

Readers theater group earns Critic's Choice award

by Chantel Crowley

Last weekend, held in Ames, was the All-State Large-Group Speech contests. MV had two groups going. One in the category of Readers' Theatre; (Saige Hunt, Carter Klaren, Ella Mensen, Zach Mineart, Taylor Schmuecker, Emilee Supple, George Livingston, and Matthew Schaul) ...and Other's, and another in the category of Choral Reading; (Arianna Nolan, Cadence Freiburger, Chantel Crowley, McKenna Bush, Kaela Clemen, Rachel Hoefer, Morgan Clemen, Jenna LeGassick, Zach Mineart, and Maya Smith) The Willow Rebounds.

However, during closing ceremonies, MV's Readers Theater was announced as Critic's Choice and received the Readers' Theatre All-State Banner. After all of the All-State performances in each event, each critic chooses the performance that moved them, or resonated with them, the most throughout the day. In the contest speech world there are no divisions by class. This means Maquoketa Valley is competing against schools of all enrollment sizes, from A to 5A. When a school receives a Critic Choice Award, they are charged with holding the banner of their respective category for the upcoming year. They will return it for opening ceremonies



at next year's All-State Festival.

This is only the second Critic's Choice Award Maquoketa Valley has received. The first was in 1996 in the category of Television News. The members of that broadcast team were Nathan Zietlow, Nick Glew, Cory Carpenter, Nathan Hunter, Jeffrey Butikofer, Brian Kelchen, and Travis Mensen. The contest speech coaches at this time were Sigmund and Sue Bonebrake.

Our Readers' Theatre selection this year was "...And Others" by Dennis Bush. The piece centers around Amanda,

who suffered a horrible tragedy when she was 12, and developed seven different personalities as a result. The selection does an incredible job of incorporating all of the personalities and how they relate to the original tragedy and Amanda's life afterwards. What was the tragedy?

The Readers' Theatre group is hoping to perform for the high school sometime in the next two weeks so you will be able to get all of your questions answered!!

FCS classes learn about food preservation

Under the guidance of Mrs. Downs, students in FCS have learned by doing and practiced canning fruits and meats. Students took 30 pounds of bacon and cooked then canned it, cubed pork roast and canned it and also made sausage patties and canned them. Students also learned how to preserve strawberries which will be used in jam and pie filling. Students also practiced their knife skills by slicing, chopping and julienne strawberries.

Right: Jaxson Kramer strains bacon grease.

Far right: Students practice their knife skills while preparing to preserve strawberries.



Individual speech season begins, MV wins conference

by Chantel Crowley

The end of the Large-Group Speech was wrapped up last week, so now the Individual Speech season is in full swing! On Monday, Feb. 20, the Individual Speech Conference Contest was held in Calamus-Wheatland.

Maquoketa Valley placed first with 166 points, followed by Starmont and Lisbon.

After a long day, the results are as follows:

Maya Smith: Public Address- 1 (Best of Center 2, first place) // Radio News- 1 (Best of Center 7, second place)
Jocelyn Kelchen: Prose- 1
Jena LeGassick: Acting- 1
Carter Klaren: Radio News- 1 // After Dinner- 1
Kaela Clemen: Poetry- 1 (Best of Center 6, first place) // Public Address- 1
Arianna Nolan: After Dinner- 2 // Prose- 1
Alia Domeyer: Expository Address- 1 (Best of Center 3, second place)
Cadence Freiburger: Original Oratory- 1 (Best of Center 5, first place)
Morgan Clemen: Poetry- 2 // Storytelling- 1 (Best of Center 7, second place)

Ella Mensen: Storytelling- 1
Lily Huber: Expository Address- 1
Addie Hucker: After Dinner- 1 (Best of Center 4, second place) // Poetry- 2
Kaitlyn Nolan: Acting- 1 // Solo Musical Theater- 1 (Best of Center 1, second place)
Jake Gellersen: Radio News- 1 (Best of Center 7, first place)
Emilee Supple: Public Address- 1
Josie Teymer: Poetry- 1 // Expository Address- 1 (Best of Center 3, first place)
Alissa Bush: Literary Program- 1 (Best of Center 5, first place) // Original Oratory- 1
Joellen Beitz: Acting- 1 // Prose- 1 (Best of Center 3, first place)
Morgan Krumviede: Literary Program- 1
Taylor Schmuecker: Storytelling- 1
George Livingston: Spontaneous Speaking- 1 (Best of Center 2, first place) // Acting- 1 (Best of Center 1, first place)
McKenna Bush: Reviewing- 1 (Best of Center 4, first place) // Prose- 2
McKenna Thompson: Acting- 1 (Best of Center 2, second place) // Storytelling- 1 (Best of Center 7, first place)
Leah Reicher: Spontaneous Speaking- 1
Chantel Crowley: Radio News- 1 // Reviewing- 1



Kaela Clemen rehearses her public address with Ms. Crumpton.

