

The Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Speech students excel at individual events contest

by Taylor Saunders

A couple of weeks ago our individual contest speech team traveled to Starmont High School for this year's state contest. It was quite the day. Leaving dark and early at 6:15 AM, we spent the majority of the day there from 7-4:30pm though we had an amazing time! All of our students' events did extremely well. We received 36 overall I ratings and 7 overall II ratings.

Abby Nieman: Poetry: I, I, I

Addie Wilson: Prose: I, I, I

Alissa Bush: Prose: I, I, I, Public Address: I, I, I

Arianna Nolan: Original Oratory: I, I, I, Expository Address: I, I, I

Ella Reicher: Spontaneous Speaking: II, II, I

Emily Hogan: Original Oratory: I, I, II, Public Address: I, I, I

Emily Rudd: Improv: II, II, II

Eva Mensen: Storytelling: II, I, I

Jeanie Teymer: Expository Address: I, I, I

Jocelyn Kelchen: Poetry: I, I, I

Joellen Beitz: Expository Address: I, Literary Program: I, I, I

Lena Lewin: Literary Program: II, II, II

Lucy Hucker: Reviewing: I, I, I

Lylah Billmeyer: Storytelling: I, I, I

MaryEllen Smith: Prose: I, I, II,

Matthew Schaul: Spontaneous Speaking: II, II, I

Maya Smith: Original Oratory: I, I, I, Public Address: I, I, I

McKenna Bush: After Dinner: I, I, I, Reviewing: I, I, I

Morgan Clemen: Acting: I, I, I, Storytelling: I, I, I

Nicholas Otting: Poetry: I, I, I

Ollie Hunter: Solo Musical Theatre: I, II, I

Owen Smith: Expository Address: II, I, II

Preston Salow: Improv: II, II, II

Rylee Reed: Poetry: I, I, I

Ruby Recker: Storytelling: I, I, II

Sam Howes: Prose: I, I, II

Sebastian Charles: Spontaneous Speaking: I, II, II, Literary Program: I, I, II

Sellah Ambundo: Poetry: I, I, I, Solo Musical Theatre: I, I, I

Taylor Saunders: Reviewing: I, I, I

Tommie Cole: Poetry: I, I, I, Reviewing: I, I, I

Trish Diektker: Prose: I, I, II

Tristen Flanagan: Radio News: I, I, I, Improv: I, I, I

The following Monday evening, All-State nominations were released. We all waited anxiously for the document. The following individuals were nominated and will be traveling to UNI on March 31st to get their recognition as well as an additional chance to perform in front of a large audience and expert critic.

Arianna Nolan: Expository Address

Jeanie Teymer: Expository Address

Tristen Flanagan: Radio News Announcing

Lylah Billmeyer: Storytelling

Congratulations to those who were nominated. Everyone who participated in individual contest speech this year should be very proud of themselves. Thank you to all of our coaches and staff who continue to support us. As always, Go Cats!

Fine arts update



The Parade of Bands concert was held Mar. 4.



Music fans were in for great treats at MV's Got Talent Feb. 28. Along with soloists, small groups, the jazz band, and vocal jazz groups performing, a group of teachers also shared their vocal talents.

Sports Connection

Catching up with basketball



The Wildcats represented the black and gold with class Mar. 5 at the girls state basketball tournament. They put up a good battle but fell 53-47 to Regina Catholic.

"I can't begin to tell you how proud I am of this team," stated Coach Moenck. "They played great and fought hard on the biggest stage in the state. We showed and proved why we are one of the top teams

in the state. We gave ourselves so many chances; we just couldn't get shots to fall for us. The girls adjusted well throughout the game, we rebounded very well, and we got the shots we wanted. This team accomplished so many wonderful things throughout the season. They set the bar high at the beginning of the season, they just came up a couple of games short of winning a state title. There is so much to celebrate. To win

a Conference Title, win a Regional Title, and get to the State Tournament shows you how much all of these girls bought in. I am so proud of them. We will miss our five seniors. They all have done so much for this program. They led us every step of the way. They continued to lay the path of success just like so many others have done before them.

