

Wildcat Echo

Issue 8
November 1, 2021

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Cast and crew ready to bring you Shrek



Some faces you'll see in the upcoming musical on stage or in the crew include, front: Ava Holtz, Julia Ambundo, Alex Lewin, Chantel Crowley and Cece Trenkamp; second row: McKenna Bush, Cadence Freiburger, Joellen Beitz, Amanda Pohlman, Mason Jolley, Zari Ambundo, Josie Teymer and Kaitlyn Nolan; back row: Morgan Krumviede, Taryn Burbridge, Payton Brown, Keziah Ambundo, Jesus Rumbo, Carlie Lewin, Domarius Strickland, Brock Trenkamp, Addie Rudd, Noah DeVore, Molly Anderegg, Zach Mineart, Devin Smith, Sebastian Charles and Autumn Nelson. Students not pictured: Ethan Crowley and George Livingston.

by Kaitlyn Nolan

Nothing is better than a good laugh, and next week, Maquoketa Valley is presenting *Shrek: The Musical* to bring that comedic fun to the auditorium.

Shrek: The Musical was published and hit Broadway in 2008 and was based upon the movie of the same name, *Shrek*. The musical is full of fun songs, romance, and bad gas. The title character, the green ogre himself, is portrayed by Noah DeVore with *Shrek's* true love, Fiona, is being played by Carlie Lewin.

Mrs. DeVore, one of the directors of the show, said there's a lot for the audience to enjoy: "I think that the audience will enjoy the little pieces of comedy that are there as well as remembering what it was like to see *Shrek* for the first time." She said she hopes that people will know that people who are different, the underdogs out there, are worthy and important.

Ms. Huber, another director, believes that *Shrek: The Musical* is exciting because most people know the iconic mov-

ie made back in 2001, but this production has elements that people aren't going to expect. "So they already expect it to be fun, and then it's even better than they could've imagined."

Cast member Josie Teymer, playing many roles in the show, enjoys the show because most of her friends are in it, and the songs are really good. But it's not just the members in the show and directors excited for this year's fall musical. An outsider looking in, sophomore Lily Huber stated, "Shrek is one of the most legendary films of all time, so I want to see how it is portrayed in musical form AND how you guys will act it out."

Opening night is next Friday, November 5th, at 7pm with another showing the following Saturday at the same time. The final night to watch the production is Sunday, the 7th, at 2pm. Tickets are available in the office for \$5 each.

Excited to experience the fairytale magic of *Shrek: The Musical*? Join us for the fun! We would love to see you all there!

Student of the Week

Keziah Ambundo



You have been selected for the All-State Choir. What does making this elite group mean to you?

This is a HUGE honor. It has been my high school aspiration since the 8th grade. Making this group honestly meant everything to me. My mother had also made it to All-State her senior year, and this is a nice connection we can share!

How did you prepare for it?

My audition partner (Noah DeVore) and I have spent SEVERAL hours practicing our music since school has started. We both have auditioned for the past four years, and have gone to the camps for help.

What advice do you have for future All-State auditioners?

My advice is to not allow not making it in get you down. The choir is extremely exclusive, and 27% of the people who audition make it. Making it in feels fantastic, however, the process is what truly matters. I know for a fact I would not be nearly as successful without auditioning in the past and not making it.

What does music mean to you?

Music means so much to me, it's honestly indescribable. I am 100% dedicated to the music program, and All-State just feeds my passion.

Wildcats bring home second place trophy



The Wildcats scored 112 points to finish second at the state IA cross country meet Saturday. AC/GC won the meet with 75 points. (photo by Amy Ries)

The systems you have in place are perfect for the results you're getting.

We wanted to be a podium team for years. We just weren't ready yet. Our miles and commitment were set up for 5th, 6th, and 7th place finishes. Those years were preparing us for what we did yesterday, and without those years, we wouldn't have had the ability to set up a team system of doing "state runner up" type work. Good things take time, and I've watched these guys give more and more of themselves month after month and year after year. I'm so proud of what these boys and their families have given in order to represent Maquoketa Valley the way they did yesterday. They're fast, but they're also class acts.

Cy Huber placed 9th yesterday, earning an individual medal. I'm proud of Cy because of the diligence he has shown even when no one was watching. He was the first of these guys to start running year-round (yep, even in the snowy months!), and the only one with 6 whole years of Cross Country under his belt.

