had to take it “one day at a time.”

Does Morgan regret enlisting? “I do, and I don't. I somewhat regret joining early. This past summer was especially hard to miss with it being [my girlfriend's] last summer before Florida.” Morgan states that if he would have been smarter, he could have spent that missed time with her and still graduated at semester to start this journey. And yet at the same time, Morgan knows that he is doing all of this for his future. He doesn't want to waste any more time. To finish up the thought, Morgan states, “Overall I don't regret it. I built many friendships and I'm still in touch with many of them. It's a big family that I'm a part of.”

Speaking of friendships, Morgan still laughs while telling the story about the cricket. One funny moment for him was when his drill sergeant made one of the guys in his platoon apologize for kicking a cricket away. The cricket was crawling up his leg during a workout and she made him go over and apologize to it. This made everyone burst into laughter, including the Sergeant. “Overall, the best memory I have is just the fact that I'm creating lifelong friends.” Morgan still keeps in touch with his battle buddy. They were always pushing each other to never give up and to always have a positive outlook on things. Morgan is glad to have experienced basic training this summer and create these new friends.



Morgan reacts to being let out of the gas chamber which was part of basic training.

MV's Got Talent? They sure do.

Last Saturday night the music department hosted MV's Got Talent, one of their fundraisers. The evening started off with some appetizers and some Jazz Anatomy. Students who had been coming to early morning jazz lessons performed both instrumentally and vocally. The fun then moved to the auditorium for various ensemble and solo performances. The evening ended with desserts.

Right: Nicholas Chen sings "I Can't Help Falling in Love with You."

Far right: Noah DeVore and Tony O'ferman sing "The Other Side" from The Greatest Showman with Mitch Heims on percussion.



Cutie

by Maria Cole

This week's cutie is a junior! She lives in Hopkinton, Iowa, and has two older siblings, both of them sisters! She also has 3 dogs and is involved in softball, large group and individual speech. Her favorite subject in school is photography and her hobbies include watching TV shows (The Rookie, Chicago fire, Chicago P.D., Chicago Med, and Station 19)! She also loves hanging out with her nephew!



Last week's Cutie was Emma Doyl.

what's up?

What is something that you hate but have no reason for hating?

by Paige Winter

Shelby March: ASMR

James DeMoss: Drake the rapper

Claire Krapfl: everyone

Devin Smith: yellowish green color

Matthew Brehm: ASMR

Emma Richter: hydroflasks

Kaela Clemen: mullets

Georjia Harmon: when guys wear jean shorts

Mrs. Jurgens: snakes & snails

Volleyball team finishes first in West Conference Division



The Wildcats earned a top finish in the West Division of the conference with their win over East Buchanan Tuesday night. Lisbon won the East Division.

by Tara Goedken

This year's varsity volleyball team did something that hasn't happened since 1996: earned a conference championship.

The road to the championship continued last Thursday as the Wildcats played against Central City winning 3 out of the 4 matches with scores of 20-25, 25-23, 25-20, and 25-14.

Leading in kills were Emerson Whittenbaugh with 20, followed by Taya Tucker with 12, and Kylie Chesnut with 9 kills. Carissa Sabers led in assists with 37.

Payton Beaman led in digs with 23, followed by Ella Imler with 20, Whittenbaugh with 14, Sabers with 13, and Allie Knipper with 12 digs. Chesnut led in blocks with 5 and Sabers with 4 blocks.

Beaman led in serves with 26, followed by Tucker with 18, and Sabers with 16 serves.

On Tuesday night the Wildcats played East Buchanan, winning all 3 matches with scores of 25-9, 25-18, 25-17 and the Wildcats also became Conference Champs which hasn't happened at MV for 23 years!!

Leading in kills were Whittenbaugh with 15 and Tucker with 8 kills. Sabers led in assists with 24.

Imler led in digs with 13, followed by Sabers with 11, and Beaman and Whittenbaugh with 10 digs each. Chesnut, Tucker, and Whittenbaugh each had 2 blocks.

Beaman lead in serves with 21 followed by Knipper with 14, and Imler with 9, and Sabers with 7 serves, each player serving 100%.

Last night the Wildcats hosted the conference tournament. Details will be in next week's issue.

Cross country teams battle the cold at North Linn, boys finish first in 1A

by Chance Downs

Last Saturday the Maquoketa Valley Cross Country teams braved the cold and traveled to North Linn High School to compete against quality 1A, 2A, and 3A teams.

The Varsity girls kicked the competition off bright and early with Wildcat runners Jaiden Porter, Emma Doyl, and Kriya Atwell. Jaiden led the Wildcats through the frigid 5K with a 45th place finish and a time of 21:58.9. Emma Doyl finished next in 56th place and with a time of 22:27.0. Kriya Atwell wrapped up the Wildcats' Varsity Girls' Team with a 79th place finish and a time of 23:36.4.



