

## Band, choir students shine, challenge themselves at contest

by Chantel Crowley

This year, the members of MV's choir and band had a change of pace with their solo and ensemble performances. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, other schools in the area were not holding the contest. Instead, Mrs. Huber and Mr. Ford brought in a judge. The choir and band were able to perform in front of the judge, and then were able to hear comments directly after.

"I'm very proud of what these kids were able to accomplish, even if the solo/ensemble looked quite a bit different than usual," commented Mr. Ford about the band. The band had 19 entries total. Out of the 12 soloists, 9 were doing solos for the first time.

### Prom details shared



by Kylie Chesnut

Students are very excited for the prom and post prom of 2021! This year's theme has been voted for: "A Starlit Night." Grand March will be in the Middle School Gym starting at 3:00 pm. Then, prom will be at the Delhi Legion starting at 8:00. There will be a king and a queen crowned this year. Finally post prom will be at the high school from 11:00pm-2:00am. There will be lots of fun games and some yummy food to enjoy. Bring your dancing shoes and have a great night under the stars.

Miss Huber concurred: "I am extremely proud of the work that these students put into this process and with the results from the contest. Solo and ensemble is really all about students' individual musicianship skills, so they should be very proud of how much they were able to put together independently and the growth they were able to achieve on their own."

Choir Results:

Nia Burnett, solo: II  
Paige Panosh, solo: I  
Kaitlyn Nolan, solo: I  
Brylie Pohlman, solo: II  
Carlie Lewin, solo: I  
Brylie Pohlman & Nick Gibbs, duet: II  
Noah DeVore, solo: II  
Mitch Heims, solo: II  
Brock Trenkamp, solo: I  
Domarius Strickland, solo: II

Emma Gray, Josie Teymer, Emma Beitz, Chantel Crowley, Cadence Freiburger, Lacey Barry, Adeline Rudd, Kaitlyn Nolan, Allison Hogan, Carlie Lewin, Lauren Knock & Keylee Cole, ensemble: II

Brock Trenkamp, Michael Van Meter & Noah DeVore, trio: I

Annie Trenkamp, Cecily Trenkamp, Allison Hogan, Trinity Chadwick, Laura Scholmyer & Kayla Otting, ensemble: II

Kylynn Clary, Paige Panosh, Keziah Ambundo & Brylie Pohlman, quartet: II

Nick Gibbs, Noah Ingles, Mitch Heims, Devin Smith & Domarius Strickland, ensemble: comments only

Noah DeVore, Michal Van Meter, Carlie Lewin & Paige Panosh, quartet: I

Andrew Hildebrand, Andrew Kloser, Brock Trenkamp & Jackson Hunter, quartet: I

Jackson Hunter, Logan Johnson, Andrew Kloser, Noah DeVore, Brock Trenkamp & Michael Van Meter, ensemble: I

Devin Smith, Domarius Strickland, Noah DeVore, Jackson Hunter, Brock Trenkamp & Michal Van Meter, ensemble: II

Autumn Nelson, Amanda Pohlman, Chantel Crowley, Josie Teymer, Morgan Krumviende, Kaitlyn Nolan, Kylynn Clary, Logan Johnson, Andrew Kloser, Nick Gibbs, Amberlyn Farrell, Cecily



Paige Panosh, Carlie Lewin, Noah DeVore and Michael Van Meter perform their mixed quartet.

Trenkamp, ensemble: II

Band Results:

Brylie Pohlman, flute solo: II

Amanda Mohr, clarinet solo: I

Kaitlyn Nolan, clarinet solo: II

Madeline Gellersen, alto sax solo: I

Matthew Brehm, alto sax solo: I

Nick Gibbs, trumpet solo: II

Michael Van Meter, trombone solo: I

Noah DeVore, trombone solo: I

Emma Richter, bari sax solo: I

Ashton Goldsmith, timpani solo: II

Brylie Pohlman, piano solo, II

Amberlyn Farrell, piano solo: I

Mitch Heims, Brock Trenkamp,

Amberlyn Farrell & Ashton Goldsmith, percussion quartet: I

Michael Van Meter & Noah DeVore, trombone duet: I

Nick Gibbs, Ashtyn Porter, Cecily Trenkamp, Payton Brown, Adeline Rudd, Michal Van Meter, Noah DeVore, Keziah Ambundo & Emma Richter, brass choir: I

Madeline Gellersen, Matthew Brehm, Logan Johnson & Emma Richter, saxophone quartet: I

Jake Gellersen & Madeline Gellersen, saxophone duet: I

Amanda Mohr, Kaela Clemen, Shea Burcham & Emma Doyl, clarinet quartet: I

Brylie Pohlman, Keylee Cole, Amanda Mohr, Kaela Clemen, Shea Burcham, Emma Ritz, Grace Rowan, Kaitlyn Nolan, Emma Doyl, Madeline Gellersen, Jake Gellersen, Matthew Brehm, Logan Johnson & Josie Teymer, woodwind choir: I

# Sports Connection

## April weather cooperates to let golfers get several meets in

by Kaitlyn Nolan

It was a busy week for the MV golf team as they competed against East Buchanan, Cal Wheat, Springville, Starmont, Monticello, and Central City. Each meet brought its own challenges with the wind and weather, but the team pushed through and performed well.

