

Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

FFA Week is next week

by Tara Goedken

Next week is National FFA week. Throughout the week, the FFA will be doing a food drive, which will be donated to the Delaware County Food Bank.

On Monday morning FFA members will be giving out FREE donuts to all the students and staff!

On Friday afternoon, the FFA Olympics will take place. Some activities included in the FFA Olympics will be Tug of War, milk chugging, and more.

Dress up days:

MONDAY: Blue & Gold (FFA colors)

Shirt Dress-Up Day

TUESDAY: Red / Green (John Deere vs Case) Shirt Dress-Up Day

WEDNESDAY: Camo / Hunting Dress-Up Day

THURSDAY: American Dress-Up Day

FRIDAY: Vest / Flannel Dress-Up Day

Vocal jazz gets feedback, prepares for next stop

by MV vocal jazz students

This past Friday Jazz Express and Smooth Harmony performed at Cedar Rapids Washington.

After our performance we had the pleasure of participating in a clinic with our clinician, Duane Davis, professor of music and vocal jazz instructor at Western Michigan University since 1969. For those who don't know, a clinic is a time after the performance when the clinician focuses on parts they felt could be improved in certain ways. In our clinics Mr. Davis spoke specifically to our soloists about incorporating our full bodies into our solos, as well as knowing and working with our ranges. He also discussed that as a group we have to adjust to the basic style of the piece and work on articulation and matching vowels.

Overall, Duane Davis had unique, fresh opinions and ideas that greatly helped us better ourselves as individuals and as unified jazz groups.

Both Smooth Harmony and Jazz X-Press will perform at Solon today.

MV FFA: 85 Years of Passion



FIRST ROW: Bob Hillens, Pat Kramer, Lee Wilson, Terry Crowley, Delbert Ronnebaum, Terry Turney, Bob Wendt, Pat Supple, Craig Bradke, Jeff Harder, Myron Zumbach, Craig Dunlap, Jack Cole. SECOND ROW: Richard Louis Chapman, Bill Feldmann, Kenny Feldmann, Seve Staner, Mike Wolfe, Bob Kirkwood, Terry Zumbach, Bill Webb, David Klaren, Wilber Mast, Curtis Cunlap, Randy Harbach. THIRD ROW: Mr. Weber, Don Collender, Dale Conrad, Bill Kehoe, Gary Timmer, Donald Weigel, James Staner, David Lahr, Dave Bishop, Kenneth Harder, Jim Heiserman, Doran Salow, Erwin Steffon.

from the 1967 yearbook

by Amber Engelken

In 1934, 14 teens had a dream. They wanted to combine school and their love: agriculture. In order to do this, they had to get chartered as an FFA Chapter. Future Farmers of America, as it was called back then, was just a six-year-old program that only a handful of states participated in. Since starting at the national level in 1928, FFA became a highly participated program in many schools. Those that didn't have it available underwent the process to get chartered as an official chapter in their state. On March 13, 1934, those 14 teens finally got their wish. They signed their names and dated the charter to start Maquoketa Valley FFA.

Ken Hoeger engaged in the FFA program at Delhi from 1962 to 1966. Within that time frame, he partook in many activities such as attend the annual banquet, exhibit projects at the county fair, and keep records of their supervised agricultural experiences. In 1962, FFA was popular in Delhi. "There were probably about 30 kids in FFA...I graduated with about 15 in my class," Hoeger recounted.

In 1967, the Delhi High School underwent a change. Delhi, Earlville, and Hopkinton combined their schools, making one big school: Maquoketa Valley. Maquoketa Valley soon overtook the FFA chapter,

changing its chapter name to Maquoketa Valley at Delhi in the eyes of the state. However, since the chapter just merged with other schools, it still kept its charter date of 1934.

In 1969, a progressive new rule passed by the national FFA officers. They opened FFA membership to females as well as males. This had a huge impact on national membership, growing it to where it is today. According to the National FFA Organization, the institution has now grown to 700,170 members as well as 8,612 chapters throughout the 50 states of America, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Lisa McEneny participated in the Maquoketa Valley FFA Chapter from 1974 to 1978. She recalled that some of her favorite memories were all of the proficiency winners and the many members that were active in the chapter at that time. She reminisced, "It was a really popular time for FFA in high school. All of my friends were in it and we did a lot of competitions. Overall a lot of people were successful." Maquoketa Valley has not only held champions, but they've helped people achieve their goals, which in Lisa's case, was the 1978 Iowa Holstein Princess. Lisa's passion for FFA didn't stop with her. Her children eventually went on to be very successful in their FFA chapter.

