

Marching toward the future

by Caleb Livingston, special to The Echo

While most of us were focusing on relaxing and making money during the summer, there were others that had different plans. One such plan was to join the National Guard, which Devin decided to do following his junior year.

During the summer Devin participated in Basic Training for the National Guard. He says it was “definitely an interesting experience. It’s probably something I’ll never experience again. It was the hardest physical and mental thing I had ever done.”

Physical and mental strain was a commonality for Devin while in Basic. Incredibly demanding physical drills were a frequent occurrence, and there were even instances where he was shot at with live ammunition. On top of the brutal physical drills, the stress of keeping up on all the equipment drills and the tight knit schedule was enough to give grown adults twitching fits. All of these intense methods of training were used to sharpen Devin into a strong and capable member of the National Guard.

Throughout the months of tenacious training, Devin was cut off from his friends and family, along with the technology he had used to communicate with them. This wasn’t much of a problem for Devin, since he enjoyed not being reminded of the stressful things going on in the world. There were times when he admitted to feeling a little homesick, but his busy schedule kept him plenty preoccupied.

Another bonus to being cut off from technology was all the chances for Devin to get some sleep.

“Most of the time we would sleep when he had time, but we had to be careful since we would get in trouble if we were caught.”

As long as he was discreet, Devin could enjoy his down time with some rest. Which of course would be of great use to him, considering the immense amount of stressful and tiresome hoops he would have to jump through on a daily basis.



Although Devin is back for his senior year, he will be returning to the National Guard next summer in order to complete his training. Once he finishes Basic Training, Devin plans to use the benefits provided to him to go to community college and become a firefighter. Here’s to hoping he survives his training so he can act on his future plans.

Students get hands-on lessons with careers, learn about DelCo opportunities

Yesterday, the sophomore class had the opportunity to attend the 10th Grade NICC Career Pathway Day at the Peosta Campus. This event included hands-on experiences in three different 25-minute program sessions where students worked with NICC faculty in a specific career pathway. The pathways included were:

Advanced Manufacturing
Auto and Transportation
Construction/Energy and Utilities
Information Technology
Health Sciences
Marketing
Business
Education, Human and Public Service

The juniors and seniors attended a Business and Industry fair at West Delaware yesterday morning. Students learned about various employment opportunities right here in Delaware County and surrounding areas. The event was sponsored by the School to Work Committee, through our local Delaware County Economic Development Office.

JO-JO’S CLOSET

by Josie Teymer

It’s no secret. I love shoes! My closet is full of them. You can never have too many....Right!? When it comes to buying shoes you have to find the ones that work best for you. When I buy a new pair of shoes I ask myself a few simple questions.

How often will you wear them?

What do you have that will match them?

How good is the quality?

If I can confidently answer all three of these questions, then I normally purchase the shoes. For example, this weekend I bought a new pair of tennis shoes. When looking at them I thought about the three questions. I loved all of the different colors

that were offered and found a pair that I can’t live without. I thought that they would match a lot of the things in my closet which would lead to me wearing them often. The shoes that I bought were from Nike. I have a similar pair that lasted so I knew that they would be good quality. So, the next time that you’re in the market for a new pair of shoes I strongly encourage you to ask yourself these three easy questions.



Vocalists show off talents at fall concert



Ms. Huber directs Joellen Beitz, Brock Trenkamp, Noah DeVore, Chantel Crowley and Cecily Trenkamp in the rhythm section at Tuesday night's concert. (photos courtesy of Lori Trenkamp)

The 2021-22 performance tour kicked off for the choir students Tuesday night at the annual fall concert. Above: High school vocalists perform with Mrs. Mueller and Mr. Ford providing accompaniment. This is Ms. Huber's first fall concert at MV.

Come one, come all to the band concert this fall

by Paige Winter

You may have seen our very own Maquoketa Valley marching band perform at every home football game this year. However, they do more than incredible halftime shows. The band will have their first concert October 19th in the middle school gym at 7:00pm. There are no tickets required, but donations are welcome as the band is trying to purchase new marching band uniforms for next season!

The concert will feature the 6th grade band, 7/8th grade band, and the high school marching band. So if you did miss them at half time of football games, you have one more chance to watch their amazing show themed "Heroes and Villians."

