

## Meet Mr. Edwards MV students play in TRC honor band

by Tara Goedken

Name: Jeff Edwards

**Where are you from?**

Ames, IA/  
Monticello, IA

**Where you did you go to college?**

THE Iowa State University

**What was your major?**

Agricultural Education and Life Sciences

**What is your history with agriculture?**

My journey in agriculture started when I enrolled into Ag classes at Gilbert High School. I then started to get involved with FFA and started competing in contests, events, etc. In 2013, I showed my first club lamb, and from there I began growing my livestock operations to a full club lamb operation on top of a cow/calf operation. After completing high school, I enrolled at DMACC in Ankeny, IA and majored in Agribusiness. After DMACC, I went to Iowa State University where I obtained my bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education & Life Sciences.

**What are your goals at MV?**

My goals at MV are to share my passion for agriculture with students, so that they can see the endless opportunities agriculture can bring them. I hope to continue to build a strong FFA program and provide students with many great and beneficial experiences.

**What are you most excited about?**

I am most excited about being part of the Maquoketa Valley family and having the opportunity to work with great students, staff and a great community!



Mr. Ford accompanied 11 students to the Tri-Rivers Conference honor band festival held at Lisbon High School Monday. Students involved were, front row from left: Brylie Pohlman, Mitch Heims, Michael VanMeter, Ashtyn Porter and Emma Doyle; back row: Nick Gibbs, Brock Trenkamp, Noah DeVore, Madeline Gellersen, Emma Richter and Logan Johnson.

## *Let the games begin*



MV large group speech students have been practicing since October, and competition time is upon us. MV students are scheduled to perform Saturday at Midland for the Tri-Rivers Conference speech competition. Approximately 80 students are under the direction of coaches Ms. Crumpton, Mrs. DeVore, Mr. DeVore, and Mrs. Grant. Above: Choral Reading student rehearse their piece about pirates.

# Sports Connection

## Wrestlers compete at Alburnett last week

by Allie Knipper

The wrestlers wrestled Alburnett and Ed-Co last Thursday night, and the Wildcats put some points on the board!

MV lost to Ed-Co 39-21. Here are some results:

Carter Kruse (220), Evan Elgin (182), and Michael Schaul (138) won by pin. Dylan Lane (132) with a 13-6 win.

Here are the results against Alburnett in which Alburnett won 48-26:

Carter Kruse, Evan Elgin, and Tanner De-Moss (160) won by pin. Tim Harmon (170) and Michael Schaul came away 17-1 and 6-4 with wins, respectively.

The team was scheduled to wrestle last night at Central City. Results will be in next week's issue.



Dylan Lane grapples with his Ed-Co opponent. (photos by Lesa Parmely)

Right: Brooke Elgin sets up a play against Starmont.

## Girls basketball update

Recently MV defeated Clayton Ridge 51-16 and Starmont 64-29. Last night they took on Alburnett and are scheduled to host Springville tonight. The team is 11-1 now.

## Boys get two more wins, one with last second shot



A.J. Ambundo is congratulated by his teammates after his last second three-pointer which gave the Wildcats the win over Starmont Tuesday night.

by Tara Goedken

The boys basketball team sure knows how to keep the crowd on its toes. Whether it's a second half comeback or a last second shot, something special is happening on that court.

Last Thursday the boys basketball team traveled to Clayton Ridge High School and brought back a win with a score of 47-30. In the first half of the game that boys scored 15 points and then came back

strong and scored 32 points in the second half of the game.

On offense, Avery Holtz led in points with a total of 16 points, followed by Owen Mensen with 14 points, and AJ Ambundo with 9 points.

On defense, Mensen led in steals with 2 and Avery Holtz had 1 steal. Ambundo led in rebounds with a total of 10, followed by Mensen with 4, and Avery Holtz, Issac Zirtzman, and Miguel Bororquez each had 3 rebounds.