Matthew Schaul: After Dinner- 1
Allison Hogan: Prose- 1
Emily Hogan: Literary Program- 1
Toby Grimm: Public Address- 1 (Best of Center 2, second place)

Tomorrow MV will travel to Union Middle School in Dysart to compete at Districts. Good luck to all!

FFA students move on to district contest

Maquoketa Valley FFA was well represented at sub-district contest Monday night. Six events will move on to the district competition Mar. 11 at Beckman Catholic School.

Sub-district results include:

Conduct of Meetings- BRONZE: Ford Domeyer, Ty Hoeger, Dexter Dietiker, Lexi Ries, Ian Krogmann, McKayla Weber, Lukas Chesnut

Parliamentary Procedure: SILVER- Alternate to districts: Nathan Beitz, Kain Krogmann, Lexi Halverson, Kelsey Hoeger, Caden Ries

Chapter/ Greenhand Quiz- BRONZE: Ashton Klaren, Jordan Hatfield, Caden Ronnebaum

Job Interview- GOLD Advance to Districts: Dannielle Burkle

Individual Ag Sales: GOLD Advance to Districts: Brooke Hogan

FFA Creed Speaking: SILVER Advance to Districts: Karly Kerch

Extemporaneous Speaking- GOLD Advance to Districts: Leah Reicher

Ag Broadcasting- GOLD- Advance to Districts: Kaya Knipper

Public Speaking- GOLD Advance to Dis-



Alia Domeyer



Kaya Knipper



Leah Reicher



Karly Kerch



Dannielle Burkle



Brooke Hogan

tricts: Alia Domeyer

"We are beyond proud of all of our members who competed tonight and

the overall effort they have put into their contests this season!" stated Ms. Lau.

Sports Connection

Big 3 end tournament on podium



The state wrestling tournament ended with three Wildcats on the podium. Nathan Beitz finished third while Brady Davis and Aidan Salow both earned a seventh place finish.

"The state tournament for us was very good for Maquoketa Valley," stated Coach Hatfield. "It was our goal of those three to get down there in place to bring home a metal. I couldn't be more proud of these three. After a loss, they came back even stronger. They didn't lose focus on what they wanted to do. I'm excited for this off-season to see what they do to get ready for next year. [There are] better things to come for them."



Boys' season comes to an end at district finals

by Chantel Crowley

Last Thursday, Feb. 16, the MV Boys Basketball team continued their streak with a close win against Turkey Valley, 47 to 42.

Scorers included Kody Hoeger, 17 points; Avery Holtz, 14 points; Lance McShane, eight points; Toby Grimm points, 4; and Brady Wall, four points.

For assists, there were a total of five. Avery Holtz had three of them, and Treyton Cook and Grimm each had one. For rebounds, Kody Hoeger and Cook had eight each, Grimm had four, McShane had two, and Avery Holtz and Wall had one each for a total of 24 rebounds.

Their next game was played against #2-ranked North Linn in the district finals in Independence Feb. 21. Unfortunately, the boys lost 45 to 78.

Scorers included Kody Hoeger, 17 points; Avery Holtz, 13 points; McShane, eight points; and Cook, seven points.

For rebounds, Cook had six, McShane had five, Kody Hoeger had four, Avery Holtz had three, and Anderson Holtz had one, for a total of 19 rebounds. For assists, Avery Holtz had three, and Cook and Grimm had two each, for a total of seven assists.

Coach Conner claimed it was a successful season for several reasons: "First, we saw a great amount of growth from a number of players. The guys came to practice each day with a great attitude and worked hard to get better, and that showed. Second, we reached a win total of 16 games at the varsity level which hasn't been accomplished here at MV since 2010-11. Our JV team also won 14 games on the season.

My favorite part about this group was the way that they handled themselves on and off the court, especially when adversity hit. I am very proud of what both groups, JV and Varsity, were able to accomplish this season."

Coach Conner stated that this team had a special bond. "We have the word FAMILY on our warm-up shirts for a reason. I think that word describes this team best. We stuck together through some very tough times throughout the season and became much better men because of it."

As the season comes to a close, Coach Conner added, "I would like to say thank you to all of the fans for their support all season long. We proved why we have the best fans in the state many times at home this year."



TRI RIVERS ALL-CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS



*Graphic
design by Lily
Huber*



Bianka Ronnebaum
1st Team



Haley Ronnebaum
2nd Team



Grace Richter
Honorable Mention



Avery Holtz
Unanimous 1st Team



Lance McShane
2nd Team



Kody Hoeger
2nd Team



Toby Grimm
Honorable Mention

Hall Smarts

by Maya Smith

Intro: Today is National Tortilla Chip Day, and to celebrate, I've come up with some fun questions about the delicious chip.

