

Cast and crew bring ‘Puffs’ to the stage

by Kaitlyn Nolan

Next Friday and Saturday, the Maquoketa Valley drama department will put on *Puffs, Or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic!* For months, the cast, crew, and directors have been working hard on this production full of comedy, fun, and a tinge of sadness based on the best-selling series (but shhhh, we cannot say the name).

Throughout *Puffs*, which is over two hours with an intermission, you witness a fast-paced telling of the story of the overlooked and underappreciated Puffs. These characters, bullied for being dumb and terrible at magic, stick together as their Certain School of Magic and Magic goes through a war led by Mr. Voldy and his posse of Death Buddies.

Mrs. DeVore and Mrs. Teymer have been working tirelessly to ensure that the set, blocking, and costumes are spectacular for opening night.

“*Puffs* is such a special play,” commented Mrs. DeVore. “The audience definitely will laugh through many moments



Mrs. DeVore gives notes following Wednesday morning’s rehearsal. The students have a matinee for junior high students next Wednesday and will present the full show Friday and Saturday.

in this show, and then the last part of Act 2 will make them think and possibly cry. Matt Cox, the playwright, does a masterful job mixing comedy with a poignant message. We see this when the Second Headmaster states, ‘We’re all important, Wayne. And we’re all unimportant. We’re all heroes. In some way. To someone.’ Truly, we need to be a Puff each day--loyal, patient, and

dedicated.”

Join us for a night of laughs and cries on May 3rd and 4th at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in the office or at the door. The doors open at 6:30 p.m., and we cannot wait to see you there!

Concessions will be available for purchase at intermission.

Prom royalty



Seniors Harold Mohr and Alia Domeyer were crowned Prom King and Queen last Saturday night.

Klaren takes wins scholarship at ag mechanics contest



On Wednesday three FFA members traveled to NICC Calmar to compete in District Ag Mechanics. Ashton Klaren took home 2nd place individual where he received a scholarship from NICC. The team placed 6th overall. The team included Camran McAreavy, Brenyn Robinson and Ashton Klaren.

Boys take first place at home meet

by Maya Smith

This week, the boys had a home meet on Monday and placed 1st overall with 126 points out of 9 teams. And what did it take to finish first? Matthew Schaul's diving finishing to win the 800? DaShawn Strickland's gutsy 4x400 anchor run? Truth be told, it was a team effort.

Here are your scorers:

100 M Dash: Brady Wall; 12.25; 5th, Colin Smith; 12.31; 6th

200 M Dash: Brady Wall; 25.17; 5th

400 M Dash: Lance McShane; 51.95; 3rd, Macoy Stone; 53.52; 5th

800 M Run: Matthew Schaul; 2:04.24; 1st, George Livingston; 2:08.05; 4th

4x400 M Relay: Lance McShane, Macoy Stone, Matthew Schaul, DaShawn Strickland; 3:38.20; 2nd

4x800 M Relay: George Livingston, Kenyon Baker, Matthew Schaul, DaShawn Strickland; 8:19.41; 1st

1600 M Run: Matthew Schaul; 4:49.70; 1st, Kenyon Baker; 5:05.40; 6th

Sprint Medley Relay: Kash Hunt, Tate Intorf, Macoy Stone, Brady Wall; 1:40.50; 5th

Distance Medley Relay: Dylan Knipper, Tate Intorf, George Livingston, Kenyon Baker; 4:06.40; 4th

110 Meter Hurdles: Arion Rave; 16.57; 2nd, Kash Hunt; 17.85; 4th

400 Meter Hurdles: Lance McShane; 58.02; 1st, Arion Rave; 1:00.54; 2nd

Shuttle Hurdle Relay: Arion Rave, Kash Hunt, Eli Dougherty, Lance McShane;

1:04.64; 1st



Above: Freshman Eli Dougherty clears the bar to finish third at the home meet. Right: Senior George Livingston runs his leg of the winning 4x800. (photos by Dannielle Burkle)

