

The Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Students learn more about manufacturing careers



Several MV students participated in the Dyersville Area Manufacturing Day recently. Students visited Lumber Specialties, Digga, APC, Forged Authority and BARD Materials. After the tours the students visited multiple different businesses to ask questions about career opportunities.

Dancers put solo skills to the test, Salow advances

On October 23-24, more than 940 soloists are competing across two host communities, Newton and Pella, for the IS-DTA State Solo Qualifier.

Maquoketa Valley had four students performing solos: Emma Brockhohn, Alaina Mead, Taylor Salow and Tess Intorf. All four dancers competed yesterday at Pella Jefferson Intermediate.

Dana Andrea, Executive Director Iowa State Dance/Drill Team Association stated, "It's a great reflection of how far dance in Iowa has come and the dedication of our dancers, coaches, and families."

Solo routines are evaluated by professional judges from across the United States. The top ten soloists in each class will advance to the State Finals, held December 3-4 at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines. Last year three Maquoketa Valley dancers advanced on.

This year sophomore Taylor Salow has qualified for the second time for the State Finals by making the top ten. Alaina and Tessa earned a division I rating.



Maquoketa Valley dancers who competed at the state solo competition are Emma Brockhohn, Alaina Mead, Taylor Salow and Tessa Intorf.

DeVores inducted into IHSSA Hall of Fame

Mrs. and Mr. DeVore were inducted into the Iowa High School Speech Association's Hall of Fame earlier this month. The DeVores have led speech programs at MV and their previous schools for over two decades. They have also taken on various leadership roles with the IHSSA.



Specials this Week:

Pumpkin Bars



Halloween Sugar Cookies



~NEW!~

Boba Pearls



~Fall Flavors Now Available~

Ries earns teacher honor

Srta. Ries has been named one of the nine outstanding Iowa K-12 teachers who have been selected as the 2026 Iowa Regional Teachers of the Year. She represents the Keystone region. She is now a finalist for the 2026 Iowa Teacher of the Year award. ¡Felicitaciones!



Comedy Corner

—compiled by Grace Richter
Happy Friday, Wildcats! Here are some silly jokes to end the week!

Why don't scientists trust atoms? Because they make up everything!

What do you call a lazy kangaroo? Pouch potato!

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

Why did the bicycle fall over? Because it was too tired!

Sports Connection

Wildcats get big win over Bucs on senior night

by Maya Smith

Last Friday, it was senior night. Before the game, seniors were celebrated.

This year's football team includes 10 seniors: Lukas Chesnut, Ford Domeyer, Anderson Holtz, Kash Hunt, Dylan Knipper, Preston Salow, Colin Smith, Macoy Stone, DaShawn Strickland, and Brady Wall

After, our Wildcats geared up to take on East Buchanan. These seniors took senior night to heart and destroyed the Buccaneers. The ending score was Wildcats 59, Buccaneers, 0.

Coach Christensen comments: "It was great to have our seniors last home game be like that. It is a group of 10 young men that have done everything the right way to get to where they are today, and I think everyone from MV should be proud of that senior class. I thought it was our best game of the year when it comes to execution, we had very few mistakes on the night. It was also great to see Brady back throwing the ball a bit, we will need that as we move into the playoffs."

Here are some game stats:

Passing: Brady Wall, 70 yards, 2 TDs; Trevor Grimm, 38, 1 TD

Rushing: Macoy Stone, 79 yards, 1 TD; Dylan Knipper, 54 yards, 1 TD;

Brady Wall, 50 yards, 1 TD

Receiving: Anderson Holtz, 85 yards, 3 TDs

Defense: Dylan Knipper, 6 tackles, 3 solo; Kipton Thompson, 5 tackles, 4 solo

Kicking: Eli Dougherty, 519 yards, 10 Kick offs, 1 FG, 8 PAT

Interceptions: Brady Wall, 1 INT, 40 yards, 1 TD; Brayden Schuster, 1 INT, 31 yards, 1 TD

In terms of tonight's game, Christen comments: "I'm excited where this team is as we head to Danville to start the postseason. I think we are just focusing on being our best in practice this week, they



Seniors Lukas Chesnut Dylan Knipper, Anderson Holtz, Kash Hunt, Ford Domeyer, Preston Salow, Macoy Stone, DaShawn Strickland, Colin Smith and Brady Wall pose after playing their final game on MV's field.

don't have a unique offense to defend, their defense is a little bit different, but with practice I think our offense will be successful. I don't think there are any specific key

players this week, every week it seems like someone different steps up to help the team be successful."