Band director Mr. Ford believes

that you should come out and see this concert because it's a great opportunity to support your fellow classmates. The high school marching band portion of the concert is almost entirely led by student drum majors Noah DeVore and Josie Teymer. "It's a great opportunity to see what your classmates are capable of doing." Mr. Ford has remarked that he is excited to see the reaction of the younger band members when they watch the high school performance, "they're going to be blown away by the volume and the sound that we play with."

For the high school portion of the concert, this has been the most challenging marching band set put together in a long

time. The last piece, "Imperial March" especially, really challenged the band members, but it was a challenge that they took on head first. "These kids played a fantastic show last Friday [in reference to the Star-mont football game]. Seeing their progress from August has been a real treat."

If you didn't get a chance to see the band perform at football games make sure to come out and support them at their first official concert of the year. You won't be able to see them again until December when the band and choir join forces for the annual Christmas Concert in the church. Don't miss this chance to see your fellow Wildcats show off their fantastic musical talents!

Sports Connection

Wildcats fall to Stars

by Kylie Chesnut

Last week, the Wildcats celebrated the seniors and challenged the Starmont Stars to a tough game of football. The boys fought hard, but finished the game with a loss 45-0.

TJ Cook was your passing leader with 4 yards in 11 attempts. Avery Holtz gained the team 8 yards from a pass by Cook. Lance McShane worked hard on the offensive end, gaining the team 27 rushing yards, followed by Devin Meeks with 12 yards.

On defense, the Wildcats were strong. Lucas Orcutt made contact and successfully brought down 10.5 tackles, followed by McShane with 6 tackles.

Kicking and punting was handled by Brock Trenkamp, kicking for 35 yards and punting for 182 in 8 punts.

Tonight the Wildcats are traveling to Troy Mills and battling with the North Linn Lynx. This is the last game of the Wildcat regular season so bundle up to cheer loud. The theme for tonight is pink out, and kick off for J.V. is at 5:00 with varsity to follow.



Brock Trenkamp punts for the Wildcats. (photo by Lesa Parmely)

Boys win conference XC title

by Chantel Crowley

Last Saturday, the MV Cross Country team traveled to North Linn to run there. The boys placed fifth overall. Cy Huber led the way, placing 5th with a time of 16:46. Then Nolan Ries in 16th with a time of 17:20, Michael Schaul in 23rd with a time of 17:41, and Matthew Schaul in 54th with a time of 18:40. Arion Rave placed 61st with a time of 18:58, Toby Grimm placed 87th with a time of 20:13, and Landin Frasher in 88th with a time of 20:19.

The girls JV team was led by Isabel Imler in 7th with a time of 22:33, then McKenna Bush in 55th with a time of 27:06, Allison Hogan in 58th with a time of 27:58, and Jordan Hogan in 66th in 28:37.

The boys JV team was led by Caleb Livingston, who placed 36th with

a time of 20:46, Brady Eike in 51st with a time of 21:44, and Sebastian Charles in 100th with a time of 32:31.

Last night the Wildcats competed in the Tri-Rivers conference meet at Bellevue, and the boys finished first.

Varsity Results: Isabel Imler, 11th, 23:15; Cy Huber, 1st, 17:09; Nolan Ries, 3rd, 17:24; Michael Schaul, 6th, 18:12; George Livingston, 10th, 18:40; Matthew Schaul, 11th, 18:43; Arion Rave, 16th, 19:00; Toby Grimm, 32nd; 20:13

JV: Landin Frasher, 1st, 21:08; Caleb Livingston, 2nd, 21:34; Brady Eike, 4th, 21:53; Sebastian Charles, 15th, 29:14; McKenna Bush, 2nd, 26:41; Jordan Hogan, 5th, 27:17; Allison Hogan, 6th, 27:39

They compete at the state qualifying meet at Clayton Ridge Thursday.

Wildcats gear up for post-season play

by Leah Ries

Last Thursday night the Lady Cats traveled to East Buchanan to battle the Bucs in the last conference game of the season. The Bucs beat the Wildcats in three quick sets (7-25, 11-25, 15-25). Leading the team stats were Kylie Chesnut with six kills and four blocks, Kennedy Rausch with seven assists, and Avery Krapfl with five digs on the night.

The Wildcats finished the regular season with a 4-18 record and headed into the conference tournament last night. The girls traveled to Starmont to take on the Stars, Bucs, and Lynx. Their performance last night will determine if they play in the tournament Saturday at Calamus-Wheatland. Results will be in next week's issue.