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FFA, continued

In 2018, another person with a passion for agriculture and FFA graduated from Maquoketa Valley. Amanda Engelken adored FFA. Through her four years, she competed in three national team contests as well as getting her proficiency, the records of her working at Delta Acres Dairy, to advance to the national level. She worked hard to be named a star finalist with her state degree. This success can be attributed to both her hard work and the chapter's leaders. With the help from Beckman High School, Maquoketa Valley had a joint program with over 100 kids and endless talent. "It was so much fun when you found great friends to hang out with," Amanda recollected.

Although many people with agricultural backgrounds are successful, there are also many city kids that are award winners too. Both the National FFA program and the Maquoketa Valley FFA program are home to members with and without agricultural backgrounds. FFA strengthens leadership, public speaking abilities, and networking. Because of this, the title Future Farmers of America seemed wrong for all the options someone has within the organization. Therefore, in 1988, the name changed to the National FFA Organization, hoping to show people that you don't have to be involved in agriculture to be a member of FFA. It's a good resource for everyone.

The FFA program at Maquoketa Valley is 85 years old, but one element has stayed the same throughout all of them. When asked their favorite thing about FFA, Ken, Lisa, and Amanda all said the same concept. They all enjoyed making new friends and learning new skills within the industry they love so much. Maquoketa Valley FFA has had an impact on almost everyone who has passed through those ag shop doors. Many people have found their passion, achieved success, and made life-long connections. The blue corduroy FFA members sport unite us, but our love connects us, no matter where someone is from.



Boys basketball season



Owen Mensen carefully keeps the ball in play in last week's game against Ed-Co. (photos by Lesa Parmely)

by Tara Goedken

Last Friday, the Wildcats traveled to Ed-Co to take on the Vikings. The boys lost with a score of 47-73.

On offense, Andrew Holtz led in points with 14, followed by AJ Ambundo

with 10 points, and Owen Mensen and Mason Lubben with 6 points each.

Last night the boys started district play by taking on Prince of Peace at Easton Valley. The Wildcats fell 49-51. The season ends with a 9-13 overall record.

Girls season ends with tough loss to Denver



Taya Tucker brings the ball upcourt during the post-season play game against Denver Tuesday night. Denver won 39-31. The girls season ends with a record of 17-5.

● *Next Tuesday, at the end of 4th hour (11-11:10), the Spanish 4 class will be putting on a Carnival Parade through the cafeteria and upper and lower halls! Comparable to the American version Mardi Gras, this is a celebration of the historic and religious feast before the fast. This parade will include a float, music, candy, toys, and the life-of-the-party spirit of the Hispanic tradition!*

what's up?

Which Disney prince or princess would you be?

by Paige Winter

Liz McDowell: Moana
Emilee Supple: Cinderella
Annisten Trenkamp: Moana
Krista Ries: Ariel
Caelyn Sands: Ariel
Ella Mensen: Ariel
Kaela Clemen: Jasmine
Anna Deutmeyer: Moana
Molly Anderegg: Tiana
Emma Beitz: Mulan
Amaya Hunt: Rapunzel

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Nicholas Chen



What part do you sing in vocal jazz?

I sing the low bass part.

What do you enjoy most about being in vocal jazz?

Singing with my fellow smooth harmonizers.

How has your life benefited by being in vocal jazz?

Vocal jazz has made me a much more confident person. It has also improved my sense of rhythm.

If you could arrange any song for vocal jazz, what would it be?

“Words” by the Real Group. It’s a really cool song.

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Chance Downs

You’ve been double nominated for All-State large group speech. What events were you in?

Reader’s Theatre and TV News

What do you enjoy most about large group speech?

Probably just being able to work with people who want to have as much fun as you. I enjoyed the process of getting better with my group and going to competitions to show how hard we worked.

What have you learned through these events? Deciding to go out for speech, in general, has allowed me to step out of my comfort zone and into an even more fun environment. I learned how to work with others, improve my vocalization, and just have fun with a piece.

Who is your speech role model? Mason Lubben. He is by far one of the most talented actors and public speakers this school has seen and his accomplishments speak for themselves. Mason prodded me for years to come out for speech and now that I am, I am happy I have done so.

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

I wouldn’t necessarily think I am qualified to judge an event but if I had to, it would be group improv so I could see some interesting acts.

Name: A.J. Ambundo

You’ve been double nominated for All-State large group speech. What events were you in?

