

## MV musicians join forces with other Tri-Rivers greats

Not even a blizzard could keep outstanding musicians from the Tri-Rivers Conference from putting on a concert Monday night at North Cedar. Because of the impending weather, the concert was moved up to 4:30. It was also livestreamed.

Students spent the morning and early afternoon rehearsing. Dr. Joshua Neuenschwander, Director of Instrumental Music at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, was the guest director.

MV participants (sporting their prom pose) were, front row from left: Brady Eike, Kaitlyn Nolan, Sebastian Charles, Ava Goldsmith, Jake Gellersen, Maya Smith, McKenna Bush, Josie Teymer and Joellen Beitz.



## Learning by doing: MV welcomes student teacher

by Natalie Ries

A new face has been hanging out with Mr. Huegel for a little bit and will continue to be seen around as he completes his student teaching experience. This would be Mr. Luke Lambert. Mr. Lambert will spend eight weeks with Mr. Huegel then eight weeks with Mr. Cassutt. He will graduate in May.

Mr. Lambert is originally from Monticello and continued his studies at UNI. Mr. Lambert will be certified to teach US History, World History, and Psychology for grades 5-12. Mr. Lambert stated, "I got into teaching because I wanted to make a difference in people's lives and I think there is no better way to make an impact on young people's lives than becoming a teacher or coach. Both of my parents are also teachers, so they have been great role models for me. Besides my parents, I have had many great teachers, including Maquoketa Valley's own, Mrs. Temple, as inspirations to become a teacher as well."

Mr. Lambert claimed that teach-



ing social studies combines two of his passions. "I love working with kids and have always been interested in history, so I thought teaching would be the right job for me."

If you do not see Mr. Lambert

teaching, you might see him hanging out with friends and family, playing basketball, golfing, watching movies and TV shows, listening to music, or playing video games.



# Basketball teams defeat Central City, Lisbon

## Girls basketball

by Maya Smith

The day before we came back to school from break, the girls basketball team faced off against Central City at home. The game ended 56-49, with our Wildcats victorious. Coach Moenck, "I thought being the first game out of break we did a lot of nice things. It was a good game to knock some of the rust off. Central City had a few more girls come out for basketball and are much improved. We still need to play a complete game for 32 minutes. We do put together some very nice runs but there are times we let our foot off of the gas. We will get better!"

Point leaders for the game were Bianka Ronnebaum with 13, Grace Richter with 11, and Lanni Beaman with 10. Haley Ronnebaum and Bianka Ronnebaum both ended the game with 6 rebounds, just short of Grace Richter, who led the team with 7 rebounds. Jada Knipper was the assists leader with 6. Haley Ronnebaum and Bianka Ronnebaum had 3.

Last Friday, the girls traveled to Lisbon. With a large 1st quarter lead of 32-17, the girls ended the game with a nice score of 60 - 32. Scoring wasn't a problem this game, as Haley Ronnebaum led the team with an impressive 20 points, Grace Richter had 17 points, and Bianka Ronne-

baum had 11. Richter led the team in rebounds with 8. Bianka Ronnebaum ended with 7 rebounds and Haley Ronnebaum was close behind with 6. Passing wasn't a problem that night either. Bianka Ronnebaum led the team with 8 assists, and both Jada Knipper and Haley Ronnebaum had 3.

Coach Moenck remarks, "I was very pleased with our effort against Lisbon. Our kids really played hard. We got a lot out of our press which led to easy baskets. We didn't shoot the ball from the perimeter as well as we normally do but our guards did an outstanding job of attacking the basket and our post kids did a great job of finishing under the basket. Our post girls are playing outstanding right now. Our conference is so tough. We will continue to get better. We have a very tough stretch of games coming up."

## Boys basketball

by Chantel Crowley

To ring in the new year, the MV boys' basketball team played a home game Jan. 1 against Central City, winning 59 to 34.

Scorers of the night included Lance McShane and Kody Hoeger with 20 points each. Anderson Holtz followed that up with eight points, Brady Wall and Tate Intorf scored four points each, Toby Grimm scored two, and Ty Hoeger scored



**Lance McShane fights his way through Central City defenders. (photos courtesy of Pete Temple, *The Monticello Express*)**

one.

For rebounds, there were a total of 34. McShane had ten, Kody Hoeger had eight, Wall had six, and Intorf had three. Dylan Knipper had two rebounds, and Grimm, Holtz, Zach Leytem, Ty Hoeger, and Preston Salow had one rebound each. As for assists, there were a total of 13, and Grimm had five of those. Wall, Holtz, and McShane had two each, and Leytem and Intorf had one each.

Coach Conner commented, "Central City got one of their best players back over break, so they were much different than their record showed that they were. We did a great job all night of looking into the post for Lance and Kody, and both of them did a great job of finishing when they got the ball. Each of them had 20 points on the night. I also thought we executed our defensive game plan really well. We were able to play multiple defenses to keep Central City off balance and that was a very big reason why we were able to come away on the right side of the scoreboard."