Last Thursday the team traveled to Winthrop to face East Buchanan and Cal Wheat. The boys team got third with a score of 220. East Buchanan was first with 162 and Cal Wheat had 198. The girls had a good night, each golfer scoring in the mid to high sixties.

The day after, Springville went to Hart Ridge in Manchester to go up against the MV team. The boys team lost 208 to Springville's score of 190, but that didn't make them leave home empty-handed. Senior Isaac Zirtzman was the medalist with a 35. The girls also performed well, but they lacked enough people for a Varsity team.

"Although the scoring across the board isn't where we know it's going to be, we felt the first week of competition was a really good learning experience with both of our teams," Coaches Andrews and Besler both stated. "To see Isaac come out and shoot a par 35 is a tremendous accomplishment for him, and we look forward to watching him improve even more as the year progresses."

On Monday the team stayed in Hart Ridge to host the Starmont boys and girls teams along with the Monticello girls team. Both boys and girls had a great performance, but the boys team lost 196 to Starmont's 186. Isaac Zirtzman was the medalist once again, taking the honors with a 42.

"We finally got to play in some sunlight again, and it showed in many of our golfers posting PRs: Zach Digman, Jake Gellersen, Logan Johnson, and Madeline Gellersen," Coaches Andrews and Besler stated. "So many golfers making huge strides in their games, from week to

week. We can't say enough about these kids. It's clearly evident how many of them love to play this game."

The team got back to work on Tuesday and traveled to Central City. The boys won with a score of 235 to Central City's 285. Senior Zach Digman was the medalist with a par 49, and freshman Jake Gellersen was the runner-up with a par 59. The girls also had a good night with Madeline Gellersen being the runner-up with a par 58.

The team had a busy week, and it will continue tonight for the girls team at home against East Buchanan. The boys and girls both golf against Ed-Co Monday.

### Individual scores

#### East Buchanan Meet

MV Boys: 220

EB: 162

Cal Wheat: 198

Isaac Zirtzman- 43

Preston Roling- 61

Jake Gellersen- 53

Jackson Hunter- 71

Tate Monk- 63

Logan Johnson- 70

MV Girls: N/A

EB: 250

Cal Wheat: 314

Madeline Gellersen- 60

Jordyn LeGassick- 65

Kaela Clemen- 69

#### Springville Meet

MV Boys: 208

Springville: 190

Isaac Zirtzman- 35

Preston Roling- 60

Jake Gellersen- 55

Tate Monk- 63

Landin Frasher- 64

Logan Johnson- 58

Nick Gibbs- 76

Brady Hogan- 57

Parker Ries- 73

Zach Mineart- 78

Leijhton Deutmeyer- 71

MV Girls: N/A

Springville: 190

Madeline Gellersen- 59

Kaela Clemen- 67

Brooke Hogan- 77

Marley Wagnor- 85

#### Starmont Meet

MV Boys: 196

Starmont: 186

Isaac Zirtzman- 42

Zach Digman- 49

Jake Gellersen- 49

Logan Johnson- 56

Tate Monk- 69

Landin Frasher- 64

Brady Hogan- 65

Nick Gibbs- 70

Parker Ries- 61

Rowan James- 61

Zach Mineart- 65

MV Girls: N/A

Starmont: 215

Monticello: 193

Madeline Gellersen- 49

Kaela Clemen- 68

Brooke Hogan- 77

Marley Wagnor- 80

#### Central City Meet

MV Boys: 235

Central City: 285

Zach Digman- 49

Jake Gellersen- 59

Logan Johnson- 68

Landin Frasher- 67

Tate Monk- 65

Brady Hogan- 62

Parker Ries- 73

MV Girls: N/A

Central City: 263

Madeline Gellersen- 58

Kaela Clemen- 90

Brooke Hogan- 76

# Girls track finishes fourth, sixth at meets

by Chantel Crowley

The girls track team is getting faster and stronger, and the times and distances are showing it.

Last Thursday night the girls team finished fifth with 81 points.

Points scorers were:

100M Dash: Amaya Hunt, 3rd, 14.31

200M Dash: Taya Tucker, 5th, 31.00

800M Run: Emma Doyl, 3rd, 3:08.03

3000M Run: Allison Hogan, 4th, 15:33

100M Hurdles: Kendra Hillers, 2nd,

18.53; Caelyn Sands, 3rd, 20.31

4x100 Relay: Lily Huber, Leah Ries, Ella

Mensen, McKenna Thompson, 1st, 55.64

4x200 Relay: Thompson, Tucker, Ries,

Emma Richter, 3rd, 2:02.01

800 Sprint Medley: Huber, Beaman,

Mensen, Amaya Hunt, 2nd, 2:03.17

SHR: Ries, Sands, Thompson, Hillers, 1st,

1:18.39

High jump: Jordan Hogan, 3rd, 4-04

Shot put: Erin Knipper, 4th, 29-08

Discus: Paige Winter, 4th, 84-03; Tucker,

6th, 76-05

This Tuesday, the girls track competed at Central City Coed. Overall, the girls scored 105 points, putting them in 4th. Athletes who earned points were:

