

Wildcat Echo

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A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Students learn more about careers



Last week, ten MV students joined other area students for an opportunity to explore careers and employers at an NICC-organized event in Edgewood to showcase high demand areas in the trades..

Students got a hands-on look at the type of work several employers in the area do. They event was designed to be a win-win situation for the employers and students: Students got to learn more about what the company does, and the company has a chance to potentially recruit future employees.

Activities included some actual work like making brats or sawing lumber as well as some simulator activities like using an excavator.



Musicians learn at MOShow Jazz Clinic

by Chantel Crowley

On Monday, February 13th, Smooth Harmony traveled to Cedar Rapids Washington High School for a vocal jazz clinic at MOShow.

“MOShow Jazz Festival was another successful performance for Smooth Harmony! The performance venue was definitely different from what we were used to, but learning to adapt to different environments is all part of the experience! Dr. Binek had some useful information to share with the group that we have been putting into practice as we prepare both for Kirkwood Jazz Festival and for our audition tape for Jazz Championships,” commented Ms. McCrary. “There were no final results/scores, but Smooth Harmony is always number one in my book!”

Kirkwood Jazz Festival is scheduled to take place on Friday, Feb. 24. Stop on by to hear their set!

FFA plans to celebrate FFA Week

by Lainey Knipper

The 2023 National FFA week will be kicked off on February 20th-24th. During the week there will be lots of new and exciting games.

Every day during lunch there will be a game to be played with delicious prizes. Get ready for some music, tower-building, dancing and more!

You may even find a surprise blue and gold treat Tuesday morning. FFA members will be competing in subdistrict competition in Elkader Tuesday afternoon. You’ll know who they are by their formal dress.

Friday the Ag Olympics will be held during WIN time to see who will be the new Ag Olympic champions.

MV’s Class of 2024 earned the title of Ag Olympic Champs of 2022. Will they keep the title?

MV's 'Big Three' make it to the big stage



Salow pinning Cade Bonnette of Denver, first round (photos courtesy of Pete Temple, The Monticello Express)



Beitz vs. Trent Wilkerson of New London round of 16

by Kaitlyn Nolan

Last Saturday the wrestlers traveled to MFL Mar-Mac to compete in Class 1A Districts for a chance to earn a spot at the IHSAA Iowa State Wrestling Championships. Three wrestlers advanced: Nathan Beitz, a sophomore, wrestling in the 195 weight class; Brady Davis, a junior, wrestling in the 220 weight class; and Aidan Salow, a junior, wrestling in the 285 weight class.

The state tournament commenced Wednesday at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. Both Beitz and Davis earned first round byes. Salow pinned Cade Bonnette of Denver in 1:01. He lost to Alex Kaufmann of Wilton by fall at 3:52. He then pinned his next two opponents, Zach Pearce of Rockford at 2:24 and Derek Hilsenbeck of Wapsie Valley at :59. He will first face Keegan McMillen of West Sioux on Friday.

Beitz won his first match with a 7-0 decision over Trent Wilkerson of New London and then went on to defeat Ashton Honnold of Nodaway Valley 6-3 to get into the semi-finals on Friday.

Davis defeated his first opponent, Brayden Tew of West Monona-Whiting, by a 7-4 decision. He then lost by fall at 4:48 to Jared Thiry of Don Bosco. Davis will start Friday taking on Logan Wright of West Branch.



Davis vs. Brayden Tew of West Monona-Whiting

Cats keep it rollin'

by Toby Grimm

Last Friday night, the girls team hosted a first round playoff game against the Central City Wildcats. Our Wildcats of Maquoketa Valley came out hot and never looked back, jumping to a 39-17 lead at half and winning by a final score of 68-26. Bianka Ronnebaum led the scoring (22), shooting 6/7 from behind the arc. Kennedy Rausch had (15), on 5-3 pointers. Leah Reicher was next (13), and Grace Richter (9). Bianka Ronnebaum and Grace Richter led the team in boards (6), followed by Haley Ronnebaum (5), Rausch (3). The team distributed the ball well with a total of 23 assists, led by Bianka Ronnebaum completing her double-double (11), Knipper and Rausch (4), and Haley Ronnebaum (3).

This Tuesday, the girls team traveled all the way to Turkey Valley to compete against the Trojans in another "win or go home" game. The team beat the Trojans by a final score of 61-38. That win left the Wildcats with a 15-9 overall record.