The cheerleaders performed with the band Friday. Additionally, they survived the rain as they also hosted their youth cheer camp performance.

Burbridge, Baker qualify for state meet

Audra Burbridge has punched her ticket to state cross country for the second year in a row as she finished fifth with a time of 20:20.5. The girls team finished third, one place out of qualifying as a team.

Other times and places for the girls include:

Taryn Burbridge: 21:38.9, 15th
 Anna Feldmann: 21:54.3 (PR), 18th
 Breanna Bush: 22:51.6 (SB), 28th
 Rylee Reed: 24:52.3 (PR), 47th
 Kourtney Hatfield: 26:03.2, 56th
 Haydin Flannagan: 26:38.8, 60th

And not to be outdone by Audra, Kenyon Baker has also qualified as an individual for the second year in a row. He finished fifth in 17:33.5. The team finished eighth overall.

Other scores for the boys are:
 Owen Smith: 18:07.7 (PR), 14th



Jayden Schwandt: 20:49.0, 48th
 Colt Haas: 23:37.0 (PR), 75th
 Gabriel Saunders: 23:43.9 (SB), 78th

Kenyon and Audra will run at the state meet in Fort Dodge Nov. 1.

what's up?

by Grace Richter

What's your favorite cereal?

Lanni Beaman: Raisin Brand
 Morgan Clemen: Froot Loops
 Keely Recker: Froot Loops
 Teagan Monk: Cheerios
 Anderson Holtz: Fruity Pebbles
 Meleah Burr: Fruity Pebbles
 Lainey Deutmeyer: Reese's Puffs
 Preston Salow: Fruity Pebbles
 Lexi Ries: Honey Nut Cheerios

All State auditions approach

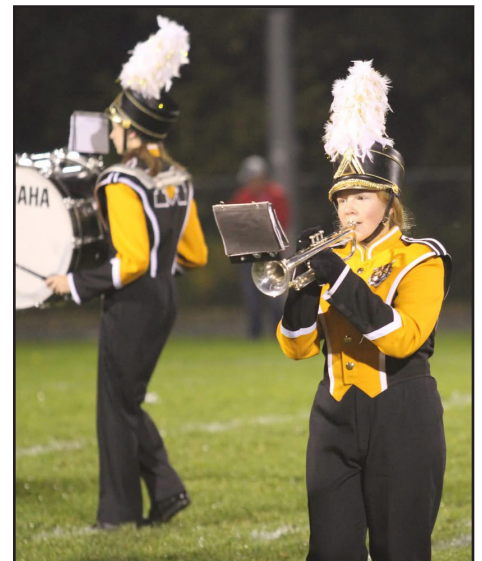
The music rooms have been abuzz with students preparing for their auditions to join the elite of the elite musicians in Iowa in the All-State Choir, Band and Orchestra.

Ollie Hunter and Arianna Nolan are auditioning for the All-State Chorus

The following instrumentalists have been rehearsing etudes and practicing scales: Olivia Begle - Flute; Abby Nieman - Flute; Ryleigh Moriarity - Clarinet; Colt Haas - Tenor Saxophone; and Maya Smith - Trombone.

Auditions are tomorrow at Independence High School. If selected, they will participate in the All State Festival in November.

The show must go on



The marching band wrapped up its season Friday night at the final home game. The rain at half-time did not deter the band.

Volleyball gets win over Northeast



Fans came out to support the volleyball team Wednesday night and even brought ESPN with them. Lukas Chesnut, Preston Salow, Mrs. Montz and Kash Hunt partain in some game analysis.

by Natalie Ries

The Wildcats took on more competition last week against Ed-Co and Prince of Peace. The Wildcats took the victory over Prince of Peace (19-21, 12-21) and fell short to Ed-Co (22-25, 13-25).

Macee Nolan led the Wildcats in assists with 17 assists Camryn Paris followed with one assist. Paris and Lanni Beaman both had 5 kills against the Irish to help the Wildcats. Paris was on the net once again with three solo blocks. Grace Richter

was at work in the back row with 10 digs. Beaman did not let many serves go to waste and had 12 successful serves.

