

The Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Greenhands learn about FFA



Last Friday, eight MV Greenhand members traveled to Waverly to attend Greenhand Fire-up! They worked through four different rotations focused on authenticity, balancing priorities, communication, and FFA opportunities in order to provide the first-year FFA members with skills they would use both within and outside of FFA.



Hoco royalty crowned



The votes are in and the crowns are placed: Congrats to King Preston Salow and Queen Taryn Burbridge.

Leaving school grounds to learn



It was a week of field trips for MV students. Above: The sophomores toured the Kirkwood Center in Monticello Tuesday. Right: Seniors toured the Delaware County courthouse Thursday. (photo by Lanni Beaman) Select students also attended the Delaware County Manufacturing day.



Wildcats keep pace at Anamosa, Jesup meets

by Cadence Miller

Following their strong showing in Jesup, the Wildcats continued their season at the Anamosa cross country meet, where both the girls and boys varsity teams put in gritty performances on a tough course.

For the girls varsity, senior Taryn Burbridge led the way again, finishing 28th with a time of 22:47.1. Anna Feldmann followed at 23:15.1 for 34th place, and Breanna Bush came through in 23:28.3 for 38th. Rylee Reed crossed at 27:24.9 (90th), with Kourtney Hatfield close behind at 27:53.2 (93rd). Jena Hoefer and Haydin Flannagan rounded out the squad with times of 30:50.6 and 33:15.1, placing 115th and 124th respectively.

On the boys' side, Kenyon Baker once again led the charge, finishing 27th in 18:33.3. Owen Smith followed with a strong 18:59.3 for 35th place. Jayden Schwandt ran a 22:14.4 to place 101st, while Colt Haas and Gabriel Saunders finished in 24:14.6 and 28:10.1, earning 126th and 146th, respectively.

The Wildcats continue to show depth and determination as they build to-

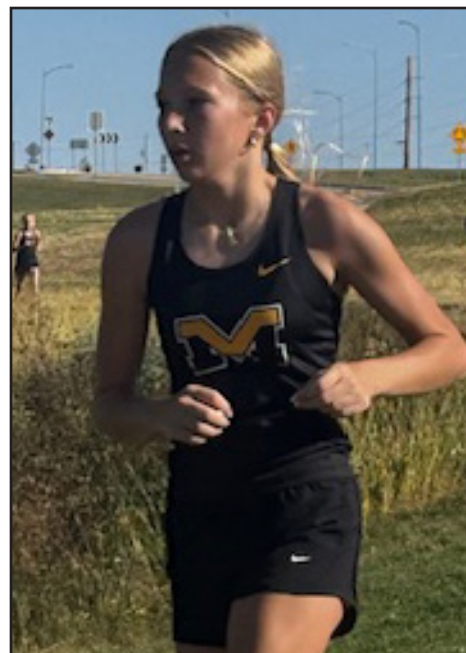
ward the postseason. With each meet, their pack grows stronger.

The Maquoketa Valley Wildcats cross country team brought grit and determination to the Jesup Golf and Country Club on September 30.

Girls varsity placed 16th as a team, with senior Taryn Burbridge leading the pack. She crossed the finish line in 21:41.1, securing 24th place individually. Close behind was Anna Feldmann, who ran a steady 22:19.1 to take 38th. Breanna Bush pushed through for 81st place with a time of 23:58.6, and Kourtney Hatfield rounded out the squad at 26:41.2, placing 116th. The girls showed heart and hustle on a challenging course.

Boys Varsity saw Kenyon Baker fly through the 5K in 17:36.6, landing 16th place and setting the tone for the team. Owen Smith followed with a solid 18:39.0 finish, placing 49th. Colt Haas battled through the final stretch to finish in 24:35.8, earning 150th.

The Jesup meet tested endurance and focus, with rolling fairways and crisp fall air adding to the challenge. But the Wildcats held their own, showing that they're a force to be reckoned with this sea-



Anna Feldmann works her way around the Anamosa course.

son.

Next up: the team heads to the Delaware County Fairgrounds in West Delaware on Tuesday, October 7. With momentum on their side, the Wildcats are ready to run wild!