Tuesday night they played against the Starmont Stars and won a close game with a score of 48-45. The Wildcats once again gave the audience a thriller as the score was tied 45-45 in the last few seconds of the game, and A.J. Ambundo came up with a big three-pointer to give the Wildcats the win.

Leading scorers for the night were Ambundo with 15, Avery Holtz with 11 and Andrew Holtz with 10. Avery Holtz had three blocks, and Bojorquez and Mitch Heims each had a steal. Ambundo led in rebounds with five.

Last night the Wildcats travel to Alburnett and tonight the Wildcats are scheduled to play Springville at home. Details will be in next week's Echo.





## Athletes of the Week

Name: Carter Kruse

**What do you enjoy most about wrestling?**

Learning something new and trying different things.

**What's something about wrestling that others might not know?**

The sports is basically all up to you.

**How do you mentally prepare for a match?** Listening to music and thinking about what I'm going to do during my match.

**What's your goal this season?** To do the best I can.

**Who's your wrestling role model?** Wyatt Voelker because he's a animal



Name: Emerson Whittenbaugh

**Because of your knee surgery, this season hasn't gone as planned.**

**How do you still play a role on the team?**

The coaches have been great with helping me stay involved and doing whatever will help me.

I still have a role on the team by being able to help out my teammates when ever they need it and I still am able to do everything with the team but not participate in the physical aspect of course.

**What do you enjoy most about playing basketball?** Just being with my teammates and being able to take my mind off of other things.

**What's something about the sport that others may not know about?** That everybody has a role, it doesn't matter if you score or don't play that much. Every single person brings something to the team that they are great at and that is what makes a team great.

**What's been a favorite basketball memory?** We make scaring each other more of a competition than anybody else; it is an everyday thing.

**Who's your basketball role model?** Megan Gustafson, just for how she plays the game and the passion she has for it when she plays. Another one I have is Kate Martin. She plays at Iowa and she recently has reached out, telling me that I will get through my injury and I will come back stronger. Her words helped me a lot and I can't wait to watch her play next.



## Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Lydia Helle

**What event are you in for speech?** I am in Readers Theater and Choral Reading for large group and Expository Address for individual.

**What do you enjoy most about large group speech?** I love how everyone comes together

to put on a performance. Everyone really embodies their character in order to tell a story to the audience.

**What have you learned through this event?** In Readers Theater, I have learned that it's okay to be stupid. If anyone has seen my characters in the past, they know that I am not afraid to make them wacky and weird. But, that's what I love about it; I'm able to be someone I'm normally not. In Choral Reading, I have learned the power that comes with blending many voices.

Our piece is definitely a powerful one. Some of those lines that bring about strong emotions have even more of an impact when we say them as a group.

**Who is your speech role model?** In past years, I would have to say that I looked up to Emma McDowell as a speech role model. She was a confident actor who wasn't afraid to make her characters big and bold. She wasn't afraid of what anyone thought; she built her character and went for it. She wasn't afraid to go outside of her comfort zone, and I would like to think that I have that same energy. I am proud to have been able to work with her in many play productions and in Readers Theater.

**If you could judge a large group speech event, what would it be?** I would definitely judge Readers Theater!



Name: Andrew Kloser

**What event are you in for speech?**

Ensemble acting and musical theater

**What do you enjoy most about large group speech?** Working with my friends towards a common goal

**What have you learned through**

**this event?** I have developed my speaking skills a lot throughout speech in high school.

**Who is your speech role model?** Alex McCusker is my role model. He helped me out as a freshman, and I will always be appreciative of what he did for me.

**If you could judge a large group speech event, what would it be?**

Definitely ensemble acting, I have been in that event every year.



Name: Amber Engelken

**What event are you in for speech?** I'm in Choral Reading this year.

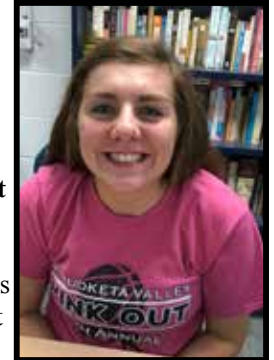
**What do you enjoy most about large group speech?** I enjoy how everyone gets a part in the script and how amazing it sounds when all

of those voices come together.

