

# The Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

## IHSMA 2025 solo-ensemble contest yields good scores for MV

by Taylor Saunders

These last few weeks our choir students as well as some dedicated and hard-working band students have been preparing for this year's IHSMA Solo Ensemble contest. We loaded the buses early last Saturday and traveled to Cascade. The following is a list of all participating groups, trios, duets and soloists, as well as their ratings. We received a total of 7 Division I ratings and 7 Division II ratings.

Freshman Treble Ensemble: Division II  
Brady Eike: Instrumental Solo: Division I  
Junior Treble Ensemble: Division I  
Abby Nieman: Instrumental Solo: Division II

Owen Boring: Vocal Solo: Division I  
Saxophone Quartet (McKenna Bush, Taylor Saunders, Isabella Mensen, McKayla Weber): Division I

Tenor Bass Ensemble: Division I  
Maya Smith: Instrumental Solo: Division I  
Addie Wilson & Ryleigh Moriarity: Vocal Duet: Division II

Aaliyah Peterson: Instrumental Solo: Division II, Vocal Solo: Division II

Olivia Begle: Instrumental Solo: Division I  
Sophomore Treble Ensemble: Division I  
Brass Quartet (Brady Eike, MaryEllen Smith, Maya Smith, Sellah Ambundo): Division II

McKenna Bush: Instrumental Solo: Division I

Arianna Nolan & Tracy Reth: Vocal Duet: Division II

Clarinet Quartet (Ella Wulfekuhle, Ryleigh Moriarity, Trish Dietiker, Joellen Beitz): Division I

Brady Eike, Carly Dirks, & Willow Fuller: Vocal Trio: Division I

Sellah Ambundo & Olivia Hunter: Vocal Duet: Division I

Ryleigh Moriarity: Clarinet Solo: Division I, Vocal Solo: Division II

Maya Smith & Aaliyah Peterson: Instrumental Duet: Division II

Sellah Ambundo: Vocal Solo: Division I

McKenna Bush & Maya Smith: Instrumental Duet: Division I

Small Choir: Division II



The small choir performs their selection at contest last Saturday.

Mileea D'amico & Tommie Cole: Vocal Duet: Division II

These ratings showed our dedication as a whole and we are extremely proud. Our students will continue to work hard as

we prepare for the Large Group Contest on May 10! We appreciate the dedication of Ms. McCrary and Mr. Ford, as well as all the help from our lovely accompanists. As always, Go Cats!



Trish Dietiker, Brady Eike and Carly Dirks entered as a vocal trio at contest. They earned a Division I rating. At music contest, ratings range from Division I to Division V.

# Boys find success at Cascade early-bird meet

by Lanni Beaman

Last Friday, the boys' track and field team traveled to Cascade to compete against tough competitors, including Tip-ton, Springville, and Central City. The boys performed and scored well, being the first outdoor meet of the season. It is off to a great start!

Here are the results from the meet:

Shot Put: Preston Salow, 44' 2", second; Dylan Knipper, 38' 9", seventh

Discus: Dylan Knipper, 124' 9", first; Preston Salow, 116' 0", fifth

Long Jump: DaShawn Strickland, 18' 4", seventh

800 Sprint Medley: Rogan Heidt, Colin Smith, Brady Wall, Macoy Stone; 1:41.13, second

3200 Meters: Matthew Schaul, 10:02.28, first

4x800: Carter LeClere, Owen Smith, Jayden Schwandt, Brady Eike; 9:39.42, sixth

1600 Distance Medley: Rogan Heidt, Brady Wall, Macoy Stone, Matthew Schaul 3:49.22, first

400m Dash: DaShawn Strickland, 55.14, first; Owen Smith, 58.01, sixth

4x200m Relay: Colin Smith, Keegan Rahe, Preston Salow, Noah Whalen; 1:45.67, sixth