Wildcats come up short against Wapsie Valley

by Maya Smith

Last week, the boys took on Wapsie Valley for the homecoming game. It was a tough game. At half, the boys were down, 6-13. At the end of the third, they were closer, 9-13. Unfortunately, the boys couldn't stop Wapsie from scoring two more, ending the game 16-27.

Coach Christensen comments: "I think you saw a matchup of two top 10 teams in the state. The game really came down to big plays, Wapsie was able to hit a few of those and that was the difference. The two biggest issues we had defensively was aligning properly and finishing tackles, that's when their big plays occurred. Offensively, we need to block to the whistle, and look to bury people. We also have to have more urgency when we get into the redzone. We have probably had at least 10 times this year where we got into the red zone and didn't score, if we had scored on those we would be undefeated right now.

Midland is a school that we have obviously had a lot of success against in other sports so we will look to continue that: however,

"We will come back stronger, practice harder and be more disciplined."

—Ford Domeyer

they do have a couple of superb athletes that we have to do a good job against if we want to be as dominant as I think we can."

Here are some game stats:

Passing: Trevor Grimm; 186 yards; 1 TD
Rushing: Rogan Heidt; 212 yards; 1 TD
Receiving: Macoy Stone; 48 yards; 1 TD
Defense: Dylan Knipper; 10 tackles; 5 solo, Kyle Engelken; 7.5 tackles; 5 solo; 1 sack
Kicking: Eli Dougherty; 148 yards; 1 FG

When asked about the game, senior Ford Domeyer remarks: "I think we put up a good fight against a good team, and had some issues that we need to work out on defense and offense. We let up a couple huge plays that altered how we played. We will come back stronger, practice harder and be more disciplined."



Gabe Saunders makes his way around a curve at the Anamosa meet.

Student of the Week

Dylan Knipper

You've been nominated because of your outstanding work ethic, particularly in your industrial tech classes. How did you develop a good work ethic?

I've developed a good work ethic because of my experiences in sports. I've played sports all my life and the one thing that always drives to work harder is the feeling of losing. I carry my work ethic in sports to other aspects in my life because I believe the best way to do something is to the best of your ability.

How do you see your work ethic helping you outside of classes? I see my work ethic helping me; accomplish goals in my athletics, gaining respect from people of all ages, and getting a well paying job in the future.

What are your future plans? My future plans are still undecided, but I'm between going to college or doing an electrical apprenticeship.

"Dylan is always putting pride in what he is doing and a perfectionist. I find him reteaching other students that need help. Outstanding person and great role model for others." —Mr. Palmer



Athletes of the Week

Name: Maleah Freiburger

What do you enjoy most about being

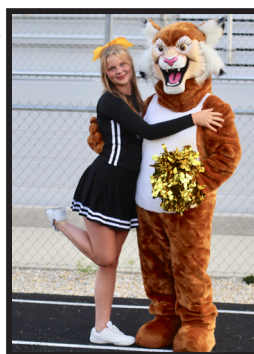
part of the cheer team? I just really love how the girls are honestly some of the most amazing people and how we treat each other as best friends. The positive environment of cheer and the amount of friendships I've made will definitely stick with me.

Why is having cheer important at MV?

Having cheer is important because it keeps the school spirit alive. It also is very important to little girls at games, my little sister included, they really look up to the cheer girls as role models.

What's your favorite cheer? Get into it!

What's something about cheer that others may not know? The amount of time and work it takes for each cheer, the memorization, the arm and leg movements, and keeping your arms tight. Another thing is the pure strength the bases need to have to be able to do the stunts that we do, also the core strength the flyers need to be able to tighten their core to make it easier on the bases. The stress of performing a cheer or stunt in front of basically the whole school can be scary but in the end it's so worth seeing the smile on peoples faces.



Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Olivia Hunter

You've been nominated because you

have been a tremendous help with set building. What skills have you learned by helping build the set? I've learned how to be more detail-oriented and how to better voice my opinion.

What have you helped build so far? I've helped paint a lot of the set pieces as well as picking out props and costumes.

Why is it important for cast members to also help with the set? It's important to know just how much goes into the show. It's a great way to bond better with both your cast-mates and with your directors.