3200 M Run: Brady Eike; 12:09.34; 6th

Shot Put: Preston Salow; 42 ft 1 in; 2nd;

Dylan Knipper; 40 ft, 7 3/4 in

Discus: Griffin Honkomp; 110 ft; 4th; Preston Salow; 106 ft 11 in; 6th

High Jump: Eli Dougherty; 5 ft 6 in; 3rd; DaShawn Strickland; 5 ft 4 in; 5th

Last night the team competed at Cascade. Results will be in next week's issue. Next week, the Wildcats compete in the conference meet at Ed-Co.



Girls defeat Alburnett, Marquette Catholic on the links

by Kaya Knipper

Last Friday the Wildcats were at home once again where they hosted the Alburnett Pirates. It was a rainy and windy night, but the girls took home a 221-276 win. Knipper took first with a 52 and Hermanson wasn't too far behind with a 54. "Windy conditions for today's meet made it difficult on the golfers. Kaya Knipper was the medalist for the first time this season. Liv Hermanson was medalist runner up for the first time this season as well. Solid play from Maya Smith and Ever Botos rounded out our team scoring. The team is still trending in the right direction as we approach the conference tournament." Stated Zietlow. Other scores:

3rd Maya Smith 55

5th Ever Botos 60

6th Ella Wulfekuhle 62

7th Morgan Clemen 65

On Tuesday the girls hosted Marquette Catholic. The girls took home another team win with a team score of 212 against an incomplete Marquette Catholic team. It was very windy again and the girls struggled with scores a bit on their home turf. Hermanson took home her first gold medal with a new season PR of 46. Knipper was the next medalist with a 50. "I was extremely happy for [Hermanson] for finally breaking 50 in a meet. The team shot under our season average which I was pleased with considering the tough conditions," noted Coach Zietlow. Other scores:

4th Maya Smith 57

5th Ever Botos 58

7th Morgan Clemen 64

9th Ella Wulfekuhle 65



Senior Kaya Knipper eyes her shot in the meet with Marquette Catholic. (photo by Dannielle Burkle)

Strong winds, strong finishes for girls track

by Ella Reicher

This week on Monday, April 22, the girls track team traveled to CPU to compete against some of the best runners in the area. The girls finished the night with 55 points, earning them a 6th place finish. Those who placed are as follows:

Sprint Medley: Lily Huber, Lili Bauers, Taryn Burbridge, Lanni Beaman, 1:56.03, 2nd

Shuttle Hurdle: Emma Brockhohn, Haydin Flannagan, Ruby Recker. Natalie Ries, 1:18.47, 6th

100m Dash: Lilly Kraft, 13.71, 3rd; Camryn Paris, 14.21, 6th

Distance Medley: Lili Bauers, Izzy Heffernan, Lily Huber, Isabel Imler, 4:57.23, 7th

400m Dash: Lanni Beaman, 1:01.98, 1st; Breanna McShane, 1:10.20, 8th

4x200m Relay: Lili Bauers, Izzy Heffernan, Lilly Kraft, Camryn Paris, 1:54.31, 2nd

200m Dash: Taryn Burbridge, 28.33, 4th

4x100m Relay: Lanni Beaman, Lilly Kraft, Izzy Heffernan, Camryn Paris, 53.33, 4th

Tuesday, April 23, at Anamosa, the girls placed 8th overall with 36 points. With the gusts of wind, some of the girls still managed to PR!

