

# The Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

## Smooth Harmony: State runner-ups!

by McKayla Weber

On Tuesday, April 1st, members of the Maquoketa Valley Jazz Choir Group, Smooth Harmony, traveled to Dallas Center-Grimes High School to compete at the Iowa Vocal Jazz Championships, 2A Competition. Judges were Dr. Matthew Armstrong, Justin Binek and Shon Parker.

The students had a fantastic performance! They gave it their all, and we were so excited to receive second place out of the eight groups who qualified for state. Shane Lambert received Outstanding Instrumental Soloist for Vocal Percussion.

If you missed their performance, it can be found on YouTube ([https://www.youtube.com/live/Iwja\\_vTaCKk](https://www.youtube.com/live/Iwja_vTaCKk)) and is definitely worth the watch.



Smooth Harmony members pose with their awards. Kneeling in front: Tristan Dietz, Shane Lambert and Ryleigh Moriarity; back row from left: Owen Boring, Brady Eike, Breece Hoisington, Tracy Reth, Sellah Ambundo, Jocelyn Kelchen, Olivia Hunter, Sebastian Charlies and Arianna Nolan.

## Caring Wildcats



In March, the student council sponsored a can tab drive that will be taken to the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City. Student council members are shown above presenting the tabs to Mrs. Hansen. Mrs. Hansen, a paraeducator at the high school, has family members who have needed the Ronald McDonald house. The juniors were the winners of the competition.



## All-State Speech



Jeanie Teymer, Tristen Flanagan, Lylah Billmeyer and Arianna Nolan represented MV at the All-State Speech Festival held at UNI Monday.

# Girls transition from indoor to outdoor track

by Alaina Mead

Last Friday night the girls track team finished up its indoor season at the Tri-Rivers Conference indoor meet at the University of Dubuque. No team scores were kept.

Coach Dunlap said he was pleased with his team's efforts. "I thought the girls had a good night overall. The Tri-Rivers Conference has some excellent speed this year and our girls are competing well against these teams."

Coach Dunlap noted the strong performances by the distance medley team and the 4x400 team. "These girls are fun to watch. Another athlete to watch for is sophomore Sellah Ambundo. She threw 34-3 in the shot and placed 4th. She missed last season due to an injury and is really just now getting healthy. She could have a monster of a season. Finally, Lanni Beaman had an awesome night. She placed third in the 55m dash, first in the 4x400 and first in the open 400. She is right back where she was at the end of last season."

The team earned points in the following events:

4x800: Breanna McShane, McKenna Bush, McKenna Mineart, Breanna Bush; 12:06.26; fifth

55M Dash: Lanni Beaman, 7.82, third; Lilly Kraft, 7.96, fifth

55M Hurdles: Emma Brockhohn, 9.86, fifth

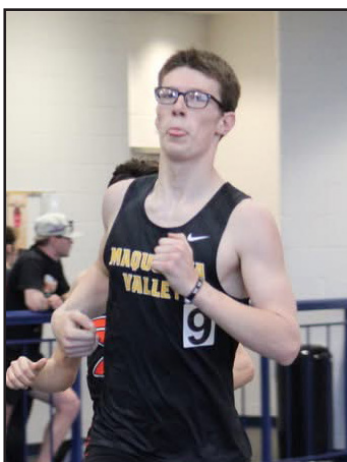
4x200: Lili Bauers, Izabella Heffernan, Lilly Kraft, Taryn Burbridge; 1:54.35; third

# Boys track ends indoor season, starts outdoor

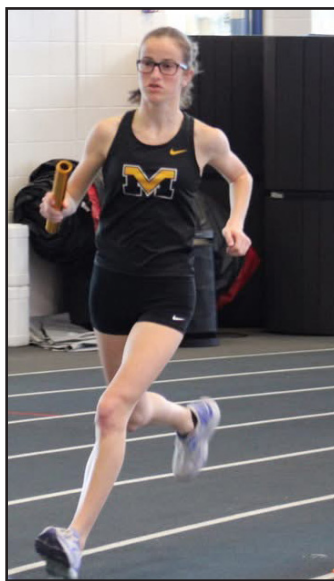
by Lanni Beaman

The indoor season official came to a close last Friday night at the Tri-Rivers Conference meet held at the University of Dubuque.

