

Vocalist get feedback at Kirkwood Jazz Festival

by Chantel Crowley

On Friday, Feb. 24, Smooth Harmony traveled to Kirkwood in Cedar Rapids to receive feedback from three adjudicators: Ian Brekke, Janice Vlachos, and Ryan Deignan. After a rough morning with the doors iced over in the van, Smooth Harmony performed at 9 in the morning, were led in the clinic, and then watched many other schools perform and receive feedback. At 7:30PM that night, Lake Effect, a vocal jazz group from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, performed a concert.

Smooth Harmony used their performance at Kirkwood to submit as their audition tape to Iowa Vocal Jazz Championships, which will be held on Mar. 31 in Spirit Lake. The group will find out if they have been invited on Mar. 7

Band concert Tuesday

Please mark your calendars for the Parade of Bands concert on Tuesday, Mar. 7 at 7:00 pm in the middle school multipurpose room.

Parade of Bands is the one night each year where all bands 5th grade through 12th grade showcase their progress and musicality. The grand finale of the event is a performance including the entire band program 5th through 12th grade.

Admission to this concert is a free will donation.

Thank you, F&M Bank!

Some MV juniors took advantage of the ACT prep course offered sponsored by F&M Bank and organized by NICC Thursday night.



Several speech students earn their way to state



Leah Reicher rehearses spontaneous speaking with coaches, Mrs. Anderson and Ms. Crumpton.

by Chantel Crowley

On Saturday, Feb. 25, the participants of Individual Speech traveled to Dysart to Union Middle School to compete at the district level.

Here are the results of that day:

Maya Smith: Public Address- 1 // Radio News- 1

Jocelyn Kelchen: Prose- 1

Jena LeGassick: Acting- 1

Carter Klaren: Radio News- 1 // After Dinner- 1

Kaela Clemen: Poetry- 1 // Public Address- 1

Arianna Nolan: After Dinner- 2 // Prose- 1

Alia Domeyer: Expository Address- 1

Cadence Freiburger: Original Oratory- 1

Morgan Clemen: Poetry- 2 // Storytelling- 1

Ella Mensen: Storytelling- 1

Lily Huber: Expository Address- 1 // Radio News 1

Addie Hucker: After Dinner- 1 // Poetry- 2

Kaitlyn Nolan: Acting- 1 // Solo Musical Theater- 1

Jake Gellerson: Radio News- 1

Emilee Supple: Public Address- 1

Josie Teymer: Poetry- 1 // Expository Address- 1

Alissa Bush: Literary Program- 1 // Original Oratory- 1

Joellen Beitz: Acting- 2 // Prose- 2

Morgan Krumviede: Literary Program- 2

Taylor Schmuecker: Storytelling- 1

George Livingston: Spontaneous Speaking- 1 // Acting- 1

McKenna Bush: Reviewing- 1 // Prose- 2

McKenna Thompson: Acting- 1 // Storytelling- 1

Leah Reicher: Spontaneous Speaking- 1

Matthew Schaul: After Dinner- 2

Allison Hogan: Prose- 1

Emily Hogan: Literary Program- 1

Toby Grimm: Public Address- 1

Those who got a one rating will proceed to State competitions in Starmon on Mar. 11. Good luck to all!

Congrats, Ella!



Ella Mensen earned Academic All-State honors for basketball.

what's up?

What's the best kind of cheese?

by Lily Huber

Brendin Frasher: Nacho cheese

George Livingston: Provolone

Kody Hoeger: Colby Jack

Mr. Kirchoff: I mean, I don't have a favorite per se... but if I'm going to Subway, I'm gonna ask for American cheese. So, let's go with American cheese.

Michael Schnittjer: Colby Jack, my mom gets them from the store.

Logan Long: Provolone

Hailey Klaren: Colby Jack

Mr. Huegel: Pepperjack, because it's cheese with a little kick.