More basketball honors

Bianka Ronnebaum:

All-District IBCA and IGCA
1st Team All-State IGCA
1st Team All-State Iowa Print Sports Writers Association

Audra Burbridge

All-District IBCA and IGCA
3rd Team All-State IGCA
3rd Team All-State Iowa Print Sports Writers Association

Brady Wall

2nd Team All-State Iowa Print Sports Writers Association

Coach Moenck: Tri-Rivers West Coach of the Year

Pat Sabers was recognized at the girls state basketball tournament as MV's recipient of the Sportsmanship Award. Each school select an adult from their community who exemplifies good sportsmanship and proper decorum. Many MV athletes had the pleasure of working with Coach Sabers in youth programs.



Spring sports coming soon to a course or field near you

Boys golf

Coach Conner returns for a second year as the boys golf coach, and with him return several key golfers. Those golfers who will likely compete for the varsity team early on include juniors Zach Leytem, Anderson Holtz and Lukas Chesnut; sophomores Trevor Grimm and Eli Dougherty; and senior Tyler Mineart.

"Having only graduated one senior last year, we have a lot of experience returning to this year's team," noted Coach Conner. "We showed a lot of growth throughout last season and gained some confidence as we advanced through the Sectional Meet and were able to play in a District Meet. Our golfers put in a lot of hard work this summer to improve their games and I am excited to see how the season plays out for them."



Seniors on the boys golf team include Brayden Bjorkgren, Logan Beaman, Tate Intorf, Sebastian Charles, Robert Brown, Daniel Glass and Logan Clemen.

Girls track

Coach Dunlap and crew have seen some success at the indoor meets this year, and now they're gearing up for another successful outdoor season.

The team returns several athletes who competed at the state meet last year:

- Senior Lili Bauers: Multi-year state qualifier and runner up in the 2024 1A sprint medley, 8th in the Distance Med,
- Senior Izzy Heffernan: Multi-year qualifier and 8th in the Distance Medley relay
- Junior Lanni Beaman: Multi-year qualifier 6th in the 400m dash, 8th in the 4x100, 3rd in the 4x400 and Runner up in the Sprint med
- Junior Taryn Burbridge: Multi-year qualifier 8th in the Distance Medley, 3rd in the 4x400 and runner up in the Sprint medley
- Sophomore Camryn Paris: 3rd in the 4x4 relay, 8th in the distance medley, 8th in the 4x100m relay
- Sophomore Lilly Kraft: 8th in the 4x100m relay

Several other athletes will also score some points for the team, including junior Macee Nolan in shot and disc, sophomore Emma Brockhohn in hurdles and



Senior girls on the track team are McKenna Bush, Jordan Hatfield, Izzy Heffernan, Addie Vorwald and Lili Bauers.

long jump, sophomore Breanna McShane as a mid-distance runner, sophomore McKenna Mineart in hurdles and as a mid-distance runner and sophomore Sellah Ambundo in shot and disc.

Coach Dunlap also expects to see some help for the team from senior McKenna Bush as a distance runner, sophomore Alaina Mead as a high jumper and sprinter, freshmen Taylor Salow as a high jumper and mid distance runner and Audra Burbridge as a mid distance runner.

"This year we will have the most depth and will be the most well-rounded team I have ever coached," commented Coach Dunlap. "We will have a large group of mid-distance athletes a few true distance athletes and a good-sized group of sprinters. We will also have a large group of field event athletes. We should have a large enough team to field almost all the events and will be able to compete well in most. My concerns are just trying to get the younger athletes in a position where they can help this team in competition. We have a fantastic group of older athletes that are great leaders. I hope this team will coalesce quickly."

Girls golf

Coach Keith Zietlow returns for his second year as the girls golf coach, and he has a strong crew to work with.

Returning letter winners include seniors Isabella Mensen and Ella Wulfekuhle, juniors Maya Smith and Morgan Clemen and sophomore Ever Botos. Coach Zietlow has noticed strong potential in freshmen Eva Mensen and Olivia Begle and junior Macee Nolan.