Points were scored in the following events:



Kenyon Baker competes in the 800m run last Friday. (photos by Lylah Billmeyer)



Senior McKenna Bush runs her leg of the 4x800 relay at the conference indoor meet last week.

1500M Run: Sadie Boeckenstedt, 7:13.29, eighth

400M Dash: Lanni Beaman, 1:00.36, 1st; Khloe Glew, 1:09.52, seventh

Sprint Medley Relay: Lili Bauers, Camryn Paris, Audra Burbridge, Taryn Burbridge; 4:43.34; 1st

200M Dash: Lili Bauers, 29.11, seventh

4x400: Audra Burbridge, Camryn Paris, Izzy Heffernan, Lanni Beaman; 4:16.52; 1st

Shot Put: Sellah Ambundo, 34-3, fourth

Long Jump: Rylee Reed, 14-0, eighth

High Jump: Taylor Salow, 4-8, sixth

This past week the girls track team ran their first outdoor meet at Cascade on Thursday. Results will be in our next issue.

Shot Put: Preston Salow, 43-11, second

High Jump: Eli Dougherty, 5-8, seventh

4x800: Matthew Schaul, Brady Eike, Kenyon Baker, DaShawn Strickland; 8:35.37; second

55M Dash: Kash Hunt, 6.90, sixth

55M Hurdles: Arion Rave, 8.65, fourth

4x200: Rogan Heidt, Kash Hunt, Brady Wall, Macoy Stone; 1:36.16, first

1600m: Matthew Schaul, 4:35.46, first

400m: Macoy Stone, 53.39, second; Arion Rave, 56.57, seventh

800m: Matthew Schaul, 2:06.63, first; Kenyon Baker, 2:15.24, third

200m: Kash Hunt, 24.01, fourth; Colin Smith, 24.81, seventh

4x400: Macoy Stone, Rogan Heidt, Brady Wall, DaShawn Strickland; 3:41.20, second

The boys competed at the Cascade meet last night. Results will be in next week's issue.

# Athletes of the Week

Name: Dylan Knipper

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

I enjoy the atmosphere that track has, and being in the warmer weather after winter.

**What do you think your best event will be?** I feel like my best event will be Discus.

**What life lessons have you learned through track?** I have learned that your mentality plays a huge role in anything you want to be good at.

**What's the hardest part of practice?** The warm up or hurdle mobility

**Who is your track role model?** Ryan Crouser



Name: Sellah Ambundo

**What do you enjoy most about track?** I

enjoy being a part of a team with people that I can look up to and enjoy being around.

**What do you think your best event will be?** I think my best event will be shot put, but hopefully discus will go well.

**What life lessons have you learned through track?** I learned to just be myself and not worry about if I look a certain way while I'm doing something. I also learned to do what makes me happy and to not worry about what others want me to do.

**What's the hardest part of practice?** The hardest part of practice is getting my technique down and not being frustrated with myself. I need to learn that it is ok to mess up and fix stuff; I'm not always going to be on point all the time.

**Who is your track role model?** My track role models are my mom, Kaylee, and my brother AJ. Both of them were very elite athletes during their high school years and I want to strive to be the best that I can be.





