

MV + Speech + DeVores = Continuing Excellence

by Lydia Helle

For Readers Theatre, Best of Center goes to Maquoketa Valley. For Ensemble Acting, Best of Center goes to Maquoketa Valley. Best of Center in the category of One-Act goes to Maquoketa Valley...

As awards are being handed out at the end of the conference large group speech contest, it is not uncommon to hear Maquoketa Valley's name multiple times. Growing up, I had heard stories from high schoolers about the reaction other schools give when Maquoketa Valley completely dominates a speech contest. However, to truly appreciate these reactions, I had to see them for myself. It took until junior year for me to finally stay for the awards at the end of the conference speech contest. When I did, I was not disappointed.

The applause from the audience began to dwindle as Maquoketa Valley took home more and more Best of Centers. When it finally got to the end and the contest directors announced who was taking home the Eagle, the applause that came from the crowd was one of politeness. You could tell that no one was happy that we had won so many awards, but they had to clap out of mere decency. While the other schools were packing up their buses to go home empty-handed, Maquoketa Valley was bringing home the Eagle for the 14th



Mr. DeVore listens attentively to and times an improv group rehearse. The speech coaches work with students before and after school most days from mid-October until late March.



Mrs. DeVore rehearses with an ensemble acting group before school. The large group speech students will compete at districts in Cascade tomorrow.

year in a row. Once again, we had shown our speech prowess.

While they would modestly say that the kids are the heart of the program, many students would agree that Debbie and Matt DeVore truly make Maquoketa Valley's speech program what it is. It seems no one could imagine a time where this husband and wife duo weren't a part of the MV speech program; however, their background with speech started before Maquoketa Valley.

"This is actually my fourth school. I have coached speech in all four places," Mrs. DeVore speaks of her background. With all of the places she has coached speech, Mrs. DeVore has racked up an impressive 20 years of coaching speech.

When finally finding their home in the Maquoketa Valley School District, the DeVores found themselves taking control of a speech program that was already successful in its own right. Mr. DeVore is quoted saying, "We took over from a program that was very good. There were a lot of students involved. The Bonebrakes knew what they were doing." It's interesting when you think of the changes that the speech program has gone through since the time of the Bonebrakes. Class sizes have gotten smaller over the years, yet the number of speech participants continues to rise. Almost half of the high school participates in speech. This is a pretty impressive feat

for a high school speech program, especially for a small school like MV. Both of the DeVores contribute this rise to the students. "I think sometimes it's friends who push each other," Mrs. DeVore explains.

As a member of the speech program, I have a front-row seat to all of the magic happening behind the scenes. I get to work with both Mr. and Mrs. DeVore in different categories. They have enabled me to take huge steps in becoming a more confident speaker and have encouraged me to be vulnerable in my pieces. The lessons you receive from the DeVores don't just stay within speech; they apply to life. As participants in speech, students gain self-confidence. Students feel as though they could walk into a job interview and nail it. They feel as if they can earn that promotion by proving they can work well in groups and have a sense of leadership. However, I don't get to just work with the DeVores; I get to work with other amazing students. We come from all walks of life. We are athletes and musicians, FFA members and student government officials. Despite our differences, speech brings us together.

Debbie and Matt DeVore have not only changed speech, but they have changed lives. They are prominent members of the MV community, and many people look up to both of them. There is no question: in everything they do, the DeVores are continuing excellency.

Grapplers compete at Central City, Cascade



Tim Harmon works over his Midland opponent last week at the Central City meet. Harmon won this match by pin. (photos by Lesa Parmely)

by Allie Knipper

The wrestlers wrestled at Central City last Thursday and Cascade on Monday.

Here are the results of last Thursday against Midland:

Tim Harmon (170), Evan Elgin (182), and Carter Kruse (195) all won by pin! Ending the team with a score of 18 to Midland's 54.

Here are results against Central City:

Tim Harmon, Evan Elgin, and Carter Kruse all got forfeit wins.

The ending score was 18 for MV and 24 for

Central City.