"Our strength this year will be that the majority of the team played in multiple varsity meets last year," stated Coach Zietlow. "That experience will be beneficial as we advanced to Regional Finals last year. As with any team/player, consistency is something that always needs improving. With losing our top two performers, we will be looking for who will step up this year and



Isabella Mensen, Ella Wulfekuhle and Alissa Bush are the seniors on the girls golf team.

be our 1 & 2 player.

"I'm really excited for the 2025 season. After losing my top two golfers to graduation, I wasn't sure who was going to step up. After not even two weeks of practice Ella Wulfekuhle, Maya Smith and Morgan Clemen have all shot personal bests with two of them breaking 50. The rest of the team has improved from last year as well. The hard work over the summer already shows.

"At the beginning of the season we were standing in the high school gym as a team and I told them that every time I'm in here I look at all the team conference champs over the years and there is one sport where Maquoketa Valley has not won either a boys or girls conference title. Golf. I want to change that. I take pride in being a part of the 2001 MV boys basketball conference championship team and seeing that year on the board. My goal is to coach, continue to build and lead this program for years to come."

Boys track

Seniors Matthew Schaul, Brady Eike and Arion Rave will provide leadership for this team.

The team also returns some state qualifiers: Kenyon Baker, DaShawn Strickland, Eli Dougherty, Kash Hunt, Macoy Stone and Brady Wall along with Schaul and Rave.



Seniors on the boys track team include Matthew Schaul, Arion Rave and Brady Eike.

Dance team celebrates end of season with Strut Your Stuff and team awards

Last Saturday was a big day for the dance team as they performed several of their routines and showcased their work with the elementary students who performed their dances.

Following Strut Your Stuff, the team ended the season with celebrating the seniors and handing out awards.

Coaches Pick: What would we do without you? Tess Intorf

Super Seniors: Isabella Mensen / Clairra Gray / Tierra Morgan

Heart of the Team: Clairra Gray

Talented Technique: Tess Intorf,

Choreo Queen: Tess Intorf,

State Superstar: Tess Intorf

Most Improved: Lilly Kraft, Alaina Leytem, Cheyenne Eike

Sensation Senior: Tierra Morgan, Isabella Mensen

Super Sophomore: Natalie Ries, Cheyenne Eike, Tess Intorf

Most Dedicated: Cheyenne Eike, Isabella Mensen, Natalie Ries, Tierra Morgan, Clairra Gray

ra Gray

Awesome Attitude Award: Alaina Leytem, Natalie Ries, Cheyenne Eike

Fantastic Facials: Isabella Mensen, Cheyenne Eike, Tess Intorf, Emma Brockhohn

Most Encouraging: Alaina Leytem

Dance Clown: Alaina Leytem, Tierra Morgan, Taylor Salow

Sassy but Classy: Isabella Mensen, Emma Brockhohn, Cheyenne Eike

Everyone's BFF: Clairra Gray

Athlete of the Week

Name: Taylor Salow

What do you enjoy most about track? I enjoy winning and the teammates!

What do you think your best event will be?

I think my best event will be High Jump.

What life lessons have you learned through track? I

have learned to try harder in practice because it makes you better.

What's the hardest part of practice? The hardest part is probably the running.

Who is your track role model? Audra Burbridge!



Dance team members pose with their letters. Not pictured: Tessa Intorf and Taylor Salow



Fantasy Fiction: Trouble in Therapy

We left off in our last installment, Elizabeth and Chris are having car problems, and her father is now on the way.

by Abby Nieman

We waited in the pickup for a few minutes. Dad and another person came from the end of the alley. Chris hopped out, and I followed a second later.

"You going to take your girlfriend to the farm?" Mr. Martinez said, not knowing I was coming from the other side of the pickup.

"Dad! She is not my girlfriend but just a really good friend," Chris replied. I know he did not know it, but that comment hurt.

"Yeah right. I see how she looks at you. She likes you, kid. You should act on it if you do too," my dad said, still not knowing that I was on the other side of the pickup.

"Kid, I know that you like her too. You are both very obvious," Mr. Martinez said with a playful tone.

"Okay, I do like her, but how do

you know she likes me?" Chris asked.