800 Sprint Medley: Huber, Tucker, Beaman, Amaya Hunt, 2:03.49, 2nd

4x100 Meter Shuttle Hurdle: Ries, Sands, Thompson, Hillers, 1:18.93, 3rd

100 Meter Dash: Amaya Hunt, 14.86, 5th

Distance Medley: Livia Hermanson, Addison Hucker, Isabel Imler, Allison Hogan, 5:59.66, 5th

400 Meter Dash: Huber, 1:11.59, 2nd; Beaman, 11:12.52, 3rd

4x200 Meter Relay: Thompson, Saige Hunt, Tucker, Mensen, 2:01.61, 2nd

100 Meter Hurdles: Ries, 17.40, 1st; Hillers, 20.24, 10th

800 Meter Run: Doyl, 3:04.02, 5th

4x100 Meter Relay: Huber, Ries, Richter, Thompson, 55.18, 2nd

4x400 Meter Relay: Mensen, Saige Hunt, Beaman, Amaya Hunt, 4:37.19, 1st

High Jump: Jordan Hogan, 4-04.00, 6th; Mensen, 4-02.00, 7th

Long Jump: Tucker, 14-00.00, 8th

Discus Throw: Winter, 88-04, 2nd; Maddy Kemp, 81-07, 4th

Shot Put: Knipper, 30-08.75, 3rd

Mr. Dunlap has commented on a few of these athletes' performances thus far. "Taya Tucker has good experience from the past seasons and is right back to her old form. I think she can do very well in the long jump, especially with the little work that has been done on this."

Coach Dunlap also noted some improvement with the throwers. "Erin

Knipper is very consistent in the shot. She knows she can go bigger than that, and she's going to start having really good meets. For Paige Winter and Maddy Kemp, they had really nice PR's, and will both contribute to team success this year. It's fun to watch the field events get better and better.

"The Distance Medley was an all freshman group. These guys have been exciting to watch. They're starting to figure out all the little things in running."

"Freshman Lily Huber ran a nice open 400, and the 4x200 almost matched their season best. The conditions during

# Boys track finish second, eighth

by Leah Ries

The boys track team took a trip on Highway 20 to Independence for the third meet of the season. The team claimed second place with a score of 142 points. Coach Meehan commented on the team performance, "Again the boys rallied around each other to perform very well in adverse conditions. Due to the small number of teams, we broke up the relays to allow others to play a more significant part. In the process we had nine out of the twelve boys competing performing their personal best."

Point Winners:

Shot Put: Devin Smith, second, 42-1½

Brock Trenkamp, fifth, 37-11

Discus: Brock Trenkamp, third, 120-3

Devin Smith, sixth, 100-11

High Jump: AJ Ambundo, first, 5-8

100M: Jamie Pitts, fourth, 12.84

200M: AJ Ambundo, third, 24.24

400M: DeVante Strickland, first, 57.46

800M: Cy Huber, first, 2:16.24

Mitch Heims, fifth, 2:33.53

1600M: Michael Schaul, first, 5:08.02

George Livingston, fifth, 6:31.45

3200M: Nolan Ries, first, 10:43.47

4x100: first, 49.41, Pitts, Strickland, Devin Meeks, Ambundo

800M SMR: second, 1:44.71, Meeks, Trenkamp, Strickland, Schaul

4x200: second, 1:45.27, Pitts, Meeks, Ethan Doyl, Ries

4x400: second, 3:53.75, Huber, Heims, Doyl, Ries

1600M DMR: first, 3:55.84, Ambundo, Trenkamp, Huber, Schaul

4x800: first, 9:42.29, Heims, Livingston, Doyl, Huber

The wind and cold conditions didn't keep the boys track team from excelling. At the Jesup meet, the team placed eighth of sixteen teams. Michael Schaul offered his take on the meet: "The weather was terrible for performing in. I thought that our team overall did well in the condi-

the meet were terrible; cold and windy. I'm proud of how these varsity kids stepped up and performed well.

"I thought the varsity 4x100 has been very consistent. As the weather gets better, their times will start coming down. My JV 4x100 & 4x200 have been fun to watch and exciting. We have been winning a lot of those JV Heats."

The girls' competed at MFL Mar-Mac, and will be covered in the next issue. Their next meet is Monday, April 19th at home.



**Mitch Heims leads off in a relay last week. (photo by Lesa Parmely)**

tions."

Point Winners:

Discus: Brock Trenkamp, third, 125-09

Shot Put: Devin Smith, sixth, 42-02.25

High Jump: AJ Ambundo, fourth, 5-06

200M: AJ Ambundo, sixth, 24.38

400M: Cy Huber, second, 52.41

4x200: second, 1:17.09, Ambundo, Nolan Ries, Michael Schaul, DeVante Strickland

4x400: third, 3:38, Huber, Ries, Schaul, Ambundo

4x800: first, 8:52.59, Ethan Doyl, Ries, Huber, Schaul

The team traveled to West Delaware on Thursday night. Results in the next issue. Next week the team will compete at Alburnett and Monticello.



## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

*Amberlynn Farrell*

**You earned a perfect score this past weekend at solo/ensemble contest. What did you play?** I performed "Hungarian Dance No.5" by Johannes Brahms.

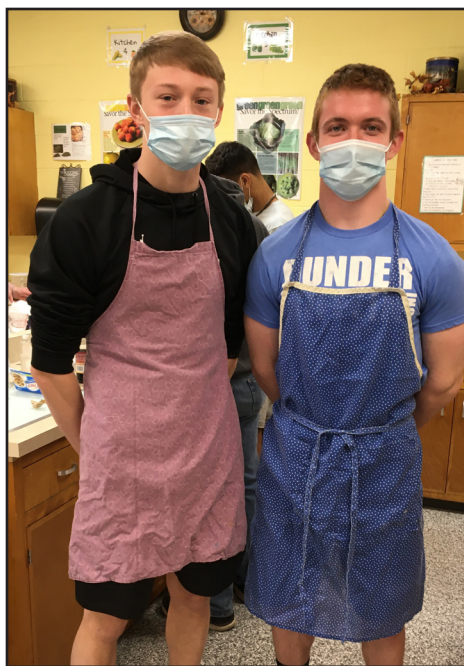


**How did you prepare for contest?** I first got the piece last year for solo ensemble before it was cancelled, and to prepare I practiced pretty much every day for 2 months. This year I just played it a lot the week before since I had it down as muscle memory. **What do you enjoy most about playing in band?** I love making music together with people and making music that can touch people's hearts.

**What life lessons have you learned by being in band?** Practice makes perfect.

**If you could join a famous band, which one would it be?** Pink Floyd or any renowned orchestra. I'd absolutely love to play piano in an orchestra one day, or possibly conduct my own orchestra.

## *Lookin' fine award*



**This week's Fashion Photo of the Week goes out to Owen Mensen and Preston Roling who are bringing back the practical, yet personality-filled apron.**

## Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Josie Teymer

**What role do you play in the musical?**

I am part of the Ensemble.

**What's your favorite part of the show?** Working on choreography with Miss Huber.

**What's your favorite memory from rehearsals?**

When everyone laughs at the way that Zari dances. (Sorry, Zari.)

**If you could play any role in any musical, what would it be?** The Primadonna in *The Phantom of The Opera*

**How has participating in the musical affected you?** I am also a member on the Dance Team and working on choreography with Miss Huber has made me a more confident dancer.



Name: Kaitlyn Nolan

**What role do you play in the musical?**

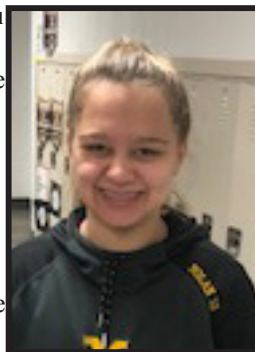
I play George who is one of the class clowns in the musical.

**What's your favorite part of the show?** My favorite part of the show is the parable I tell at the end of Act I. It adds humor to a lesson.

**What's your favorite memory from rehearsals?** My favorite memory from rehearsal was running through choreography with Josie when we were all learning it. The two of us always made it fun to learn.

**If you could play any role in any musical, what would it be?** I would have loved to be Christine in Phantom of the Opera. I just watched the movie recently.

**How has participating in the musical affected you?** It made me understand how to play different roles and how to act. While this musical does have humor, it switches into a much darker, sadder mood towards the end. Doing the change so quickly I feel has made me a better actor.



## Athletes of the Week

Name: Isaac Zirtzman

**What is your favorite part of playing golf?** Hitting a bomb right down the fairway and driving par 4's.

**What's the most frustrating part of the sport?** Losing. **How long have you played?** Since I was a few months old.

**Who's your golf role model?** My dad. Would never have been good without his coaching.



Name: Amaya Hunt

**What do you enjoy most about track?** I

love track practices the most; I actually don't enjoy the meets that much because I get so nervous. But I absolutely love

practices because of the team and all of the friendships that develop. We all have so much fun with one another, even when we feel like our bodies are going to fall apart. It's kind of an unforgettable experience, I think.

**What do you think your best event will be?** I have a lot of faith in all of the events that I run, but I am really looking forward to seeing how far our 4x400 will go, as well as the Sprint Medley. I'm hoping to take the open 400 far, too.

**What life lessons have you learned through track?** I've found out that as long as I have the right people next to me, the possibilities are endless. Track practices aren't necessarily the easiest things to get through, but with the encouragement and positivity of my teammates besides me, things don't seem as hard as they would without them there. I've found out the importance of camaraderie and encouragement.

**What's the hardest part of practice?** Getting into the mindset of actually making myself do the work. It's not that hard once you start the workout, it's just knowing that you actually have to do it is a struggle.