800m Run: Kenyon Baker, 2:14.63, fifth

200m Dash: Macoy Stone, 23.91, second; Brady Wall, 24.38, fifth

3200m Run: Matthew Schaul, 10:02.28, first; Kenyon Baker, 10:46.04, third

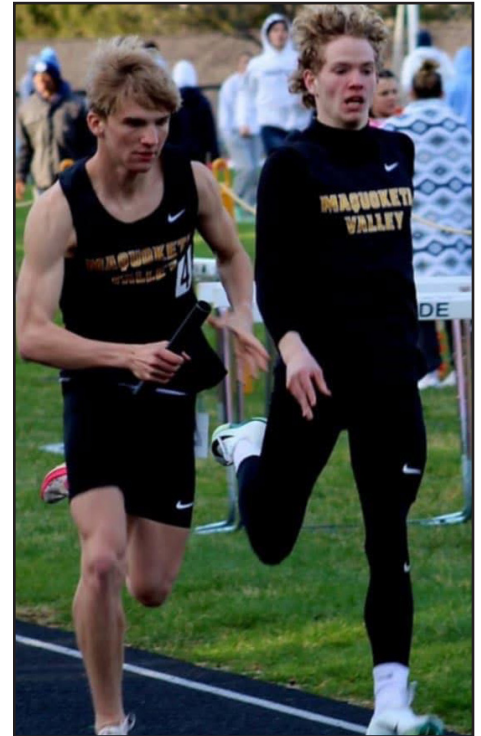
400m Hurdles: DaShawn Strickland, 1:04.93, sixth

4x100m Relay: Rogan Heidt, Colin Smith, Brady Wall, Macoy Stone; 46.04, third

4x400: Arion Rave, Kenyon Baker, Matthew Schaul, DaShawn Strickland; 3:43.90, fifth

Last night the team competed at Independence. Results will be in the next issue.

**Right: Matthew Schaul gets the handoff from Macoy Stone in the distance medley.**



## Girls tear it up on the track and in the field at Cascade, Jesup

by Alaina Mead

Last week Thursday the girls track team ran their first outdoor meet at Cascade.

Coach Dunlap says his team is competing very well right now. "We have some good relays that have a chance of qualifying for the Drake meet. Our 4x100 is sitting around 70th in the state in all classes and 96 will qualify. We are hoping to get that relay down there this year. Our sprint medley has an outside shot as well. We have to keep dropping time."

Coach Dunlap also noted the performance of his throwers. "Our throwers are going to be a strong part of our team this year. We have ten throwers and they are working very hard. They are very enthusiastic and motivated."

The team earned points in the following events at Cascade:

4x800: Breanna McShane, McKenna Mineart, Jordan Hatfeild, Breanna Bush; 13:03.28; third

4x200: Lilly Kraft, Lili Bauers, McKenna Mineart, Taryn Burbridge; 1:55.30; third

4x100: Lili Bauers, Lily Kraft, Camryn Paris, Lanni Beaman; 52.78; second

1500M Run: Sadie Boeckenstedt, 7:02.84, seventh

400M Dash: Alaina Mead, 1:09.08, seventh

Sprint Medley Relay: Lili Bauers, Lily Kraft, Taryn Burbridge, Lanni Beaman; 1:54.94; 1st

200M Dash: Audra Burbridge, 28.20, third; Lily Kraft, 29.75, eighth

100M Dash: Lanni Beaman, 13.44, second; Camryn Paris, 13.49, third; Lily Kraft, 14.07, fourth

4x400: Taryn Burbridge, Camryn Paris, Audra Burbridge, Lanni Beaman; 4:15.39; 1st

Shot Put: Macee Nolan, 30-5, first; Jade Hillers, 29-8, second; Aaliyah Peterson, 26-10, fifth

Discus: Jeanie Teymer, 89-3, third; Addison Vorwald, 72-1, seventh

Long Jump: Rylee Reed, 13-7, fifth; Khole Glew, 12-8.5, eighth

High Jump: Taylor Salow, 4-6, seventh; Haydin Flannagan, 4-4, eighth

The girls track team also ran at the Jesup meet this past week on Tuesday. Coach Dunlap noted some highlights: "In the 1500m Freshman Breanna Bush ran a 6:12.29 which was a good first 1500m. Sadie Boeckenstedt also ran well in the 1500m dropping almost 15 seconds for a new PR. We had some great efforts from some underclassmen. Freshman Khloe Glew jumped a fantastic long jump placing third with a jump of 14-10. Freshman Taylor Salow placed third as well in the high jump and continues to get this team valuable team points. Sophomore Sellah Ambundo placed third in the shot. She has been consistently around 32-34 feet."