I thought this would be a good time to come out from behind the pickup but when Dad started to talk I changed my mind. "When I am home, you are the only other thing she talks about other than the thing that is causing her problems. You know, kid, she has never had as good of a friend as you."

"You really think that, Mr. Willson?"

"Yes, kiddo, I do. I have seen her all her life and nothing has compared to you and her relationship that you have. Don't let it go to waste, and you have my full permission to be her boyfriend. Where is she?"

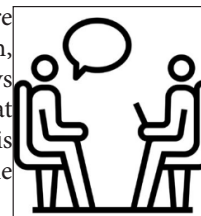
'Dad approves of him. This is great and he likes me too!' I thought as I walked from behind the pickup.

"Well, let's get these pickups started, shall we?" Dad asked, walking toward Chris's pickup. "When you turned it off, did you make sure the battery was off and not left on?"

"Yes, I did. There were no lights on the dash, and I had the keys with me when I was at group therapy," Chris responded, pulling the keys out of his pocket.

"Okay, the battery should not be dead but... the device is reading that there is no juice left in it. That is weird. Liam, can you pop your hood for me?" Dad asked taking the device off of Chris's pickup's battery. Mr. Martinez popped his hood and opened it, "This is indeed weird. Have you had this happen before?"

"No, we have not. They have run great since we got them. I do not know why they would be doing this," Mr. Martinez replied.



Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Arianna Nolan

What event did you qualify for All-State in? I qualified for my Expository Address.

What do you enjoy most about this category?

What I enjoy most about expos is the chance to educate people on something new through conversational tone, while still keeping it professional. The visual aids that we are able to use also enhance the speech and help keep the attention of the audience throughout the whole speech.

What have you learned through this event? I have learned how to be more natural when doing public speaking and how to embrace self confidence.

What other category would you like to try next year? Another category that I would like to try next year is Reviewing!



Name: Lylah Billmeyer

What event did you qualify for All-State in? I qualified for storytelling

What do you enjoy most about this category?

I get to make others laugh and I love acting the story out.

What have you learned through this event?

Throughout the individual season, I've learned that the only thing that can slow you down is yourself. If you believe in yourself and if you're confident it's going to take you far.

What other category would you like to try next year? Next year I will continue to do storytelling but I'd like to try acting.



Prom tickets go on sale Friday. Tickets are \$20 each. If they have an out of district date they need to stop at the office and get a permission form ASAP. Post Prom contracts are also available.

FFA is back in the swing of it



Several FFA members attended a luncheon and career fair last week in Manchester. The event was sponsored by the Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce and Delaware County Economic Development. Participants had the opportunity to hear Iowa Farm Bureau President Brent Johnson and were able to network with Delaware County businesses during the morning career fair.

by Natalie Ries, FFA Reporter

Maquoketa Valley FFA is back and ready to go. The FFA chapter started with spring CDE's back in February and continued into March with the district competition. Many talented members will travel to Ames in the middle of April to compete at the state level contest in many different categories.

For the March contest that was held at the Waterloo Career Center on March 9th the results are as follow: 8th grade Ag Impact team received a gold rating, 2nd place finished and moved on to the state level, Abby Nieman participated in creed speaking receiving a gold rating, in the category of ag broadcasting McKayla Weber received a silver rating, Natalie Ries participated in chapter website and making finals Natalie received a silver rating, Reporters Scrapbook was finished by Natalie Ries and also received a silver rating, Karly Kerch received a bronze with her job interview CDE. McKenna Mineart, Tracy Reth, and Olivia Ronnebaum tested their knowledge in the chapter test, Tracy and Olivia were the top two chapter test takers for the Maquoketa Valley FFA chapter with Tracy Reth moving onto the state level to take this test once again. 12 members took the Greenhand test such as Morgan Hoeger and Alison Schulte that placed the highest in the chapter and earned their places at state convention. Other Greenhand test takers included Aidan Frasher, Mason

Domeyer, Teagan Langel, Kayla Hoeger, Khloe Glew, Shanahan Smith, Trent Timmer, Gracie Palmersheim, Kael Engelken, and Rahlyn Davis.

