

# Wildcat Echo

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A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

## Dance team preps for State

by Paige Winter

In all of the excitement of winter beginning and Thanksgiving break, something you may have missed is the Maquoketa Valley Dance Team preparing for its state competition.

You may have seen Livia and Kendra putting together music in the commons, or Kaelynn and Mianna discussing choreography in the hallway, but the girls will be officially leaving on November 30th, dancing on December 1st, and returning on the 2nd.

The girls will perform Class IV Pom at 8:42am to "Groove is in the Heart" and Class III Hip Hop at 6:37pm called "Venom." Sophomore Maddyx Kemp will also perform a solo to "Shake the Room" at 10:47 am.

This should be a great year for the team at state! Though they have been officially practicing since October 25th, they actually learned these routines two summers ago and had camp in the summer to re-learn them.

Coach Teymer mentioned that she is most excited because the team missed state last year so it's important that the seniors get one more chance to dance there. "Leah and McKenna have really worked hard changing and teaching to two state routines. They take it just as seriously as I do."

With some great leadership and hard work the girls are sure to have a successful trip to state. Co-Captain Leah Ries said, "My mindset has stayed the same as the past years: Go out there and do our best. We can not control how the other teams perform, we can only control our dance."

Don't worry because you won't have to wait to find out the results for long. The girls will find out how they did the night after they compete Dec. 1.

Looking forward, you can expect to see these 2 state routines at the varsity basketball games on December 7th and some new routines after that. Make sure to wish these Wildcats good luck before they get on their way to state!

## Vocalists join other conference talent



Several MV vocalists joined talented singers from the Tri-Rivers Conference last Monday at Starmont. Wildcats involved are pictured above wearing the new stoles are, front row from left: Carlie Lewin, Kaitlyn Nolan and Cece Trenkamp; back row: Brock Trenkamp, Noah DeVore, Jackson Hunter and Devin Smith.



## Design winners

Mianna Gosche and Ashtyn Porter were the winners of the logo design for the Delhi Betterment Committee. They are pictured with committee member Farr Jebens. They used Adobe Illustrator to create the design in Graphic Design class.

## Student Council organizes a day of special events for Tuesday

Period 1-8:03-8:32; Period 2-8:51-9:36 (Students then report to the auditorium)

9:40 - 10:00 - Fall Academic Awards in HS Auditorium

10:00 - 10:20 - Lip Sync in the HS Auditorium

10:20 - 10:40 - Pie in the Face in the HS Gym

10:40 - 12:00 - Games & Movie

Movie in Auditorium

Games in the Gym

Coloring, board games, and cards in the commons

Wii in the conference room

12:00 - 12:30 - Lunch

12:30 - 1:00 - Continue games until dismissed for the day at 1:05

# Sports Connection

## Winter sports teams prepare for exciting seasons

### ***Girls basketball***

The court will look a bit different for the girls basketball team this year, but the drive hasn't changed for the team.

The team is now co-coached by Brad Huber and Mrs. Scherrman who were previously Coach Moenck's assistants. Ms. Hoeger returns as an assistant coach. These experienced coaches were part of last year's 25-1 team who finished as the state 2A runner-up.

Also returning are nine letter winners including Carissa Sabers and Kennedy Rausch who earned all-conference honors last year. They are joined by seniors Kylie Chesnut, Liz McDowell, Caelyn Sands and Paige Winter. Other key returners include juniors Erin Knipper and Ella Mensen and sophomore Haley Ronnebaum.

The coaches see this year's team as a good shooting team with some balance and some depth. Players who played last year will have different roles this year, and the team will look to younger players to get some experience early. The coaches noted that while shooting and depth are strengths for the team, size and inexperience will be obstacles to overcome.

The coaches indicated MV will be a top contender in the conference along



**Seniors on the girls basketball team include Paige Winter, Carissa Sabers, Kylie Chesnut, Liz McDowell and Caelyn Sands. (photos by Pete Temple)**

with Springville and North Linn.

### ***Boys basketball***

The boys basketball team has some familiar faces returning and a few new ones to replace some of last year's players who finished with a 12-12 record. Coach Conner, now in his sixth coaching year, is assisted by Coach Cassutt.