Top finishers of the night:

Sprint Medley: Lily Huber, Camryn Paris, Taryn Burbridge, Izzy Heffernan, 1:59.43, 7th



Left: Haydin Flannagan makes her way over the high jump bar. Below: Izzy Heffernan makes her way to the finish line in the spring med Tuesday night in Anamosa. (photos by Pete Temple)

Shuttle Hurdle: Emma Brockhohn, Haydin Flannagan, Ruby Recker, Natalie Ries, 1:18.58, 5th

100m Dash: Lilly Kraft, 13.83, 5th

Distance Medley: Lili Bauers, Izzy Heffernan, Camryn Paris, Taryn Burbridge, 4:38.04, 5th

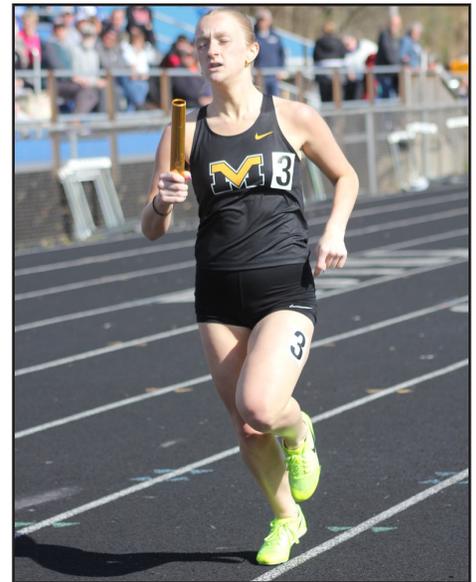
400m Dash: Lanni Beaman, 59.71, 2nd

4x200m Relay: Lily Huber, Lili Bauers, Natalie Ries, Lilly Kraft, 1:55.41, 5th

200m Dash: Taryn Burbridge, 29.06, 7th

4x100m Relay: Lily Huber, Lilly Kraft, Lanni Beaman, Camryn Paris, 52.40, 3rd

The team competed at Cascade last night, will be at Ed-Co for the conference meet next Thursday, and then will compete again at Ed-Co May 9 for the state-qualifying meet.



Boys golf team gets three more wins

by Kaitlyn Nolan

The Maquoketa Valley boys' golf team went three-for-three in the past week after winning against Ed-Co, Alburnett, and Marquette Catholic.

Once again, senior Toby Grimm led the team when they took on the Vikings last Thursday on their home course. Five golfers placed in the top five, cementing their 163-186 win with each player scoring below 43.

The team once again hosted when they played the Pirates of Alburnett last Friday, winning in dominant fashion 169-220. For the first time this season, sophomore Zachary Leytem earned the top spot while freshman Trevor Grimm placed 2nd.

It was another home meet and another win for the Wildcats when they hosted Marquette Catholic on Tuesday, coming away with a 179-195 victory. Trevor Grimm placed 1st with a 42 with Toby coming in at 2nd with a 44.

The next meet for the Wildcats will be tonight against Easton Valley at Plum River Golf Course permitting the weather. On Monday, the boys will compete in the Tri-Rivers Conference Meet at Backbone. These results will be in next week's article.

Stats:

Ed-Co Meet

- 1st - Toby Grimm: 37
- 2nd - Zachary Leytem: 41
- 3rd - Trevor Grimm: 42
- 4th - Elijah Dougherty: 43
- 5th - Anderson Holtz: 43
- 9th - Jake Gellersen: 48

Alburnett Meet

- 1st - Zachary Leytem: 40
- 2nd - Trevor Grimm: 42
- 3rd - Toby Grimm: 43
- 4th - Lukas Chesnut: 44
- 5th - Elijah Dougherty: 46
- 6th - Anderson Holtz: 48

Marquette Catholic

- 1st - Trevor Grimm: 42
- 2nd - Toby Grimm: 44
- 3rd - Anderson Holtz: 45
- 5th - Lukas Chesnut: 48
- 6th - Zachary Leytem: 48



Senior Jake Gellersen putts. Gellersen competed on the JV team in the Marquette Catholic meet. (photo by Dannie Burkle)

Winner of poetry competition

The Intro to Lit class conducted a March Madness poetry battle for its poetry unit. The event started with 64 poems that the class deemed worthy of discussion. The following poem, suggested by Lily Huber, won this year.