Here are the results for Cascades Invitational which was supposed to be held Saturday but got moved to Monday:

Michael Schaul (138) received a bye with a win. Tim Harmon received a bye, a win, and a pin leading him to 3rd place Evan Elgin received a win getting him to a 4th place finish. Carter Kruse got 2 pins with a 5th place finish.

We're proud of you! The wrestlers competed last night at East Buchanan. Their next meet is scheduled for tomorrow at Louisa Muscatine.

Girls keep the ball rollin'

by Kylie Chesnut

The Wildcats are on the radar. According to the Cedar Rapids Gazette's sport staff, MV is now in the Super 10: the top ten area high school basketball teams, regardless of school size. With a now 14-1 record, this team has earned that spot.

On Thursday, the Wildcats traveled to the home court of the Pirates. With a tight game, the

girls were able to leave the gym with a win 31-27.

Taya Tucker was your leading scorer for this game with 11 points, Brooke Elgin with 7, and Ella Imler added 6 points to the score.

Defensively, the Wildcats were able to keep the Alburnette Pirates to 27 points. Carissa Sabers and Tucker led with 3 steals each, and Elgin took 2 away from the other team. Your leading rebounders were Tucker and Elgin, each bringing down 8, Trista Elgin grabbed 5 boards for the team, and Imler brought down 4.

Tuesday night, the Wildcats held the Ed-Co Vikings on their home court. Yet again, the Wildcats walked away with the W finishing the game 65-39.

Last night, the Springville Orioles came to Delhi. The Wildcats won in a 59-58 buzzer beater. Details will be in next week's issue.



Junior Taya Tuckers takes on tip off duties against Ed-Co.

Boys go 1-1 in recent conference games



Senior Mason Lubben keeps pace in the Ed-Co game.

by Tara Goedken

The boys took on some tough conference opponents recently and went 1-1 for the week.

Last Thursday night the boys basketball team travel to Alburnett and lost with a score of 50-61. In the first half, the Wildcat boys were able to score 29 points and 21 points in the second half.

On offense, leading in points was Avery Holtz with 16 points, followed by AJ Ambundo and Mitch Heims with 12 points each.

On defense, Miguel Bororquez led in steals with 2, followed by Avery Holtz and Heims with 1 steal each. Ambundo led in rebounds with a total 7, followed by Mason Lubben, Heims, and Bororquez with 2 rebounds each.

On Tuesday the team played Ed-Co and won with a score of 63-53. In the first half, the Wildcats were able to score 23 points and 40 points in the second half.

On offense, Andrew Holtz led in points with a total of 16, followed by Avery Holtz with 14 points and Ambundo and Mensen each with 13 points.

On defense, Ambundo led in steals with 2 followed by Avery Holtz, Andrew Holtz, and Bororquez each with 1 steal. Ambundo led in rebounds with a total of 6, followed by Andrew Holtz and Bororquez with 4 rebounds each.

Last night the Boys Basketball team played against Springville and tonight the boys will play against East Buchanan. Details from both games will be in next week's Echo.

Cutest Couple

Landen Deutmeyer & Kylie Chesnut
by Amaya Hunt

How long have you two been dating?
Just over one month.
How long did you two know each other before becoming an item? How did you come to know each other?



Kylie: We knew each other when I first came to Delhi from Earlville in 5th grade, but we didn't really talk. I think we began to become good friends in 7th and 8th grade.

Landen: We didn't talk at all until 8th grade; we actually started talking because of girl problems that I had.

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

Kylie: Landen was just super sweet and I knew that he would be a good guy to have around in my life in the long run. We actually made it official after a fight we had; we realized just how much we meant to each other

Landen: This summer; we got in a fight and I realized she was someone I never wanted to lose.

What can you two most commonly be found doing together?

Kylie: Watching movies, especially Disney movies on Disney Plus. We eat a lot of junk food too.

Landen: We don't really do much; just hang around. We watch a lot of Disney movies- they're our favorite.

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

Kylie: There's really nothing specific- he's just my best friend. I love how I can always trust him.