Members are now getting excited for the state convention that will be held April 13-15. Members are participating in a variety of events such as team ag sales, poultry judging, ag biotech, ag communications, farm business management, marketing plan, ag impact, and many members receiving their Iowa degree and proficiency awards.



Brendin Frasher waters some plants in the greenhouse. The FFA will open the greenhouse to the public May 1.

Jaelyn's Journeys Night of Jazz: A night of MV talent

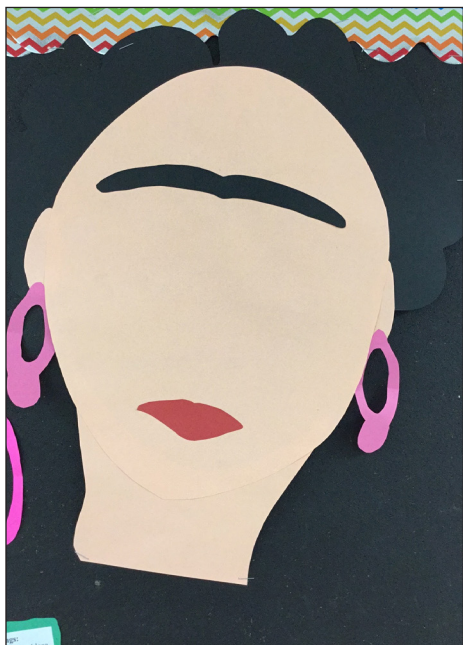


photo by Jaelyn Butikofer

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! Last week's photo was of Mr. Osterhaus in the cafeteria.

Student of the Week

Caden Ries

You recently won an award for Exemplary Employee from the Dairy Promoters for your outstanding work ethic. What kind of work do you do for your employer? I help on a dairy farm where I milk and take care of cattle.

How do you think you developed your work ethic? The people I have worked for and worked with are the biggest part of how I developed a work ethic.

What have you learned about having a job through your current work experience? I have learned a job helps you become more responsible.



Jazz was in the air Tuesday night as the jazz bands, both middle school and high school, and vocal jazz groups along with some soloists showcased their talents. Above: Owen Boring is accompanied by Sebastian Charles, Shane Wright and Mr. Ford. Below: Jocelyn Kelchen sings a solo. (photos by Kien Leppert)



Cutie



by Alaina Mead

What a happy cutie! This cutie lives in Hopkinton and is a sophomore. She is the oldest kid and has one younger brother. She is also involved in Volleyball, Dance team and Speech. A fun fact about her is that her favorite colors blue!

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Caden Ries



Activities involved in during high school: Football, FFA

Which activity affected you the most? How? FFA because it allowed me to meet a lot of new people.

What advice do you have for freshmen? Hammer down

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The teachers because they are always

willing to help you out all the time.

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

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

Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why? Mr. Kurt Palmer because he has never been off 1/32 of an inch—just ask him.

Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why? Mrs. Mesch, my kindergarten teacher, Because she was strict. But most underclassmen don't know her because she retired quickly after my class. I'm pretty sure Caden Ronnebaum, Kain Krogmann and I might have helped her in the retirement process.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Getting in trouble for bending spoons and forks in kindergarten.

What does your future (college and career) look like? Attend Northwest Iowa Community College

What's your favorite school lunch? Chicken tetrazzini

What song will always remind you of high school? "Where the Wild Things Are"

When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing? Cooking food

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? When fellow students decided to make the gravel parking lot a living room

Nathan Beitz



Activities involved in during high school: Football 4 years, Wrestling 4 years, track and field 1 year, baseball 1 year, FFA 4 years

Which activity affected you the most? How? Wrestling because of the life lessons it teaches you.

What advice do you have for freshmen? Try your best and get involved.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The teachers care so much about everyone.

If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why? The summers with friends because the time flies.

What class have you enjoyed most in high school? Shop classes and Ag classes

Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why? Mrs. Montz because she is the best.

Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Mr. Helle

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Youth sports

What does your future (college and career) look like? NICC for beef science. Then most likely an electrician.

What's your favorite school lunch? BBQ pork

What song will always remind you of high school? "Where the Wild Things Are"

When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing? Working on my family's farm.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? All the sports teams that were good.