*Congratulations to the 2025 Cheer Team*

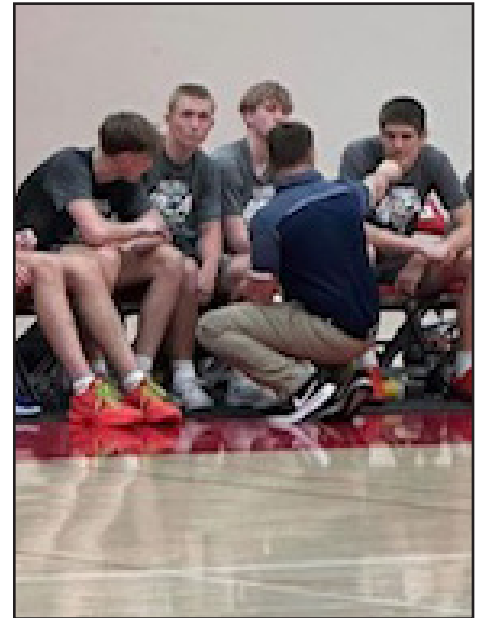
- Captain - Natalie Ries*
- Co-Captain - Keely Recker*
- Co-Captain - Jeanie Teymer*
- Ever Botos*
- Cheyenne Eike*
- Tristen Flanagan*
- Tess Intorf*
- Lena Lewin*
- Lylah Billmeyer*
- Aaliyah Peterson*
- Ella Recker*
- Taylor Salow*
- Athena Bradley*
- Alaina Connolly*
- Maleah Freiburger*
- Ava Holtz*
- Maggie Recker*



*Congratulations to the 25-26 MVDT*

- Captain: Natalie Ries*
- Co-Captain: Tess Intorf*
- CO -Captain: Alaina Leytem*
- Emma Brockhohn*
- Cheyenne Eike*
- Lilly Kraft*
- Alaina Mead*
- Taylor Salow*
- Alaina Connolly*
- Maggie Recker*
- Serenity White*

*All-Star Coach*



Last Saturday, Coach Conner extended his coaching career by co-coaching the northeast Iowa team in the Pizza Ranch Iowa Basketball Coaches Association All Star Game at Dallas Center-Grimes Saturday.

# 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 tier-ramorgan@maquoketa-v.k12.ia.us by April 14th.*

This Is Your **'I DID SOMETHING COOL TODAY' Moment.**



**JOIN US AT THE BLOOD DRIVE - IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE!**

## 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!**



**SCAN ME**

**APPOINTMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED**

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



# Cutie



by Alaina Mead

This Cutie looks ready for summer! This cutie is a sophomore and lives in Earlville. She is the youngest kid in her family and has one older sister. She is involved in cheer, speech and golf. A fun fact about her is her favorite color is blue! *Last week's cutie was Alaina Leytem.*

## Fine Artist of the Week

Name: Taylor Saunders

**What is your role in the spring play?** I received the role of Detective Casey Neptune.

**What do you enjoy most about being a part of this show?** We haven't had practice for long but

I think I most enjoyed the laughs we've had as a group. We've all been having fun despite the stress!

**What will audience members enjoy most about the play?** I think the most enjoyable thing about this play is the pure humor woven throughout.

**If you could star in any TV show, what would it be?** I think if I could act in any TV show I would choose *Suits*. I think it'd be so much fun to work with that cast. As well as the roles in that show, I think that they'd be fun to play with.



### Wildcat Star Service Award Logs

Seniors: Your forms are due May 1.  
9th-11th graders: Your forms are due by the last day of school.

## FFA in the Classrooms

by Natalie Ries; FFA Reporter

FFA students got to join the Delhi Elementary students last Thursday to read to the younger students. Many members enjoyed their day in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classrooms. FFA members brought a book to read to each grade level. Members then had a different activity younger students could enjoy. The 5th graders enjoyed a book about flower gardens where they then made a flower garden out of pudding and sprinkles.



## Fantasy Fiction: Trouble in Therapy

The final installment by Abby Nieman

We got the pickups going. Dad gave me permission to go with Chris for the rest of the day till supper. We made it to his house, which was outside of town, on a farm road with fields surrounding it. There were corn and beans in the fields. Then the buildings, there was bins and silos. There were at least three different machine sheds or shops, but there could have been more. Four cattle yards all had cattle in them.

Chris parked the pickup and got out, so I followed. The pickup was parked outside of the house next to the garage. The house was at least two, if not three, stories high, bigger than my house. Old, still, but like I imagined, a farmhouse. The tin roof was gray with white siding and some shutters on the windows.

"Yip, yip."

"Do you have a dog?" I asked.

