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Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Cheerleading squad brings excitement to MV



The Maquoketa Valley cheerleading squad includes, front row from left Tristen Flanagan, Ella Reicher, Emma Brockhohn, Jeanie Teymer, Tessa Intorf, Natalie Ries, Lena Lewin, Ever Botos, and Keely Recker. Back row: Isabella Mensen, Livia Hermanson, Kaitlyn Nolan, Josie Teymer, Sami DeMoss, Maddyx Kemp and Clairra Gray.

The cheerleading squad has been gearing up for this season since they started practicing in June, and the team is bringing something new this year.

Besides the nine new members, there's also a new tear away banner and touchdown flag. Willie the Wildcat will be back with a fresh new look, thanks to the

Cross country team small on numbers, deep with speed

The cross country team roster has some familiar names on it with a few new ones.

Now under the direction of head coach Mr. Kirchoff and assistance coach Mr. Dunlap, this year's team hopes to build off of the experience from previous years.

The boys team returns five runners from last year's line up, including state qualifier Matthew Schaul as well as George Livingston, Arion Rave, Brady Eike and Kenyon Baker.

"This group is focused and well-driven," stated Coach Kirchoff. They finished second in the conference last year, and with its experience, should be a contender this year, noted Coach Kirchoff.

Athletic Boosters.

Livia Hermanson and Josie Teymer are captains this year. "I don't know what I would do without them," stated Coach Teymer. "I feel very grateful to them and the other five returning members. They do a fantastic job teaching and bonding with the younger girls. We have Big Sis, Lil

Freshman Jayden Schwandt rounds out the team.

The girls' team returns state qualifier Taryn Burbridge along with experienced runners Isabel Imler, Allison Hogan and McKenna Bush.

"They are all hard workers who bring great energy to the team," commented Coach Kirchoff. "A strength of this year's team is leadership from the seniors."

Freshman Haydin Flannagan joins the team to make it a full team, and while last year's team didn't have enough runners to compete as a team at the conference meet, Coach Kirchoff has set a goal of having the team place this year.

Sis pairings. This gives them a chance to get to know someone older and feel comfortable asking questions."

A good word to describe this year's team is excited. "I'm excited for how excited they all are to be there and to be around each other," noted Coach Teymer. "We are excited to be back in action!"



Seniors on the cross country team are Allison Hogan, Isabel Imler and George Livingston.

Football team returns lots of talent

Some familiar faces will be back to hopefully return MV to the playoffs this year. The team, now under the direction of Coach Moenck who is in his first year as head coach after serving 18 years as an assistant, includes six all-district players: Aidan Salow (OL/DT), Lance McShane (RB/LB), Nathan Beitz (DL/OL), Tate Introf (DB/WR), Dylan Knipper (RB/LB) and Brady Wall (QB/DB).

Other returning letterwinners include Anderson Holtz, Lukas Chesnut, Devin Meeks, Colin Smith, Preston Salow and Ford Domeyer. Coach Moenck noted that he sees senior Brady Davis and freshmen Griffin Honkomp and Elijah Dougherty complementing the team.

“We have high expectations for our team this year,” stated Coach Moenck. “With this being my first year as head coach, I couldn’t have asked for a better group to start with. The guys have really bonded together; they get along so well. Our practices have been a lot of fun to be a part of.”

Coach Moenck noted that a key to success with this team is the work they put in during the off-season. “We had a lot of guys put in a lot of time in the weight-room, and you can already tell the difference on the practice field.”

He also noted the value of the experience this team brings to the field, notably senior Lance McShane who was named to the 1st team all-district offensive line. He had 1297 rushing yards and 231 receiving yards last year. “We have a lot of other guys who have worked very hard over the summer and put themselves in a position to have an excellent season.”

As for the Wildcats’ district play, Coach Moenck claimed that the district will be a tough one filled with good coaches and athletes. He noted Bellevue, North Linn, Starmont, Postville and Clayton Ridge as teams who will most likely challenge MV.

“Friday nights should be a lot of fun this fall,” Coach Moenck added.

The team hosts Cascade Friday.



Seniors on the football team include, front row: Devin Meeks and Ethen Brockhohn; back row: Brady Davis, Aidan Salow and Lance McShane.

Volleyball team features familiar faces

The 2023 volleyball team enters this season with lots of experience on the roster. The team, under direction of former assistant coach Morgan Nefzger, returns experience in all positions on the court.

Hitters Haley Ronnebaum, Grace Richter and Lanni Beaman; setter Keira Leytem; defensive specialist Bianka Ronnebaum; and libero Lili Bauers all have experience starting. Other returning letterwinners include defensive specialists Jade Knipper and Lily Huber and hitters Alexis

Halverson and Leah Reicher.

Last year’s team finished 9-19 overall and sixth in the conference. “We have the privilege of bringing back five out of our six starters from last year. Last season did not end the way anyone wanted it to and the girls are ready to make an impression this year,” noted Coach Nefzger.

“This is one of the hardest working groups that I have had the pleasure of working with,” stated Coach Nefzger. “They push each other to get better day in and day out. We have a lot of talent, and good numbers this year. The girls seem very calm and collected this year and I think this will be huge for them when we get into season and have some tough games.”

This year’s team motto chosen by the seniors is “Overpower. Overtake. Overcome” which Coach Nefzger claimed describes the team well: “We have a tremendous amount of talent this year. Combine that with bringing back almost every starter we have big goals. Winning the conference is within reach. As I watch the passion these girls have out on the floor and the way they hold each other accountable, I have 100% confidence that this can happen for them this year. We are also looking forward to the conference tournament after falling a

couple points short last year. Conference placement has a lot to do with the energy going into district play. I am hopeful we go in with big goals, high energy, and great attitudes.”

Coach Nefzger is no stranger to MV’s court. She played for the Wildcats in high school and was an assistant coach previously. “I want to thank my players and my assistant coaches for having patience with me, as this is my first year being a head coach I am learning many things myself. I am looking forward to having a very successful season.”

She is assisted by Mrs. Sheppard (formerly Ms. Kintzle) and Ms. Callan who is also an MV alumna.

The team opens the season Thursday night at a Clayton Ridge triangular. Results will be in the next issue.



Volleyball seniors are Kaya Knipper, Keira Leytem, Lily Huber and Haley Ronnebaum.