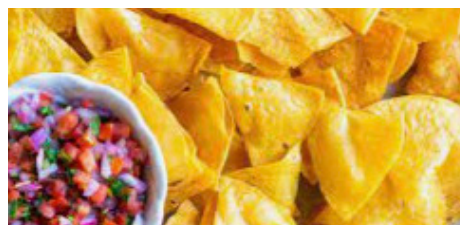
Question: How much was the first bag of tortilla chips sold for?

Grace Rowan: \$1

Livia Hermansen: \$1

Willow Fuller: \$3

Answer: 10 cents



Question: What award was created in 1994 and given to the person who introduced tortilla chips?

Grace: Tortilla Award

Livia: Tortilla Award

Willow: Big Tortilla Cup

Answer: The Golden Tortilla

Question: Which state is tortilla chips and salsa the official snack?

Grace: Mexico

Livia: New Mexico

Willow: Georgia

Answer: Texas

Question: What instrument was made that used a giant tortilla chip as a base and was actually playable?

Grace: Guitar

Livia: Clarinet

Willow: Clarinet

Answer: Electric Guitar

Cats come up short on quest to punch ticket to state



Bianka Ronnebaum makes her way around some Ed-Co defenders last Friday night.

by Toby Grimm

While many Wildcat fans would not have predicted this young MV team competing in the regional finals, that's exactly where the girls found themselves in Denver last night.

The Wildcats trailed this fifth-ranked, undefeated West Fork team by just six points at half-time, but West Fork went on to win 56-37. Bianka Ronnebaum led the Wildcats with 14 points.

The Wildcats end their season with a 16-10 record. They tied for fourth place in the Tri-Rivers Conference West Division with a 7-7 record.

Last Tuesday night the girls team traveled to Jackson Junction to take on the Turkey Valley Trojans in the second round of the playoffs. The team got a lead early leading 32-18 at half and never looked back winning 61-36. Haley Ronnebaum led in points (17), Bianka Ronnebaum (13), Grace Richter (9), Alexis Halverson (8), Kennedy Rausch (5), and Leah Reicher (4). Bianka Ronnebaum, Halverson, and Richter all led in rebounds (6), Haley Ronnebaum (5), Reicher (3), and Mensen (2).

On Friday night, the girls played at home against Ed-Co in a huge district final game. It was a dog fight the whole game, but the Cats came out victorious by a final score of 47-43.

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Ella Mensen

What event are you in for speech?
Story Telling
What do you enjoy most about individual speech?

I love my piece because it is super fun and high energy! It is fun to preform every time!

What have you learned through this event?

I have learned to be more confident because getting up in front of a judge by yourself and acting a little crazy can be pretty nerve racking.

What other event would you like to try and why?

I think I would like to try acting because it seems pretty fun to become a character very different from yourself.

How will speech help you in the future?

It will definitely help me with public speaking and not being so anxious in front of large groups.



Name: Josie Teymer

What event are you in for speech?

Expository address and poetry.

What do you enjoy most about individual speech?

I really enjoy watching all of my classmates perform and show off all of the hard work they put into

their events. I also really enjoy getting criticism for the judges because there is always room for improvement.

What have you learned through this event?

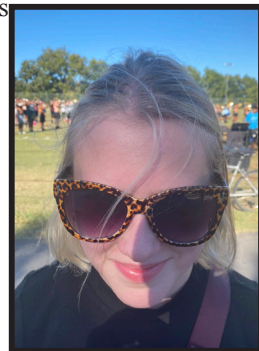
Through expository I have learned that you can't be scared to hold yourself back and eye contact is key. I think that at events judges really look for people who are not afraid to look at them. Also, you can't hold yourself back. Looking back to my freshman year of high school vs. now is crazy. I remember being really scared to be myself in front of the judges but the speech coaches really push you and I'm glad they do. I think what I have learned through poetry is how to commit to a character. In my poetry I'm supposed to be a 7 year old girl and I am obviously not a seven year old girl.

What other event would you like to try and why?

I would love to try original oratory because I enjoy expressing my views on certain topics and I've been told I'm persuasive.

How will speech help you in the future?

I think that speech is probably the activity that will help me the most in the future. I really want my future career to be something in the Hollywood fashion setting. In order to do that you need to be able to talk to others and make points.



Cutie



by Lily Huber

What's crack-a-lackin, Cutie? This Cutie is a junior who's involved in FFA and basketball. What you may or may not know about him is that he broke his arm in second grade. Ouch! *Last week's Cutie is Lanni Beaman.*

MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Lily Huber

Some may use marijuana as a stress reliever and a way to take their mind off of things... but the effects of this psychotropic drug outweigh the "positives." Marijuana can harm the brain's functions, cause lungs similar to tobacco, spike your heart rate, and can create mental health problems after prolonged use.