The following events earned

points for the team:

100M Dash: Khloe Glew, 14.71, sixth; Izabella Heffernan, 14.92, eighth

200M Dash: Audra Burbridge, 28.43, third; Alaina Mead, 30.33, sixth

400M Dash: Breanna McShane, 1:14.30, fifth; Haydin Flannagan, 1:15:45, sixth

800M Run: McKenna Mineart, 3:10.46, seventh; Jordan Hatfeild, 3:14:72, eighth

1500M Run: Breanna Bush, 6:12:29, fourth; Sadie Boeckenstedt, 6:56:99, sixth

100M Hurdles: Ruby Recker, 20:91, sixth; Addie Wilson 21:92, eighth

4x100: Lili Bauers, Lily Kraft, Camryn Paris, Lanni Beaman; 52:37, second

4x200: Lanni Beaman, Lili Bauers, Audra Burbridge, Taryn Burbridge; 1:52:06; first

4x400: Taryn Burbridge, Camryn Paris, Audra Burbridge, Lanni Beaman; 4:16.51; 1st

Sprint med: Lili Bauers, Camryn Paris, Taryn Burbridge, Lanni Beaman; 1:53.42, 1st (top 30 in the state in all classes)

Shot Put: Sellah Ambundo, 32-5.5, third; Morgan Hoeger, 30-1.5, sixth

Discus: Sellah Ambundo, 79-4, sixth

High Jump: Taylor Salow, 4-6, third; Haydin Flannagan, 4-4, fourth

Long Jump: Khole Glew, 14-10, third; Rylee Reed, 13-10.5, sixth

Yesterday the girls track team traveled to Independence for a coed meet. Results to come in next week's Echo.

# Golf teams get the W over Central City

by Maya Smith

## Girls

The girls golf team's season opener was a success, with a 212-235 win over the Central City Wildcats at Meadowview.

Coach Zietlow said, "I was very pleased with the way the varsity and jv team played Tuesday against Central City. The varsity shot a team score 13 strokes better than our team average from last year. Maya Smith, Morgan Clemen, Alissa Bush and Ever Botos all shot personal best meet scores. This is a fun, motivated team and won't surprise me if they shoot under 200 as a team real soon. Good things ahead this season."

Medalists for the team included a second place finish by Maya Smith and a third place finish by Morgan Clemen.

Meet Scores:

- 2nd - Maya Smith: 50
- 3rd - Morgan Clemen: 51
- 4th - Isabella Mensen: 55
- 5th - Ever Botos: 56
- 6th - Alissa Bush: 59
- 7th: Ella Wulfekulhe: 60

Tonight, the girls will compete against Springville at home and then a tournament at Ed-Co the following day.

## Boys

The boys' golf team season opener was an exciting competition. The boys pulled away with a 5 stroke win against Central City, 177-182.

Coach Conner comments: "I thought it was a successful first meet of the season for us last night. We had a three-way tie for meet runner up with three of our players; Eli Dougherty, Trevor Grimm, and Lukas Chesnut all shot 44. I think all of our guys would say that there were shots that they left on the course. From what I saw last night, we had a number of guys hit the ball really well off the tee and put themselves into position to score, but struggled around the greens. Now we know what area we need to focus more attention on in practice and I am expecting us to get better at that as we get more meets under our belt and the playing conditions improve with warmer temperatures. Hopefully we can see that improvement on Friday night against Springville!"

Medalists for the team were Eli Dougherty, Trevor Grimm, and Lukas

Chesnut, in a three tie for 2nd.