*continued on next page*



**Bianka Ronnebaum and Alexis Halverson grapple for possession in the game against Central City.**



# Wrestlers continue to be forces to reckon with

The wrestlers started the year off right with a 2-1 finish at Midland Jan. 4. They lost to Alburnett 55-15 and defeated Midland 36-30 and Ed-Co 39-30.

Going 3-0 for the night were Nathan Beitz and Brady Davis with two and one pins, respectively. Aidan Salow finished 2-0 with one pin. Kyle Engleken, Tyreese Crippen and Clayton Davis each went 2-1. Seth Dugan got a pin, and Mason Jolley had a win by decision.

Last Saturday, MV hosted the Farr Jebens Invitational. The Wildcats finished in eighth place out of 12 teams. Beitz (190) and Brady Davis (215) won the championship round. Clayton Davis (157) finished fourth, and Engleken (144) finished fifth.

The wrestlers competed at Springville last night. Results will be in next week's issue.



Nathan Beitz competes in the championship match at Saturday's tournament. (photos courtesy of Pete Temple, *The Monticello Express*)



Brayden Bjorkgren dominates his opponent at the home wrestling tournament Saturday.

## Basketball, continued

The boys' next game was played at Lisbon, and the boys pulled out on top again, 58 to 51. "The week ended with another huge win over a very solid Lisbon team. I thought our guys did a great job of battling some first quarter adversity with some foul trouble, but we responded in the 2nd quarter and did some really good things. We made some more halftime adjustments defensively and really dominated the 2nd half of the game. Toby Grimm and Anderson Holtz were huge for us in the 2nd half. Toby had 16 and Anderson had 15. Brady Wall also had a nice night for us, scoring 11. With this type of scoring from these guys, it proves that even when Kody and Lance don't have their best night, that we can still win against good teams," Coach Conner commented.



Brady Davis wins his weight division by pin last Saturday.

Scores included Grimm with 16, Holtz with 15, Wall with 11, and Ty Hoeger with seven. McShane scored six points, and Intorf scored three.

For rebounds, there were a total of 31. McShane had 11, Ty Hoeger, Knipper, and Grimm had five each, Holtz and Intorf had two each, and Wall had one. There were seven total assists. Grimm had four, and Holtz, McShane, and Kody Hoeger had one each.

Last night the Wildcats hosted North Cedar. They were scheduled to play East Buchanan tonight. They play Alburnett Tuesday. Next week could be a busy week with make-up games.



Anderson Holtz makes his way around a Central City defender. Holtz added eight points to the MV victory.



## Fine Artist of the Week

Name: Derrick Mohr

**What event are you in for speech?** I am in TV News

**What do you enjoy most about large group speech?** Getting the opportunity to spend quality time with Nicholas Otting

**What have you learned through this event?** I have

learned that it is okay to go out of your comfort zone and do things you don't want to do.

**If you could judge a large group speech event, what would it be?** I would judge Improv

### Reindeer games

Before Christmas break, the student council held a fundraiser to support the winter decorations in the hallway. Several students as well as Mr. Seabold and Mr. O received a pie in the face, courtesy of a raffle. Students also decorated cookies in Mrs. Downs' room.



## Student of the Week

*Lily Huber*



**You have recently started an internship with Bound to promote MV activities. What specifically do you do for this internship?**

Some responsibilities I have as a "Sports Information Director" is to post live scores from events, keep our school's Bound page up to date and to utilize new features on it (such as promoting events to the public), highlight successes of our athletes and teams, and to work closely with Mr. Seabold to improve our athletic department.

**What do you enjoy most about it?** I've enjoyed forming relationships with some of the Bound staff (shoutout Jack and Todd) and having the privilege to talk about our school to the "higher-ups" and what our culture is like here at MV. I also like making graphics to promote events through Bound emails and other platforms (like Instagram and Facebook).

**What have you learned so far from this experience?** This internship has taught me that promotion of events is crucial and that this is something that I am interested in as an actual career!



## Athletes of the Week

Name: Natalie Ries

**What do you enjoy most about dance team?** The most enjoyable thing about the dance team is the environment and happiness that is brought by everyone.

**What's the hardest part of it?** The hardest part of dance is most definitely the mental mindset.

**What's your favorite routine you've ever been a part of?** I don't think I have a favorite dance, but I do really like our country dance.

**What's something about dance most people don't realize?** Most people don't realize how little of time you have to prepare for your next dance and how fast you have to learn a new dance.

**If you could choreograph a routine, what kind would it be?** If I could choreograph any routine, I would do a pom routine to a Top Gun remix.



Name: Tierra Morgan

**What do you enjoy most about dance team?** The friendships I have gained and the fun we continue to have every practice.

**What's the hardest part of it?** Being in the right mental state. It is really

easy to be hard on yourself and tell yourself you aren't good enough in dance.

**What's your favorite routine you've ever been a part of?** That is a hard one, but I think I would have to say our hip hop routine, "Venom," my freshman year because it had really good choreography and was super fun to perform.

**What's something about dance most people don't realize?** It is harder than it looks and it takes a toll on you mentally, physically, and emotionally. A lot of time, energy, and effort goes into every single routine that we do.