What role do you play in the show?

I play the role of Winnifred the Woebe-gone



Name: Arianna Nolan

You've been nominated because you have been a tremendous help with set building. What skills have you learned by helping build the set? Skills that I have learned through building

the set are perseverance and focus.

What have you helped build so far? I have helped create the prop cart + pick out props, decorate and paint the panels for the walls, pick out costumes, and more.

Why is it important for cast members to also help with the set? It is important for the cast to help with the set because it is THEIR show and they need to help make it come alive, not just through the acting, but the scenery that surrounds us.

What role do you play in the show? I play the Minstrel.



Another milestone achieved



Lanni Beaman hit the 500 digs mark at the match Tuesday night. She has also surpassed 500 career kills.

"The show literally could not come together without that level of dedication and I am so proud of how much work they've put in already!" —Ms. McCrary

There's a new club in town

by Taylor Saunders

Are you interested in branching out and exploring some extracurricular activities? FCCLA is an amazing choice! If you aren't aware of what FCCLA is, let me help! FCCLA is a CTSO (Career and Technical Student Organization) that allows students to get involved in FCS classes.

This club was formed last year after a new state law was passed. There were few members last year, but now it is a full out club for any high school student to join! You only need to have one FCS class in your schedule in order to be a part of the club.

One of the activities that FCCLA takes part in is the Fall Leadership Rally where four members were able to attend on October 1st, this past Wednesday. Later, they will be helping the Delhi Betterment Committee with snacks that they can sell at the Haunted Forest in October. Their community outreach project is another big event where they are making stockings for the nursing homes in the area.

Not only that, but they also do two major fundraisers, one of which is already underway. The first is a weekly coffee/drink and snack shop called Taste Oasis



Colin Smith is geared up to serve some drinks and snacks at the FCCLA's Thursday morning fundraiser. (photo by Maya Smith)

which is overseen by the 3rd level Foods class and other FCCLA members. The second fundraiser is FCS/FCCLA will be creating a Maquoketa Valley Community Cookbook. So, Mrs. Downs would love it if you watch your emails, newsletter, and Facebook pages for more information on

this! They made one back in 2009 and sold over 500 cookbooks, they hope this addition will go just as well!

"FCCLA is a great way to be creative, engage in community events and partake in local and state competitions," added Mrs. Downs.



On Wednesday, Izzi Moenck, Kallie Freiburger and Macee Nolan attended an official FCCLA event.

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Grace Richter

Hope everyone had a great week, Wildcats! Here's some jokes to take you into the weekend.

What does a baby computer call his father? Data.

What do you call a Frenchman wearing sandals? Philippe Flop.

Which days are the strongest? Saturday and Sunday. The rest are weekdays. My hotel tried to charge me ten dollars extra for air conditioning. That wasn't cool.

What's Forrest Gump's password? 1forrest1.

Meet the Freshmen



Rory, Oliver & Kourtney

Name: Rory Leppert
Siblings: Kien
Favorite subject: Ceramics
Career aspirations: None (yet)
Hobbies: Drawing and reading

Name: Kourtney Hatfield
Siblings: Jordan and Markus
Activities you plan to be in: Cross country, Track, and Softball
Favorite subject: Science
Career aspirations: Something with Bio-chemistry or Math/Science
Hobbies: Playing board games
Something cool about you: My knuckles can continuously crack

Name: Oliver Steines
Siblings: Henry and Jackson
Activities you plan to be in: Golf and Baseball
Favorite subject: Spanish
Career aspirations: Make it to the MLB
Hobbies: Fishing, baseball, and hanging out with friends
Something cool about you: I pitched at the U of I

—typist: MaryEllen Smith

what's up?

by Grace Richter

Let's take a look back at HOCO week. What was your favorite part?

Olivia Ronnebaum- The Homecoming parade
Emma Brockhohn -"he dance Saturday
Tessa Intorf- The pep rally
Raechel Hoefer- The class competitions
Colt Haas- Class games
Olivia Begle- Pep rally
MaryEllen Smith- Pep rally
Mrs. Carroll- Seeing all the school spirit throughout the week!