Key returners to the team will be junior guard Avery Holtz, who earned second team all conference honors last year,

and returning letter winners seniors Landen Deutmeyer and Brock Trenkamp and junior Lucas Orcutt. Senior guard A.J. Ambundo, who was honorable mention all conference last year, will not be able to play this year due to injury.

Coach Conner stated others who have already shown promise are sophomores Toby Grimm, Kody Hoeger and Lance McShane as well as freshman TJ Cook.

"This year's team is one that I am excited to coach for a number of reasons," stated Coach Conner. "We are going to be a young, inexperienced team at the varsity level, but I was really pleased with how our players grew this past off-season. I am excited to see our growth individually and as a team from the beginning to the end of the season. I look forward to this team competing in each and every game and know that all of our players in our program will give their best effort every night, whether it be at practice or games.

***Winter sports preview, continued***



**Seniors on the boys basketball team include AJ Ambundo, Landen Deutmeyer, Noah DeVore, Brock Trenkamp and Brock Daack.**

**Continued on next page**



**Kobe Peters, Devin Smith and Michael Schaul are seniors on the wrestling team.**



"We have some big shoes to fill with our large senior class last season, so I am also excited to see some of our guys step up into leadership roles. We will be playing this season without one of our seniors who was injured during football season, so it will be interesting to see who will step up to fill those shoes," stated Coach Conner.

Coach Conner recognized that the Tri-Rivers west division has several high quality teams including North Linn, Springfield, Ed-Co and Alburnett.

"We are going to get everyone's best shot each night, so we will have to be able to execute a scouting report each night and be the best version of ourselves that we can be," Coach Conner added.

### **Wrestling**

The wrestling team brings some excitement to the mat with returning letter winners seniors Michael Schaul and Devin Smith and sophomores Brady Davis, Aiden

Salow and Tyreese Crippen.

Newcomer senior Kobe Peters brings experience from his time at West Delaware. There are four freshmen: Brendin Frasher, Nathan Beitz, Mason Jolley, and Arion Rave.

"Last year we ended the season with a good taste in our mouth and now we are hungry for more," stated third-year head Wildcat coach Kurt Hatfield. "We know what we need to do to get where we want to be. We are taking each week as a stepping stone to build our success as a team, but in the long run building each as individuals. One thing I like about this team is how tight they are, pushing each other to the limits and helping each other. We have kids who want to make a name for themselves this year. They demand excellence, not just from me as their coach but from each other.

"Our biggest focus this year is wrestling how we want to wrestle, regardless of who we wrestle, no matter if it is the #1 ranked kid in the state, or the average kid, we wrestle the same," Coach Hatfield added. "We do what we want to do, reacting to what they bring to the match. We will take this season day by day, week by week, knowing the only thing that matters is how we finish."

## **FFA Student of the Month Lane Domeyer**

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

I enjoy getting to learn different aspects of the agriculture world. It is also cool being able to meet and network with people from all over the country, who are interested in the same things you are.

**What events have you been involved in**

**throughout your time in FFA?** I have participated in Radio Broadcasting, Dairy Judging, Individual Ag. Sales, and Team Ag. Sales.

**What is your biggest accomplishment in FFA?** Being on a team that was 3rd in the nation, and being 8th place in the nation as an individual in the dairy evaluation.

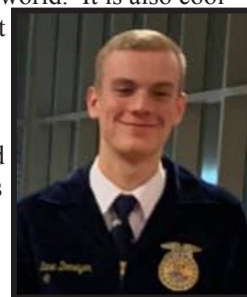
**What is your biggest takeaway from being involved in FFA?** My biggest takeaway would be that you get out whatever you put in. FFA can lead you to an incredible amount of places, and provide a lot of opportunities far beyond just the blue jacket. However, you have to be able to put in the time, work, and effort.

**What skill have you gained from FFA?** A skill I have gained is being able to walk into an interview or a one on one discussion and speak clear and confidently.

**Explain your SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience).** Dairy Heifer Entrepreneurship. Essentially it is the process of working on my business in being able to buy, raise, and eventually advertise and sell elite dairy heifers for people to show and compete with.

**What advice do you have for underclassmen involved in FFA?** Try new things, not all events or competitions will be fun. However, there will be opportunities to learn something new from all of them.