Ava Goldsmith



Activities involved in during high school: I was in band for all 4 years. Cheer my sophomore year. Community League Soccer freshman year.

Which activity affected you the most? How? Band had the greatest impact on me. Band had taught me dedication, teamwork, and commitment. Also it taught me how to have fun in stressful situations.

What advice do you have for freshmen? Learning is

important. Don't take it for granted.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The academics and the teachers care about the students.

If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why? The time spent with my lunch group last half of junior year. We sat in the corner in the hallway by the band room. It was Lacey Barry, Arie Taylor, Aubrey Knock, Lauren Knock, and I. We always had the best talks, and they never failed to put a smile on my face.

What class have you enjoyed most in high school? Mr. Dunlap's ceramic class was my favorite. I loved all the creating we got to do.

Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why? Mrs. Downs. She's an amazing role model. Mrs. Downs can do practically anything; she's strong, independent, hardworking, and so much more. Also, she always has the best advice.

Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why? Mrs. Bries. She was so sweet and made every student feel loved and special.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Study hall with Mrs. Bawek. She was so much fun to talk to.

What does your future (college and career) look like? I am planning on attending NICC, not quite sure what for yet.

What's your favorite school lunch? I brought my own lunch most of the time, but the pizza was probably my favorite.

What song will always remind you of high school? "Stronger" by Kelly Clarkson

When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing? Working, spending time outside, or hanging out with friends.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? I will not be attending the five year reunion.

Arion Rave



Activities involved in during high school: Football, cross country, wrestling, track

Which activity affected you the most? How? Wrestling, it made me mentally and physically stronger.

What advice do you have for freshmen? Listen to teachers and just get your stuff done. You don't have to worry about school a lot. Just get your stuff done and go on with what you want.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The good environment. You know almost everyone, and it's a safe place.

If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why? Senior year football because it was a lot of fun, and I learned a lot from it.

What class have you enjoyed most in high school? Government or Earth science

Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why? Mrs. Downs, because she's always talking about the real world and she teaches you things you need for the real world. It's actual stuff you will need to know how to do, and it helps you a lot think about what you want to do when out of high school

Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why? Mr. Helle because he made every day fun and a good day.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? When I had to get nose surgery from breaking it. I came to school with a big cast on and looked dumb. But it was funny because we still joke about it today.

What does your future (college and career) look like? I will be getting my CDL and working for Cramer construction.

What's your favorite school lunch? Mr. Rib or pulled pork

What song will always remind you of high school? "Young, Dumb and Broke" by Khalid

When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing? Sitting in bed or working on a vehicle

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? I'm not sure. There are a lot of good memories

Nicholas Otting



Activities involved in during high school: Speech for two years and Golf for three years.

Which activity affected you the most? How? Speech because I got a lot of new experiences from speech and got closer to more people than I would normally talk to.

What advice do you have for freshmen? Do not procrastinate, for one, and have fun while you can

because when I was a freshman, I didn't have much fun which led me down a dark hole.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The fact that our teachers care so much about us and that they will help you throughout your journey in high school.

If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why? The pie incident (if you know you know)

What class have you enjoyed most in high school? AP Physics

Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why? It would be Mrs. Besler because of how much she has helped me in Physics along with the others.

Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why? Mrs. George because she was hands down the BEST teacher in elementary school. In middle school, it would be Mr. Cassutt because he was very influential to me.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? As of right now, I don't know because I have the memory of a goldfish.

What does your future (college and career) look like? I'll go to NICC and then transfer to UNI for accounting for my job.

What's your favorite school lunch? Orange Chicken

When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing? Playing video games.

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

Sebastian Charles



Activities involved in during high school: Band, choir, golf, cross country, musical, large group speech, individual speech, jazz band, smooth harmony, marching band.

Which activity affected you the most? How? Contest speech has had a great influence on me. I've only participated in contest speech as a junior and senior; however, the experiences and lessons I've learned have greatly impacted me in numerous positive ways.

What advice do you have for freshmen? Try new things and get involved with school

activities!

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? I appreciate the staff at Maquoketa Valley the most. Each staff member wants to see every student succeed and be happy. Our staff and community members have put so much time and effort into Maquoketa Valley which has made our school as great as possible.

