

## Three MV speech groups nominated for All-State

by Leah Ries

This past Saturday the Maquoketa Valley Large Group Speech Team competed in Decorah at the State Speech Contest. The team had fourteen events compete and three events advanced to All-State.

Results:

### Overall 1 Rating

Group Improvisation 1 (Tomato Targets): Keziah Ambundo, Noah DeVore, Brock Trenkamp, & Michael Van Meter

Group Improvisation 3 (Three's Company): Toby Grimm, & Livia Hermanson  
Ensemble Acting ("On the Porch One Crisp Spring Morning"): Amaya Hunt & Saige Hunt

Ensemble Acting ("From the Mouths of Babies"): Anna Deutmeyer, Noah DeVore, Kendra Hillers, & Brock Trenkamp  
Ensemble Acting ("Forever Friends"): Keziah Ambundo, Molly Anderegg, Amanda Mohr, & Ashtyn Porter

Solo Mime (Sliding Into Scales): Josie Teymer

Readers Theatre ("Lip Service"): Matthew Brehm, Dannie Burkle, Kylie Chesnut, Toby Grimm, Livia Hermanson, Carter Klaren, Erin Knipper, Avery Krapfl, George Livingston, & Carissa Sabers  
Group Mime 1 (Dead Asleep): Kylie Chesnut, Avery Krapfl, Carissa Sabers, & Caelyn Sands

Choral Reading (Riveting Correspondence): Joellen Beitz, McKenna Bush, Kaela Clemen, Chantel Crowley, Adrienne Freiburger, Cadence Freiburger, Addie Hucker, Carlie Lewin, Keira Leytem, Amanda Mohr, Ashtyn Porter, & Cece Trenkamp

TV News (Sixth Sense – Episode 13: the Winchester Mystery House): Joellen Beitz, McKenna Bush, Logan Clemen, Lane Domeyer, Adrienne Freiburger, Emily Hogan, & Lily Huber

Choral Reading



Readers Theater



Tomato Targets



*Continued on next page*



## Large group speech, continued Overall 2 Rating

One-Act Play ("The Nameless Princess"): Matthew Brehm, Logan Clemen, Jake Gellersen, Mianna Gosche, Amaya Hunt, Carter Klaren, Carlie Lewin, George Livingston, Ella Mensen, Isabella Mensen, Zach Mineart, Kaitlyn Nolan, Leah Ries, Taylor Schmuecker, McKenna Thompson, & Paige Winter  
Group Improvisation 2 (Giggling Gals): Zari Ambundo, Dannie Burkle, Alia Dommeyer, & Brianna Hines  
Group Mime 2 (Snow Day): Brianna Hines & Emma Doyl  
Short Film (It's Just a Dream) Cadence Freiburger, Morgan Krumviede, Keira Leytem, & Cece Trenkamp

Monday afternoon the All-State nominations were announced. Three events made were selected to preform at All-State - Readers Theatre ("Lip Service"), Choral Reading (Riveting Correspondence), and Group Improvisation 1 (Tomato Targets). The All-State festival will be held on February 19th at Iowa State University.

Congratulations to all on a great season!

## Smooth Harmony earns top rating at contest



Seniors Noah DeVore and Brock Trenkamp take the lead during a song at contest this past Monday.

by Paige Winter

This past Monday there was a vocal jazz competition right here in our own auditorium. Our Wildcat vocalists welcomed eight other schools to perform and performed ourselves receiving a division 1

rating and a perfect score from one of the judges.

Senior Keziah Ambundo mentioned that the performance went super well for the group this week. Sophomore Kaitlyn Nolan also commented that her favorite part of the competition was going into the clinic after their set to receive compliments on the group's performance. "It was nice to know that all of our hard work in the auditorium, the choir room, with many different clinics, and by ourselves on our own time has paid off."

The group's next performance will be today at the MoShow Jazz Festival at Cedar Rapids Washington High School at 2:25 PM.

Looking ahead, the Wildcats are getting ready to rock the stage at state! Wish these Wildcats good luck today!