Meet Scores:

- 2nd - Eli Dougherty: 44
- 2nd - Trevor Grimm: 44
- 2nd - Lukas Chesnut: 44
- 5th - Zach Leytem: 45
- 8th - Tate Intorf: 50
- 9th - Anderson Holtz: 51

Tonight the boys will compete against Springville at home at Hart Ridge in Manchester.

## Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Jeanie Teymer

**What is your role in the spring play?**

Bonnie

**What do you enjoy most about being a part of this show?** The people that I get to do it with.

**What will audience members enjoy most about the play?** That it is very funny and interesting.

**If you could star in any TV show, what would it be?** I would star in "Family Feud."



Name: Olivia Hunter

**What is your role in the spring play?** I

have the delight of playing Dame Davina Arlington.

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

The time I get to spend being creative with set or costume pieces and pushing myself to be a better actor.

**What will audience members enjoy most about the play?** The silly little jokes in it and the nods to some niche outside media.

**If you could star in any TV show, what would it be?** I would want to star in a murder mystery or procedural cop show like "How To Get Away With Murder" or "Criminal Minds."



## Athletes of the Week

Name: DaShawn Strickland

**What do you enjoy most about track?** the meets

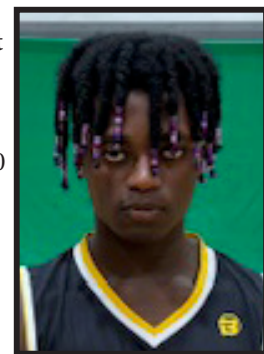
**What do you think your best event will be?** 400 or 400 hurdles

**What life lessons have you learned through track?**

Nothing is given; it's earned.

**What's the hardest part of practice?** running anything over a lap

**Who is your track role model?** my brothers



Name: Eli Dougherty

**What is your favorite part of playing golf?**

Playing with my friends and enjoying time out on the course.

**What's your favorite course to play on?** Sunnyside in Waterloo

**What's your goal for the season?** To

lead the team for the lowest average score  
**Who's your golf role model?** My golf role model would most likely be Rory McIlroy



Name: Maya Smith

**What is your favorite part of playing**

**golf?** My favorite part of playing golf is the feeling of recovering from a bad hole and doing better. It's a game of memory and being able to keep your head up.

**What's your favorite course to play on?** My favorite course to play on is

Hartridge, our home course.

**What's your goal for the season?** My goal for the season is to continue to get better and to continue to PR. Right now, it's to break 45.

**Who's your golf role model?** I've been watching Nelly Korda recently. However, my golf role model is our coach, Zietlow. He's helped me improve so much and I look up to him.



# Etiquette Dinner

SPONSORED BY THE MAQUOKETA VALLEY  
3RD LEVEL FOODS CLASS.  
Wednesday April 16th 6 P.M.

Dress Code: Dinner Attire

\$20 DOLLARS PER PERSON ATTENDING  
THERE WILL BE A FOUR-COURSE MEAL  
INCLUDING:  
CAESAR SALAD  
POTATOES AND LEEK SOUP  
PORK LOIN WITH ROASTED VEGETABLES  
AND GARLIC MASHED POTATOES.  
AND A CHOICE BETWEEN 4 DIFFERENT  
DESSERTS.



The etiquette dinner needs to have RSVPs sent to [tierramorgan@maquoketa-v.k12.ia.us](mailto:tierramorgan@maquoketa-v.k12.ia.us) by April 14th.

## Comedy Corner

—compiled by Grace Richter

Since it's ISASP testing week, here are some jokes that will test your humor!

Why did the student bring a ladder to the test? Because they heard the questions were on another level.

What is your favorite type of music? Pop!

Why did the test go to therapy? It had many unsolved problems.

Why did the student eat his test? Because the teacher said it was a piece of cake!

I told my test a joke? It gave me no response. It was multiple choice.

## Wildcat Star Service Award Logs

It's never a bad time to get those forms filled out!

Seniors: Your forms are due May 1.

9th-11th graders: Your forms are due by the last day of school.