Landen: Her laugh and her smile is the first thing I see.

Where can you see the other in five years?

Kylie: Louisiana. He'll probably won't even his license.

Landen: School- definitely more school so she can be a vet tech.

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Zach Digman

What event are you in for speech? One Act and Improv

What do you enjoy most about large group speech? It's not like any other extracurricular, and I have to be someone else.

What have you learned through this event? Don't be afraid to get up and talk in front of people

Who is your speech role model? My brother because he could so many different accents

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

Name: Taylor Schmuecker

What event are you in for speech? Reader's theater

What do you enjoy most about large group speech? I enjoy being with my friends and having fun with the piece we are performing.

What have you learned through this event? I learned to be open to new ideas and push myself out of my comfort zone.

Who is your speech role model? Mrs. DeVore

If you could judge a large group speech event, what would it be? I would love to judge reader's theater because I think it would be fun to see what groups come up with.



Athletes of the Week

Name: DeVante Strickland

What position do you play? I play mainly play post
What do you enjoy most about playing basketball? You are always are doing something different and its one of the sports you could play thought your life.

What's something about the sport that others may not know about? Focusing in on the little details makes a big difference.

What's been a favorite basketball memory? During the spring league when Avery broke someone's ankle and then missed the shot

Who's your basketball role model? Derrick Rose. Being from Chicago, I grew up watching him and as a kid. I wanted to mimic his athleticism, his aggressiveness on defense, and just the way he played. And Brian Heims. He knew his role and moment where he had to step up and help the team.

Name: Kennedy Rausch

What position do you play? I play the wing.
What do you enjoy most about playing basketball? I like playing together with all my teammates and I love playing with all of my friends.

What's something about the sport that others may not know about? We all get really close and we all are like a big family.

What's been a favorite basketball memory? In the summer we all went to Spirit Lake and we all rushed to our rooms to watch *The Bachelor*.

Who's your basketball role model? I would say Ella Imler because she helps me a lot in practice and she is always really positive.



what's up?

When you were little what was your dream job?

by Paige Winter

Michael Schaul: an astronaut

Kaelynn Clark: psychologist

Molly Anderegg: a National Geographic photographer

Zach Mineart: a vet

Mrs. Lewin: a teacher

Mason Billings: farmer

Chance Kemp: a construction worker

Mr. Huegel: professional athlete/Olympian

Brianna Fischer: a dancer

Anna Deutmeyer: actor

Cutie



by Amaya Hunt

This little cutie lives in Delhi with his four siblings and their beloved dog! When he's not busy with school activities, (such as basketball, vocal jazz, jazz band, and the speech), he can be seen hanging out with friends! He enjoys 1v1 basketball and skiing during the summer.



Pink Out Success

MV held its annual Pink Out Tuesday night. Basketball players took to the stands and collected over \$1200 for the Chris Hucker family. Precision Collision sponsored the popcorn to show support cancer awareness.



Above left: Noah DeVore sports a good dose of pink while playing with the pep band. Above right: MV fans also donned their pink apparel to show support for finding a cure for cancer. Below: the dance team performed a pom routine with a Pink Out theme. (photos by Lesa Parmely)



Preparing for College Entrance Exams Takes Time and Effort

College entrance exams require an entirely different preparation plan than a quiz or a final exam. Colleges review the ACT or SAT score to determine your student's acceptance into their school. If college is on your student's horizon, it's time to talk about the necessary tests to get there.

Why It Matters

Higher scores result in scholarships.

In addition to college acceptance, overall high school achievement and a good test score can potentially earn your student an academic scholarship at the colleges under consideration.

Plan future coursework.

Both the ACT and SAT test on high-level material in science and math, and if your student hasn't yet pursued higher level courses in both, now is the time to plan future high school semesters that will include them. Your student will benefit if either exam needs retaking and be better prepared for college-level coursework.

Being prepared reduces test-day anxiety and saves money.

As with any life experience, knowing what to expect reduces anxiety and stress. Effective preparation invokes confidence and successful results and reduces the need for retesting, saving you and your student money.