**Who is your track role model?** Sam Wall





# Best Buds



**Mr. Bruening & His Friends**  
by Amaya Hunt

**How many animals do you take care of?** My best guess would be over 120, but this is only counting the vertebrates though! I have no idea how many snails I have.

**Which animal is the hardest to care for? Which one is the easiest?**

The hardest would be my two humans, Koral and Killian :) My 4th Hour Chemistry class would be a close second, though. The fish snails, turtle, dogs, cat, and rabbit are easy!

**I know it's hard to pick favorites, but which animal do you like the best and why?** Excluding the children in my life, I would have to say that Willy is my favorite. He has a ton of attitude, and a huge personality. Plus, we are working on some tricks! Right now, he just knows: Stare at me. Hide.

**Which animal does each of your family members like best?** They all love Charlie the most. When I come home every Friday after a long week at school, they are always happy to see me, but are even more ecstatic when they see that I also have Charlie!



**Is taking care of animals something you genuinely enjoy? What compels you to do so?** I do! I love watching them grow, in terms of size, maturity, and becoming more comfortable around humans. The fish are especially calming for me, as I like to watch them swim around and chase each other. They have their own little community and hierarchy that is fun to try and figure out!

**If you could have any animal in the entire world, what would it be and why?** The axolotl! They can regenerate their limbs if they are cut off, and can even grow several hands if the correct tissue is placed on the side of their arm.

**Now on the other hand, if you could choose to be an animal just for a day, what would you want to be and why?** A musky, or a bald eagle... they're top dogs. They have no natural enemies, and imagine how freeing it would be to be able to cruise through the air or water like a torpedo!



## MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Paige Panosh

Teen alcohol use kills **4,700** individuals annually. This accounts for more than all the deaths caused by illegal drugs. In addition, it's estimated that drunk driving costs the US more than **\$199 billion** yearly.  
—HuffPost

## Cutie



by Matthew Brehm

The Cutie this week is a freshman. She is involved in TEL, music, speech & drama, volleyball, basketball, softball, Echo, and track. She also lives in Hopkinton and has brown hair.

*Last week's Cutie was Allison Nefzger.*

## Comedy Corner

—compiled by Paige Panosh

So the Pope is super early for his flight. He asks his driver on his way to the airport if he could drive around for a while because they have time to kill and he hasn't driven a car since becoming the pope. Naturally, he's a bit rusty, so he's driving poorly, when suddenly he sees police lights behind him. He pulls over and when the officer comes up to the window his eyes go wide. He says to the pope "Hold on for a minute," and goes back to his car to radio the chief.

Cop: "Chief we have a situation. I've pulled over an important figure."

Chief: "How important? A governor or something?"

Cop: "No sir. He's bigger."

Chief: "So, what? a celebrity or something?"

Cop: "More important, sir."

Chief: "A major politician?"

Cop: "No sir, he's much more important."

Chief: "WELL WHO IS IT!?"

Cop: "Well actually I'm not sure. But the Pope's his driver."

# Cheerleading squad announced



Cheerleading tryouts were held Wednesday, and MV now has its team! Front row: Maddy Kemp, Mianna Gosche, and Josie Teymer; middle row: Amaya Hunt, Clairra Gray, McKenna Thompson, and Kaelynn Clark; back row: Molly Anderegg, Kendra Hillers, Kaitlyn Nolan, Kylie Chesnut, Livia Hermanson, and Leah Ries



## Quoted

by Matthew Brehm

Though we might seem vastly different from one another, this is usually not the case. This week's quote is, **"After the game is over, the pawn and the king go into the same box."** - *Persian Proverb*.



Now, I'm certainly no expert in the world of chess, but I do know enough to appreciate this quote. What I really like about it is that it puts something I've always tried to communicate into words.

One angle I see this quote from is the fact that the pawn and the king are both just pieces. Just part of the game of life, they both want to succeed as much as any other piece. I usually try to keep politics out of my column, but something we are having a harder and harder time doing is realizing the humanity of one another. The pawn and the king both do different things, but they have the same end goal. As we get further and further divided, it's important to keep in mind that nearly every person on the planet is simply trying to do what they believe is best for everyone. Too often does prejudice cloud our judgement to a state where we don't care to hear what others have to say. We are more alike than it may seem at times.

The king and pawn can also only succeed if they work together. When we get to know people outside of our regular circle, we get to see a whole new world of thoughts and ideas that could completely change the way we think about things. For me in my life, these diverse friends are my most important ones. Without them, I wouldn't be me.

With a focus more on the box mentioned in the quote, I think about how we all end up in the same place whether we have power, like the king; or are more average, like the pawn. At the end of your life, it doesn't matter if you have all the money in the world; you're still going to pass away. In my opinion, the impact you've made on others over the course of a lifetime is worth worlds more than money could ever buy.

Try not to worry so much about whether you are a king or a pawn, and focus more on what you can contribute to the game with what you have.



# Owen Mensen

**Activities involved in during high school:** Speech, Baseball, Football, Track, Basketball

**Which activity affected you the most?** Football and basketball because they both taught me valuable lessons in terms of how to work well with others and come together as one to get things done. These are lessons that not only helped me in my sports career, but will be very valuable to me in my future. I also found a lot of enjoyment out of these activities throughout my high school career.