State play is now in action for the Wildcats and this past Wednesday night the Wildcats hosted Northeast and secured the 3-2 win with sets going to 27-25, 25-23, 19-25, 21-25 and 15-9. The Wildcats will now play at Beckman on Monday at 7 pm to see if they can move on to the Regional championship.

Best Buds



**Anna Feldmann and Jaxyn Weber
by Kayla Hoeger**

How did the two of you meet?
We met in little league softball.

**What is your favorite memory you have
with each other?**
When we went to Wisconsin Dells

What song best describes your friends?
Anna: "California Girls" by Katy Perry
Jaxyn: "Cowgirls" by Morgan Wallen

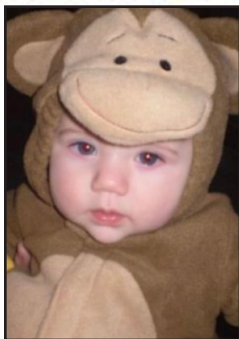
**What do you admire most about your
friend?**
Anna: She is very determined.
Jaxyn: She is pretty funny.

**Where do you see each other in the
future?**
Anna: I see Jaxyn doing early childhood.
Jaxyn: I see Anna in the veterinarian or
medical field.

Cutie

by Kayla Hoeger

This little cutie is a sophomore from Delhi. He is involved in football, wrestling, and baseball. A fun fact about him is that his dad owns a restaurant. The first to correctly answer the



cutie to Mrs. Temple will receive a prize from her prize box! *Last week's cutie was Aubrie Althoff.*

October School Board Meeting Minutes

Regular Board Meeting – October 20, 2025
– 5:30 p.m. – Earlville Elementary Library,
Earlville, Iowa

Board Members Present – Dabroski, Feldmann, Kunde, Overman, Zietlow
Board Members Absent – None
Staff Present – Supt. Troy Osterhaus, Brenda Becker, Brian Mangold, Tiersa Frasher, Jackie Moorman, Erika Vanderloop and Jill Hoeger
Visitors Present – Mike Putz, Lance Smeins and Mark Smith

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

Motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Overman to approve the consent items. All ayes. Carried.

Ten open enrollment requests out were approved in a motion by Overman, seconded by Feldmann. All ayes. Carried.

The following personnel recommendations were approved in a motion by Dabroski, seconded by Zietlow:
Julie Davis – resignation as Paraprofessional
Matt Botos – employed as Custodian
Madison Imler – employed as Middle School Girls Track Coach
All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Overman the Board approved out of country Spanish travel request from Mrs. Ries to travel to Costa Rica in July of 2027. All ayes. Carried.

The following board policies were reviewed:
208 – Board Committees (formerly known as Ad Hoc Committees)
208 R1 – Board Committees
208 E1 – Ad Hoc Committees Exhibit (rescinded)
401.01 – Equal Employment Opportunity
502.07 – Student Substance Use
507.05 – Emergency Plans and Drills
710.1E1 – School Nutrition Program – Program Notices of Nondiscrimination
507.02 – Administration of Medication to Students
607.02 – Student Health Services
802.02 – Requests for Improvements

804.05 – Stock Prescription Medication Supply

Motion by Overman, seconded by Feldmann to waive the second reading and adopt these policies on the first official reading. All ayes. Carried.

The Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination was approved in a motion by Dabroski, seconded by Feldmann. All ayes. Carried.

The Board discussed offering an early retirement package to qualifying staff. Further discussion will take place at the November board meeting.

The Board will be attending the IASB Convention in Des Moines November 19– 20, 2025. Director Overman and Zietlow will serve on the October audit committee.

Supt. Osterhaus shared SAVE and PPEL projections and budget information with the board for FY25, FY26 and FY27. Supt. Osterhaus expressed concern with the PPEL fund balance. Due to some unexpected expenses, the PPEL fund balance will become negative at the end of FY27. There are opportunities to move expenses to other fiscal years or move expenses to the SAVE fund, but Supt. Osterhaus mentioned the possibility of proposing an increase in the Voted PPEL levy. The district currently has the \$0.67 Voted approved PPEL and the district currently has one of the lower tax levy rates in the state. Supt. Osterhaus, along with the Board, understand the impact the levy rate has on taxpayers and patrons of the district.