Haley Ronnebaum: Havarti or Muenster

Tate Monk: Pepperjack

Lucas Knipper: Pepperjack

Mrs. Jurgens: Baby Swiss

Kaya Knipper: Mozzarella

Erika Imler: Colby Jack, I like string cheese too.

Brandy Whittenbaugh: Swiss, I love it on garlic Triscuits!

Jazz band enters competition season



Trumpet player Brady Eike solos during the jazz band's performance at the Coe Jazz Summit last Thursday. Below: Jake Gellersen plays a sax solo.

The jazz band has been rehearsing for months, and now they're ready to take their show on the road.

Last Thursday the jazz band was able to beat the icy roads and compete at the Coe Jazz Summit.

"Coe went really well!" stated Mr. Ford. "I thought the band did a great job, especially since we hadn't played together since Tuesday morning of that week."

Tomorrow the band will compete at the NEIBA district jazz contest in La Porte City. Last year the band finished high enough to earn a berth to the Iowa Jazz Championships.

Mr. Ford said they're ready for the challenge: "This band has done a wonderful job of rehearsing each morning and finding our voice, so to speak. Soloists especially have really taken great strides in the past few weeks and I'm excited to see what happens on Saturday."



MV definitely has talent



MV hosted its annual MV's Got Talent show Tuesday night. Left: Josie Teymer sings "Bust a Move" with her backup dancers George Livingston and Jake Gellersen.

Learn more about Carnaval

by McKenna Thompson, special to *The Echo*

Extravagant parades, sparkly costumes, endless amounts of food, and fiestas that last for days are all accurate descriptions of Carnaval. Occurring directly before the Lent season, Carnaval marks the “feast before the fast” in the Catholic religion. This holiday is celebrated in over 50 countries around the world and normally lasts anywhere from 3 days to two weeks.

Carnaval is known for its lively atmosphere; however, this holiday is celebrated differently based on your location in the world. Rio de Janeiro hosts the biggest, and most well-known Carnaval celebration. If you were to attend their celebration you



would see extravagant floats filled with dancers and live musicians. These floats are a part of an enormous parade that extends for miles.

In the United States you can see Carnaval celebrated under a different name: Mardi Gras. Mardi Gras means “Fat Tuesday” which represents the feast before the Lent season. The purple, green, and gold colors are staples of Mardi Gras each year and can be seen in floats, costumes, and masks that many people wear.

While we cannot attend Carnaval in Rio or Mardi Gras in New Orleans, the Spanish IV class has decided to bring Carnaval to Maquoketa Valley. On Friday March 3rd there will be a Carnaval Parade at the end of third period. This parade is our way of honoring this special holiday and we cannot wait to share it with you!

Ag Olympics: The One Where the Power Went Out



Last Friday, FFA members hosted Ag Olympics as part of FFA Week. When the power went out, students improvised and used the flashlights on their phones. (photos by Dannie Burkle)



Student of the Week

Derrick Mohr



You've been nominated because of your dedication to a lawn mower repair project you started last semester but continued working on despite not being in a class. Tell us about what had to happen to the lawn mower. I originally brought my lawn mower into the shop for Small Gas Engines to stop it from burning a lot of oil and constantly having to fill it back up. I completely tore the engine down till I couldn't anymore and made sure the piston rings were lined up correctly, because if they weren't, it would let oil into the chamber and it would get burnt off. I got it put back together at the end of the semester, but figured out that it now had a leak out of the bottom of the engine and then had to replace a gasket at the bottom, around the crankshaft. I just got it brought home on Tuesday.

What skills have you learned while working on this project? One skill that I have learned is to make sure that you are thorough when putting anything back together, and be very careful with the gaskets and seals, as to not break them. Because, after all if I was more careful with the gasket at the bottom of the engine, I would have finished it a couple days after the semester ended.

What are your career plans? I have lots of options for a career, but I do enjoy fixing things and stuff like that, so I might be a mechanic or engineer when I grow up.

