

Dance team brings home hardware

by Natalie Ries

“The dance team has been working hard since the end of October, all for this moment. All the hard work we put into the dances this year was left on the floor. It paid off with us placing 5th in hip hop,” stated caption Livia Hermanson

The 16-strong dance team coached by Coach Teymer traveled to Des Moines last week to compete at the state championship. The dance team performed two dances in Des Moines then performed them for the crowd at last Friday’s home basketball games. The dance team showcased a hip hop and pom routine.

The dance team’s hip hop routine was in honor of King Willie. Twelve of the 16 dancers danced in this routine. In this routine there were five headsprings and three ariels that were highlighted throughout the dance. All 12 dancers also gave lots of sass. Coach Teymer also commented, “Hip Hop had tough competition. I was thrilled with our 5th place trophy finish. They gave really strong facials & had strong tricks & technique.” There were lots of smiles when captains Livia Hermanson and Josie Teymer got handed the 5th place trophy.

The dance team got in the holiday spirit a little earlier than normal with their Polar Express-themed pom routine. There were 15 dancers that hopped on the Polar Express for this fun routine. This routine took a Division 1 and a 7th place finish. “It did not win a trophy but it definitely won the hearts of the crowd! I was stopped by so many strangers telling me it was their favorite routine of the day. It was adorable & I couldn’t be more proud,” noted Coach Teymer.

The two soloists who competed at state were freshmen Alaina Mead and Tessa Intorf. Both of these girls did an amazing job. Tessa Intorf placed 8th and Alaina Mead placed 2nd. Soloist Alaina Mead said a little about the feeling and mind set of performing a solo: “Performing a solo really relies on your physical mindset. If you don’t



Front row: Sami DeMoss, Kaitlyn Nolan, Maddxy Rienets, Josie Teymer, Livia Hermanson

Middle row: Lilly Kraft, Tierra Morgan, Ella Reicher, Isabella Mensen, Clairra Gray

Back row: Cheyenne Eike, Alaina Leytem, Emma Brochohn, Coach Teymer, Tessa Intorf, Natalie Ries, Alaina Mead

think you’ll succeed, you won’t. It’s just you on the floor, meaning you get to showcase what you do best while entertaining and connecting with the audience. You have to want to get better for yourself each and every time you perform in order to succeed.”

The dance team brought back a 5th place trophy and a Division 1 plaque for their dances, but they also brought back more. The dance team loves giving back to the community that supports them and was awarded a community service award. The dancers also know the importance that is needed in the classrooms to perform the way they did, so they were noticed with their high GPAs and got an academic award of excellence.

Beloved coach honored for achievements

A well-earned honor was bestowed upon former MV coach Pat Meehan last Saturday as he was inducted into the Iowa Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Ames.



While some MV students may remember him from his most recent success of coaching the boys cross country team to a runner-up finish in 2021, his coaching achievements have a long history.

Meehan started coaching track and cross country in the 1970s in Africa while he was in the Peace Corp. There, his team won a national title in 1972.

Meehan later returned to the United States and coached in Waterloo and at UNI.

In 1980, Meehan came to MV as a social studies teacher and in 1981 started his 20-year career as a girls track coach.

In 1982, Meehan started the cross country program at MV. In 1988, the girls team won the state championship and in 1990 were the runner-ups.

Meehan also had success with the boys team as they qualified for state from 1993-1995 and again from 2018-2021.

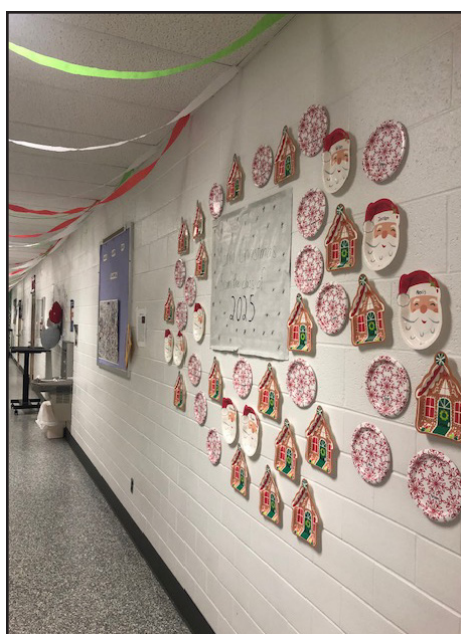
Meehan retired from teaching and coaching in 2008, but the coaching itch was too strong to ignore. In 2014, he returned to coach track and cross country. In 2019 the boys team won the conference title.

Now officially retired from coaching, Meehan and his wife, Margie, farm outside of Hopkinton.