## Putting CTE skills to work



Above: Principle of Management students Ella Mensen, Bri Fischer, Emilee Supple and Brooke Hogan make iced coffees as part of a class project to raise funds for medical expenses for an MV family. The students organized the plan and managed the coffee table before school this week.

Right: Although Mr. Palmer crafted an extension to a desk in the office and Mr. Dunlap painted it, the Construction and Technology class put the vinyl base board on the bottom.



# Four Wildcats advance to Districts



**Brady Davis, Aidan Salow, Nathan Beitz and Michael Salow made it through wrestling sectionals and will compete at districts tomorrow. (photo by Lesa Parmely)**

**by Kaitlyn Nolan**

The end of the season is approaching for all winter sports at Maquoketa Valley, and the wrestling team took the first step towards state when they competed at sectionals this past Saturday at MFL-MarMac. The team hosting the event won with 234.5 points, and the MV Wildcats placed fourth with 131 points. At sectionals you have to place either first or second in your weight class to move onto districts. Four out of our ten wrestlers are moving on: Michael Schaul, Aidan Salow, Nathan Beitz, and Brady Davis. Congratulations go out to seniors Kobe Peters and Devin Smith for having a great season!

## Results from Sectionals:

Brenden Frasher was 4th in the 106 weight class after losing by fall against Jaden Peyton from East Buchanan.

Wrestling at 126, Arion Rave placed 5th and won by fall over Aiden Harms from Bellevue.

Tyreese Crippin placed 3rd while

wrestling at 138 after not competing in the second place match.

At 145, Mason Jolley placed 5th after receiving a bye.

Michael Schaul placed 2nd after winning by no contest over Ryan Schlarman from Beckman Catholic.

Kobe Peters wrestled at 160 and placed 6th for the night after losing by fall against Jayden Keane of Bellevue.

Aidan Salow, 182, placed 2nd after winning by decision (11-6) over Clay Wilgenbusch from East Buchanan.

Nathan Beitz wrestled at 195 and placed 2nd after winning by no contest over Taylor Herzman from MFL-MarMac.

Wrestling at 220, Brady Davis placed 2nd after winning by fall over Ryder Michels from Bellevue.

In the heavyweight class, Devin Smith placed 3rd and lost by decision (6-2) against Jason Koopmann from Beckman Catholic.

Districts will be held tomorrow at Cascade.

# Dance & cheer awards night held

The dance team and cheer team recently held their awards night, and the following awards were presented:

## The Willies (Cheer awards)

Most Community Service - Josie Teymer  
Most Dedicated - Kylie Chesnut  
Awesome Attitude Award - Kylie Chesnut  
Everyone's BFF - Mianna Gosche  
Heart of the Team - Leah Ries

## The Dancys (Dance awards)

Technique on Fleek - Maddyx Rieniets  
Sassy but Classy - Kaelynn Clark

Awesome Attitude Award - Molly Anderegg and Josie Teymer  
Most Encouraging - Kendra Hillers and Livia Hermanson  
Little Miss Sunshine - Clairra Gray  
Touch the Sky - Leah Ries  
Choreo Queen - McKenna Thompson  
Most Improved - Isabella Mensen and Kaitlyn Nolan  
Dance Clown - Mianna Gosche  
Rookie of the Year - Tierra Morgan  
Heart of the Team - Leah Ries

# Cats scare ranked Orioles

**by Toby Grimm**

Last Friday night The Girls Basketball Team took on the 20-1 Orioles of Springville and lost in a close, hard fought game by a final score of 37-34 to end regular season play for the team.

On the scoring end, Haley Ronnebaum led with 9 points, Ella Mensen had 8, Erin Knipper with 7, Carissa Sabers had 6, ending with Kennedy Rausch and Kylie Chesnut with a bucket apiece. The Cats had a tough 2nd Quarter scoring only one, and just could respond.

Defensively, Mensen and Knipper each had 7 rebounds, followed by Chesnut with 6. Haley Ronnebaum and Carissa Sabers also had 3 each.

Even with the comeback late in the fourth quarter, it was too little, too late against one of the top teams in the state, to fall to 12-9 to end the regular season.