**If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be?** Do what makes you happy and what you are passionate about and not what makes the most money. I would also say make memories with your friends and family because nothing is ever guaranteed. You never know when you could get a call. Just always find a way to make memories because they are the most important, valuable thing you will ever have in your life. Always take in everything that you can.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** All the teachers care about you, and you can have a personal relationship with them. Everyone is so friendly also and it's just so easy to fit in here. I also really appreciate the Dollars for Scholars program that we have going here. I really think that it is a great thing.

**If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why?** State track my sophomore year. The group of people that went down was what made it so fun. It was definitely an experience I'll never forget.

**Who is your most inspirational teacher?** There are a lot of teachers that helped me tremendously throughout high school; however, Mr. DeVore and Mrs. Lewin were the ones who helped me the most. I struggle in math and they really helped me get through those classes when they were tough for me.

**If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be?** "One Time" - Justin Bieber

**What does your future look like?** I plan to attend Kirkwood to go into their Paramedic program. Once I graduate from college I plan to either try and get a job in Manchester or Marion. I would really like to live on a lake someday, however, so I will just see where life takes me.

**What is your dream job?** Paramedic Firefighter along with my death investigator certification

**What one event has most impacted your life so far?** I would definitely say the passing away of Teige. Things like that make you realize that not every second you have on here is guaranteed. You always have to live your life to the fullest and that is exactly what Teige did.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** All the times when my friends and I would go out on the lake in the morning and during the summer and how we just made memories. Those memories are some of the most valuable things that you will ever take with you in life. They are something that you will never forget.



# Reece Mensen

**Activities involved in during high school:** Speech, Spanish Club, Cross Country, and Track

**Which activity affected you the most?** Cross Country affected me the most because it taught me how to not give up. It pushes you to your limits but in the end it shows you what you are capable of doing. Cross country is a sport where all of us runners get and understand each other. We all understand each other's pain and accomplishments. It's a sport that is a love/hate relationship yet it has so much purpose behind it.

**If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be?**

Advice I would give to underclassmen is to get involved in your school. Your four years go by in the blink of an eye. High School isn't going to be the highlight of your life, but it is a good place to start making many memories. This is the time in your life to put yourself out there and try new things. But just know that this is also the time to make your biggest mistakes. The only way you're going to learn is by making them. And it's also alright to not have the answers to everything, just take life as given. Never leave anyone behind; BE the bigger person. Don't be afraid to get your hands dirty. Have fun and enjoy it now because it doesn't last forever.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** The staff that works there. They all work so hard to make sure all of us students are getting good grades. Each and every one of them go out of their way to help the students in need of it. They aren't afraid to speak up when they believe you are someone who may need extra help on things. Everyone is very polite and respectful and is never afraid to lend a hand.

**Who is your most inspirational teacher? Why?**

The most inspirational teachers for me are both Mrs. Down and Mrs. Lewin because they both inspire me to follow my dreams. They are two people that I have no problem getting advice from. If I ever need help they are the ones who will jump right in and help in any way possible. If you are ever looking for someone reliable, personally I would recommend going to either one of these teachers. They give their honest input and aren't afraid to tell you how it is which are the kind of people we all need in order for us to be better people.

**What does your future (college and career) look like? After high school** I plan on attending college at Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC). There I will be attending the Medical Assistant Program. It is a one year program. After I graduate from college I will immediately be finding myself a job as a Medical Assistant. As of right now I am planning on finding a job near Cedar Rapids/Cedar Falls area.

**What is your dream job?** My dream job has always involved working in the medical field of some sort. As of right now my dream job is Medical Assisting. For the future it could change. I've also had interests in being a Paramedic. But for now this is where I plan on starting my career.



# Jordyn LeGassick



**Activities involved in during high school:** Speech, NHS, Volleyball, Tennis, Golf, Service Club, ASB.

**Which activity affected you the most?** I would say NHS because it has allowed me to better myself and serve my community.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** My favorite memory from elementary school was the parachute game in PE in Earlville. It has always been one of the only things I remember about my elementary school days.

**If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be?** Don't push things off until tomorrow. They will pile up and then you will get behind. Get things done and out of the way so you don't have to stress at the last minute.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** How much the teachers really care about us and want us to succeed.

**If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why?** All of the homecoming games because they were all so much fun.

**Who is your most inspirational teacher?** Mrs. Temple or Mrs. Palmer, they both have such positive attitudes and are so fun. You can't help but feel happy when you are around them; their happiness is contagious.

**If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be?** The only song that I think applies to not only me but what the world should be like is the song "Undivided" by Tim McGraw.

**What does your future look like?** I am going to be attending Brigham Young University in Idaho. I plan to major in criminal justice.

**What is your dream job?** I do not know what my dream job is but I want a job that makes me happy and one that I look forward to going to everyday.

**What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do?** Move schools in the middle of the year, not knowing anyone and trying to catch up to where the other students were at.