Student of the Week
Student Council & Friends



Kudos to the student council and friends for decorating the school for the holidays last Sunday. All four hallways have some festive decorations to bring some holiday cheer to MV.



Holiday concert to be held Monday

by Maya Smith

It's that time of year! Christmas is just around the corner! This means Christmas music is being played everywhere, including the band and choir rooms.

The high school band and choir are excited to showcase their Christmas music that they've been working on. To witness these musicians' hard work, come to the auditorium on Monday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m.

The Fine Arts Boosters will be offering sweet treats during an intermission on the commons after the band, where the Jazz Choir and Jazz Band will perform. The choir will perform after intermission.

what's up?

What's something that's popular now, but we'll probably be embarrassed by in a few years?

by Jade Hillers

- Natalie Ries: TikTok
- Camryn Paris: Uggs
- Kaitlyn Nolan: Yeezys
- Keira Leytem: Fuzzy crocs
- Josie Teymer: Wearing pajama pants to school
- Cadence Freiburger: Slang
- Noah Whalen: Holding up 4's"
- Alaina Leytem: Buzz cuts and mullets
- Ty Hoeger: Ripped jeans

Cutie

by Lily Huber

Ready for a swim Cutie? This Cutie is a freshman, lives in Delhi, and is involved in football, wrestling, track, golf, and speech. He has one brother. Do you know who this is? *Last week's Cutie was Jade Hillers.*



MV instrumentalists Kaitlyn Nolan and McKenna Bush joined other outstanding musicians from northeast Iowa at the NEIBA honor band last Saturday.

Athlete of the Week

Name: Haley Ronnebaum

What do you enjoy most about playing basketball? Being with the team and playing in big games.

What is the hardest part of practice? Being able to get my mind in game-like situations, so that when it's game time I know what to do.

What's your favorite warm-up song? "Run This Town" by Jay Z, Kanye West, and Rihanna

What is something you hope to never forget about your time as a Wildcat basketball player? All the friends I met and the life skills I learned.



Wildcats get two big conference wins

by Maya Smith

Last Friday, the girls faced off at home against East Buchanan. The girls came out victorious against the Buccaneers, ending the game 46-21. Here's a breakdown by quarter: At the end of the first quarter, the girls held a nice lead of 16-6, lengthening it with a score of 28-13 at the end of the half. At the end of the 3rd quarter, nothing was in their way as the girls were still in the lead, 41-15. Things heated up a little in the last quarter as the Buccaneers upped their game, but that didn't stop the girls from scoring 5 more points in the 4th quarter.

"I like where this team is at and where they're going. We're doing a lot of nice things but have a lot to improve on, which is a good thing this time of year," Coach Moenck stated. "I really thought we

got off to a very good start in the Prince of Peace and East Buchanan games."

This Tuesday, the girls welcomed Alburnett at home. It was a good win, with the girls coming out on top 57-40. Coach Moenk noted, "I thought the Alburnett game got off to a very slow start in the first quarter but was really proud of the way we responded the rest of the game. We have some really tough games before Christmas so we have to continue to improve each day."

Stats were not available by the publication deadline.

Right: Grace Richter looks inside to make a move against East Buchanan last Friday night. (photos by Dannielle Burkle)



Boys basketball team goes on a 3-0 run this week

by Chantel Crowley

This past week was a busy but successful basketball week for the MV boys. They played a total of three games, winning all three.

The first was one last Friday, December 8th at home against East Buchanan, and the final score was 55 to 48. "I was eager to see how our guys responded after our opening night loss to POP, and it was nice to get back in the win column," stated Coach Conner. "If you asked the guys, I think they would tell you that they were not satisfied with how they played defensively in this game, but there is no such thing as a bad win, especially in our conference. We will continue to get better at the things we need to and put a complete game together."

Top scorers of the night included Lance McShane, 24; Kody Hoeger, nine; and Toby Grimm, nine. Brady Wall scored seven points and Tate Intorf and Anderson Holtz scored three each. There were a total of fifteen assists; Grimm had eight, Wall and Holtz had two each, and Intorf, McShane, and Kody Hoeger had one each. For rebounds, Hoeger had five, McShane, Grimm, and Dylan Knipper had three each, Holtz had two, and Wall had one for a total of 17 rebounds.

The second game was away at Elkader on Monday, December 4th, and the final score was 60 to 24. "It was nice to start off the week with a win," noted Coach Conner. "I was very happy with how our guys came out and played in the second half after

making some halftime adjustments to what Elkader was doing. Lance had a huge game for us, scoring 32 and just dominating the second half, which was good to see. Road wins are always good wins and it was nice to see us do some good things in the 2nd half and finish the game off on a high note."