“Perfect for Any Occasion” by Alberto Ríos

I
Pies have a reputation.
And it's immediate —no talk of potential

Regarding a pie. It's good
Or it isn't, but mostly it is—sweet, very sweet

Right then, right there, blue and red.
It can't go to junior college,

Work hard for the grades,
Work two jobs on the side.

It can't slowly build a reputation
And a growing client base.

A pie gets one chance
And knows it, wearing as makeup

Those sparkling granules of sugar,
As a collar those diamond cutouts

Bespeaking Fair Day, felicity, contentment.
I tell you everything is great, says a pie,

Great, and fun, and fine.
And you smell nice, too, someone says.

A full pound of round sound, all ahh, all good.
Pies live a life of applause.

2

But then there are the other pies.
The leftover pies. The ones

Nobody chooses at Thanksgiving.
Mincemeat? What the hell is that? people ask,

Pointing instead at a double helping of Mr.
“I-can-do-no-wrong” pecan pie.

But the unchosen pies have a long history, too.
They have plenty of good stories, places they've been—

They were once fun, too—
But nobody wants to listen to them anymore.

Oh sure, everybody used to love lard,
But things have changed, brother—things have changed.

That's never the end of the story, of course.
Some pies make a break for it—

Live underground for a while,
Doing what they can, talking fast,

Trying to be sweet pizzas, if they're lucky.
But no good comes of it. Nobody is fooled.

A pie is a pie for one great day. Last week,
It was Jell-O. Tomorrow, it'll be cake.

Athletes of the Week

Name: Lili Bauers

What do you enjoy most about track? I enjoy the atmosphere and how supportive everyone is. I also love how everyone is always in a good mood (except when we are at MFL and it is raining.)

What do you think your best event will be? I think my best event will be either the Sprint Med or the 4x2.

What life lessons have you learned through track? A life lesson I have learned through track would be that hard work pays off. When you run well in a meet it makes all the hard practices worth it.

What's the hardest part of practice? The hardest part of practice is doing partner 300's.



Name: Livia Hermanson

What is your favorite part of playing golf? My favorite part would have to be the feeling of finally getting out of a slump. That feeling of being able to get the ball off the ground again and to play how you know you can play is like no other.

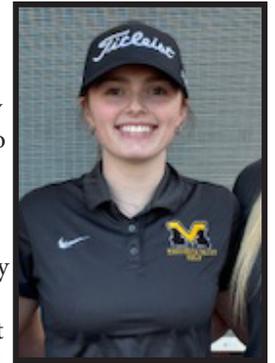
What's the most frustrating part of the sport?

Golf is a love hate relationship. It is a very mentally challenging game. When you can't hit a ball and are having a bad day you get in your head and that screws up the rest of your round. I've never played such a mentality challenging sport. Especially this year for competing for the first time alone. I went into the season thinking it would be like just golfing with friends. It is the complete opposite. This last meet I think I finally got my nerves out of the way and was able to break 50 in a meet with shooting 46. I normally can do that when just golfing for fun so that was really frustrating to me when I couldn't play how I know I could.

This is your first year out for golf. What made you decide to go out?

Well believe it or not I committed to play golf at Clarke this fall, before I've played a competitive season. I thought about going out last year but decided to work and enjoy some time off after an injury. Someone asked me if I regretted not going out about this time last year and I said no. Now I 100% regret it. I wish I had more time here to play, but this is only my beginning and I have 4 more years to improve.

Who's your golf role model? At first it was Brayden Maury because he is the person who got me to golf. He always effortlessly hit the ball and played well which made me upset. As I continued to play I found a girl name Haley Bookholdt. She golfs all the time and she changed a lot of women's opinion about golf which is called a gentleman's sport. She moved a lot of women to get out and go play golf. She inspired me to golf by myself and to not be scared. Her outfits are also always amazing so she has influenced some of my purchases.



Name: Zach Leytem

What is your favorite part of playing golf? Golfing with my friends at practice and meets.