**Why would you recommend someone to join FFA?** FFA can take you wherever you want, and no matter your interests or hobbies there is a place for everyone in FFA. I also think that you can learn so many different skills that you will be able to carry with you for your whole life. FFA is an agricultural association but the skills you learn can be used in any business or line of work you engage in.



**If there was a movie about your life, who would play you in the movie?**

**by Paige Winter**

Liz McDowell: Megan Fox and Tony would be by MGK

Devin Smith: Chris Evans

Ms. Huber: Scarlett Johansson

Nolan Ries: Ed Sheeran

Cy Huber: Bruce Lee

Mrs. Besler: Mrs. Frizzle

Michael Schaul: Ryan Reynolds

Taylor Jones: Lisa Kudrow

Carlie Lewin: Lily Collins

Avery Holtz: Kevin Hart

Ben Snyder: Larry the Cable Guy

Jackson Hunter: Josh Hutchinson

Ella Mensen: Jennifer Aniston

Amaya Hunt: Scarlett Johansson

Taylor Schmuecker: Taylor Swift

## **All-District Football Teams Announced**

### **2nd Team**

Aidan Salow: Linebacker

Avery Holtz: Safety

### **Honorable Mention**

Lucas Orcutt: Defensive end

Carter Klaren: Linebacker

Lance McShane: Linebacker

# Cutest Couple



**Ella Mensen & Avery Holtz**

**by Amaya Hunt**

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

Ella: The first time I remember seeing Avery was after a baseball game in the 4th Grade and he wouldn't let me play tag with the rest of them.

Avery: In 5th Grade, I tripped Ella because I was trying to make her look like a clutz. It worked.

**What about the other gets on your nerves the most?**

Ella: He always wants me to make the decisions.

Avery: She's so indecisive.

**It's pretty well known that you guys recently went on vacation together... Where did you go? What did you guys enjoy most?**

Ella: We went to Colorado, Utah and Arizona. My favorite part of the trip was when we rented a boat on Lake Powell all day-it was so much fun! Or, beating everyone at Top Golf.

# JO-JO'S CLOSET

**by Josie Teymer**

Sweater weather. One of the best times of the year. I don't know if you've noticed, but we live in Iowa and winter comes pretty fast. There are so many different styles and ways to wear a sweater.

Let's start off with some simple styles. You could go chunky, thin, cropped, long or bulky. If you're going for a bulkier look I would pair the sweater with leggings or straight legged jeans. If you're going for a simple look, the sweater would work per-

Avery: We went out West to multiple different states. My favorite part was either staying in the Air B&B in Moab, Utah, or renting a boat on Lake Powell.

**You both are very active people on the Lake during the summer... Do you have a favorite summer memory with the other? What does a typical day during the summer look like for you two?**

Ella: My favorite summer memory is Christmas on the Lake. We hung out all day, then went on the boat to look at Christmas lights. A normal day usually consists of us going for jet-ski rides, swimming in the cove, and taking lots of naps.

Avery: One morning, she came over and we went out surfing on my boat before coming back to my cabin to eat breakfast. Then, we just got to hang out the rest of the day. The simplest days are the best days.

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

Ella: "19 You +Me" by Dan & Shay.

Avery: "Show You Off" by Dan & Shay.

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

Ella: There's never a boring moment in the Holtz house. Whether it's watching Avery and Anderson argue about basketball, or listening to Ava yell about something (literally anything), I'm always entertained.

Avery: They're always fun to be around-Owen is one of my closest friends, so it's always a good time hanging out with the Mensens.

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

Ella: Shorter than me.

Avery: Nerd.

factly tucked into a pair of baggy jeans.

One of the best things about sweaters is that they are super easy to spice up with some fun accessories. Some accessory options are a fun hat or a fun scarf.



# Cutie



**by Matthew Brehm**

This cutie is a sophomore with blond hair. He lives in Earlville and is involved in the play, musical, speech, TEL, and golf. A strange snack combination that this cutie enjoys eating is Cheetos and spinach.

*Out last Cutie was Isabel Imler.*

# Have a great Thanksgiving break!

## Comedy Corner

—compiled by PaigeWinter

I was kidnapped by mimes once. They did unspeakable things to me.