Dying Words

by Cadence Freiburger

Benjamin

Franklin was born in Boston to a modest family in 1706. His formal education was minimal, but he did attend school until he was ten. Reading was a very strong point for him, and he taught himself to write as well. This lack of formal education didn't prevent him from becoming a successful printer in Philadelphia. After apprenticing for his printer brother, Franklin started his own printing business. Eventually, he began to write his own essays (under a pseudonym) and published them. He then became the owner of the Pennsylvania Gazette. He wrote much of what was included in the newspaper under pseudonyms, including the "Poor Richard's Almanac." Benjamin eventually had a common-law marriage to Deborah Read, and they had three children. One of his children actually was loyal to England during the Revolutionary War.

Due to the success of Franklin's printing business, he was able to be more involved in civic affairs. He began to establish a lending library, Philadelphia's first fire company, a police patrol, and the American Philosophical society. His activism didn't stop there either. He organized the militia for Pennsylvania, fundraised for a city hospital and better infrastructure. The Academy of Philadelphia probably wouldn't exist without Benjamin Franklin, either. Franklin also played a big role in the colonial postal system, but he was then fired because he was too loyal to colonial interests. In 1775, the Continental Con-



gress appointed him the postmaster general of the United States.

After retirement, Franklin focused a lot on science. He experimented with electricity, inventing the lightning rod, and coined many electrical terms. Some of the other points of study were ocean currents, common cold causes, refrigeration, and meteorology. Franklin also developed a special stove that allowed for more heat and less fuel. The bifocals were also invented by Franklin. The glass armonica (which has become unpopular) was an instrument designed by Franklin that many famous composers (like Mozart and Beethoven) wrote music for.

Benjamin Franklin played a key role in the American Revolution— hence his title of a Founding Father. His Albany Plan, though rejected, laid the groundwork for the Articles of Confederation. He was also the representative of Pennsylvania in London for a while— most notably during the Stamp Act— and testified against many of the British regulations to stifle American sovereignty. During the Revolutionary War, Franklin returned to the United States and was a part of the Second Continental Congress, and he helped draft the Declaration of Independence. He was also the man America sent to France to ask for aid in the Revolutionary War.

Once the Revolutionary War reached its end, Franklin was the Pennsylvania delegate for the Constitutional Convention. At 84, Franklin passed away due to complications with Pleurisy, which meant an abscess in his lung had burst. His final words before going into a coma and eventually passing were:

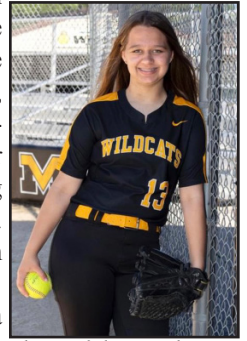
"A dying man can do nothing easy."

Fan power



Big Games on the Big Stage

It's been an unfortunate couple of games for the Iowa Hawkeyes, and even more unsettling coming after a pretty dominating win over Ohio State. After being beaten pretty badly by #21 Northwestern— a



by Kaitlyn Nolan

team that I believe should have been ranked earlier than now— on Sunday, the Hawks traveled to the Badger State only to be beaten for the second time this season. Hopefully Fran McCaffery can teach the boys some defense because holy cow.

Speaking of heartbreaking loss...

The women's team didn't fair well against #7 Maryland on Tuesday. The #6 Hawkeyes traveled to College Park, MD and got smoked 96-68. The first quarter had been fine, but after the horror that was the second quarter of the game, the Hawkeyes couldn't find their footing. They have to bounce back this Sunday when their host #2 Indiana for the last regular season and home game before post season begins. Recap: Indiana beat us by nine points.

The past two games for #23 Iowa State have been against higher-ranked opponents such as #14 Kansas State and #8 Texas and have both resulted in losses. The next two games, however, are against unranked opponents: West Virginia (who they lost to by five points) and Oklahoma (who they beat). Their final game of the season is against #9 Baylor who they beat previously in the season.

The #20 Iowa State Cyclones women's team fell this Wednesday to the OSU Cowgirls coming off of two big wins against a ranked Texas team and an OT win over Baylor. This Saturday they host TCU which has been said to be an easy matchup for the Cyclones as they begin to prep for the offseason.

It's the beginning of the offseason for NCAA wrestling which means that #2 Iowa and #5 Iowa State are preparing for their conference tournaments. Spencer Lee, the #1 ranked wrestler in his division, ended his career with a perfect undefeated record at Carver Hawkeye Arena. Now he's preparing for his last go-around in post season while wearing the Tigerhawk.

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Erin Knipper

What kind of car does an egg drive? A Yolkswagen.

The past, present, and future walked into a bar. Things got a little tense.

Geology rocks, but geography is where it's at.

I was going to tell a carpentry joke, but I couldn't find any of that woodwork.