Next Monday, the team will travel to Easton Valley for the first round of regional play at 7:00 PM.



Jordan Hogan makes her way along the North Linn course. (photo by Amy Ries)

what's up?

This was a debate in our AP Physics class and I just have to know, what color do you think this water bottle is?



by Paige Winter

Amaya Hunt: bronze
Noah DeVore: silver but it has a pinkish
Brock Trenkamp: translucent pink
Lilli Bauers: rose gold
Bianka Ronnebaum: light bronze with rose gold
Titi Morgan: the ugliest color I've ever see
Kaela Clemen: pink silvery
Mrs. Besler: silver pink
Travis Pohlman: pearl
Carissa Sabers: it like has no color, gray and pink
Lily Huber: dark brown or purple

MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Paige Winter

Nearly **10 million** young people, age 12 to 20, report that they have consumed alcohol in the last **30 days**

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Keziah Ambundo

What role do you play in the musical? The witch and Orge Fiona
What's your favorite part of the show? Definitely the dancing
What's your favorite memory from rehearsals?

My sister and I always come up with wacky dances and try to outdance each other pretty much every practice! She always wins, of course! ;)

If you could play any role in any musical, what would it be? Despite being in the musicals, I'm not really into musicals... but I would KILL to be Sharpay from *High School Musical*

How has participating in the musical affected you? It has 100% made me much more outgoing and shaped my personality over the years!



Name: Cadence Freiburger

What role do you play in the musical? I'm one of the three pigs, a Duloc dancer, a knight, and the Pied Piper.

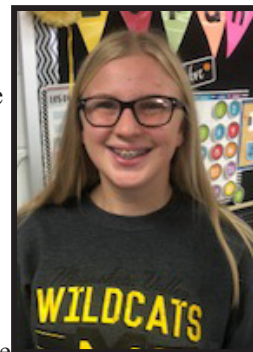
What's your favorite part of the show? My favorite part of the

show is probably the Duloc scene because of the dance and the fun dialogue.

What's your favorite memory from rehearsals? The creation of Zari's signature dance move definitely.

If you could play any role in any musical, what would it be? I would probably do the Baker's Wife from *Into the Woods* if I had the confidence.

How has participating in the musical affected you? Being in the musical has really helped me get out of my comfort zone, and it's definitely helped me make new friends that would be there for me no matter what.



Athletes of the Week

Name: Mianna Gosche

What do you enjoy most about dance team? I enjoy being in the practice setting. Practice isn't really practice when you're doing something you love. I enjoy being able to be goofy during our practices, and I love the thrill of performing.

What's the hardest part of it? The hardest part is definitely basketball season. We learn a new dance every week and try to forget it for the next one.

What's your favorite routine you've ever been a part of? What did you like about it? We haven't really done a lot this year yet. I am excited for our state hip hop we are approaching soon.

What's something about dance most people don't realize? Most people don't realize that it does take a lot of time to really grind out dances. Each and every girl is essential to the team; we're all unique and bring something to the table.

If you could choreograph a routine, what kind would it be and what song would you use? It would be a pom routine. I can't choose just one song. It would either be "The Office" theme song, the Spongebob soundtrack, or "Fireflies" by Owl City.



Name: Haley Ronnebaum

What do you enjoy most about volleyball? I love being part of the team, and being around the girls. They make it a lot of fun.

What's your favorite drill in practice? Hitting lines because I love to hit.

What's your least favorite drill in practice? Server receive! Definitely my least favorite.

What's your goal for the team this season?

Beat Easton Valley in the first round.

What has made this year unique for you? I get to play with my sister and have played every hitting position.



Cutest Couple



Carlie Lewin & Jesús Rumbo
by Amaya Hunt

How did you two first meet? What caused you to start hanging out?

Carlie: We hung out in a large group at first--all of us were eating at Sunset and then went to Walmart to prank Michael Van Meter with a mayo-filled cake. Jesús had jumped in my car when we went to leave, and I had no idea who he was. We ended up staying out until 11 at night, which is the exact opposite of what I would normally do. There's never a dull moment with him.

Jesús: We first met at Sunset Family Restaurant when we were both invited through a common friend. I think the reason we started to hang out after that was because of the sense of adventure we had together that night.

What was the first thing that caught your attention about the other? What was your first impression?