"Yeah, she gets a little excited when I get home and come in the house," Chris responded. At this point, we were

in the mud room and going through the door to the house. It was all open except for what I assume is the bathroom and laundry room. An Australian Shepherd came running up to Chris and jumped on him. "Hey buddy, how are you? Mom still out?"

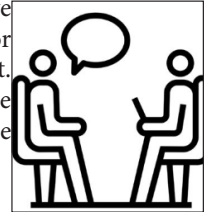
The dog looked at me and then jumped up on me, hugging me around my waist. I petted his ears and then pushed the dog off.

"I have something I need to tell you," I started. Chris did not interrupt me, so I continued: "I think I have feelings for you. You were always there when I needed help, and you did not freak out when I freaked out. You also helped me pass most of my classes at this point, as I have copied your notes from every class."

"I am glad I was not the first one to say it, and hey, I like you back, and I think our dads are fine with it," Chris responded, now on the ground playing with the dog.

Later, I would learn that Chris's mom was away on a business trip and his

dog's name was Bingo. Slowly, the flying thingy went away and I was getting better. But both of us together were getting stronger, and hey, we have been together for three years at this point. And we are both in the same college and hope to get married soon.



\*\*\*

"So, kids, that is how I met your father," I say as Chris comes in from the farm and gives me a kiss on the cheek, and I put the journal down that I was reading from.

"She is not wrong, and I think it is time for you to help your father and let your mother cook us some dinner,"

"Nooo I want to hear more of the stories, please, Papa, please," Bruce protested as Chris started to pick him up. "Noo Papa you are tickling me."

# Minutes from the March school board meeting

Regular Board Meeting – March 24, 2025  
– 5:30 p.m. – High School Library, Delhi,  
Iowa

The regular meeting of the Maquoketa Valley Board of Education was called to order by President Donna Kunde at 5:52 p.m. in the High School Library in Delhi, Iowa. All motions carried unanimously unless otherwise noted.

Board Members Present –Feldmann, Kunde, Overman, Zietlow

Board Members Absent – Dabroski

Staff Present – Supt. Kim Huckstadt, Troy Osterhaus, Erika Vanderloop, Tiersa Frasher, Brenda Becker and Jackie Moorman

Visitors Present – Mike Putz and Mark Smith

Motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Zietlow to approve the meeting agenda as presented. All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Overman the consent items were approved. All ayes. Carried.

ISASP testing is scheduled for the week of April 7th for students in grades 3-11.

Two open enrollment requests in and one open enrollment request out were approved in a motion by Zietlow, seconded by Feldmann. All ayes. Carried.

The following personnel recommendations were approved in a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Overman:

Karen Burrow – resignation as Delhi Custodian

Parker Sternhagen – employed as Middle School Baseball Coach

Pat Meehan – resignation as High School Boys Track Coach

Greg Guetzko – employed as Delhi Custodian

Debra Pins – employed as Paraprofessional

Dan Cassutt – resignation as Middle School Boys Basketball Coach

Shelley Fiedler – resignation as Food Service

All ayes. Carried.

Language changes to the following board policies were reviewed:

102 Equal Education Opportunity

102.E2 Continuous Notice of Nondiscrimination

102.E3 Notice of Section 504 Student and Parental Rights

102.R1 Grievance Procedure

103 Long Range-Needs Assessment

501.09 Chronic Absenteeism and Truancy

Additionally, the following new board policies were also reviewed:

710.01R1 School Food Program- School Nutrition Program Civil Rights Complaints Procedure

710.1E1 School Nutrition Program Notices of Nondiscrimination

710.1E2 Child Nutrition Programs Civil Rights Complaint Form

In a motion by Zietlow, seconded by Overman the above-board policies were reviewed and approved on the first official reading. All ayes. Carried.

The Board approved the 2025-2026 AEA Cooperative Purchasing Agreement in a motion by Overman, seconded by Feldmann. All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Overman the Board approved the purchase of a 2022 Chrysler Pacifica in the amount of \$53,000 from Bridgeport Auto Sales in Maquoketa. All ayes. Carried.