"I am so proud of his determination and drive to finish it. He didn't need much help from me besides a few times during the process. I am happy to say he took the mower home yesterday completely fixed. He deserves some recognition for his self-driven attitude and work." —Mr. Palmer

Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Alissa Bush

What event are you in for speech? I am now in literary program and original oratory.

What do you enjoy most about individual speech? I enjoy watching others perform and seeing the support we all give each other. I also

enjoy working with my coaches, Mrs. DeVore and Mrs. Anderegg, and using their ideas to become a better speaker.

What have you learned through these events? I have learned how to be a confident speaker and through my original oratory piece, I have learned many interesting facts about technology usage.

What other event would you like to try and why? It'd be poetry. I think poetry is a beautiful way of expressing yourself.

How will speech help you in the future? Speech will help me in the future by allowing me to be confident and sure of what I'm speaking about which can then help me be a better leader. It will also be very beneficial for my future career path.

Name: Maya Smith

What event are you in for speech? Public Address and Radio News

What do you enjoy most about individual speech?

I love watching other people perform, especially storytelling and prose because those are funny ones.

What have you learned through this event? I have

learned a lot about being more comfortable speaking in front of others and managing my time.

What other event would you like to try and why? I'd try reviewing because I'd love to make fun of some horribly made movies/books.

How will speech help you in the future? It will help me with my confidence and not being so anxious about things even when I mess them up.



Name: Jake Gellersen

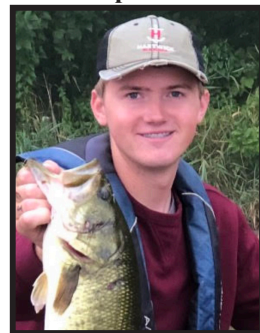
What event are you in for speech? I am in Radio Broadcasting.

What do you enjoy most about individual speech? I enjoy the pressure that is put on yourself while you perform.

What have you learned through this event? I have learned to be more relaxed while speaking during my performance.

What other event would you like to try and why? I think I'd like to stick to Radio Broadcasting. I find it very enjoyable.

How will speech help you in the future? Speech will help my social skills in the future, and teach me how to be more entertaining to talk to.



Name: McKenna Thompson

What event are you in for speech?

This year I am in acting and storytelling.

What do you enjoy most about individual speech?

I enjoy that I get to be another person other than my everyday self. I

also love performing in front of others and having their full attention.

What have you learned through this event? Through my events I have gotten to explore being different characters. Many of us are mentally stable, so playing a character that has many of their own issues really opens your eyes.

What other event would you like to try and why? I have been involved with almost every individual speech event, but if I had to choose another I would love to try after dinner speaking.

How will speech help you in the future? Having the ability to communicate with others is a skill everyone should learn. There are so many instances in life where I will have to speak in front of a group of people, and speech will definitely aid me in those situations.



Best Buds

by Grace Richter

Kaitlyn Nolan and Lily Huber

How did the two of you meet?

We met in fifth grade when the schools combined, but we really weren't close until summer before sophomore year.

What is your favorite memory you have with each other?

Kaitlyn: My favorite memory of us is probably from summer a couple of years ago when we drove around in her golf cart in Delhi and literally talked for hours. It was pretty awesome, not gonna lie.

Lily: Definitely driving for hours on the golf cart or the classic... "Isn't it obvious?"

What song best describes your best friend?

Kaitlyn: "Players" by Coi Leray because it's Lily and she's amazing

Lily: "World's Smallest Violin" by AJR

What celebrity do you think your best friend looks like?

Kaitlyn: I feel like there really isn't a celebrity that looks like her to be honest. She has her own unique look to her.

Lily: Noah Schnapp lol

What does a typical hangout look like for you?

Kaitlyn: Honestly, we just hang out in someone's car and ride around town and listen to music. 10/10 definitely recom-



mend.