Nolan Ries placed 12th, also earning an individual medal. Nolan strived to go under 17 minutes all year, and finally did it yesterday, finishing in 16:59. I admire Nolan's ability to lead selflessly. He's the voice of this team, and has been a huge encouragement to our underclassmen.

Michael Schaul placed 32nd, and was the scariest guy to watch run on this Halloween weekend. Even if you're familiar with Cross Country and the concept of proper pacing, it might be scary to watch someone far back in the pack and wonder if they'll make up ground. Michael ran an incredibly smart race yesterday, and passed nearly 50 people in the second half of the race. If he hadn't moved up the way he did, we would not have been second place

yesterday. I'm impressed by your smart racing, Michael! Your closing mile was the thrill of the day!

George Livingston ran his lifetime best 5k in 18:02.

George has a mental toughness that can't be taught. The mindset he has is one that allows him to push harder and endure more than most people. He cares about his teammates and was thinking about them yesterday when he was pushing through racing pains. Fun fact - George was running more than 3 minutes slower at the beginning of the year... how far can he go? Can't wait until next year, George!

Matthew Schaul and **Arion Rave** were our 5th and 6th runners, finishing in 18:16 and 18:40. For being so young, I'm pleased with how much time and how many miles they've already given. These two did not find themselves at the state meet as Freshman by chance. They've already caught the running bug and are year-round runners! Their early commitment to this team is why the seniors have had such success to end their career. This has been a total team effort.

Toby Grimm ran a 20:10 at the state meet yesterday, which is one of his best times of the season. Toby is a sophomore and has already competed at the state meet twice. His time this year was 17 seconds faster than what he did last year. Keep up the improvement, Toby!

So many friends, family members, and Wildcats came out to Fort Dodge to support these guys yesterday. Others joined the parade into Delhi, made cupcakes, and sent messages of good fortune. Thank you to all of you. It was such a special day.

—Coach Dever

Volunteer program offered

You've probably seen Mrs. Temple's emails or the opportunities listed in announcements, but in case you haven't, here's the scoop on MV's new Wildcat Star Service Program.

Students are challenged to earn volunteer hours for several purposes: to gain experience, to network with adults and to help others. Students complete a service log of their projects. These logs should be turned in to Mrs. Temple in May. These logs will also be useful when completing scholarship applications that request volunteer work information.

This project is being phased in, so seniors need 75 hours this year (from June 2021 to May 2022) to be recognized at graduation as a Wildcat Star Service Award recipient. Juniors will need 150 hours between June 2021 and May 2023, sophomores 225 hours between June 2021 and May 2024 and freshmen 300 between June 2021 and May 2025.

Some volunteer projects students have already worked on include working with the fire department, serving as a team manager, building set, helping with community activities (Harleys & Hot Rods, Trail of Terror, etc.), working at food pantries and mentoring, just to name a few.

You can find information and service log forms on the school's website by clicking on Activities--Clubs & Organizations--Wildcat Star Service Program. If you have photos of you participating in service projects, please send them to Mrs. Temple so she can add them to the page.

If you have questions, please let Mrs. Temple know.

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Paige Winter

Two windmills are standing in a wind farm. One asks, "What's your favorite kind of music?" The other says, "I'm a big metal fan."

Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now. What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind? A maybe.

Hear about the new restaurant called Karma? There's no menu—you get what you deserve.

Is it ignorance or apathy that's destroying the world today? I don't know, and I don't really care.

What do you call the wife of a hippie? A Mississippi.

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Amanda Pohlman

What role do you play in the musical? One of the three pigs and a blind mouse.

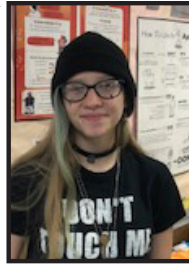
What's your favorite part of the show? The three blind mice dance and the ending to it.

What's your favorite memory from rehearsals?

When Brock was in the barn and I was making faces at him and he was acting like he was scared.

If you could play any role in any musical, what would it be? Michael from *Be More Chill* because he shows that sticking through any hardships with your friendships will pay off in the long run.

How has participating in the musical affected you? I have become way more confident with myself and have really just improved the way I think of other people who I would never think to talk to.



Name: Kaitlyn Nolan

What role do you play in the musical? I play Fairy Godmother, Gingy (Gingerbread Man), a Duloc Dancer, the Bluebird, a Rat Tapper, and a Blind Mouse.

What's your favorite part of the show? When they sing "Who I'd Be" at the end of Act I. It brings out so much emotion that has been different from the comedy of the entire first part.