If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why? The rides for Smooth Harmony and speech events.

What class have you enjoyed most in high school? My favorite class has been AP physics.

Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why? My most inspirational high school teachers have been both Mr. and Mrs. DeVore as they have taught me many critical skills in life. For example, they have shown me that with perseverance and hard work, anything can be accomplished.

Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher?

Why? Mrs. Goldsmith has been my most inspirational teacher when I was in elementary school. I came to MV when I was in fifth grade and Mrs. Goldsmith gave me a warm welcome and helped me adapt to this new environment. She has been one of my favorite teachers that I've ever had.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? My favorite elementary school memory is when we grew plants in science class with Mrs. Goldsmith and I used wet paper towels as my "soil." My plant surprisingly grew tall.

What does your future (college and career) look like? I'm not quite sure what my future holds for me. However, while ruminating about my future I have sketched a rough idea of what I want to do. I want to attend college in-state and be happy with whatever career I decide to pursue.

What's your favorite school lunch? Any lunch that has a Martin Brother cookie included. I have enjoyed the orange chicken, pizza with breadsticks, chili with cinnamon rolls, as well as tacos.

What song will always remind you of high school? The songs that will remind me of high school will be "Industry Baby" and Royal Otis's cover of "Linger."

When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing? I am most likely at work, doing my homework, at an extracurricular activity, or hanging out with friends.

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? I hope my friends will talk about the fires and times we hangout after school events and on the weekends. These were some of my favorite memories during high school!

Kayla Flanagan



Activities involved in during high school: FFA and Large Group Speech

Which activity affected you the most? How? Large Group Speech affected me the most because it taught me how to be more outgoing.

What advice do you have for freshmen? Get your work done right away, and you will have plenty of time to relax.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The thing I appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley is that almost everyone gets along.

If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be? I would relive the laughs I had in sophomore year lunch.

What class have you enjoyed most in high school? Spanish and my science classes.

Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why? Ms. Droszler because she made me more passionate about science. I like how she always checks in to see how you are doing.

Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why? My kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Hess. She was super kind, and I always had fun in her class.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? Playing with the parachute in PE.

What does your future (college and career) look like? I will either go to the University of Dubuque or UNI, to pursue a career as a physician assistant.

What's your favorite school lunch? Macaroni and cheese

What song will always remind you of high school? The song they play at football games, the Wildcat fight song.

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

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? Any funny moments we had in class.

Izabella Heffernan



Activities involved in during high school: Softball, Track, Large group speech

Which activity affected you the most? How? Track and field has affected me the most because I have been able to make more connections with underclassmen and when I was an underclassman, track helped me connect with the older girls.

What advice do you have for freshmen? My advice to freshmen is to be

friends with everyone. Don't let certain people ruin that for you.

What do you appreciate most about Maquoketa Valley? The thing that I appreciate most about MV is the staff — all of my teachers, coaches, and other staff members.

If you could relive any moment in high school, what would it be and why? Probably any of the pep rallies for homecoming, I don't think I will ever get to experience anything like that again.

What class have you enjoyed most in high school? The class that I have enjoyed the most has been Fashion Design. The field trip was lots of fun.

Who is your most inspirational high school teacher? Why? Mr. Dunlap, because he is always kind to everyone and he doesn't pick favorites like a lot of the teachers do.

Who is your most inspirational elementary or middle school teacher? Why? My kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Hess because even now, 12 years later, she still remembers all of her students and she seems to care about us.

What is a favorite elementary/middle school memory? My favorite middle school memory was the last day of 6th grade. We had a slip and slide at school, and we got to shoot water balloons at Mr. Swisher.

What does your future (college and career) look like? I plan on going to Kirkwood to get an associate's degree. Beyond that, my plans are undecided.

What's your favorite school lunch? Pizza

What song will always remind you of high school? "Kids" by MGMT

When you're not in school, what are you most likely doing? Working or having fun with my friends

What event from high school do you hope your classmates still talk about at your five-year class reunion? Our senior dance and Logan Beaman shaking his butt for the whole crowd