I’m in TV News and Group Improvisation

What do you enjoy most about large group speech?

You have to work together to accomplish a task. If you work alone it doesn’t sound right or the performance doesn’t go well.

What have you learned through this events? I learned that Improv really isn’t as hard as people think it is especially if you’re just focused on having fun. I also learned that I have a projective voice.

Who is your speech role model? Chloe Roling

If you could judge a large group speech event, what would it be? I would judge Group Improv 100%. It is so fun to watch people purposely embarrass themselves to get a Division 1 rating, and it really gets you out of your shell.



Athletes of the Week

Name: Liz McDowell

What position do you play? Post

What do you enjoy most about playing basketball?

Apart from actually playing the game, the most enjoyable part would be the time you spend with the team. We have tons of memories and always make each other laugh.

What’s something about the sport that others may not know about? Something some people might not know is the amount of time we all dedicate to basketball. Apart from season practices and games, we also spend a lot of time on our own in the gym and playing during the summer. All the time spent is very rewarding when you see improvement in yourself and your team.

What’s been a favorite basketball memory? This is a hard question because there are so many good memories with my team, but one of my favorites would have to be the fun nights in the hotel this past summer at Spirit Lake.

Who’s your basketball role model?

A big role model for me would be my teammate Emerson Whittenbaugh. Life has thrown her a huge curveball, but she still manages to be a great teammate and a hard worker. She is always giving 100% effort in everything she does. She inspires me to push myself every day, and to never take things for granted.

Name: Erin Knipper

What position do you play? Post

What do you enjoy most about playing basketball?

One thing that I enjoy most about basketball is the jam sessions in the locker room before games and also beginning so close to my teammates.

What’s something about the sport that others may not know about? If one person doesn’t buy into a play, defense or anything it is hard to accomplish the goal. It is a team sport, everyone has to buy in.

What’s been a favorite basketball memory? My favorite two basketball memories is for sure Spirit Lake, and hanging out with the team at Moenck’s house.

Who’s your basketball role model?

Brooke Elgin



ACADEMIC CORNER

by Paige Winter

For a good number of students senior year is a time to fill your schedule with fun elective classes, but one more class you might want to put in your schedule is Character Development and Leadership. This is a class that will help you with your overall development, your decision making, public speaking, and communication skills, as well as improving your tolerance for others opinions, and giving you leadership skills that you can use in school, jobs, and relationships.

Mr. Huegel said, "Leaders have a target on them." At times leaders have to make hard decisions that may make other people upset. He encourages you to take this class if you are someone who wants to "set themselves apart" and become a strong leader. However if you want to take this class, you have to be willing to "find flaws" in your own character and be willing to explore ways to improve your character traits. This class will also help you develop skills that you will use far beyond high school such as your "emotional IQ" and high order thinking skills that can set you apart from others in your future.

If you take this class you can also look forward to a few guest speakers, even some who graduated from MV, who will come and share advice and wisdom with the students. Mr. Huegel also states that this class has a more informal atmosphere which is an environment where he can get to know the students better which is his favorite part of the class.

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Lydia Helle

Why did the girl smear peanut butter on the road?...To go with the traffic jam!

Why do bees have sticky hair?...They use a honey comb!

What has ears but does not hear?...A field of corn

Why did the kid cross the playground?... To get to the other slide

What kind of tree fits in your hand?...A palm tree

Best Buds

Coach Whittenbaugh & Erika Imler

by Amaya Hunt
How long have you two been close friends?

Whittenbaugh: For the last couple of years, but we've always known each other due

to our girls playing sports together.

Imler: Brandi started working in the office a while ago... so I'd say two years. We've always been good friends, but we've gotten a lot closer since she started working here.

What do you two do most together?

Whittenbaugh: Attend our girls' sporting events, and work, of course.

Imler: Sit in bleachers for our girls' sports.

What do you enjoy the most about each other's company?

Whittenbaugh: She can relate to me; we have a lot in common as far as knowing family comes first. Our kids are our priorities, and we have the same life motto: our kids come first.

Imler: We always have work to get done, but we always make it fun. We have lots of laughs, and she's really quick-witted.

What do you love most about working together with your close friend?

Whittenbaugh: Our morning convos and being able to relate to life occurrences together.

Imler: Again, she just makes us all laugh even when we are so busy.

If your two families were to go on a vacation together, where would you want to go and what would you want to do?

Whittenbaugh: We would be in a warm tropical area sitting on a beach somewhere.

Imler: Someplace warm with sun and a beach, and we'd sit there and just relax.