Carlie: I didn't really get a good first impression of him, as we were out tping and he was making a lot of embarrassing jokes about me. Looking back, it was his cuteness and sense of humor (even if it wasn't funny at the time) that caught my attention right away. Now, it's funny to look back and know he would be the guy I fall in love with.

Jesús: Before I really ever got to know anything about her, the first thing that caught my attention was definitely her eyes, laugh and smile. Pretty much, my first impression consisted of: "She's gorgeous."

What about the other gets on your nerves the most?

Carlie: He always makes a mess when he's in my room. I don't have any idea how he

manages to do it.

Jesús: Nothing about her ever seriously irritates me, but she never accepts my compliments. She will compliment me as if I am perfect, but she refuses to accept and agree with any nice compliment I try to give her.

Now on the other hand, what do you love most about the other?

Carlie: It's obvious to me that he loves me, and is very committed. I love knowing that he will always have my back, and would move heaven and earth for me :)

Jesús: The comfort she gives me, whether it's deliberate or not. Being myself doesn't feel wrong any moment I'm with her. I don't know how my personality doesn't scare her away, but I appreciate and love her so much for it :)

What is your favorite thing to do together in school? What do you like doing outside of school?

Carlie: We mess around a lot during choir, but I don't really see him much else during the day. Outside of school, we like to go to Rio Blanco and eat, or just stay home and watch Netflix.

Jesús: Inside of school, as long as I can see her, it doesn't matter what class I am in--being with her is enough to make the day bearable. Outside of school, we either do so much or so little. We'll have a date night and go out somewhere, or we just sit and sleep for five hours (both are great choices, by the way)!

Favorite memory with the other?

Carlie: There's so many that I can't even list them all--the first night we met, the first kiss, the first date, or when he bought me 40 Hershey kisses for the musical in front of everyone. I absolutely love how he treats my younger brother, Alex, as if he was his own brother.

Jesús: The homecoming dance, for sure. I was never expecting to have that much fun! I had the greatest time of my life, and we danced the entire night away. I can remember how happy we were to be spending time with each other just doing what we do best together-- having fun.

What's a song that makes you think of the other?

Carlie: Any Ed Sheeran song... he knows why, hahaha :)

Jesús: "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran... if you ask Mrs. Lewin, she'll tell you why ;)

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

Carlie: I like how Jesús' family is very friendly and talkative.

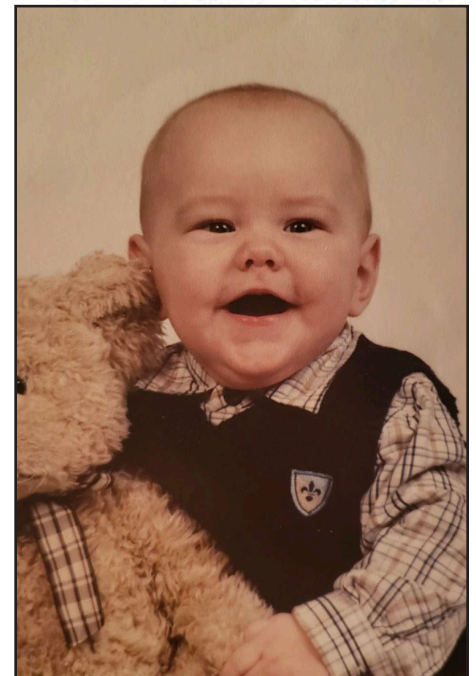
Jesús: From the little brother that is always willing to play with me, to the dog that I cannot tell if I like or not, to the mom that will never give me a break when it comes to homework, Carlie's family feels like a second home. It feels like my own family.

If you could describe the other in one sentence, what would that be?

Carlie: "He likes to be the funny guy on the surface, but when you get to know him, there's a kind and loving soul underneath."

Jesús: I want to say "The woman I could never love more." It just fits, and it is how I truly feel. I'd be willing to bet \$10 that Carlie's answer is something similar, like "the love of my life," but if it's not, I change my answer to: "The reason I'm down ten bucks."

Cutie



by Matthew Brehm

The cutie this week lives in Delhi and has brown hair. He participates in band, speech and vocal jazz here at school. This cutie also has a Youtube channel with 43 subscribers.

Last week's Cutie was Erin Knipper.