Students of the Week *Derrick Mohr & Preston Salow*



You've been nominated because you stepped up and participated in the pep rally dance. What made you decide to participate?

Derrick: I want to do things that I know I will regret not having the chance to participate in before it's too late, even if it pushes me out of my comfort zone. I am not much of a dancer, and getting the chance to do this was nerve-racking, but also a lot of fun.

Preston: I decided to participate in the dance because I love to be active and involved in as many things as I can in high school. I want to have as many experiences and memories as I can while I'm still in school.

What is your favorite song to dance to?

Derrick: My favorite song to dance to is "Get Low" by Lil Jon and The East Side Boyz.

Preston: My favorite song to dance to is any 2000's girly pop song (Don't judge) as long as I'm with my boys. (None of us know how to dance so they don't care that my moves aren't very good)

Rogan Heidt and Gabe Halweg were also nominated for being dedicated to the cheerleaders' dance.

One at a Time

by Arianna Nolan



The sound of chatter fills your ears as people sit on the couches around you, all with a different drink in their hands. Some have water, some have soda, but most have a type of alcoholic beverage. Your friend who invited you to this party sits next to you, drinking a Twist-ed Tea. They notice your empty hands and turn to you with a slight smile.

"You want a drink? I'll go get you one if you want."

You promptly shake your head, "No thanks. I don't drink."

"Aw, come on," they whine. "Just a sip. You need to lighten up a little."

Other people's attention starts to turn to you, and they scoff at your refusal. Your heart drops to your stomach, and you feel a headache coming on. You don't want to seem like a loser to all of these people. But you've always been told not to drink. But, maybe a sip won't hurt...

This is all it takes to become addicted to alcohol. According to the Pew Research Center, 14% of students claim that drinking alcohol is highly common among students. After these parties, students tend to end up driving home under the influence, which can lead to car crashes. The CDC claims that a study done in 2020 revealed that 29% of car crashes that killed 15-20 year olds had been under the influence. Drinking at such a young age can impair brain development and can lead to binge drinking when they're older, or lead them to explore other risks, such as tobacco. Don't become a statistic. Say no to drinking and refuse peer pressure, and spread the message to others you know are struggling with alcoholism.

Mark your calendar for the fall MS/HS choir concert Monday, Oct. 6 at 7 pm in the high school auditorium!

Deep Dive by Arianna Nolan



Welcome back Divers to another edition of Deep Dive! Today, we will be looking at a creature that may look very scary from the outside, but is actually quite friendly and harmless: the basking shark. The basking shark is a very large shark and is actually the second-largest fish in the world! They can grow up to 40 feet long and weigh over 5 tons. Some of the nicknames for this fish are sunfish, bone shark, and elephant shark. These fish are found all around the world, and can be seen swimming near the surface of the ocean with their mouth wide open. People often get scared of this shark because they believe it's a great white when its fin is sticking out of the water; however, its fin is smoother than the great white's.

This fish, although it makes it look dangerous, is actually very harmless to humans and often only attacks when they are attacked first. When they eat, they open their gigantic mouth and filter through the gallons of seawater to eat large zooplankton, and not humans. Little is known about how these creatures reproduce; however, sometimes these creatures can be seen jumping out of the water at random times. Scientists believe that this is the shark's way of trying to get rid of any parasites they happened to pick up while they were eating. The only true predator of the basking shark is the great white shark.

The basking shark is an endangered species for the reason that they are often overfished for their fins, gills, and meat. You can stop the overfishing of these creatures by looking online for petitions or being cautious of the seafood you are eating. If you would like to learn more about the basking shark, please check out the Florida Museum website, which is where all of the information for the basking shark was provided. I hope you all have a fin-tastic weekend, and I will see you all next week!

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 to win something from the prize box!

On Tuesday they wore pink



The volleyball team hosted a Pink Out night Tuesday night. The team had a bake sale and sold pink trinkets. They also "passed the bucket" before the varsity game,, where both MV and North Linn fans helped raise approximately \$800 for the Hummingbird Project which provides some care baskets for those battling cancer. The Wildcats also donned their pink uniforms. Left: Camryn Paris brings the heat against the Lynx. MV won 3-0.

More hoco fun