The boys varsity team earned a first place finish in the 1A meet at North Linn Saturday. Pictured are Cy Huber, Michael Schaul, Nolan Ries, Ethan Doyl, Chance Downs, Mason Lubben and Derek Mensen.

Shortly following the Varsity Girls' race was the Varsity Boys' race. With a total of 156 points, the Wildcat boys finished 5th overall and first in class 1A for team competition. Michael Schaul came in first for the Wildcats in 23rd place with a time of 17:50.0. Chance Downs and Cy Huber finished closely behind in a dead heat. Downs finished with a 17:57.7 in 32nd place and Huber finished with a 17:57.8 in 33rd place. Ethan Doyl was shortly behind in 34th place in a time of 18:00.7. Nolan Ries came in next for the Wildcats in 45th place at a time of 18:16.7. Derek Mensen and Mason Lubben rounded out the Varsity team with Mensen placing 52nd in a time of 18:30.0 and Lubben placing 56th in a time of 18:45.4.

In the JV Girls' race, Junior Reece Mensen was the only competitor for the Wildcats. Reece finished with a time of 29:45.1 good enough for 59th place. In the JV Boys' race, freshman Landin Frasher and sophomores Preston Roling and Brock Trenkamp competed for the Wildcats. Preston finished first for the Wildcats and 4th overall with a time of 18:21.1 Brock Trenkamp completed his race next with a personal best of 20:03.9 and a 34th place finish. Landin Frasher completed the Wildcats' team in 54th place and a time of 21:00.7.

The team competed last night at the conference meet in Springville. Results will be in next week's issue.



Jaiden Porter makes her way through the North Linn course last Saturday. (photos courtesy of Amy Ries)

Football team gets big win over Clayton Ridge

Some streaks are meant to be broken, and MV's 50-0 win over Clayton Ridge last Friday night was a welcomed breaking of a streak with the Wildcats now with a 1-6 overall record and 1-2 in the district.

Behind that win was Parker Sternhagen who completed 11 of 21 passes for 184 yards and three touchdowns. Sternhagen also rushed for three touchdowns (66 yards on 14 carries). Zach Digman ran for a touchdown, Trent Koopmann caught two touchdown passes (57 yards on five passes), and Owen Mensen (24 yards on two passes) caught one.

Also notable was sophomore AJ Ambundo who caught four passes for 103 yards in the win.

Leading rusher was Derek Becker for 80 yards on 17 runs. Digman carried 12 times for 70 yards.

Also worth noting is the defense held Clayton Ridge to a total of 21 yards and one first down. The Wildcat defense forced seven fumbles. Two of those were recovered by Andrew Kloser. Also recovering fumbles were Matthew Huckler, Isaac Kramer, Carter Kruse, Becker and Sternhagen.

The leading tackler was Koopmann with four. Making 2.5 tackles apiece were Digman, Isaac Kramer, Mensen and Sternhagen. Michael Feldmann and Carter Kruse combined on a sack.

Sternhagen ran for two-point conversions three times for a total of six points. Becker did so once.

Tonight the Wildcats host Alburnett for senior night. The Pirates are 1-6.

Trent Koopmann makes a catch in last Friday's game. (photo courtesy of MV Athletic Boosters)



CUTEST COUPLE



Liz McDowell and Tony Offerman
by Amaya Hunt

When/where did you two first meet?

Liz: I met him a long time ago, but I didn't really know him until freshman year.

Tony: We became friends around homecoming my sophomore year.

How long have you two been dating?

Liz: A little over a year.

Tony: A year and like, half a month.

What's your favorite thing to do together?

Liz: Watch movies or go get food somewhere.

Tony: Get food or watch movies together.

In your opinion, what is your version of a perfect date night?

Liz: Go see a movie at Phoenix Theater in Dubuque, and go get B-Dubs afterwards.

Tony: We'd go get B-Dubs and have a Starbucks run. Then we'd go out to a movie, or go home and watch a movie. Either way, it'd end with a movie.

Where/what did you do on your official first date?

Liz: I know we went somewhere- we saw "It" the movie together.

Tony: I think we went to Dairy Queen, or maybe hung out at her dads.

If you aren't together, what can the other most commonly be found doing?

Liz: Complaining or probably watching Tik-Toks.

Tony: She'd probably be messaging me or she'd be somewhere with friends. Cleaning would probably be a big one, too.

What's your favorite thing about the other person?

Liz: My favorite thing about Tony is that he's always looking out for me and can always make me laugh.

Tony: Her eyes always have a sparkle in them and her real smile is so beautiful, I can't help but stare.

Athletes of the Week

Name: Kriya Atwell

What do you enjoy most about cross country?

I love how unified the teams are. The girls and boys teams get along great and I think that has to do with us all practicing and working together; we can all be very competitive and still be able to support each other.