Where can you see the other in 10 years?

Whittenbaugh: I see her kids being successful; and she would be wherever her kids take her.

Imler: Probably still here, just raising Major and supporting Emerson wherever she's at.

If you could give the other a message without them knowing, what would you tell them that you love about them?

Whittenbaugh: I would tell her that I love how good of a mom she is, and her sense of style.

Imler: I would thank her for always being supportive, and I'm blessed to work with her every day.



Brain Teaser

by Mason Lubben

You are driving a bus. People get on at each stop in the morning and get off at the same stop at night. The bus is yellow. When you arrive at your destination, what color is the bus drivers hair?

Answer: Whatever color your hair is! You're driving the bus.

MV TEL-ALL

by Lydia Helle

If current tobacco use patterns persist, an

estimated **5.6** million of today's youth under age 18 eventually will die prematurely from a smoking-related disease.

Information came from American Lung Association's "Tobacco Use Among Children and Teens"

Cutie

by Tara Goedken



This week's cutie is a junior. She has two sisters and a brother. She loves to be outside and around animals.

Cutest Couple



Claire Krapfl & Dylan Johnson
by Amaya Hunt

How long have you two been dating?

1 year

How did you come to know each other?

Where did you meet?

Claire: Through a friend.

Dylan: A friend.

Is living far away from each other hard on the relationship?

Claire: Nope.

Dylan: No.

With your partner going to a different school, have you made any possible new friendships?

Claire: yes

Dylan: yes

What do you love most about the other's family?

Claire: They were very welcoming and they're always very nice to me and easy to talk to

Dylan: They are caring and welcoming

What can you two most commonly be found doing together?

Claire: For sure watching tik toks.

Dylan: Watching tik toks.

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

Claire: He's very caring, and I can always count on him to be there for me and support me throughout everything I do. He's also very outgoing, too.

Dylan: She's outgoing, always there for me in my sports, and supports me in everything I do.

Hall Smarts

by Lydia Helle

Many of you probably didn't realize that this past Monday was President's Day. While we have had our fair share of good and bad presidents, it is important to remember all of the men that have impacted our country over the years. This week, I asked Liz McDowell, Amber Engelken, and Mrs. Lewin if they could answer these questions about some of the greats.



What two men signed the Constitution and would later become presidents?

Liz: George Washington and Theodore Roosevelt

Amber: George Washington and James Madison

Mrs. Lewin: George Washington and Thomas Jefferson

Answer: George Washington and James Madison

What does the "S" stand for in Harry S. Truman?

Liz: Smith

Amber: Special

Mrs. Lewin: Simon

Answer: Nothing

How many days did William Henry Harrison die into his presidency?

Liz: 74

Amber: 19

Mrs. Lewin: 210

Answer: 32 days

True or False: Franklin D. Roosevelt was the first president to appear on television.

Liz: False

Amber: False

Mrs. Lewin: True

Answer: True

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MV the week of February 24, 2020

HS FFA Week (Feb. 24th - Feb. 28th)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020 - Blue & Gold (FFA colors) Shirt Dress-Up Day

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

2. MV FFA Food Drive Begins

3. Jr High Boys Basketball in Colesburg with Ed/Co - 4:00 PM (Bus Leaves at 3:05 PM)

4. HS TRC Individual Speech - HOME - both HS & MS Gyms, both Cafeterias, All Classrooms - 4:00 PM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020 - Red / Green (John Deere vs Case) Shirt Dress-Up Day

1. FFA to Sub-District Contest at Clayton Ridge in Guttenburg - 4:30 PM (2 Vans Leave at 3:00 PM)

2. HS Varsity Boys District Basketball

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020 - Camo / Hunting Dress-Up Day

1. Elite Dental in Kindergarten Classrooms - 10:30 AM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020 - American Dress-Up Day

1. HS Jazz Band to Coe College Jazz Summit in C.R. - 5:30 PM (Bus & Van Leaves at 4:15 PM)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2020 - Vest / Flannel Dress-Up Day

1. HS Vocal to Jazz Clinic at Kirkwood Community College in C.R. - 8:00 AM (Bus Leaves at 6:30AM)

2. Delhi Elementary "Wildcat Way" Assemblies - 2:15 PM until 2:45 PM

3. MV HS FFA Ag Olympics - HS Gymnasium - 2:10 PM

4. MV FFA Food Drive Ends

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2020

1. HS District Individual Speech - HOME - both HS & MS Gyms, both Cafeterias, All Classrooms - 8:00 AM