Meet the Freshmen



Nicholas, Leah & TJ

Name: TJ Cook

Siblings: Ben C. 7th grade

Activities you plan to be in: Choir, football, basketball, track, baseball

Favorite subject: Geometry

Career aspirations: Physical therapist/athletic trainer

Hobbies: Sports, singing

Something cool about you: I won a sticker from Mrs. Lewin

Name: Leah Reicher

Siblings: 1

Activities you plan to be in: Volleyball, basketball, softball, FFA, speech

Favorite subject: English

Career aspirations: Physician's assistant

Hobbies: Hanging with friends, boating, sleeping, sports

Something cool about you: I can do this weird thing with my fingers

Name: Nicholas Otting

Favorite subject: Math

Career aspirations: Math

Hobbies: Games

Something cool about you: Nothing (besides my sexy jawline)

—typist: Kaitlyn Nolan

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Paige Winter

What do Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common? Same middle name.

What is the opposite of a croissant? A happy uncle.

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? Pilgrims.

Which branch of the military accepts toddlers? The infantry.

Did you know you can actually listen to the blood in your veins? You just have to listen varicosely.

Though I enjoy the sport, I could never date a tennis player. Love means nothing to them.

I have a joke about time travel, but I'm not gonna share it. You guys didn't like it.

FFA Students of the Month



Lainey and Kaya Knipper

What do you enjoy most about FFA?

Lainey: I enjoy all of the experiences that you are able to have in FFA.

Kaya: Getting to meet new people and the environment that you are in.

What events have you been involved in throughout your time in FFA?

Lainey: I helped decorate the FFA float during homecoming and brought the goat that rode on the float and brought baby chicks for the FFA's chicken coop.

Kaya: I haven't had very many big FFA experiences yet but I am going to show my goats at the Delaware county fair through ffa and I plan on showing at the state level too.

What skill have you gained from FFA?

Lainey: Being able to manage and grow my own herd of goats.

Kaya: I have gained leadership and responsibility for my animals.

Explain your SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience).

Lainey: My SAE project is raising my own herd of show goats.

Kaya: My SAE is my record that I have kept on my boer goats; this ranges from feed prices, medical, birthdays, and their offspring.

What advice would you give to underclassmen involved in FFA?

Lainey: Stay up to date with your SAE project.

Kaya: Get involved and be that top seller, be that person that others look up to, and be that one person that stands out and does good in the community.

Why would you recommend someone to join FFA?

Lainey: It's a great way to meet new people and learn new things.

Kaya: I would recommend FFA to anyone because it gets you out of your comfort zone right away, you meet tons of new people, and there are many different opportunities and scholarships.

Abstractions

by Matthew Brehm

In the spring of 2013, a man on the southern shore of Lake Vättern, Sweden, was following his daily commute when he decided to stop for a moment. As he gazed at the lakeside trees sprinkled across the park before him, he decided he would take a photo of one particularly interesting tree. This one seemed to resemble a giant stem of broccoli, an image he found quite pleasing. The photo was uploaded to his Instagram account. The man enjoyed seeing the tree every day and wanted to share it.

He began uploading pictures of the tree more and more frequently, with a growing number of followers viewing his photography work. The Broccoli Tree became popular, and after a number of years, it was even added as a location on Google Maps. With a growing audience in the tens of thousands, the tree came to signify the beauty of nature and its continuity for many people.

One fateful day in September of 2017, the man returned to the tree to find that something wasn't quite right. As he approached the Broccoli Tree, he found saw marks in one of its limbs. Soon, what was once a piece of natural beauty was reduced to seven bare limbs emerging from the dirt. The Broccoli Tree was cut down and could never be seen the same way again.

The story of this tree has caused me to think differently about the media and the way we share what we love. Perhaps if the man hadn't taken that first photo, if he hadn't made one of his own personal joys a public matter, the Broccoli Tree would still be alive. If he had stood and admired the tree from afar every day and simply displayed a smile, it could have been his.

But this was not the case. He shared his joy and the beauty of nature with the internet. He brought a smile to thousands of faces and comfort to many hearts with his posts.

It can be hard to balance sharing what we love and keeping it to ourselves, especially in a modern world where everything public receives a reaction. Sharing a part of our lives makes us vulnerable, as we open ourselves up to the input and criticism of others. However, sometimes knowing that our work has made a positive impact on someone else's life is a better reward than the continuity of a well-loved tree.

I owe much of the inspiration for this edition of my column to John Green for exposing this story in his Youtube video, "The Broccoli Tree: A Parable."