Top scorers included McShane with 32 points and Kody Hoeger with eleven points. Grimm and Knipper scored six points each, Holtz scored three points, and Preston Salow scored two points. There were a total of thirteen assists; Wall had five, Holtz had four, Grimm had two, and Intorf and Knipper had one each. For rebounds, McShane had 14, Kody Hoeger had six, Grimm and Grimm had five. Ty Hoeger, Knipper, and Wall had three each, Intorf had two, and Zachary Leytem and Holtz had one each, for a grand total of 38 rebounds.

Finally, the third game was a home game the following night on the 5th against Alburnett, and the final score was 41 to 40. "We knew coming in that we were going to have to play our best game of the season in order to compete with Alburnett," Coach Conner stated. "They return a lot of players from last year's team and they were ranked #9 in 2A. Our guys rose to the occasion and dominated most of the 1st quarter. Alburnett fought back and we continued to respond to their scores and were able to lead most of the 2nd half. Our execution late game and Kody Hoeger hitting some huge shots for us were the two things that really

stuck out to me. I am so proud of the guys for the way they played and hopefully we can keep it rolling on Friday night!"

The boys' next game will be tonight at Starmont, and will be covered in the next issue.



Toby Grimm puts up two against East Buc Friday night

Wrestling season gets underway

by Kaitlyn Nolan

“And it’s just the beginning!”

Coach Hatfield is rather excited for this season of Maquoketa Valley wrestling following strong performances by his wrestlers at the Wapsie Valley and Jesup meet this past Thursday. Despite suffering two team losses, individual wrestlers shined in their season debut.

The Wildcats fell to the Warriors 9-63. Junior Nathan Beitz, wrestling at 190 this year following changes in weight classes, pinned Jake Shoer from Wapsie Valley. Senior Aidan Salow, wrestling heavyweight, won by decision 8-4 over Derek Hilsenbeck.

The J-Hawks beat the Cats 54-24. Freshman Kyle Engelken, wrestling at 150, won by decision, 10-7, over Kaden Lange. At 157, senior Tyreese Crippen won by decision over Kaleb Zuck. Freshman Clayton Davis, wrestling at 165, pinned his opponent, Maxx Solie. Beitz also won by pin against Drew Munson.

This past Saturday, the Wildcats participated in the Bob Murphy JV and Varsity Invitational, placing 10th out of the 15 teams that participated. The Indianola Indians placed 1st.

The Wildcats won the HWT class with Salow placing first by pinning fellow teammate Brady Davis. Nathan Beitz earned second at 190, and Clayton Davis placed seventh at 165. Engelken scored 1.0



They may spar each other in practice, but rarely do they have an audience for it. Last Saturday, seniors Brady Davis and Aidan Salow found themselves competing in the finals. Salow won.

team points but had to opt out for the rest of the day with a medical forfeit. Crippen scored 4.0 team points and advanced to the quarterfinals where he fell.

The team had seven wrestlers participate in JV. Rogan Heidt placed first. Dalton Africa, Braden Ronnebaum, Ivan Otto, and Seth Duggan placed second. Griffin Honkomp placed third while Noah Whalen placed fourth.

The Wildcats hosted their home meet (Youth Night) on Thursday. Those results, as well as the results from the North

Cedar tournament this Saturday, will be in next week’s issue.

Big Games on the Big Stage

Even though the Iowa Hawkeyes, champs of the Big Ten West, lost to Michigan (again) in an honestly embarrassing manner, the Hawks have the opportunity to play Tennessee in the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl... yeah, the names for these things keep getting more and more out of the box with each passing year it seems. Meanwhile, the ISU Cyclones will face Memphis (didn’t even know they were a college) in the Liberty Bowl.

Well, football is coming to a quick end, but the excitement for college sports can’t just die. It’s CyHawk month for our winter athletes, and the Hawks are already backing up the claim of Iowa being a Hawkeye State after knocking off the Cyclones in wrestling and women’s basketball. Time to see if men’s basketball and swim and dive can keep the wins coming in for the black and yellow.



by Kaitlyn Nolan



Senior Tyreese Crippen strategizes against an opponent last Saturday.

Best Buds

Ollie Hunter, McKayla Weber
by Chantel Crowley

How did the two of you meet?

Ollie: We met in the third grade.

McKayla: We met in 3rd grade I think, and always kind of knew each other but didn't really become friends until 6th grade.

What is your favorite memory you have with each other?

Ollie: My favorite memories are just hanging out, the most fun stuff happens and it's so cozy and enjoyable.

McKayla: There are so many fun memories but probably when we were in her house with another friend and I was holding a hammer we found in her room and the other friend screamed "spider" and I turned around and whacked her door.

What do you admire most about your friend?