**What have you learned through this event?** I've learned how hard it is to work together when you have more than one person saying something to match their timing and tone of words

**Who is your speech role model?** My speech role model would have to be Mrs. DeVore. She works very hard to make sure that we always push ourselves to do our best.

**If you could judge a large group speech event, what would it be?** I would judge group improv. because they're really funny.



# what's up?

## What's something that makes you angry?

by **Chance Downs**

Jordyn Kemp: when residents poop on the floor

Mrs. Temple: being lied to

Derek Mensen: petty drama

Chance Kemp: people with no common sense

Kennedy Ott: everything

Landin Frasher: science class

Avery Holtz: when people don't tie their shoes but instead just tuck their laces in

Macy Thompson: when people take my phone

Lane Domeyer: drama

## MV TEL-ALL

by **Lydia Helle**

In 2017, 11% of high school students had used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days. By 2018, that number had risen to 21% and,

by 2019, **27.5%** of high school students had used e-cigarettes in the past month.

*Information came from Truth Initiative's "E-cigarettes: Facts, Stats, and Regulations"*

### Comedy Corner

—compiled by Lydia Helle

What is the resemblance between a green apple and a red apple?...They are both red except for the green one.

How did the hipster burn his mouth?...He ate the pizza before it was cool.

What do you call a boomerang that won't come back?...A stick

I hate people who use big words just to make themselves look perspicacious.

I thought I would tell you a brilliant time travel joke, but you didn't like it.

## Cutest Couple



**Dani Burkle & Carter Klaren**  
by **Amaya Hunt**

**How long have you two been dating?**

About four and a half months.

**How long did you two know each other before becoming an item? How did you come to know each other?**

Dani: We talked casually throughout the summer, but I've technically known him since 5th grade.

Carter: I think we knew each other in about fifth grade, but I didn't know her until eighth grade. That's when we started talking.

**Was there a moment when you knew you wanted to be more than friends? What was that moment like?**

Dani: I liked him the entire 8th grade year, but I was too nervous and too much of a wuss to do anything. I finally gained the confidence to add him on Snapchat and then I started to talk to him after baseball games. He's the one that asked me out, but I was the one to make the first move.

Carter: During baseball and softball season, we started talking a little bit and I realized I wanted to be more than friends. Dani actually came to me about her feelings first- I didn't know that she liked me before that.

**What can you two most commonly be found doing together?**

Dani: Normally when we hang out we just watch movies; I always want to watch dance moms, but he won't let me.

Carter: Watching Netflix- shows like "The Simpsons" and a little bit of "Saved by the Bell."

**As always, our readers are dying to know... what is your favorite thing about the other? What makes them stand out in a crowd?**

Dani: His smirk; if I do something dumb, he always has this little smirk on his face and it's overall just my favorite thing about him.

Carter: Her smile is my favorite, and she is just overall really good to be around.

**What does the other do that can always make you laugh?**

Dani: That's too hard to pick- there are a lot of things that he does that makes me happy. If I had to pick just one thing, it would be his laugh.

Carter: I love it when she makes stupid jokes.

## Little Comics

compiled by **Lydia Helle**

What do you call a cow with no legs?...Ground beef

-Jena Hoefer, 3rd Grade

Knock knock.

Who's there?

Boo.

Boo who?

It's okay. It was just a costume.

-Brylin Hoisington, 3rd Grade

Why did the camper leave his watch behind?...Because it was full of ticks!

-Tuckyr Kemp, 3rd Grade

Knock knock.

Who's there?

Boo.

Boo who?

Don't cry! It's just a joke.

-Nolan Lahey, 3rd Grade

Why did the elf go to school?...

Because he wanted to learn the Elf-abet!

-Payton Lanning, 3rd Grade

Knock knock.

Who's there?

A boy.

A boy who?

A boy who knocked on your door so hard that the door fell down!

-Rory Leppert, 3rd Grade

What's a snowman's favorite food?...