# Abbie Sheehy



**Activities involved in during high school:** Cross Country (1 year), Basketball managing (3 years), Track (2 years), Softball (4 years), Large group speech (3 years), Individual speech (3 years)

**Which activity affected you the most?** The activity Individual speech affected me the most because it has made me step out of my comfort zone! This activity made me find my true self and made me realize that I didn't need to focus on what other people thought of me, so I tried something new and I ended up loving it!

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** My favorite elementary school memory would be Grandparent's Day! I would love to show my grandparents around my classroom, meet my friends, and when we were all done we would head to the lunchroom for cookies and milk!

**If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be?** Do not procrastinate on assignments and get assignments done ahead of time to create less stress on yourself. Another important piece of advice is to get involved and meet new people!

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** How all the staff and students are very welcoming and friendly to everyone.

**If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be?** Large group speech contests and Individual speech contests!

**Who is your most inspirational teacher?** Mrs. Hess, my Kindergarten teacher, would be my most inspirational teacher because she has a big heart and has always taught me to be kind to everyone.

**If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be?** "Firework" by Katy Perry!

**What does your future look like?** I plan on attending Kirkwood Community College to study Criminal Justice.

**What is your dream job?** My dream job is to hopefully become some type of detective, either a police detective or a homicide detective.

**What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do?** The hardest thing I had to ever do in my life so far would be to go through the passing of our two classmates, Anna Nefzger and Teige Hunt. Both deaths had made our class closer and stronger together. Our classmates passing away has made me realize that life is very fragile, so appreciate every moment you have with a family member or close friend. You never know when someone's last day will be.

**What's one event that has most impacted your life so far?** One event that has impacted my life so far would be getting to experience going down to Des Moines for State Basketball. Managing the girls' basketball team has been lots of fun the last three years, and experiencing state for the very first time my senior year made a huge impact on me. It has made me realize that dreams really do come true if you believe!

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** I don't have an event in mind, but I would be very curious to talk about what everyone has been studying at college and where they have ended up so far in their life!



**Activities involved in during high school:** Vocal Jazz, Speech, Musical, Play, TEL, IT Club, Wildcat Echo and Yearbook Committee

**Which activity affected you the most?** Vocal Jazz has affected me the most because it is so rigorous. Since freshman year, I was responsible for learning and singing my part, and it was vocal jazz that has been a key reason I am so strong as an individual.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** When we used to do the St. Patrick's Day Parade outside, my family and I had painted a wagon green and, with various decorations, made it one of the best parts of the parade, in my opinion ;). It had been filled with green and gold objects, and I remember carting it down the sidewalk with Anna and I all dressed up in green gear.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Do it all. Even when it all feels overwhelming and you want to quit just to feel the relief of not having anything to do, keep pushing forward. You can get the next good grade, earn the next part, remember the next line, dunk the next basket, score the next touchdown run one more mile. Nothing is truly earned if you don't work and struggle for it.

**What do you appreciate most about MV?** I appreciate the teachers and staff the most. They are always there to support you and listen whether it be academically, in extracurricular activities, or if you are struggling in life. I couldn't have done it without them.

**If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why?** The first night I performed as Alice Murphy in our high school production of the musical *Bright Star*. There were quick, seconds-long costume changes, back-stage giggles, elaborate on-stage changes, and a giant house unit spinning across the stage, but the moment that will forever be remembered was when the curtains opened and I stood in silhouette staring at a couple hundred pairs of eyes all on me. The lights had come up and the warmth blushed my skin as I began to sing. I could feel myself shaking in my heels, but I didn't want to be anywhere else at that moment. My southern accent still sticks with me and I even find myself slipping in and out of it sometimes. There were so many good moments in high school, but I think that moment on stage has to be the best high school memory I could relive.

**Who is your most inspirational teacher?** Mrs. DeVore. She has so much on her plate, but she continues to work towards her goals because she knows the outcome is always worth it when you work hard and keep pushing forwards.

**If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be?** "Costume Party" by Lauren Duski

**What does your future look like?** I'm going to Iowa State University to major in graphic design and possibly minor in marketing or psychology. I'm not yet sure where my degree will take me in the world, but the good news is with a degree in graphic design I can go most anywhere.

**What is your dream job?** My dream job would probably be to get paid to do whatever I want all day and not get fat, but that's why it's a dream. It doesn't exist. My real dream job is to be an artist in any and all categories of the fine arts.

**What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do?** Say goodbye to the people I thought I'd never lose. Mourning the loss of the living leads to times you wish for the past but have to keep moving forwards so you don't let all of the unknown possibilities pass you by.

**What one event has most impacted your life so far?** So many moments have impacted my life so far, especially in 2020, but the one event that has most impacted me would be performing in *Bright Star*. It was definitely a grand moment of growth and realization for me in my life.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** I hope we still talk about all of the productions, between musical, play, and speech, that we've made so many memories in.