What's the most frustrating part of the sport?

When you blade or fat a shot.

How long have you played? One year

Who's your golf role model? My older cousins Andrew and Avery because they introduced me to golf and taught me how to play.



Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Taylor Saunders

What is your role in the spring play? My role in the spring play is the Narrator.

What do you enjoy most about being a part of this show? I'm enjoying building skills and friendships through the hours we spend together.

What will audience members enjoy most about the play? I think that the audience will enjoy the variety of character personalities as well as the humor of the play as a whole.

If you could add a song to this play's imaginary soundtrack, what would it be? I think if I could add a song it'd be "Louder Than Words" by John Phil Larson.

Name: Maya Smith

What is your role in the spring play?

I play multiple small roles: the First Headmaster, a Death Buddy, and Bippy

What do you enjoy most about being a part of this show?

Having fun with all the other cast and getting into the complex, groundbreaking character that is Bippy.

What will audience members enjoy most about the play? I think they will enjoy all of the references in the play and the overall comedy in the play.

If you could add a song to this play's imaginary soundtrack, what would it be? "We are the Champions" is especially fitting for the end of Cedric's third task.



Hall Smarts

by Maya Smith

Rain is in the forecast for today and this weekend. Let's see what these Wildcats know about precipitation. April showers bring May flowers, right?



How long does it take rain to hit the ground?

Morgan Clemen: 2 minutes
Landyn Haas: 14 minutes
Dylan Knipper: A minute 45
Answer: 2 minutes

How much does a raindrop weigh in ounces?

Morgan: .02
Landyn: .5 oz
Dylan: .1 oz
Answer: .001 oz

What country receives the most rainfall each year?

Morgan: India
Landyn: Nigeria
Dylan: Peru
Answer: Colombia

What state gets the most rain?

Morgan: Hawaii
Landyn: South Carolina
Dylan: Washington
Answer: Hawaii

JO-JO'S CLOSET

by Josie Teymer

Although the weather in Iowa is giving me whiplash, I am manifesting warm weather. So, in honor of summer being right around the corner, let's talk about summer fashion.

One of the biggest upcoming trends is boxer shorts. Personally, I love this look because you can wear them with so many things and they are thin so you won't get overheated. Let's say you have a pair of red gingham boxer shorts on. I think these would look very cute with white Converse, a white shirt graphic shirt or tank top, sunglasses, and gold jewelry.

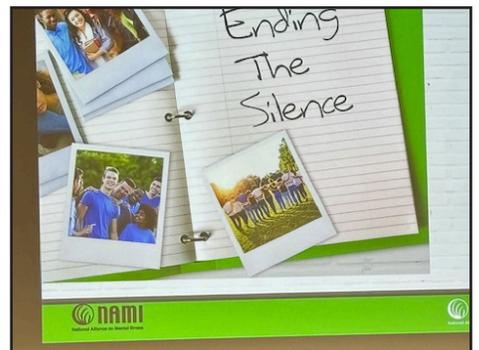
Word on the street is that baby tees and halter tops are coming back. I like

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Grace Richter

Some Friday Jokes to end this week!
What did the accordion player say on Friday? Accordion to me, it's going to be a great Friday
What's Jack Black's favorite day of the year? Black Friday
Why couldn't Friday lift anything heavy? Because it was a weak day.
What do biologists wear to work on Friday? Genes.
How do you make a blonde laugh on a Sunday morning? Tell her a joke on Friday.

Taking care of the brain



Speakers from NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) spoke with the MV community this week about the importance of seeking help for brain health.

a good baby tee, but I am not the biggest fan of a halter so we will see if I change my mind.

For colors I have been seeing a lot of baby pink, mint green, and navy.

Lastly, for accessories, I have been seeing chunky framed sunglasses and baseball caps. It also looks like this summer we are going to see big rings and earrings.





CLUB 109

SPRING BAKE SALE

APRIL 30TH, 2024 DURING WIN