Last night the team played Marquette Catholic at home. The statistics for the will be in the next Echo.

# Boys gear up for districts

**by Chantel Crowley**

Last Friday, the MV Boys Basketball team played against ranked Springville, where they lost 40 to 60.

Top scorers included Avery Holtz with 12, Kody Hoeger with ten, and Lance McShane with seven. Toby Grimm and Lucas Orcutt scored four each, and TJ Cook scored three.

For rebounds, Grimm, McShane, and Hoeger had five each, Brock Trenkamp and Holtz had three rebounds each, Orcutt had two, and Brock Daack, Cook, and Landen Deutmeyer had one rebound each.

As for assists, Grimm had five, Holtz had four, McShane had two, and Cook and Orcutt had one each.

The boys' next game was played on Tuesday where they traveled to Edge-wood-Colesburg. The boys lost 28 to 48.

Top scorers were Deutmeyer with eight, Holtz with seven, Hoeger with four, and McShane with three points. Grimm, Orcutt, and Noah DeVore all scored two points each.

For rebounds, Grimm had five, Hoeger had four, Trenkamp, Deutmeyer, and Orcutt had three each, and McShane and Holtz had one each. Trenkamp had one assist as well.

The boys' next game will be district play on Monday, February 14th at North Linn.



# what's up?

## Honey roasted or dry roasted peanuts?

by Paige Winter

Brock Trenkamp: honey roasted  
Michael Van Meter: honey roasted  
Kendra Hillers: honey roasted  
Avery Krapfl: honey roasted  
Amaya Hunt: honey roasted  
Liz McDowell: dry roasted  
Carissa Sabers: neither, I don't like peanuts  
Matthew Brehm: dry roasted  
Bianka Ronnebaum: honey roasted  
Kennedy Rausch: dry roasted  
Nolan Ries: I don't eat nuts  
Michael Schaul: I don't eat peanuts  
Cy Huber: dry roasted

## Hall Smarts

by Cadence Freiburger

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, I thought I'd quiz some high school students on their knowledge of the holiday.



1. Before the 'X' at the end of letters stood for a kiss, what did the symbol mean?

Morgan Krumviede: cross  
Mason Jolley: multiplication  
Answer: the cross

2. Who wrote the oldest known Valentine's Day message?

Morgan: Lord  
Mason: Some Latin dude  
Answer: The Duke of Orleans

3. How many roses are sent on average every year for Valentine's day?

Morgan: over a million  
Mason: 380 million  
Answer: 50 million

## Fine Artist of the Week

Name: Matthew Brehm

According to Mr. Ford, you've been "killing it" in jazz band. What do you enjoy most about playing jazz? Jazz

is a newer style of music. It has been pioneered, but it plays by few of the tight rules of classical music. Because it is so limitless and new, you can really go anywhere with it. The platform invites creativity and challenges my abilities. It also feels awesome when I can reproduce and put my own spin on some older jazz standards.



**How does playing jazz differ from playing concert band music?** Don't get me wrong, I enjoy concert band, but it's much more structured and professional than jazz. It also involves a much larger ensemble, which can create some great sounds, but also makes it more difficult to keep everyone engaged and together. The music I've played in jazz is more difficult than in concert band, which is appealing.

**How has your participation in jazz band affected your musicianship?** As students at MV are generally classically trained on their instruments, the switch to jazz is a bit of a leap. For the saxophone, I've had to loosen my embouchure to get the right sound, but this has also helped me get the vibrato that I use in concert band. Overall, though, I find that jazz has given me a stronger appreciation and a better ability to express myself through my instrument.

## MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Paige Winter

In addition to the physical and mental risks associated with marijuana use, people who use marijuana have also re-

ported less academic and career success, as well as lower life satisfaction and more relationship problems.

## Athletes of the Week



Dance Seniors

What has dance meant to you?

**Leah Ries:** Dance has been a part of my life for many years as I started dancing when I was three-years-old. I have been able to grow as a dancer and person.