Lily: While it's usually with the whole group, a typical hangout probably is driving in my car to eat somewhere like DQ... or just driving around blasting music and talking.

Where do you see your best friend in the future?

Kaitlyn: She's very artsy and talented in tech, so she'll probably be a graphic designer in the future making the big bucks. She'll be amazing at whatever she decides to do though, and we'll probably see her all over social media for her cute style, too.

Lily: I see her going to Iowa or Michigan for college, acting and singing while also doing something journalism related with sports. But, I can see her ditching that and then going into education to become a history teacher. I don't know why, but I do.

Big Games on the Big Stage

It's officially March, and you know what that means... MARCH MADNESS!

After two strong wins against Michigan State (OT win) and #15 Indiana (a dominating performance on the road against a ranked team), the



by Kaitlyn Nolan

Iowa Hawkeye men's basketball team is gearing up for its final regular season game against Nebraska. Last time the Hawks and Cornhuskers battled it out, it was Nebraska who took home the win in Lincoln. With the game being in Carver and the Hawks third in the conference after Northwestern's loss to Penn State, it's a big game that we need to win.

Iowa State's men's basketball team is not doing so hot right now. Not only have they lost the past four games they have played, senior Caleb Grill was dismissed from the team on Wednesday for not meeting the standards of the team. Rumor has it that it was something that he said, and Grill has stated that no matter what happens, he hopes to still be remembered as an Iowa State player. The team has it's first game without Grill this Saturday when they travel to play #7 Baylor for the last regular season game.

The Iowa women are waiting patiently for a team to play in the Big Ten Tournament. Tonight (Friday) at 5:30 pm, the Hawkeyes, ranked #2 in the tournament, will play the winner of Purdue and Wisconsin.

#23 ISU's women's basketball team play its last game of the regular season Saturday against Texas Tech after being upset Wednesday by Kansas. As of right now, the Cyclones are ranked fourth in the conference. The Big 12 women's basketball tournament won't start until Mar. 9, giving the team five days to prepare.

The Big 10 wrestling tournament starts this Saturday in Ann Arbor with Session I at 9:00 am, Session 2 at 4:30 pm, and Session 3 (the semifinals) at 6:30 pm. It continues on through Sunday with consolation brackets and placings. The Big 12 tournament is the same day in Tulsa, Oklahoma, with a similar setup.

MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Lily Huber

Cigarette smoking cost the United States more than \$600 billion in 2018, including nearly \$185 billion in lost productivity from smoking-related illnesses and health conditions, nearly \$180 billion in lost productivity from smoking-related premature death, and \$7 billion in lost productivity from premature death from secondhand smoke exposure.

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Erin Knipper

The wedding was so beautiful, even the cake was in tiers.

To whoever stole my copy of Microsoft Office, I will find you. You have my Word!

What does a baby computer call his father? Data.

How do moths swim? Using the butterfly stroke.

Cutie

by Lily Huber

This week's Cutie is enjoying the outdoors! This Cutie lives in Ryan and is involved in wrestling and baseball.

A fun fact about him is that likes pickles, specifically the zesty ones. Last week's Cutie was Harold Mohr.



Dying Words

by Cadence Freiburger

George Harrison— a member of the Beatles— was born in Liverpool, England, in February of 1943. He was born into a working class family and was the youngest of the four children. In high school, George took up playing the guitar, and was later approached by Paul McCartney who had formed the band the Quarrymen with John Lennon. This band eventually became the Beatles, picking up Ringo Starr along the way as the drummer.



Harrison's work often gets overlooked as Lennon and McCartney were the lead singers and got most of the fame. However, some of the band's greatest hits were by Harrison. These would include songs like: "Don't Bother Me", "Here Comes the Sun", "While my Guitar Gently Weeps", and "Something". Eventually, Harrison began studying the sitar with Ravi Shankar, which jump-started his interest in Indian culture. The band took a trip to India and observed transcendental meditation, but Harrison was the one who lived the beliefs the most.