What You Can Do Now

Set a score goal.

You should research each college under consideration for the exam results each one requires for acceptance, as well as how each school uses the scores from the test sections.

Practice makes perfect, so to speak.

ACT offer opportunities to simulate test day, take practice tests or obtain prep guides on their individual websites. Practice tests may be taken online, as well as on paper, which can hopefully address your student's individual learning and testing styles. Your student should also check with the school counseling office for other ways to take practice tests.

Become familiar with each test's structure.

The ACT has four sections — English, math, reading and science — with an optional writing test. Their website includes a breakdown of each section.

—Iowa Student Loan

To sign up for the ACT prep class offered in Manchester, see Mrs. Palmer!

Best Buds



Saige Hunt, Kennedy Rausch, and McKenna Thompson

by Leah Ries

How long have you been friends?

Since 5th grade

What is your favorite thing to do together?

Kennedy: Hangout at McKenna's

Saige: Hangout at McKenna's house

McKenna: Hangout at my house

Where do you see your friends in 20 years?

Kennedy: Saige a pharmacist and McKenna an anesthesiologist

Saige: McKenna will be an anesthesiologist and Kennedy will be a physical therapist.

McKenna: Saige will be a pharmacist and Kennedy will be a physical therapist.

What is your worst memory together?

Kennedy: I can't remember a bad time with them.

Saige: I can't think of any bad memories with them.

McKenna: it's never a bad time with my best friends!!

What's something most people don't know about the other people?

Kennedy: McKenna has never had Chick-fil-A. Saige

Saige: McKenna's favorite food is sushi; Kennedy watches Dance Moms 24/7.

McKenna: Kennedy has a REALLY old Nintendo and she loves to play it. Saige LOVES the Vampire Diaries.

What is the others favorite restaurant?

Kennedy: I think McKenna likes Texas Roadhouse and I think Saige likes the Pizza Place. Your favorite: Red Robin

Saige: Kennedy like Subway, McKenna likes Texas Roadhouse.

Your favorite: Pizza Ranch

McKenna: Saige likes Pizza Ranch, Kennedy likes Dairy Queen or Subway I think.

Your favorite: Texas Roadhouse

WHAT'S HAPPENING the week of January 27, 2020

MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2020

1. Junior High Boys Basketball at Springville - 4:00 PM (Bus at 2:50 PM)
2. HS Varsity Wrestling to Beckman HS in Dyersville (Sub. & Van at 3:45 PM)
3. 10th Grade Career Night - HS Auditorium - 6:00 PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020

1. 6th Grade Hearing Screening - Middle School Conf. Room - 11:45 AM to 1:00
2. Junior High Boys Basketball at Central City - 4:00 PM (Bus at 2:50 PM)
3. HS JV/V G & B Basketball - HOME - North Linn - JV at 4:30 PM / V at 6:00
4. MV Fine Arts Soup Supper - HS Cafeteria - 5:00 PM until 7:30 PM
5. MV Dance Team Performs - Half Time of Boys' Varsity Game

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2020

EARLY DISMISSAL - 1:05 PM in Delhi / 1:15 PM in Earlville & Hopkinton
NICC Accuplacer / ALERS Testing - H S Library - 1:15 PM to 3:15 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020

1. Junior High Boys' Basketball - HOME (MS Multi-Purpose Room) - Edgewood/ Colesburg - 4:00 PM
2. HS Varsity Wrestling at Monticello - 5:30 PM (Suburban & Van Leave at 3:45 PM)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2020

1. HS JV/V G & B Basketball at C.C. - JV @ 4:30 PM for 2 Qrts / V at 6:00 PM (Bus Leaves at 3:10 PM)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2020

1. HS TRC Wrestling Tournament at Star-mont High School - Noon (Suburban & Van Leave at 8:30 AM)

Brain Teaser

by Mason Lubben

A thousand colored folds stretch toward the sky, atop a tender strand.

Rising from the land, 'Til killed by maiden's hand.

Perhaps a token of love, perhaps to say goodbye.

What am I?

Answer: A Flower