Got a PS5 for my little brother. Best trade I've ever done!

I finally decided to sell my vacuum cleaner. All it was doing was gathering dust!

When you die, what part of the body dies last? The pupils...they dilate.

A friend of mine went bald years ago, but still carries around an old comb. He just can't part with it.



## Meet the Freshmen



**Bianka, Caden, Matthew & Tate**

Name: Bianka Ronnebaum  
Siblings: Haley and Braden  
Activities you plan to be in: Basketball, volleyball, and FFA  
Favorite subject: PE  
Hobbies: Showing  
Something cool about you: I live on a farm

Name: Matthew Schaul  
Siblings: Michael and Maddie  
Activities you plan to be in: Baseball, XC, track, basketball  
Favorite subject: Algebra  
Career aspirations: Baseball coach/Trainer  
Hobbies: Fishing, spikeball, running, and hiking  
Something cool about you: I played varsity baseball in 8th grade

Name: Tate Intorf  
Siblings: Tessa Intorf  
Activities you plan to be in: Speech, football, basketball, track, baseball  
Favorite subject: Spanish  
Career aspirations: Becoming a pilot  
Hobbies: Making model planes  
Something cool about you: I love planes

Name: Caden Ries  
Siblings: 2 sisters  
Activities you plan to be in: Football, track  
Favorite subject: P.E.  
Career aspirations: Welding  
Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, trapping  
Something cool about you: I drive a 1991 Oldsmobile ninety-eight

—typist: Kaitlyn Nolan

## Hall Smarts

by Cadence Freiburger

With the holiday of Thanksgiving just around the corner, I thought it'd be interesting to ask some high schoolers some fun Thanksgiving trivia questions.



What was the cost of the most expensive Thanksgiving dinner, on record?  
Domarius Strickland: \$5,465  
Mandi Pohlman: \$2,000  
Sami DeMoss: \$1,725  
Alissa Bush: \$150,925  
Answer: \$150,000

What year was the first Thanksgiving football game?  
Domarius: 1936  
Mandi: 1964  
Sami: 1918  
Alissa: 1564  
Answer: 1876

Who was the first President to receive a ceremonial Thanksgiving turkey?  
Domarius: Eisenhower  
Mandi: George Washington  
Sami: Abraham Lincoln  
Alissa: One of them  
Answer: Harry S. Truman

Which President declared two Thanksgivings in one year?  
Domarius: Gerald Ford  
Mandi: George Washington  
Sami: George Washington  
Alissa: The one that's dead  
Answer: James Madison

## MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Paige Winter

29.8% of high school students have had a drink in the last 30 days

## Abstractions

by Matthew Brehm

When Roast and Toast opened up in Delhi this summer, I knew this was my opportunity to finally become hooked on coffee. Though I wasn't sure what this would mean for me aside from the aesthetic benefits, I'm glad I've added it into my daily routine. I feel much more animated in school this year than I have in the past.

Coffee, along with caffeine, is loaded with antioxidants and vitamins. It helps protect from diseases like diabetes, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. It may even help its consumers live longer.

But, despite the apparent positives, there are definitely negatives too. My wallet has surely noticed my new fixation. There is also research showing that drinking coffee later in the day has negative effects on a person's sleep schedule.

This has prompted me to ponder the trade-offs we make every day, exchanging one evil for another. Each decision has a consequence, and it's entirely dependent on the scenario whether or not certain exchanges are truly worthwhile. Our tangible life situations determine what choices will help us and what won't. Health, finances, and creeds all guide our actions when weighing pros and cons.

Back in 6th grade, Mr. Besler introduced the concept of opportunity cost: Every decision deprives one from the ability to make a different decision. A bit overwhelming to think about then, it's a common consideration to incorporate into my life as well as, I'm sure, most of the lives of the people reading this.

In each moment, we have an infinite number of options for what to do. It's up to us to decide which ones are most worthwhile. For some, the best way to spend a weekend is working for capital. For others, being with friends is more beneficial. Every one of us has a different definition for what is and is not worth investing ourselves in.

While we make many of these choices every day with ease, the trickiest dilemmas require us to look back on our ethics and the opportunity cost of each decision for guidance.

Everything we do comes with positives and negatives, and weighing those may just require a hot cup of coffee.