Monticello will be hosting a legislative forum on December 3rd in the high school beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year was certified on October 15th. It appears the district will see a slight increase in enrollment. The 2024-2025 certified enrollment number was 671.89 and the 2025-2026 certified enrollment is 672.02.

In a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Zietlow the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. All ayes. Carried.

Meet the Freshmen



Billy Krapfl, Anna Feldmann, Brylin Hoisington & Jace Leytem

Name: Anna Feldmann
 Siblings: Ian and Addie
 Activities you plan to be in: Cross Country, Basketball, Track, and FFA
 Favorite subject: Math
 Career aspirations: Vet
 Hobbies: Playing games with my family
 Something cool about you: I have horses.

Name: Billy Krapfl
 Siblings: Daniel, Timmy, and Marian
 Activities you plan to be in: Football, Basketball, and Baseball
 Favorite subject: Math
 Career aspirations: Engineer or Farmer
 Hobbies: Football, sports, and fishing
 Something cool about you: I've stepped on a snapping turtle.

Name: Jace Leytem
 Siblings: Alaina
 Activities you plan to be in: Baseball and Basketball
 Favorite subject: Athletic Performance
 Career aspirations: Farming
 Hobbies: Riding dirt bikes
 Something cool about you: I'm funny.

Name: Brylin Hoisington
 Siblings: Breece and Brenek
 Activities you plan to be in: Play, Golf, and maybe Speech
 Favorite subject: History
 Career aspirations: Vet
 Hobbies: Reading and writing
 Something cool about you: I have a lot of cool animals like a turkey.

—typist: MaryEllen Smith

FFA members deliver meals to farmers

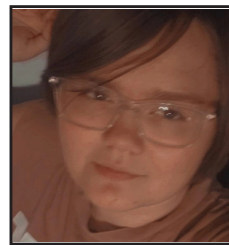


Last Saturday, MV FFA members spent the day delivering meals to area farmers as a thank you for ensuring crops are harvested to provide food for America.

One at a Time

by Arianna Nolan

America has hit a new low in education. Reading and math scores keep dropping and have hit new lows. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, a government-run website, the reading score for the nation has dropped to its lowest since 1990, and for the first time, the mathematics score has dropped. What happened? Some people blame the pandemic, which could be the case, but with the concerns about the pandemic gone, the scores continue to drop. Why is that? I think students are starting to devalue education and what it actually means for them.



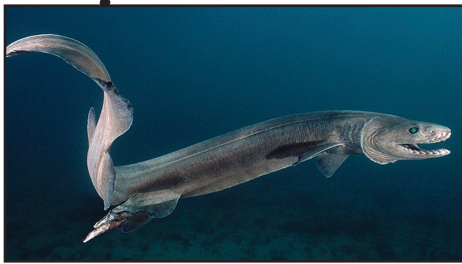
For students going to college, their high school education is one of the most important steps in getting into a good college, which then determines the success of their career. Instead of trying to do their best in school, students have started to slack off and not care. They would rather scroll through their phone, go to work, or do something that's deemed 'useful' for their time. But I am here to tell you that school is a good use of your time. Even though you are not earning money or entertainment, you are earning knowledge, which allows your brain to develop and become a decent human being. Education doesn't have to be boring or miserable. Most students have such a bad mindset about school, which

makes them miserable and dreads coming to school every day. But, by changing that mindset, you can start to at least get up every day and not want to skip, and value your education and what your teachers do for you. If teachers can do it, so can you.

Even if you aren't going to college, your education is still important, and you should value the time you have at school. You aren't just learning what's being taught from the book, but also life skills such as communication, time management, and responsibility, which are all the skills you need for any job in the workforce. By slacking, not doing homework, and skipping class, you are setting yourself up for failure not only in your high school career, but also in your future career, which determines your success in life.

What am I trying to get at? I am trying to convince students that they should come to school and do their work, not only at the bare minimum, but with a little effort. This will not only improve their high school education, but also their mindset and skills for their future careers. Anyone can put in effort for school; it just takes the right motivation. Set yourself up for success by creating a good schedule for you to study and do homework. Communicate with your teachers when you are going to be gone. Take the time out of your day to pay attention in class and ask those questions when you don't understand. With this in mind, I hope you all have a wonderful weekend, and I love you all. Go Cats!