The Board approved the out-of-state travel request from Ms. Lau for two students to attend the Washington Leadership Conference on June 16-21st in Washington D.C. All ayes. Carried.

Supt. Huckstadt hopes to bring the 2025-2026 school calendar to the April board meeting for approval. The District is currently waiting for the legislature to set the allowable start date for the 2025-2026 school year.

Supt. Huckstadt shared the FY26 preliminary overview of SAVE and PPEL projects and will request approval for these projects at our April meeting.

Supt. Huckstadt gave a brief legislative update.

The Dance Team will be selling coffee as an additional fundraiser for their program.

Supt. Huckstadt discussed 5-Star nominations. Further discussion will take place at the April meeting.

Donna Kunde and John Zietlow will serve on the March audit committee.

The April board meeting will be held on April 23rd.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m. in a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Dabroski. All ayes. Carried.

At 6:55 p.m. the Board entered an exempt session per Iowa Code 20.17(3) for Preparation for Collective Bargaining.

At 7:19 p.m. the Board adjourned the exempt session.

## 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!

## Comedy Corner

—compiled by Grace Richter

Here are some silly jokes to start off April!

Why did the scarecrow win an award?  
Because he was outstanding in his field!

I told my wife she was drawing her eyebrows too high. She looked surprised!

What do you call fake spaghetti? An impasta!

How does a penguin build its house?  
Igloos it together!

What do you call a bear with no teeth? A gummy bear!

# Brendin Frasher



**Activities involved in during high school:** FFA, Wrestling, Football

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** The activity that affected me the most was FFA because it gave me very unique opportunities and experiences that I will use in the future.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Take all of your mandatory credit classes the first three years

so you can have a more lenient schedule senior year.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** The small school and being able to know everyone around you

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** Tping every year

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** Advanced Construction

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Temple because she is always caring for her students and does her best to make sure you succeed.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** My most inspirational elementary teacher was Mrs. Gearhart because we had lots of fun in her class.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** When Kain Krogmann depantsed me in the library in 4th grade.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** Attend Kirkwood for Ag science

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

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "Livin' The Dream" by Morgan Wallen

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

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** When we had a very luxurious living room setup in the gravel lot freshman year

# Addison Vorwald



**Activities involved in during high school:**

Freshman-basketball, volleyball, softball  
Sophomore- basketball, volleyball, softball  
Junior-Softball and volleyball

Senior-Softball and track  
**Which activity affected you the most? How?** I would say softball affected me the most because it has taught me how to set goals and work hard to achieve these goals.

**What advice do you have**

**for freshmen?** My advice to freshmen would be to start working hard early. I didn't really care about my freshman year and it ruined my GPA. If I would've put in the work my freshman year, my GPA would be a lot higher now.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate how much the teachers care about you. If you ever needed help they were willing to help you if you asked.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would relive my freshman year because I feel as though I took it for granted and could've put in a lot more effort on my school work than what I did.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** The class I enjoyed most in high school was government with Mr. Cassutt. Yes, you had to put in the work to get good grades but it was more real life based than other classes.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** I would say my most inspirational high school teacher would be Ms. Droeszler. She always pushed me to work harder and was always willing to help me study if I needed to.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** My most inspirational elementary teacher was Mr. Helle. He always was able to make us laugh and made you actually want to be at school.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** My favorite elementary memory was when the boys pushed Alexis in the mud in her white coat and she started crying but we all laugh about it today.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** After high school I plan to attend NICC in Peosta to obtain my RN. After obtaining my RN I will transfer to Iowa to receive my BSN. After receiving my BSN I plan to work at the University of Iowa Children's hospital as an OB Nurse.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** My favorite school lunch is mandarin orange chicken.

**What song will always remind you of high school?** The song that reminds me of high school is "Fast" by Luke Bryan.

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** If I am not in school I am most likely spending time with my niece and nephew or in Marion practicing softball.