What's your favorite memory from rehearsals? Trying on numerous dresses with Josie or spending the one day goofing off in the costume closet.

If you could play any role in any musical, what would it be? I would LOVE to be any character in the *SpongeBob* musical, but seeing that there's just so much talent needed for that, I'd probably try and be a "bad girl" character from a musical like *Hairspray*. And you can't tell me that *Heathers* wouldn't be funny as all get out... if it was appropriate.

How has participating in the musical affected you? It defines me more as a person compared to what I thought it would when I was in middle school. I appreciate the emotions in songs now whether it's on stage or not. Also, being busy in the fall and spring is always healthy.



Athlete of the Week

Name: Josie Teymer

What do you enjoy most about being part of the cheer team? Everyone brings a good attitude to games and practices which makes the sport really enjoyable.

Why is having cheer important at MV? I think that having cheer at MV is important because it gives the games some extra spirit.

What's your favorite cheer? "All the way to victory"

What's something about cheer that others may not know? We do a lot of community service which is good for the whole team and community.



Tri-Rivers Conference volleyball team named

Senior Kylie Chesnut was named to the Tri-Rivers All-Conference honorable mention team. She will be representing the Wildcats at the Tri-Rivers



Conference All-Star game Sunday, Nov. 7 at 1:00 PM in Springville. This game features the TRC senior volleyball athletes who have represented their respective schools on the 1st, 2nd or Honorable Mention list.

MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Paige Winter

Middle and high school students named their top reasons for trying e-cigarettes as: Curiosity (55.3%)

A friend or family member used them (30.8%)

Availability of flavors like mint, candy, fruit, or chocolate (22.4%)

Cutest Couple



Josie Teymer & Payton Brown
by Amaya Hunt

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

Josie: The first time that we met was when I moved here in 5th grade and my mom signed me up for soccer. We had never actually hung out until we started dating.
Payton: We met at school, and we gradually started to hang out, then date. For me, there was a special connection that I felt brought us together,

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

Josie: He added me on Snapchat in 7th grade, and would text me all the time--but I couldn't pick up the hint that he liked

me. The summer between 7th and 8th grade, he asked me out over Snapchat and I was really confused! Ahahaha :) I think saying yes was the right choice though, because it's been three years since now.
Payton: Her smile caught my attention first, but my first impression overall was how beautiful she is--she's funny, kind, and her personality is amazing.

What about the other gets on your nerves the most?

Josie: He doesn't remember anything.

Payton: Josie doesn't really get on my nerves... only when she picks on me.

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

Josie: We don't see each other that much during the school day, but outside of school, we sit in his living room and play with his sister. Or, we watch movies and laugh at random stuff on the Internet.

Payton: My favorite thing to do with her in school is the musical. Outside of school, one of my favorite things to do with Josie is watch movies or go somewhere to eat.

Favorite memory with the other?

Josie: Definitely the time that we did each other's makeup. Or, when I paint his nails and do his hair. Also, there was one time that we rearranged his closet and I got to keep a lot of his sweatshirts--that was a really good day.

Payton: The time I finally beat her at UNO and checkers on the same day.

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

Josie: "Hello Hello" by Elton John

Payton: "Thinking Out Loud" by Ed Sheeran

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

Josie: His family always has me over for dinner and takes me on their road trips with them. Amy, Payton's mom, is super fun and easy to talk to. Not to mention, Olivia, his little sister, who always wants to hang out with me :)

Payton: Hands down, I love that most of them are Bears fans. But, her family is like a second-family, and they're some of the nicest people I have ever met!

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

Josie: Nice eyes, nice smile, nice hair, big heart.

Payton: She's the best person I've ever met! She helps me through a lot and puts a smile on my face every day and makes me laugh. In my opinion, it's very hard to find a woman like Josie. I'm very grateful to have her in my life.