## Jaelyn's Journeys

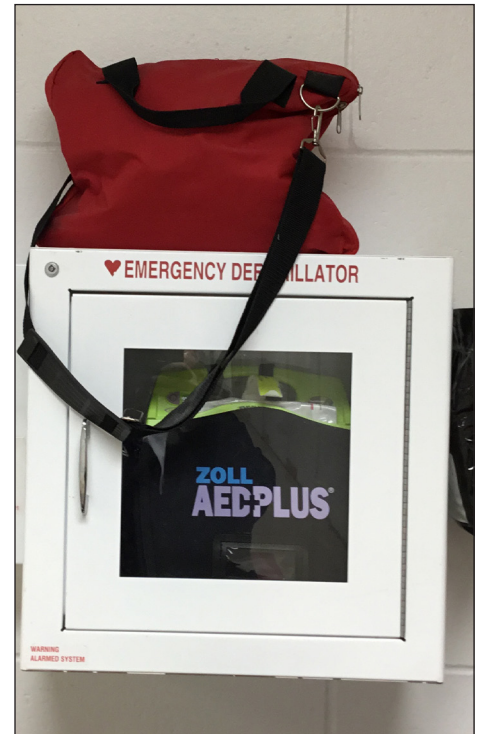


photo by Jaelyn Butikofer

Where in the school can you find this object? Be the first one to correctly name the place to Mrs. Temple face-to-face to win something from the prize box!

# Cutie



This Cutie grew up on a farm not in Delaware County and became a multi-sport state-qualifying athlete and college athlete. He enjoys pickleball and golf in his free time, and he roots for the Yankees, Browns and Hawkeyes.

## You Are Not Alone

As the author of these stories, I need to tell you something: If YOU do NOT like part of my story, I do NOT CARE. They are my stories and are meant to please me and those who share similar experiences or characters. — Abby Nieman

### Story one

*Trigger warning: self-harm is highlighted in the story*

I woke in a panic as my father seemed to be back. He hit me; he made me feel unwanted. I felt the urge to do something that I have not done in two years. The urge is overwhelming and suffocating. I sit on the bathroom floor, the blade from the dismantled pencil sharpener in the sink. The rush of relief at the sight and feeling of blood bubbling out of the cuts on my arm. Then the guilt growing inside. "I tried to stop but... it just happened and... I let him down." There is a knock on the door, and I look up, "Go away," I responded in a shaky voice. I finally got up off the floor as the bathroom door opened. I turned away from the blonde-haired man, keeping my hands in front of me.

"You have cut yourself again?"

"I'm sorry... I tried not to."

"I am not mad. Just let me help you now, and the next time it happens." The blonde-haired and green-eyed man came to face me. I looked down, but before I could, he hooked his finger under my chin. "I am not upset. You tried, and that is all I want. You did your best." His warm voice made me feel safe in his presence. He looked at the bandages in the sink and then got more out of the medicine cabinet above the sink. Then he took my hand softly but firmly enough to tell me he cared for me. "Have you washed this out ever?"

"No," my voice seemed to be less shaky. The blade in the sink and the other bandages were removed. He ran the water and slowly and gently pulled my wrist under the water. It stung. He dried my wrists and put the bandages on.

I met him out in the living room, and we struggled close. "What was it?"

"My father. He was in my... my dream. He came back and yelled at me and hit me."

"He is gone, love. He is six feet in the ground. There is no way he is coming back, and if he comes back in a dream, I will protect you, and you will always have a person to talk to."

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## Maquoketa Valley High School Blood Drive

Middle School Gym

112 Third Street Delhi, IA 52223

Wednesday, April 16th

1:00 PM -5:00 PM

Your moment to shine, their chance to live!  
One donation can save up to three lives!



APPOINTMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED

Text: LIFESERVE to 999-777 | Call: 800.287.4903 | Visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org



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# Lili Bauers



**Activities involved in during high school:**

Volleyball and Track & Field

**Which activity affected you the most? How?**

Both volleyball and track and field have affected me greatly. From volleyball, I have learned the importance of hard work. My senior year I was able to accomplish a lot of the goals I set for myself because I worked hard. But, not only has volleyball affected me but Coach Nefzger will always have an effect on me as well. She never gave up on the team, and most of all she never gave up on me. She helped bring back light to a sport that was so overlooked and helped me make the most of my last volleyball season.