Ollie: I admire how down-to-earth she is. She's just so fun to be around and isn't afraid of being vulnerable.

McKayla: I admire how she's always there for me and we can talk about anything and always know how to have a good time.

What song makes you think of your friend?

Ollie: "Eleanor Rigby" by the Beatles.

McKayla: A song that makes me think of



Ollie is "Eleanor Rigby" from our 8th-grade duet that fell through.

What does a typical hangout look like?

Ollie: A typical hang-out is just chilling at my house enjoying each other's company. We sometimes go out with other friends, but we mostly get together and play tabletop games or watch movies.

McKayla: I don't know the last time Ollie and I have hung out one-on-one. We're always with the group but usually at her house in the addition.

Where do you see each other in the future?

Ollie: In the future, I see McKayla with the same loving and compassionate soul living on a quaint farm with a hoard of Dachshunds and black cats.

McKayla: In the future I see Ollie working at a salon doing hair and with a lot of cats.

Deep Dive

by Arianna Nolan



Welcome back to Deep Dive! This week, we will be exploring the sea sheep. This peculiar creature lives all over the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and is most commonly found near Japan.

This creature is in fact a mollusk, which means it has no bones. It is similar to a slug, which is also a common name for this creature.

According to American Oceans, the sea sheep was first discovered off an island in Kuroshima, Japan in 1993. What makes the sea sheep so special from other creatures is that they can perform indirect photosynthesis. The sea sheep is incredibly small, only around 2 pounds and can be around 0.7 to 0.8 centimeters. In the ocean, they eat and live on algae, which they get their energy from during indirect photosynthesis.

But, due to habitat loss, these adorable creatures are in risk of being endangered, so it is important to recycle and to do what you can to prevent sea sheep, and other marine creatures from going extinct. If you want more information on these creatures, please check out American Oceans, which provides all the information for this article.

MV TEL-ALL

compiled by Lily Huber

Here are some ways to prevent smoking and drug use:

- Resist peer pressure
- Abstain from drug use
- Seek professional help
- Live a healthy, balanced lifestyle
- Foster strong family relationships
- Take time for self-care
- Learn healthy coping skills
- Obtain education on the dangers of drug abuse
- Take only prescribed medication
- Practice mindfulness activities

HOT BEEF SUNDAES & HOT BEEF SANDWICHES



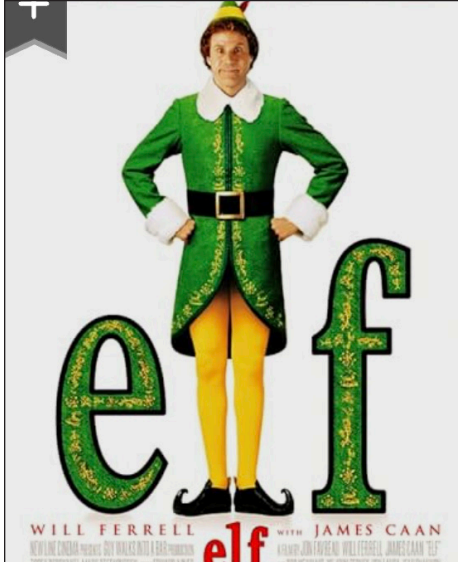
FFA ALUMNI
FUNDRAISER
SUPPER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2023
HOME BB VS. NORTH LINN
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM



Hall Smarts

by Maya Smith



With Christmas in full swing at school, I wanted to ask some students trivia about Christmas movies.

In Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, what is the island that all the unwanted toys live on called?

Devin Meeks: The right answer

Kayla Flannagan: The Island of Misfit Toys

Anderson Holtz: The Land of Misfits

Ivan Otto: The Island of Lost Toys

Answer: The Island of Misfit Toys

In a Charlie Brown Christmas, what is wrong with Charlie Brown's tree?

Devin: Its too small

Kayla: it's ugly

Anderson: It's too dry

Ivan: It's broken

Answer: It's too little

In the movie Elf, where does Buddy's real father live?

Devin: New York

Kayla: New York City

Anderson: New York City

Ivan: New York

Answer: New York City

In the movie How the Grinch stole Christmas, how many sizes did the Grinch's heart grow?

Devin: 3

Kayla: 3

Anderson: 3

Ivan: 3

Answer: 3

A glimpse of student life



Far above: Students have been rehearsing their large group speech events for over a month now. Here a group works through some TV news material with Mrs. DeVore.

Above: The MV student section has gotten praise from referees, and if you've been to a game, you know why! Last Friday students wore their "gr-outfits" and brought out the fat heads of the senior players.

Left: The dance team made it home on time Friday night to perform its hip hop routine. Pictured is Tierra Morgan. (game photos by Dannielle Burkle)