## Paige Panosh Payton Beaman



**Activities involved in during high school:** Volleyball, Track, Softball, TEL, NHS, Large Group Speech, and Spanish Club

**Which activity affected you the most?**

The activities that affected me the most would either be from sports or from large

group speech. The sports that I participated in made me push myself to become the best as well as be a team player while large group speech taught me how to face my fears and put on a new face in front of many people.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** Going into PE and seeing the parachute.

**If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be?** I know every senior says this, but don't take the four years in high school for granted. It felt like just yesterday I was a freshman walking these halls for the first time. Now, looking back, I wouldn't trade the last four years for anything.

**What do you appreciate most about MV?** The thing I appreciate most about MV is the atmosphere. Everyone here is so kind, supportive, and will always be there for you whenever you need it.

**If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be and why?** Volleyball season of my junior year. I would want to go back to this because of the excitement and enjoyment I experienced throughout this season.

**Who is your most inspirational teacher?** Mr. Huegel. He was always there to push you to become the best person you could be.

**If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be?** Anything written by Morgan Wallen.

**What does your future look like?** I want to be placed in a hospital as a Radiology Technician.

**What is your dream job?** My dream job would be placed in a hospital that is close to my family and friends.

**What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do?** The hardest thing that I've ever had to do is say goodbye to things that I have done over the past four years of high school.

**What one event has most impacted your life so far?** Losing classmates has impacted my life the most so far. Experiencing these losses at such a young age made me mature quicker as well as realize how precious life is.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** I hope everyone will still talk about the homecoming games and festivities throughout our four years in high school.

# Tara Goedken



## Activities involved in during high school:

FFA, 4-H, Large Group Speech, TEL, TSN, Spanish Club, and Wildcat Echo

## Which activity affected you the most?

FFA has affected me the most because it has taught me many life skills and allowed me to get out of my

comfort zone.

## What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?

My favorite memories in elementary school was playing outside with my friends at recess whether it was red rover, football, kickball, or swing on the two big swings.

## If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be?

Enjoy every moment in high school because it goes by fast.

## What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?

I love how small of a school it is. I love knowing all of my classmates and teachers. I also love the community support here at Maquoketa Valley.

## If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be?

Tp-ing! It was always a good time with my friends and classmates!

**Who is your most inspirational teacher?** Every teacher is very inspirational in their own way. Each teacher has given very good advice to me.

**If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be?** "How They Remember You" by Rascal Flatts

**What does your future look like?** I will be attending Kirkwood Community College to major in Agricultural Business.

**What is your dream job?** I don't have a "dream job" in mind but I know I want a job that I enjoy every day.

**What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do?** The hardest thing that I have had to do is choose my plans after high school. Graduating from high school closes one chapter and opens another chapter to your entire future.

**What one event has most impacted your life so far?** An event that has impacted my life the most includes losing two of my classmates. It was very difficult as things like that shouldn't happen at our age but it has made me a stronger person.

## What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?

I hope we talk about the memories made at girls state basketball our senior year and all of the adventures during homecoming week including Randy shooting firecrackers at us while tp-ing his house!

# Kim Sellner



## Activities involved in during high school:

Individual speech, large group speech, Spanish Club, TEL, National Honor Society, TAG.

## Which activity affected you the most?

Speech affected me the most because it forced me to get over my fear of talking in front of people. It also made me more confident in myself and not care what others think of me as much.

## What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?

My favorite elementary school memory was the parachute game that we played in P.E. It was one of the few activities that I actually enjoyed in P.E.

## If you could give advice to a freshman, what would it be?

Don't force yourself to fit in with others; everybody's unique for a reason. Also, remember what other people think of you isn't always the most important thing. If you are happy, then more than likely your opinion is the only thing that matters.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate how much the staff and teachers care for the students. The staff and teachers really put the importance of the students above anything else and it's clearly reflected in the student's academics.

**If you could relive any moment in high school what would it be?** I would relive the trip to Mexico that I took with the Spanish Club because it was the first time that I was outside of the United States. Also, because it was one of the most amazing experiences I've ever had. I'm not going to lie, I didn't want to come back!

**Who is your most inspirational teacher?** My most inspirational teacher would have to be Mrs. Besler because I admire her ability to teach with a smile on her face, even when the students are difficult (aka the A.P. Physics Class)! Doing this also requires an unbelievable amount of patience, which is another thing that I admire about Mrs. Besler.

**If you wanted people to remember you by a song, which one would it be?** I guess "Shinzou wo Sasageyo!" because it's a total bop in one of the best shows ever made.

**What does your future look like?** I'm attending Kirkwood Community College first and am majoring in liberal sciences. Once I receive my associates degree, I will transfer to Iowa State where I will truly begin on my path to becoming a veterinarian.

**What is your dream job?** My dream job is to be able to help both the people and animals in the community that I will be living in by being a veterinarian.

**What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do?** The hardest thing that I've ever had to do was build my self-confidence, embrace who I am, and not care what others think of me.

**What one event has most impacted your life so far?** I haven't had a lot of events that impacted my life, but if I had to pick an event I guess I would say my trip to Mexico. The trip allowed me to embrace other cultures and it activated the travel bug inside me, which means for sure that I'll be traveling abroad in college!