If you could add a face to Mt. Rushmore (not limited to presidents) who would you add?

by Paige Winter

Mianna Gosche: Mr. Rodger

Zach Minart: Nikki Minaj

McKenna Thompson: Captain America

Erin Knipper: Myself

Amaya Hunt: Chris Evans

Jake Gellerson: Michael Bubl 

Jada Knipper: Donald Trump

Jordan Hatfield: Lexi Halverson

Kaela Clemen: Avicii

Tanner DeMoss: Donald Trump

Liz McDowell: Mrs. Hunt

Macy Thompson: My dad

Brock Daack: Morgan Freeman, Denzel Washington, Sam L. Jackson, and Obama

Kobe Peters: Michael Schaul

Kaya Knipper: Donald Trump

Carlie Lewin: Mr. Huegel

Brock Trenkamp: Mr. Cassutt

Ashton Goldsmith: Ewan McGregor

Mr. Hoeger: JFK

Mr. Dunlap: Mark Twain

Mr. Huegel: MLK or Atticus Finch

Dairy judging team finishes third in nation



Maquoketa Valley's dairy judging team of Courtney Goedken, Alia Domeyer, Haley Ronnebaum and Lane Domeyer placed third in the nation at this past week's National FFA Convention. Lane placed eighth as an individual. Additionally, Dannie Burkle earned a silver in dairy handling.

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



by Matthew Brehm

This cutie is a sophomore. She has brown hair and is involved in cross country and track. She lives in Delhi and one of her sisters graduated last year.

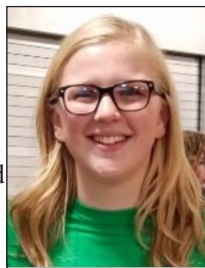
Last week's cutie was Jordan Hatfield.



Hall Smarts

by Cadence Freiburger

In celebration of Red Ribbon Week, I thought it would be fitting to test some of our high schoolers' knowledge on drug and alcohol use.



How many people attempt to quit smoking every year?
Emma Doyle: 25,000
Kansas Berthel: 65%
Zari Ambundo: 100,000
Answer: 35 million

Are e-cigarettes healthier than regular cigarettes?
Emma: they are but they aren't
Kansas: Yes
Zari: Absolutely Not
Answer: No

What is one way marijuana is harmful to teens?
Emma: mental addiction
Kansas: Addiction once you start
Zari: Marijuana is addicting
Answer: It can lower your IQ, it affects your driving ability, it affects your ability to do well in school, and more

What percent of the world's alcohol consumption is by people who are underage?
Emma: 45%
Kansas: 75%
Zari: 60%
Answer: 23%

Tool Time!

Mr. Palmer will open up the shops Monday afternoons from 3:30-4:45 and Wednesday mornings from 6:30-7:45 for any students who would like to use some of MV's equipment and tools to work on projects of their own. Students do not have to be in one of Mr. Palmer's classes. Mr. Palmer said he wants to give students an opportunity to explore things they normally would get a chance to.

If you're interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, sign-up on the sheet outside of Mr. Palmer's door on Monday.

Abstractions

by Matthew Brehm

As I gaze out the window and notice the leaves drifting to the ground, my mind wanders to the occasion. Holding a burnt vibrancy, they vary greatly. Trees prepare to hibernate for the upcoming frigidness, shedding extra weight and ceasing to photosynthesize until the time is right again.

Fall is a beautiful thing, but it can also be a dreadful thing. The prospect of cold temperatures is loved by some and hated by others.

However, being the eternal analyzer, I must not deny the symbolism that comes to mind when I view this annual event. Each season contains a message about the cycle of life that I think is valuable, and right now is a great time to ponder over the message that the cool fall breeze whispers to us.

In my opening paragraph, I wrote that trees are shedding. This is true in the literal sense, but it holds significance in the metaphorical sense as well. As we prepare to enter new stages of our lives, we too need to lose layers. This might mean letting go of grudges or pain in order to progress as a person. It also might mean working to eliminate insecurities that wish to tie us down. Losing bad habits fits here as well. In order to advance, we must first cut out the parts about us that aren't useful anymore or never were.

Fall is so clearly a time of change. Though I'd love for the leaves to last, it's beauty does not stay long. Soon, we will be faced with the cold winter months that mean snow and frigid temperatures. If fall is a time for change, then winter is a time for introspection. As many of us will soon be shut inside in an effort to escape the cold, this will be the perfect time to reflect. Relating it back to our analogy, I think about how the bare trees sit still in contemplation. After enough time, they will be ready to emerge again with new ideas and meaning. COVID has taught us that being stuck inside is an opportunity to learn and grow, and it's our responsibility to use that time.

If you are a person who loves winter, you look forward to this time each year. If you're like me and enjoy soaking up the sun, try to find something to appreciate about the season that's upon us. You can find a meaning—and in turn a lesson—in anything you see. You just need to give it the right perspective.



Red Ribbon Week Fun

SEL students spoke with elementary students this week about making responsible decisions about substances.



photos by Paige Winter