Dance has allowed me to express myself and bond with teammates. Without dance, I do not know where I would be in life. I have been able to meet so many people through dance over the years. The dance floor was one of the first places where I learned how to set goals and dream.

**Kendra Hillers:** When I started dance sophomore year I wasn't sure if I was going to like it or not. It wasn't really something that I had ever done. However, through the past three years it became one of my favorite things to do and I wouldn't have traded it for the world. I was able to express myself in ways that I could not have if I wasn't a part of it. Coach Teymer and the other girls became family and I will be forever grateful that I got to be a part of the team.

**Molly Anderegg:** To me, dance was a place I could be myself and be accepted by those around me. Coach Teymer always made sure that dance practice was a positive, accepting environment and that goal was achieved. It was a place all of the team members could be goofy, gross, and have no filter. But it was also a place where we worked hard, got things perfected and found what clicked within the group. Dance was a place where I could get to know the girls I wouldn't normally talk to had I not gone out, and I couldn't be more grateful for the memories I made with them.

**Kaelynn Clark:** MV dance is like one big family. I've danced my whole life and never had something like that.

**Mianna Gosche:** For me, dance wasn't just an extracurricular activity for after school. It was a devotion, it has helped me grow so much since freshman year. I learned to be comfortable in my own skin. It is unlike any other sport because we have a family base. We do team bonding, and make having fun a priority.

# JO-JO'S CLOSET

by Josie Teymer

With prom coming I think that it is a great time to talk about formal wear. Of course I'm a sophomore and can't go to Prom but I'm sure there is a junior or senior out there that needs a little help. I have talked to a few upperclassmen who have already gotten their attire. But, If you haven't gotten an outfit yet I'm here to help.

Let's start with suits. Checkered print and animal suits are both in this season. This year the colors for suits are plum and navy. From my research I have found that Corduroy is the fabric of the season.

Let's move onto dresses. This year sequins, statement backs and glitter are trending. The popular styles for this year are Baby Doll and illusion. While researching I also saw a lot of feathers. I'm not sure how to feel about that one... I hope this helped!



## Cutie



by Matthew Brehm

This cutie lives outside of Delhi and has brown hair. He is involved in cross country and track and he happens to be a senior. Something interesting about him is that he is very acrobatic and great at wallsits.

*Last week's Cutie was Grace Rowan.*

**COFFEE  
FRIDAY!**



**HELP SUPPORT AN MV  
FAMILY MEMBER HEALTH  
CARE EXPENSES**

**WHEN:**

**Friday morning before school!  
Friday afternoon during W.I.N. and after school!**

**Psst...**

Here's your friendly reminder to update your Wildcat Star Service Award log! Get it signed by the event supervisor.

## Comedy Corner

—compiled by Paige Winter

My teachers told me I'd never amount to much because I procrastinate so much. I told them, "Just you wait!"

Comic Sans walks into a bar. The bartender says, "We don't serve your type here."

What's the easiest way to get straight As? Use a ruler.

A grasshopper sits down at a bar. The bartender says, "We have a drink named after you!" The grasshopper replies, "Who names a drink 'Steve?'"

What's a balloon's least favorite type of music? Pop.

I went into a store to buy some books about turtles. "Hardbacks?" asked the shopkeeper. "Yes," I replied. "And they have little heads, too."



# Best Buds

Julia Ambundo & Alissa Bush  
by Amaya Hunt

**What was your first impression of the other?**

Julia: I was honestly quite scared because she is a horse girl.

Alissa: We met around 10 years ago, so I don't really remember much lol :)

**If you were to spend an entire day together doing your favorite things, what would that look like?**

Julia: We would most likely chill at her house and watch "Encanto," or scream to Tate McRae.

Alissa: We'd watch a movie, listen to music, dance, sleep, and go to grab food somewhere.

**If you could travel somewhere (anywhere in the world) together, where would you go and why?**

Julia: I think we'd go to Argentina or Korea.

Alissa: Italy! Because why not? I feel like it'd be a pretty nice place to visit.