# Bianka Ronnebaum



**Activities involved in during high school:** While in high school I was involved in volleyball, basketball, cross country, FFA, 4-H, dairy judging, and dairy quiz bowl.

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** FFA affected me the most. I enjoyed all of the activities, competitions, trips, and the overall fun atmosphere.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Your grades do matter.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate how almost all teachers truly care about you and want what is best for you.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** If I could relive any moment, it would be my freshman year because it was the most fun year.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** All classes with Mrs. Temple. I enjoyed how she tried to make it a fun atmosphere no matter what.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Temple is my most inspirational teacher. She wants what is best for us and grades all of our assignments right away.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Besler was my third-grade teacher because she was real and made the class enjoyable.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** In elementary school throwing peas on the lunchroom floor and watching people step on them.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** I plan to attend Iowa State with a major in dairy science and see where that takes me.

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

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

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** If I am not in school I am most likely having fun with friends.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** Sneaking into the tunnels during freshman year.

# Alissa Bush



**Activities involved in during high school:** Band, choir, jazz band, large group speech, individual speech, golf

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** Speech, both large and individual. They have affected me the most because large group teaches you how to work as a team. Individual really challenges you to push yourself and makes you be confident and proud, even when you mess up.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Try something new. It may be intimidating at first, but trying something new helps you build character and relationships, and it creates so many memories.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate how much we have to offer here. From classes to extracurriculars, we have so many options for different areas of interest which really benefits and helps students find where they fit or belong.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** Golf freshman year: Emily Hogan vs the West Del. boys

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** I have enjoyed my science and history classes the most. These classes tend to be the ones to push me the most and this helps me stay engaged, focused, and wanting to learn more.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Mrs. DeVore because she always finds the best in her students and knows what they're capable of, even when they don't.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Bries. She was my first grade teacher and I don't think I could ever forget her. Her caring for her students and paying attention benefited me personally. I will forever be grateful for her.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** My favorite memories would have to be when we would all play kitchen in kindergarten together and everyone had their own little role.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** Hopefully earning my degree from the University of Iowa doing something I love. I inspire to have my own family and to hopefully achieve my goals.

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

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "The House That Built Me" by Miranda Lambert

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** I'm most likely at home with the daycare kiddos, working, or spending time with loved ones.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** Logan B's dance moves during the senior dance

# Taten Intorf



**Activities involved in during high school:** Football, basketball, track, baseball, and golf.

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** Football has affected me the most because I have learned so many life lessons from it. Although I have played other sports, football has affected me the most. I have also gained many friendships and made amazing memories while playing this sport.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Do not procrastinate and try new activities the school offers.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I love the close community and how much the teachers truly care about you.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would want to relive any playoff football game that we were in. I would love to play in them one more time.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** 60's America was my favorite class that I have taken. I wish it was a longer class because there is so much to learn about the 60's.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** I would say the most inspirational teacher is Mr. Cassutt. I had him for basketball, so I knew him outside of the classroom. But he is a great teacher and I like his motto, "Keep it simple."

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** My most inspirational teacher is Mrs. Gearhart because I always had a good time in her class. I also got in trouble in that class as well.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** My favorite memory is probably the recess we had in elementary school. I wish we could still have it.

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** I'm going to the University of Dubuque to play football. I am going to get a major in flight operations and a minor in aviation management. After that, I want to be a commercial pilot.

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

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "Love Lost" by Mac Miller or "The Spins" by Mac Miller

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** I am most likely at practice or a game. Other than that, I could be working or spending time with my family or girlfriend.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** Probably Tping because we had so much fun every year. I'm pretty sure every year at some point during the week, there was always a very large group that would somehow meet up to TP Mason Jolley's house.