Track and field has pushed me out of my comfort zone and forced me to believe in myself and know what I am capable of. Mentally this has

been the hardest sport I have competed in; however, I am so thankful for the experiences track and field has given me. Being able to compete at state track has been such an incredible experience that I will never forget. I can't thank Coach Dunlap and my teammates enough for everything they have helped me accomplish these last few years.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Some advice I would give to the freshman would be to not wish your time away. The time you get in high school truly goes by fast. It's easy to wish for things happening in the future but when the time comes you will wish you would have lived in the moment, so take in every opportunity and make the most of the four years you have here at Maquoketa Valley.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate a lot about Maquoketa Valley, but one of the things I appreciate the most is the teachers. The teachers at Maquoketa Valley care so much about their students not only on an academic level but also on a personal level. The teachers here never make you feel like you aren't capable of something.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would definitely relive homecoming week because it is such an exciting week that really pulls the entire school together.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** I really enjoyed all the art classes I took with Mr. Dunlap, or 60's in America with Mr. Cassutt.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** My most inspirational high school teacher has been Mrs. Temple. I have learned many things from Mrs. Temple in the little time I have had her as a teacher, whether that be school-related topics or simple skills to prepare me for my life post high school. Mrs. Temple always comes to class with a good attitude which is something I admire about her. Also, whenever I am in Mrs. Temple's class, I know I will get a good laugh.)

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** My most inspirational middle school teacher is Mr. Casutt. He taught us a lot of life lessons I still think about to this day, but he always treated us like we were capable of making our own decisions.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** My favorite middle school memory was school getting canceled for COVID.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** After high school I plan to attend The University of Iowa to major in management or marketing.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** Orange Chicken

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "Good Times Go By Too Fast" by Dylan Scott

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** When I'm not at school you can find me hanging out with my friends, spending time at the lake, or working at Roast and Toast.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** Senior year homecoming or prom

# Ryan Auwles



**What advice do you have for freshmen? Try your best.**

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** The teachers

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** Hanging out with friends because I don't know how much time I will have after high school to just hang out

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** Electricity because it was interesting

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Besler because I like the way she teaches

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Wilson's 3rd grade because she taught us a lot

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** Talent show in 4th grade

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** Going to work for a year then go to a two-year college

**What's your favorite school lunch?** Meatball sub

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** working

# Isabella Mensen



**Activities involved in during high school:** Cheer, Dance, Golf, Band, Jazz Band, Large group speech

**Which activity affected you the most? How?**

I feel like both dance and cheer have affected me a lot. I had a great coach and teams that have helped me a lot throughout the four years I was in these sports. I was very shy my freshmen year and they helped me come out of my shell and be more confident in who I am as a person. I am very appreciative of all the opportunities that came from dance and cheer and it will be one of the things I miss the most.

**What advice do you have for fresh-**

**men?** Don't take anything for granted. You spend a lot of your high school years wishing to be done, but the time really does go fast and your time here at Maquoketa Valley will be over before you know it. So live in the moment and take advantage of everything that the next four years will bring you.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate the teachers and staff here at Maquoketa Valley. They are always willing to help you no matter what. It does not matter if it is a problem with school or outside of school. They want you to be the best you can be and will help you achieve that.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would relive the homecoming football games because the energy in the air was something that you couldn't find anywhere else.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** I have enjoyed Intro to Literature with Mrs. Temple. This class was always fun between the people in the class and what we read and discussed. This class also brought back my love for reading.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Droeszler was the most inspirational teacher to me. She is always willing to help with school work even if she doesn't know much about the subject. I have enjoyed being able to go down to her room this last semester for my study hall to work and talk during her prep hour.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher?**

**Why?** Mr. Helle was the most influential teacher for me. He taught us how to have a good work ethic, and I have carried that through my whole school career.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** My favorite memory from elementary school was recess in the winter and there was snow on the ground and we made slides down the little hill.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** I will be attending the University of Iowa and majoring in business to hopefully become a Business Intelligence Analyst.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** I haven't eaten school lunch for most of high school so I don't have one.