An ice-burger

-Abram Nolan, 3rd Grade

# Best Buds



**Abbie Sheehy & Madeline Gellersen  
by Amaya Hunt**

## **How long have you two been friends?**

Since 8th grade, so 4 years.

## **What is your favorite thing to do together?**

Madeline: Watch movies and go thrifting together.

Abbie: Hang out at each other's houses and gossip; we like to talk about how life is treating us.

## **What animal does the other remind you of and why?**

Madeline: A sloth because she likes to sleep and is lazy.

Abbie: A cat because she can be really nice when you first meet her, but once you really get to know her, her personality starts to show. This is her "inner cat" and it lets you see the other side of her.

## **What's your biggest pet peeve about the other?**

Madeline: Abbie's is shorter than me, and my neck gets sore from having to look down when I talk to her.

Abbie: She's really tall!

## **What do you love most about the other?**

Madeline: I can talk to her about anything and she is always there for me when I need her.

Abbie: I love how she is a caring person to everyone, and she is always there when you need a friend to talk to.

## **What can you see the other doing with her life in 10 years?**

Madeline: I see Abbie having a lot of kids, and working in the police force.

Abbie: I see her having her own fashion design studio because that's what she really loves to do. I also see her living in an apartment with 10 cats as her roommates.

# Hall Smarts

by Lydia Helle

Well, we have seen a little more snow this week. It's actually starting to seem like the beginning of a true Iowa winter. I decided that this week I would ask Paige Winter, Paige Panosh and Amaya Hunt how much they know about Iowa winters.



What is the average winter snowfall in Iowa?

Paige W.: 62 in

Paige P.: 23 in

Amaya: 19 in

Answer: 32.4 in.

What is the snowiest month in Iowa?

Paige W.: January

Paige P.: January

Amaya: January

Answer: January

How many inches of snow did Iowa receive during the May 27-29, 1947 snow-storm?

Paige W.: 47 in

Paige P.: 50 in

Amaya: 6 in

Answer: 10 in.

What is the record 24-hour snowfall in Iowa?

Paige W.: 60 in

Paige P.: 36 in

Amaya: 13 in

Answer: 19.8 in.

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

# Brain Teaser

by Mason Lubben

What can you hold in your right hand, but not in your left?

Answer: Your left hand.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MV the week of January 19, 2020

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2020

1. HS Vocal to Meistersinger Festival at Wartburg College in Waverly (Van Leaves at 11:30 AM)

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2020

1. Jr. High Boys' Basketball at Alburnett - 4:00 PM (Bus Leaves at 2:50 PM)

2. MV School Board Meeting - HS Conference Room - 5:30 PM

3. HS Vocal at Meistersinger Festival at Wartburg College in Waverly (Van Returns at 8:00 PM)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020

1. HS JV/V G & B Basketball - HOME - Edgewood/Colesburg— JV @ 4:30 PM / V @ 6:00 PM

2. HS Dance Team Performance - At Half-time of Girls' Varsity Game

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020

1. "Water Rocks" Presentation to 3rd Graders - in the PM

2. MV Post Prom Party Committee Meeting - HS Cafeteria - 6:30 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020

1. HS Varsity Wrestling at East Buchanan - 6:00 PM (Suburban & Van Leave at 3:45 PM)

2. Junior High Boys' Basketball - HOME (MS Multi-Purpose Room) - East Buchanan - 4:00 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2020

1. Deadline for February Newsletter Articles - Please Give to Sue Kramer at Johnston Elementary

2. HS JV/V G & B Basketball at EB in Winthrop - JV @ 4:15 PM / V @ 6:00 PM (Bus Leaves at 2:55 PM)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020

1. HS V Wrestling to Louisa Muscatine HS in Letts, Iowa - 10:00 AM (Suburban & Van Leave at 5:45 AM)

2. HS District Lrg Gp Speech Contest in Cascade - 8:00 AM (2 Buses, Suburban & Trailer Leave at 6:15 AM)