**What's your favorite quality about the others? And what annoys you the most about them?**

Julia: I like that she doesn't care-- she really has no filter at all! What annoys me the most is when I try to be nice to and compliment her but she just goes: "No, you're lying!"

Alissa: Julia always knows how to get me out of a bad mood! And I love being able to talk to her about anything (usually boys).

**If you had to pick one song that reminds you of the others, what would it be?**

Julia: "Fingers Crossed" by Lauren Spencer Smith or "I Believe You" by Fletcher.

Alissa: It's too hard to pick just one, so here's all of them: "Numb" by Carlie Hanson; "You Should See Me in a Crown" by Billie Eilish; "Oops!... I Did it Again" by Britney Spears; or "I AM WOMAN" by Emmy Meli.

**What's your favorite memory created together?**

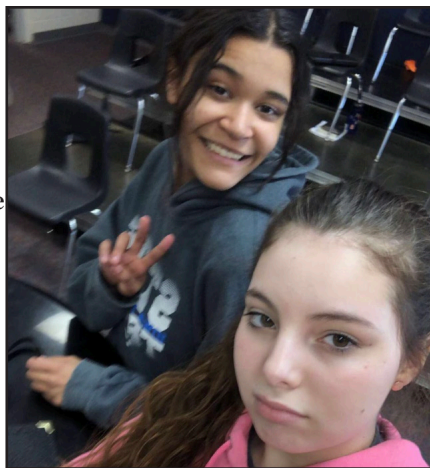
Julia: The first time that I had Chinese food, she couldn't believe that I had never had it before! It sounds funnier than the way I'm describing it. Also, there was one time we watched "The Nightmare Before Christmas" and we did face masks and stuff-- that was pretty cool.

Alissa: Honestly, I don't know and I don't think I'd be able to pick just one favorite. But maybe the one time she and I were laughing so hard I hit my head on the wall and then proceeded to fall off the bed. I ended up dragging her down with me when I tried to use her to help me stay up.

**As always... Where do you see the others in ten years?**

Julia: I can see her having a good paying job and an even better life. She will definitely be the girl I call up when football and basketball games are happening, though, because we'll be the crazy moms that scream and cheer.

Alissa: Hopefully she has a good, stable job. We all know she'd have to live somewhere near me so she could come steal the food from my home.



# Abstractions

by Matthew Brehm

Sometimes, the most basic of things can be the most interesting to analyze. That happened to be the case when my mind wandered to something we're surrounded by every day: paint.



Though it doesn't seem complex on the surface, paint and its usage is something that has helped to define human culture as it is today. It has saved lives and it has taken them. It has been a vehicle for change as well as one for oppression.

In a rural area of southwestern France, 1940, an 18-year-old was walking his dog when he discovered a cave. Upon exploring it, he and some friends uncovered the Lascaux paintings—17,000-year-old paintings depicting hundreds of ambiguous symbols and animals, as well as hundreds more hand prints. What's interesting is that this type of art is not unique. It's been found across the planet, but it often looks very similar. Perhaps there is an intrinsic human need to create art—or simply to create.

Though they can be quite an annoyance at times, I enjoy scanning train cars as they scroll past at railroad crossings. The graffiti embellished on the cars have creators, and those creators have messages. I don't know where the cars come from, but I know that they are marked with the autobiographies of countless souls; souls that need to be free; souls that travel the country.

China's one-child policy, which was in effect from 1980 to 2016, is still vividly remembered by many today in the form of residual propaganda. Murals depicting a mother, father, and single child are common in urban Chinese streets. These paintings, often accompanied by the words, "ONE CHILD IS BEST," are just one harsh example of the way paintings have been used to push agendas.

But just as easily as paint decorates a surface, it can also be used to cover up. In September, the Taliban took to painting over a number of murals that displayed messages of freedom and questioned government power structures. Afghanistan felt a piece of their culture—a piece of their identity—violently ripped from their hands, only to be replaced with propaganda.

Our usage of paint speaks volumes, whether it adds to our beauty or works to our detriment.

*"That complicated relationship between art and its viewers is never more fraught than when we are looking deeply into the past." - John Green*