Deep Dive by Arianna Nolan



Welcome back, Divers! Last week, we took a look at a very spooky deep-sea fish. This week, we will be taking a look at an even spookier sea creature- the frilled shark. These sharks tend to live in almost all of the oceans of the world, but the places they make an appearance are very patchy. Some live in the waters near Japan, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand, but there are many other places where they reside. An interesting fact is that it's believed that these species have the longest pregnancy period of about 3.5 years, but it's not proven just yet.

Not much is known about these sharks because they are deep-sea creatures, but once taken out of the water and dissected, scientists can see that these creatures tend to feed on other fish and squids. They even eat other sharks! It's able to do this because its jaw can open very wide and is suggested that they can eat prey that is 1.5 times bigger than them! They often use snake-like techniques to catch their prey. Then, they use their 300 teeth to chew on their prey.

The conservation status of this creature is of the least concern on the scale, but that is not the case for most of the creatures in the sea. A variety of factors are taking away these sea creatures' lives and population every day because of trash in the ocean, oil, overfishing, and destruction of their habitat. Please be an advocate for sea life so in 20 years we can still talk about these creatures in the present tense instead of the past. If you would like to learn more about this creature, please check out the Shark Guardian website, which is where all the information for this article was provided. I hope you all have a fantastic weekend and I will see you all next week!

Tickets on Sale NOW!

For MV's Fall Musical 'Once Upon A Mattress'!

Purchase Ahead of Time...

On BOUND:

1. Visit the MV BOUND website and click on Tickets
2. Select Fall Musical on Oct 30th, Nov 1st, or Nov 2nd
3. Pay online with a card

-OR-

In Person:

1. Visit the HS office during regular school hours
2. Pay with card, cash, or check

Purchase Day Of...

At the Admissions Gate:

1. Bring your card to the gate the evening of the show to purchase a ticket

cash will not be accepted at the gate

Once Upon A Mattress

All ticket purchases will include a BOUND processing fee.
ONCE UPON A MATTRESS is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

Once Upon a Mattress players

Cast

Ollie Hunter
Karl Zumbach
Mileea Damico
Taylor Saunders
Arianna Nolan
Emily Rudd
Sellah Ambundo
Carly Dirks
Abram Nolan
Izzy Cordes
Trish Dietiker
Mallori Ambundo

Desaraye Banks
Izzy Cordes
Breece Hoisington

Crew

Derrick Mohr
Tommie Cole
Cheyenne Eike
Jaelyn Hadley
Allison Porter
Serenity White
Nolan Lahey
Kinze Kuhlman

Gabriel Saunders

Pit Orchestra

Abby Nieman
Ryleigh Moriarity
Jena Hoefer
MaryEllen Smith
Rachael Hoefer
Payton Lanning
Maya Smith
Olivia Begle

Fantasy Fiction: The battle of many but few A series by Abby Nieman

Lyra runs back to the castle and gets in formation with the rest of the knights. "We are going to head out to the front of the kingdom and get ready to fight," the military general says as he starts to head out in that direction. He stops next to Lyra and says, "You and me are going elsewhere. Follow me." Lyra and the army general walk with the rest of the troops until they get out of the city gates. There was a little foot path that was right along the fence that led straight into the forest. The forest had tall red woods. "I thought no one was supposed to go in

here?"

"I go in here a lot, and I know there is potential waiting for you; you just have to claim your powers. I will warn you that there are creatures that may seem scary but are going to be your friends. Don't step off on the wrong foot. Good luck." The general pats Lyra on the shoulder.

Lyra walks in. There is a funny feeling in this part of the woods. Lyra has been in the woods on the trail behind Warin's house not but two days ago. The forest in front of the kingdom is different than what she is used to. Slowly, the trees become taller and

the path fades away. She has no clue what she is looking for, but she knows she has to keep walking.

The leaves in the branches shake as the wind blows, softly, as if it is carrying a message. The path has long been gone from her sight as she walks into a clearing with the trees making a canopy overhead. Lyra walks to the middle of the clearing, hoping to continue on words when she sees movement in the trees around her.