The first success of Harrison's solo career was the soundtrack to the movie *Wonderwall*. This wasn't where his success ended, though. Harrison created many hits like "My Sweet Lord", "Give me Love", and "Got my Mind Set On You". George Harrison's solo career went further than success and into activism. He arranged two concerts to raise money to fight starvation in Bangladesh. Harrison even dove into the movie production pool by starting the production company Handmade Films. This company helped make movies like *Life of Brian*, *Time Bandits*, and *Mona Lisa*. Later on, he performed with the Traveling Wilburys, a band made up of Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison, Tom Petty, and Jeff Lynne.

George Harrison's former band mate John Lennon was murdered in 1980. In 1997, Harrison was treated for throat cancer, and in 1999 was attacked in his home and treated for the stab wounds. In 2001— at 58, he found out he had lung cancer and a brain tumor and began treatment. Later that year, he passed away with the final words of:

"Love one another."

Hall

Smarts

by Maya Smith



There are plenty of slogans that go along with popular brands, so I asked these students if they could recognize some slogans and connect them to their respective brands.

Question: What brand goes along with the slogan 'If your grandfather hadn't worn it, you wouldn't exist'?

Dylan Schmuecker: Levi Jeans
Aidan Salow: Old Spice
Emily Hogan: Old spice
Ford Domeyer: Monster Trucks
Answer: Old Spice

Question: What brand goes along with the slogan 'Breakfast of Champions'?

Dylan: Cornflakes
Aidan: Wheaties
Emily: Egos
Ford: Eggs
Answer: Wheaties

Question: What company goes along with the slogan 'Have it your way'?

Dylan: Subway
Aidan: Burger King
Emily: Lucky Charms
Ford: Burger King
Answer: Burger King

Question: What company goes along with the slogan 'What's in your wallet'?

Dylan: Capital One
Aidan: Capital One
Emily: State Farm
Ford: Cricket
Answer: Capital One

One at a Time

by Arianna Nolan

One lie can lead to another. It's just a fact. You make one tiny little lie about a small thing, and then that leads to a big lie about something huge. But, why do people lie? So, they can please others. They don't want to be seen as bad, or weird, so they lie about things that have happened, or things that they do. Our society is very judgemental, so there definitely is a reason to lie, but when it comes down to the people that we are close to, why do we lie? Why can't we just be honest with ourselves and others? In this column, I am here to talk about why being honest can be a good thing, and how to stop yourself from lying.



Honesty can make you close with people because that means that they can not only trust you but also respect you. If you are constantly lying to people and they find out, they don't want to talk to you anymore, and they are going to make you seem like a bad person. So, when someone else wants to be friends with you, people will say you are a liar, and people won't want to talk to you anymore. So, just be honest. Tell people the truth about yourself, and the things happening around you. People will want to talk to you because you are trustworthy, and won't tell lies. Honesty will make you a good person. Because you aren't lying, you won't have this feeling of guilt dragging you down, and you will feel lighter and be happier in general.

How do we stop lying? Well, there are a few simple tips. Firstly, think about how you would feel if you were being lied to. Say that your boss was lying to you, saying that you would get a promotion soon because of how good you were doing, but they end up giving it to someone else. Wouldn't that be such a dreadful feeling? You worked super hard just for someone else to get your reward. So, don't start lying. Because if you start one little white lie, that will lead to one big dark lie that you don't want getting out. Secondly, imagine the good feeling you feel when someone actually trusts you. It feels good, right? You feel like you can get closer to people, and tell them things you have never told anyone. So, by not lying and telling the truth you can build deeper connections with people, so think about that before you lie to people.

I don't have a goal for you guys for next week, I just needed to get this message out. Please, try to be honest with people, and yourself. It's a great trait to have and it will follow you into your adulthood if you start the habit now. Please have a great weekend! Love you all!