Tonight the team hosts Ed-Co in the District final.



Boys get district wins over Clarksville, Turkey Valley

by Chantel Crowley

This past week started the post-season for boys basketball. The MV boys played a home game against Clarksville on Tuesday. They won 65 to 36.

Scorers included Lance McShane, 22; Kody Hoeger, 15; Avery Holtz, 12; Treyton Cook, five; Toby Grimm, four; Brady Wall, three; Anderson Holtz, two; and Tate Intorf, two.

There were a total of 27 rebounds that night. McShane had 13, Kody Hoeger had four, and Wall had three. Cook and Grimm had two each, and Anderson Holtz and Intorf had one each, as well. For assists, Avery Holtz had five, Grimm had two, and Cook and Anderson Holtz had one each, for a total of nine assists.

The team played yesterday against Turkey Valley and came away with a 47-42 win. They will take on North Linn Tuesday. Avery Holtz became MV's sixth highest scorer after surpassing the previous number 6: Mr. Osterhaus.

Haley Ronnebaum launches one against Central City last Friday. (photo by Dannie Burkle)

Big Games on the Big Stage

After a devastating loss against #1 Purdue (at the time, but since then have been beaten by Northwestern who should be ranked in my opinion), the Iowa men's basketball team traveled to Minnesota to take on the Golden Gophers. Against



by Kaitlyn Nolan

a team that usually loses by 20-30 points, Fran McCaffery's team only winning by twelve points isn't that great. Last night they hosted Ohio State, but seeing that I don't know those results yet, I can't say if they won. I do know that they then have to go to Northwestern who, again, is strong enough to beat the former #1 team in the country. But, if we can beat them once, we can beat them again.

The Iowa women's team, ranked #7, destroyed Rutgers eight-woman team in an all-player showout, rolling past them 111-57. The next game was against the Badgers of Wisconsin in another impressive victory with a point gap of exactly thirty points. On Saturday, Lisa Bluder and her fired up squad travel to the Wannabe-Corn State to take on the Nebraska Cornhuskers.

The Iowa State Cyclones men's team has been slacking as of recently. They were starting to get hot, slowly rising up

the AP Poll each week and earning a great win against #5 Kansas, but have since fallen to two unranked teams: West Virginia and Oklahoma State. They rebounded from their losses with a victory over #22 TCU and now have to prep for a big game at #12 Kansas State.

It must be an Iowa State thing to fall to unranked squads after beating a higher-ranked team than them. After winning against #15 Oklahoma, the Cyclones have since lost to Kansas State, Baylor, and West Virginia. They came back with a win over #17 Texas this Monday, but now they have to prepare for a revenge game against the Baylor Bears.

The #2 Iowa Hawkeye men's wrestling team has been putting on a show as of recently. Even though they lost to the #1 team in the country right now (Penn State), they came back with a close win over #12 Minnesota and a dominating performance against #9 Michigan. They host their Senior Night this Sunday against #6 Oklahoma State.

Meanwhile, in Ames, they lost. I mean, yeah, the #3 Iowa State Cyclones wrestling team won against #18 Pitt, #14 Northern Iowa, and #20 Illinois, but they fell to #10 Missouri on Wednesday night. This match supposedly ended their season, but on their schedule they have a Last Chance Open written in. If they don't do this, then it's full steam ahead for the Big 12 Wrestling Championship on March 4th.

Athletes of the Week

Name: Claira Gray

What do you enjoy most about dance team? Definitely the team and my coach of course!

It's a way different atmosphere than any other team I've ever been on. We are all so close and

tell each other everything while we are stretching in a circle before practice.

What's the hardest part of it? Definitely going full out during practice and while performing, even though we are super tired we have to keep our energy up. Also keeping track of counts while we are dancing gets difficult.

What's your favorite routine you've ever been a part of? Definitely our cotton-eyed joe, kick routine! This was my favorite because it's something we've never done so it was a huge challenge but I think that's why it was such a special dance for our team after we finally nailed it.

What's something about dance most people don't realize? How hard it is, we make it look easy but I don't think people realize how much work it is until you actually do it. From cutting music to choreography, and everything in between.

If you could choreograph a routine, what kind would it be and what song would you use? I would definitely do a hip-hop routine to "Crazy In Love" by Beyonce.