**If you could choreograph a routine, what kind would it be?** I would use a mix of all old Justin Bieber songs.



# Best Buds



**Lauren Knock & Lacey Barry**

by Chantel Crowley

**How did the two of you meet?**

Lauren: Summer before junior year we started texting on snap.

Lacey: The summer before our junior year is when we started to text and hang out a little.

**What is your favorite memory you have with each other?**

Lauren: Going to the beach and the whole summer of 2023.

Lacey: The one time we got on a couple of jet skis with some people we didn't know, but we still had a blast.

**What do you admire most about your friend?**

Lauren: How strong she is and how much support she has to give.

Lacey: She has a kind and loving soul and such a beautiful smile.

**What song makes you think of your friend?**

Lauren: "Coco Jambo" or anything German

Lacey: "Coco Jambo"

**What does a typical hangout look like?**

Lauren: Random adventures and projects, plus a ton of laughing

Lacey: Our hangouts are at her house, and we just sit in her room and talk. We throw some things and play some games, with endless laughing.

**Where do you see each other in the future?**

Lauren: I see her very successful and also very far from here. She deserves it and she will get it.

Lacey: I hope to see her pursue her dreams. I want the best for her :).

# Meet the Freshmen



**Elijah, Rogan, Kyle & Gabe**

Name: Gabe Halweg

Siblings: Landyn and Paislee

Activities you plan to be in: Football and baseball

Favorite subject: Math

Career aspirations: Construction

Hobbies: Fishing and snowboarding

Something cool about you: I'm 6'1.

Name: Kyle Engelken

Siblings: Kael and Kade

Activities you plan to be in: Wrestling, football, and FFA

Favorite subject: Algebra

Career aspirations: Welding

Hobbies: Watching football

Something cool about you: I like eating.

Name: Elijah Dougherty

Siblings: I have 1 brother

Activities you plan to be in: Football, basketball, and track.

Favorite subject: Health

Career aspirations: Football or medical device salesman

Hobbies: Water skiing, snowboarding, and golf

Something cool about you: I'm a skilled skier.

Name: Rogan Heidt

Siblings: Carter, Dyan, and Victoria

Activities you plan to be in: Football, wrestling, track, and baseball

Favorite subject: Spanish

Career aspirations: Undecided

Hobbies: Lifting and fishing.

Something cool about you: I play Fortnite.

—typist: Grace Richter

# MV TEL-ALL

## DRUNK DRIVING FACTS

DRUNK DRIVING IS A  
**100% PREVENTABLE CHOICE**

45  
LIVE WITH IT  
LIVING WITH IT IS A  
LIFE-THREATENING CHOICE

90  
LIVE WITH IT  
LIVING WITH IT IS A  
LIFE-THREATENING CHOICE

2 out of 3  
PEOPLE WILL BE  
IMPACTED BY DRUNK  
DRIVING IN THEIR  
LIFETIME

0.08%  
BAC  
IT TAKES  
1 HOUR  
TO GET  
1 DRINK  
OF ALC + HOL

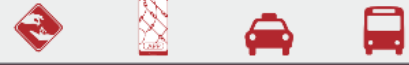
ALCOHOL = ALCOHOL  
ONE STANDARD DRINK  
12 oz. 5% ALC. BEER  
5 oz. 12% ALC. WINE  
1.5 oz. 40% ALC. SODAS

0.08% BAC  
• IRRITABLE CONTROLLING  
SPEED  
• DIFFICULTY PROCESSING  
INFORMATION AND  
REASONING  
• REDUCED COORDINATION  
AND ABILITY TO TRACK  
MOVING OBJECTS  
• 11 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO  
CAUSE A CRASH  
COMPARED TO A SOBER  
DRIVER

EVERY  
DAY  
WE SHARE THE ROAD WITH  
**300,000**  
DRUNK DRIVERS

THE AVERAGE DRUNK DRIVER  
DIES OVER  
**80 TIMES**  
BEFORE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ARREST

THE SAFEST CHOICE  
Plan ahead and designate a non-drinking driver.



<https://madd.org/drun-driving/>

# Cutie

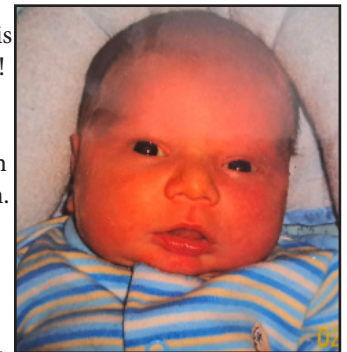
by Lily Huber

Look at this  
little Cutie!

This Cutie  
is a junior  
and lives in  
Hopkinton.

He also  
has one  
sister who  
is a senior.  
Something

that you may or may not know about him  
is that he is diabetic. *Last Echo's Cutie was  
Haydin Flannagan.*



## Comedy Corner

—compiled by Grace Richter

What can you catch in winter with your  
eyes closed? A cold.

What's the weatherman's favorite food in  
winter? Brrr-itos!

Why was the little snowman sad? Cause he  
had a meltdown.

Why was the snowman rummaging  
through the bag of carrots? He was picking  
his nose.

Where does a snowman get the weather  
report? The winternet.