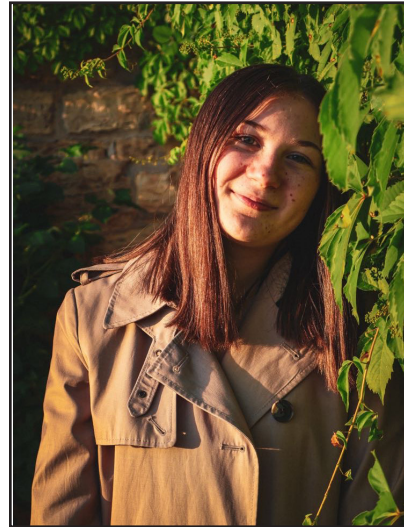
**What song will always remind you of high school?**

"Fast" by Luke Bryan.

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** If I'm not in school I am probably spending time with my family or boyfriend, reading a book, trying out new recipes in the kitchen, or babysitting.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** The senior dance during the homecoming pep rally

# Emily Hogan



**Activities involved in during high school:**

Golf, musical, Large Group and Individual Speech, Choir and Band

**Which activity affected you the most?**

**How?**

The activity that affected me most was definitely both

large group and individual speech. I have been able to meet so many interesting people at speech events as well as learn new life skills that will follow me after I graduate.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Try not to get into the habit of procrastination!

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** The teachers and positive environment.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** Any speech event. You spend so much time stressing about your event you can sometimes forget to actually have fun and enjoy the day.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** Social Issues with Mr. Huegel or Intro to Literature with Mrs. Temple

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Ms. Droeszler, she is just so kind and really pushes her students to be the best that they can be.

She is also a good listener and gives great advice too! **Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Ms. Payton, she was my 2nd grade teacher and is one of the reasons why I want to be a teacher. She just truly cared about her students.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** Playing at recess

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** I plan to go to Kirkwood then transfer to UNI to get an elementary education degree.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** Orange chicken

**What song will always remind you of high school?**

"Fast" by Luke Bryan

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** Reading or hanging out with friends.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** Prom or the football games

# Joellen Beitz



## Activities involved in during high school:

Band: jazz band, marching band, concert band; choir, vocal jazz, TEL, basketball manager, cross country manager, musical, play, large group speech, individual speech, softball (freshman only), Camp Fire, part time job.

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** Each of these activities affected me in different, beneficial ways. However, I strongly believe the Fine Arts, especially band, musical,

and speech because they have all taught me that I am important. Along with this, they've taught me important employability skills like time management and personal responsibility.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Everyone says it, but don't take your time for granted, don't take yourself too seriously, and keep up on your grades. But remember, grades and a GPA don't define you. A lower grade isn't going to hurt your future as much as you think.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** The teachers and the student atmosphere are very welcoming and I'm not nervous to ask questions or talk to others.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** Any performance I've had since freshman year because they are all near and dear to my heart

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** Either band or graphic design

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Many teachers have had efforts to inspire me, but one teacher stands out largely. This teacher would be Mrs. DeVore. She always puts all her effort and has a good attitude about it. She also has been my play director and speech coach all four years and has taught me so much.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Probably Mrs. Hess because she was always in a good mood and she still talks to me to this day when she sees me

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** I am going to get my general education done at Kirkwood for the next two years then I'm planning to move out of state. My original plan was to go to Tennessee for a degree in music ed; however, now I'm thinking that I will go for mental behavioral psychology or something in criminal forensics.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** Chicken tetrazini

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "Teenage Dirtbag" because Mr. Dunlap is always singing it

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** Sleeping, playing video games, or hanging out with friends

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** When we ate baby food at the pep rally and Parker threw up all over the gym

# Leah Reicher



## Activities involved in during high school:

Student council, basketball, volleyball, cross country, FFA, spanish club, individual speech, and large group speech.

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** FFA.

It shaped me into the person that I am today. I was also able to meet many new people through FFA.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Try everything!