Name: Bianka Ronnebaum

What do you enjoy most about playing basketball? Dancing before every game

How have you evolved as a player? I've gotten more aggressive and make more of my shots.

What's been a favorite basketball memory? Lexi running into the shower at Starmont and falling

What's your favorite warm-up song? "TRUCK BED" by Hardy

Who's your basketball role model? Ella Imler



Cutie



MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Lily Huber

The Food and Drug Administration has not found any e-cigarette to be safe and effective in helping smokers quit. If smokers are ready to quit smoking for good, they should call 1-800-QUIT NOW or talk with their doctor about finding the best way to quit using proven methods and FDA-approved treatments and counseling.

by Lily Huber

Just chillin', Cutie! This Cutie is a freshman and is involved in volleyball, basketball, track, and softball. She also has three sisters. *Last week's Cutie was Tate Intorf.*

Taking the role of fan one step further

MV fans showed extra lovin' to the girls basketball team Friday night. Right: Matthew Schaul, Toby Grimm and Avery Holtz add a touch of ESPN to the game. Below: TJ Cook and camera man Tate Intorf interview Mr. Arnold as part of the ESPN broadcast. (photos by Dannie Burkle)



Hall Smarts



by Maya Smith

Since this week was Valentine's Day, I decided to ask some questions about the holiday.

Question: During the Civil War era, conversation hearts were more fortune cookie like. What was their name?

Zari Ambundo: Motto hearts

Matthew Schaul: Cupid

Dylan Knipper: St. Valentine's

Answer: Cockle

Question: How much money is spent on pets' Valentine's Day gifts?

Zari: like \$1,000

Matthew: 500 million

Dylan: 10 million

Answer: \$681 million

Question: Where was the first Saint Valentine's Day celebration?

Zari: Rome

Matthew: Not America

Dylan: France

Answer: Paris

Question: A long time ago, French doctors would recommend chocolate to women with what diagnosis?

Zari: Heartbroken disease probably

Matthew: Hernia

Dylan: Depression

Answer: A broken heart



what's up?

Who would win in a fight: A polar bear with a lightsaber or an unarmed T-rex?
by Lily Huber

Harold Mohr: A polar bear with a lightsaber, duh

Josie Teymer: I believe that the polar bear would win because it could just charge head first into the T-rex, then the T-rex would fall over and not be able to push itself back up because of it's little arms... and the polar bear could ram into it multiple more times

Mrs. DeVore: That's a fabulous question and I'd love to see it! No real answer, I just want to see it because I don't know... there are too many variables.

Lanni Beaman: Polar bear with a lightsaber

Mrs. Besler: Polar bear, the t-rex would be confused by a lightsaber

Kelsey Hoeger: A unarmed t-rex

Anderson Holtz: A polar bear with a lightsaber

Dying Words

by Cadence Freiburger

Jane Austen

was born on December 16, 1775 in Steven-ton, New Hampshire. Her family was very close, made up of eight kids (six boys and two girls). At seven, Jane and her sister were sent to Oxford for school-ing, but they were only there for a short while before contracting typhus. When she turned nine, they attended the Abbey School of reading until their father could no longer afford it. Their father and brothers managed to continue teaching them the rest of their schooling. She eventually began to fall in love with an Irish man named Tom Lefroy. Unfortunately, their relationship was doomed from the start as he was meant to marry for money.



In 1801, her father moved them to Bath, which was an area filled with rich people and high society manners. On the trip, she fell in love with a clergyman who promised to meet her in Bath. However, he became sick and passed away. Jane didn't enjoy life in Bath as she began her story *The Watsons* but never finished it. She also accepted a proposal from a family friend however, she took it back the next day. When her father passed away, they permanently relocated to Chawton. Her time at Chawton was her most productive time. She finished and published *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Mansfield Park*, *Emma*, *Persuasion*, and *Northanger Abbey*. Both *Sense and Sensibility* and *Pride and Prejudice* were published under a pen name.

Her close relationships with her siblings meant that Jane's life was filled with opportunities to write. It also meant that her siblings could offer more details about her life. Jane's sister, Cassandra, was a very close companion to Jane, and the final letters from Jane to Cassandra reveal many details about her life. While writing *Persuasion*, she began to fall ill with what we now know to be Addison's disease. Her final two stories (*Persuasion* and *Northanger Abbey*) were published after she died. Cassandra was with Jane in her final moments and had asked her what she wanted. To which Jane replied:

"I want nothing but death."