How has cross country changed you?

Without cross country I wouldn't be as outgoing as I am or have as good of a work ethic because cross has taught me to be confident and that nothing is ever given. It doesn't matter how much natural talent you have if you're not going to put in any work at improving.

What has been your favorite memory of cross country? Okay this has nothing to do with actually running, but at the

Fine Artist of the Week

Name: Madeline Gellersen

What role do you play in the musical?

I play the role of the government clerk, and I am also apart of the ensemble.



What's your favorite part of the show? I enjoy

our opening act "If You Knew My Story," along with dancing and singing to "Firmer Hand/Do Right."

What's your favorite memory from rehearsals? I enjoy spending time with my friends, I think the most memories are made at set building.

If you could play any role in any musical, what would it be? Sharpay from *High School Musical*

How has participating in the musical affected you? It has allowed me to go out of my comfort zone and get to know my classmates better.

Jesup meet we were waiting for awards and there was this sky-scraper of a guy; well we were wondering how tall he was so Jaiden and Reece just walk right up to him and Reece asks him something like "uuhh...sir, sorry but how tall are you?" and this guy wasn't even fazed by the question (he's 6'7 FYI).

Where would you love to have a meet?

I know this is crazy specific but I would love to run the Woodbridge Invitational in California. It's a huge meet with about 100-200 schools from around the nation competing and it would be amazing to run there.

If a song could be playing as you crossed the finish line, what song would you like it to be? "Sail" by Awolnation

Name: Preston Roling

What do you enjoy most about cross country? The work ethic, everybody shows up and knows what is expected of them. No one slacks off or tries to get out of the workout.

How has cross country changed you? It has made me come to value a team. Working together to not only better yourself but more importantly the team.



What has been your favorite memory of cross country? One of Coach Meehan's speeches.

Where would you love to have a meet? somewhere along the coast.

If a song could be playing as you crossed the finish line, what song would you like it to be? The Rocky song, "Eye of Tiger."

Brain Teaser

by Mason Lubben

What is the difference between a dollar and a half and thirty five-cents?

Answer: They are the same. Thirty five-cents (nickels) and a dollar and a half both equal 150 cents.

Best Buds

Allie and Erin Knipper

by Amaya Hunt
When did you two go from sisters, to best friends as well?

Erin: I'd say eighth grade because she would always talk to me about her high school life.

Allie: I think when she got into high school- I just saw her more, I guess.

Favorite thing to do together?

Erin: Jam out in the car or driving around.

Allie: Going for those quick Chinese runs.

Best memory created?

Erin: All of the videos I have of her on Snapchat- I love scaring her and getting her reactions on video.

Allie: Car jams- we went someplace, and she took a bunch of videos of me dancing. It was so much fun; Dylan was with us, too. I think we sat in the garage just jamming to music for a while.

Where's your favorite place to go together?

Erin: A Chinese restaurant, for sure.

Allie: A Chinese restaurant, probably.

What do you love most about each other?

Erin: Allie is always willing to help me and her positivity is contagious.

Allie: Erin can make me laugh when I never thought I would. She can do something to make me mad, and then turn around and make me laugh right away.

Biggest pet peeve about one another?

Erin: Allie always has to have everything perfect. She always gets on my case about.

Allie: Erin doesn't know how to clean up- her disorganization is so bad. She also doesn't seem to worry about anything- it drives me nuts.

Where you can you see the other in 5 years?

Erin: I can see Allie sleeping- ha jk. In 5 years, I can see Allie still not knowing what to do for her job.

Allie: I see Erin going to Hawkeye for something in the dental field, and she'd be the type of person who knows what not to do. I hope she'll still be someone who looks up to me because she knows what I did, and what I went through.



Fashion Design students see skills in the real world



Fashion Design students toured two area businesses recently. Students on the trip were Chad Neuzil, Morgan Hermanson, Hadley Underwood, Taylor Schmuecker, Kaelynn Clark, Alyssa Langel, Emilee Supple and Matthew Hucker.

Last week the Fashion Design class along with Mrs. Downs traveled to Manchester to tour 2 businesses: Momentum Screen Prints and 5K Sports. Both of the businesses showed the class the process of design through the production of screen printing.

The gals (Suzanne Heims and Amy Zirtzman) at Momentum showed us their design software, automated screen printing machine along with all of the steps from design through the final production. The students were amazed at how many different steps there were to create a design

on a t-shirt. Who knew they made shirts with built-in koozies and can openers?

At 5K Sports, Alana DeMoss showed us how to program her embroidery machine and then stitched out a duffle bag and a ball cap for us to see. She also showed us the sporting goods side of the business along with live bait and her screen-printing set-up as well.

In Fashion Design we get to design online and then the transfers are delivered to us. Once we receive the transfers, we then heat press them onto apparel. Way less messy for us this way!!!