**What do you appreciate**

**most about Maquoketa Valley?** The culture and community at Maquoketa Valley are always welcoming and supportive. If you have any questions a teacher or student is willing to help you.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would relive Freshman year because we had fun with everything we did.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** I enjoyed Horticulture 2 the most because I could be in the greenhouse for most of the classes.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Miss Lau because she taught me many lessons and is always willing to help.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Cherne because she always pushed me to be my best

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** Getting let out of school because of COVID.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** After graduation, I will attend Iowa State University to major in Agriculture Education. Ultimately, I will have a career as an Agriculture education instructor.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** Grilled chicken sandwich

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "This Town's Been Too Good to Us" by Dylan Scott

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** Hangout with my friends or family shopping, eating out, or spending time on the lake.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** Lot parties after the football games freshman and sophomore years



# Ella Wulfekuhle



**Activities involved in during high school:** Choir (1 year), Play (2 years), Musical/ Pit Band (2 years), Large Group Speech (1 year), Jazz Band (2 years), Pep Band, Golf, Concert Band, and Spanish Club.

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** Band in all of its many forms have affected me the most. Band has opened up new opportunities for me and allowed me to connect with people. Without band, I would not be where I am today or have any of my friends that I have now.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Do not procrastinate.

You save yourself so much stress if you get your work done on time so you are not staying up until 3 am.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate the kind-hearted teachers who make sure that students work and grow to the best of their abilities.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would relive any of the car talks that I have had with my friends after band concerts. I would relive any of them because they were full of some of the most spontaneous choices I have made so far in my life.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** I enjoyed Biology with Ms. Droeszler.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Ms. Droeszler was most inspirational. She was the one who helped me find my passion for biology and my love of learning chemistry in her class. Without her, I don't think I would know what I would want to do in the future.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Huber, my fourth-grade teacher, was most inspirational for me. When I moved to Earlville and started attending Maquoketa Valley, she was the one who helped me get acquainted with the school. Her classes were always fun and filled with learning.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** My favorite memory was when we used to play telephone on the bench along the wall after lunch.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** In the future, I plan on attending Mount Mercy University for a bachelor's degree in Nursing. After I graduate I plan on becoming either a Labor & Delivery Nurse, Pediatric Nurse, or a Midwife.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** I enjoy the school's tacos; otherwise, I only ever brought my lunch from home.

**What song will always remind you of high school?** The song "Lover, Lover" by Jerrod Niemann will always remind me of high school. This is the song my friends and I always sing and shout to whenever it comes on.

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** I'm either working, reading, doing homework, hanging out with friends, or spending time with family.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?**

At our five-year reunion, I would like to talk about prom and senior year homecoming. These events were filled with fun and I hope we can look back on them and laugh at ourselves with the choices we made.

# Brady Eike



**Activities involved in during high school:** Cross country, Track, Marching Band, Pep Band, Pit Band (Musical), Jazz Band, Choir, Jazz Choir

**Which activity affected you the most?** Cross Country has affected me the most because it has made me physically fit and has built my mental endurance.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** You only have four chances

for each activity. It sounds like a lot now, but it goes fast. Don't be afraid to go out for sports or fine arts; they are really fun.

**What do you appreciate most about MV?** I appreciate how small it is and how you know pretty much everyone.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would relive the evening before State Cross Country my Junior year. You could say it made me laugh.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** I really enjoyed photography.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Besler has been my most inspirational teacher because of the fun science shenanigans that happen in her class.

**Who is your most inspirational middle school teacher?** Mr. Dunlap because he is fun, outgoing, and perhaps a bit eccentric.

**What is a favorite middle school memory?** I thought the 7th grade student body presidential election was fun because I hardly knew anybody and everybody told me to vote for George Livingston so I did.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** I plan on attending Hawkeye Community College for a two year degree in Cybersecurity.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** Pizza

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "Yellow Submarine"

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** I'm likely procrastinating my homework. I might be playing a video game or trying to program something.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** I'm not sure. But I can tell you what I hope they don't talk about: me "hacking the wifi," because I never hacked it. And I couldn't do that even if I wanted to. Probably.