# Kelsey Hoeger



**Activities involved in during high school:** FFA, Volleyball, Basketball, and Spanish Club

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** FFA has affected me the most because of the relationships I have made and the skills I have learned. Being involved in FFA has taught me how to be a good leader and step out of my comfort zone.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Get involved and don't be afraid to try new things. The

time goes faster than you think.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate the staff at Maquoketa Valley because they are always willing to help when you need it. They are there to help set you up for success.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would relive my National FFA Convention trip to Indianapolis during my Junior year because it was filled with laughter and I made great memories.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** Any of the ag classes. I have enjoyed horticulture classes in the greenhouse and animal science classes where we got to do dissections.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Temple. She takes a lot of pride in her job and is always there to help you out.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Mrs. George. She always had a positive attitude and made schoolwork enjoyable.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** Recess and the different games we played in P.E. class

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** I will be attending Iowa State University to major in Ag Communications with a minor in Ag Business.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** My favorite school lunch was the mashed potatoes with hamburger gravy.

**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 in school, I am most likely helping out on my family's dairy farm or hanging out with my family and cousins.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** It is hard to pick just one event as many memories were made during the past four years. If I had to choose, I would say all the activities and memories from homecoming and prom.



# Alexis Halverson



**Activities involved in during high school:** volleyball, basketball, cross country, FFA

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** Basketball because of the mind set it takes to be in practice every day and be ready to work right when you walk in the gym. I believe it is very physically demanding and a lot more time consuming than any other sport I've done. I feel like it's taught me many skills that I will

use in life beyond basketball.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** My advice to freshmen is to not take time for granted as it flies by.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** I appreciate the teachers and how much they care about the students.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would relive my junior year prom

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** Anatomy and Physiology

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Senorita because she's always there for me whenever I have a question or need to talk about something even if it's not Spanish related. She always offers good advice when needed as well.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** My most inspirational elementary teacher was Mrs. Dutra because she always made sure we had fun in class and always brought about new things for us to do/learn.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** Getting out of school due to COVID

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** Attend NICC for nursing and go work in the ICU for a year or two and then attend the CRNA program at Iowa and hopefully land a job in the operating room or emergency room as a CRNA

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "Time of our Lives" by Pitbull

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** Hanging out with my friends or boyfriend or walking my dogs. I also enjoy going shopping and working often.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** I hope we still talk about the fun times we had at prom both years. I also hope we talk about making it to state basketball our senior year.

# McKenna Bush



**Activities involved in during high school:** Cross Country, Track, Musical, Play, Large Group Speech, Individual Speech, Student Council, Band (all variations), and more.

**Which activity affected you the most? How?** I can't pick just one. Everything I have done has affected me in some way. Sports have taught me the value of hard work. I learned that you have to find some way to enjoy what you are doing, even on tough days. Fine arts

(band, speech, play, etc) have gotten me out of my comfort zone. Freshman year I was shy and didn't talk, but these activities have completely changed that.

**What advice do you have for freshmen?** Get involved and try new things. You might find something you enjoy that you didn't expect to. Also, if you ever don't understand something, don't be afraid to ask questions. There are a ton of people around that are more than willing to help you.

**What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley?** The teachers are always quick to help if you ever need anything. Even if you just need to rant to somebody, they are always willing to listen.

**If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why?** I would relive all the nights spent with friends after activities and events because those are memories that I never want to forget.

**What class have you enjoyed most in high school?** If I had to choose, AP physics or AP calculus, because the small class size made for deep connections with everyone else in the class. Although the classes themselves are tough, I have made fun memories of both, and I laugh when I think about them.

**Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why?** Mrs. DeVore because she pushed me out of my comfort zone. She gave me confidence in myself and encouraged me to try my hardest in everything I do. Also, she is fun to talk to and will listen if I ever just need to talk.

**Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why?** Mrs. Goldsmith because she helped to get me out of my comfort zone.

**What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory?** There are way too many to pick just one!

**What does your future (college and career) look like?** After working throughout the summer, I will attend Dordt University for secondary education.

**What's your favorite school lunch?** I haven't eaten school lunch in a long time, but mac and cheese with cinnamon rolls.

**What song will always remind you of high school?** "Unwritten" by Natasha Bedingfield

**When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing?** Working, exercising, or spending time with friends and family.

**What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion?** I hope we still talk about the fun memories from prom and homecomings, and all the memories from activities we were involved in.