MV TEL-ALL

by Lydia Helle

In 2017, the Monitoring the Future Survey

reported that **8%** of 8th graders and **33%** of 12th graders drank during the past 30 days, and **2%** of 8th graders and **19%** of 12th graders binge drank during the past 30 days.

Information came from the Underage Drinking Facts Sheet on Center for Disease Control and Prevention's website

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Lydia Helle

Guy: How do you think the unthinkable?
 Mike Tyson: With an itheberg

You're not completely useless. You could serve as a bad example.

Someone stole my Microsoft Office, and they're gonna pay. You have my word.

I took the shell off my racing snail, thinking it would make him faster. If anything, it made him more sluggish.

How do you find Will Smith in the snow?...You look for the fresh prints.

Meet the Freshmen



Erin, Kayla & Brianna

Name: Brianna Fischer
 Siblings: Jeremy, Ryan, & Amber
 Activities you plan to be in: basketball, softball, speech
 Favorite subject: math
 Career aspirations: medical field (doctor or nurse)
 Hobbies: hanging out with friends & sports
 Something cool about you: I'm an aunt.

Name: Erin Knipper
 Siblings: Allie & Dylan
 Activities you plan to be in: volleyball, basketball, track & field, softball, individual & large group speech, TEL
 Favorite subject: social studies
 Career aspirations: dental hygienist
 Hobbies: watching TV & sports
 Something cool about you: I have messed up my ankle twice by sliding into a base in softball.

Name: Kaela Clemen
 Siblings: Gage & Trent Wood, Logan & Morgan Clemen
 Activities you plan to be in: TEL, softball, volleyball, musical, speech, play
 Favorite subject: Spanish
 Career aspirations: something in the medical field
 Hobbies: sports & Netflix
 Something cool about you: Everyone loves my mom.

—typist: Allie Knipper

Students of the Week

It's you!

"I want to nominate all of the students for their positive participation during Homecoming week, their support of the players from both sides of the ball during and after the game against MFL MarMac, the band for their support of MV and MFL MarMac, how they help to keep our facilities clean and their hospitality to our guests at our events in our buildings. They have done us proud!"

—Mr. Tuetken

Hall Smarts

by Lydia Helle

Tonight is senior night for our boys on the football team! I thought we could do a little football trivia this week. I asked Matthew Hucker, Tim Harmon and Zach Digman how much they know about America's past time.



What year was the NFL founded?

Matthew: 1966

Tim: 1968

Zach: 1957

Answer: 1920

What were footballs originally made out of?

Matthew: Pigskin

Tim: Pig intestines

Zach: Pigskin

Answer: Inflated pig bladders

True or False: Footballs were originally round.

Matthew: False

Tim: False

Zach: False

Answer: True

True or False: Footballs are called "footballs" because they are a foot long.

Matthew: False

Tim: False

Zach: False

Answer: False- footballs are called "footballs" because the game was and is played on foot compared to on a horse like polo was at the time football was first being played.

That's all for this week- "catch you on the flip side!"



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MV

the week of October 21, 2019

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019

- 12th Graders & Parents FAFSA Completion - HS Mac Lab- 1:00 PM until 8:00 PM
- MVHS Dance Team Practice Begins - Johnston Elementary - After School
- Jr. High Wrestling Practice Begins - in Delhi - After School
- MV School Board Meeting - HS Conference Room - 5:30 PM

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019

- 10th Graders to Career Pathways Day at NICC in Peosta - 10:00 AM (Bus Leaves at 8:45 AM)
- Senior Government Class Tour of Delaware County Courthouse in Manchester (Bus Leaves at 12:40 PM)
- 5th through 8th grade All-Band Concert - Middle School Gym - 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019

- HS NICC Career Event

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019

- JH Students to TRC Honor Band Festival at Ed/Co - Noon (2 Vans Leaves at 8:00 AM) - Concert @ 7 PM
- HS Cross Country Girls & Boys Districts in Iowa City

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019 "Celebrate NOT Misusing Drugs & Alcohol

- wear RED (Students & Staff)
- EARLY DISMISSAL - 1:05 PM - End of 1st Quarter - 46 Days
 - HS Business Ed Class to UNI Business Day in Cedar Falls (2 Vans Leave at 6:45 AM)
 - Red Ribbon Week Tailgate Party - HS Football Field - 11:30 AM until 1:05 PM
 - HS JV/V FB with Lisbon at Cornell in Mt. Vernon - 5:45 PM (Bus, Suburban & Trailer Leaves at 4:00 PM)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019

- HS Music to All State Auditions in Independence - 9:25 AM (Van Leaves at 8:00 AM)
- MV Dance Team Princess Party - Johnston Elementary School Gym - 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2019

- MV Athletic Boosters Arts & Crafts Show - MS Gym & Commons, HS Cafeteria - 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM