

## Speech students make presence known at State

by Mikaela Reth

Saturday, February 28, the individual speech team loaded the bus to go to District Speech Competition at Independence. 54 events competed, 39 earned Division I ratings, 15 received Division II ratings.

Mrs. DeVore stated, "We are so proud of these students whether they earned a Division 1 or 2. Each one has grown tremendously this season. Taking the leap into individual takes a person who is willing to take risk... when most people would rather run away from the fear of speaking in front of others, these students have shown their bravery!"

Individuals receiving a Division I rating are: (Acting) Mary Feldmann, Abby Jay, Briana March and Mikayla Callan; (After Dinner Speaking) Annie Fjelstul, Emily LaGrant and Jazz Niehaus; (Expository Address) Bailey Lubben, Macy Anderegg and Natalie Neuzil; (Improvisation) Megan McNamara; (Literary Program) Tiffany Hoeger, Dani Schuman, Emily Krapfl and Colin Wendt; (Original Oratory) Olivia Hill and Ashley Holtz; (Poetry) Caitlyn Gibbs, Rebekah Hill, Lawson Roof and Patrick Hansen; (Prose) Shawnae Hoeger, BrieAnna Nielson, Hannah Clemen and Patrick Hansen; (Public Address) Laisee Shakespeare and Angie Wilson; (Radio News Announcing) Kinsey Johnson; (Reviewing) Sienna Becker, Shaylyn Trenkamp and Amanda Fortman; (Solo Musical Theatre) Taylor Guthrie; (Spontaneous Speaking) Riley Sternhagen, Brody Severt and Brianna Mensen; and (Storytelling) Heather Sabers, Taylor White, Nicole Winter and Abby Holtz.

Individuals receiving a Division II Rating are: (Acting) Megan Beaman and Kiesha Stelken; (Expository Address) Natalie Neuzil; (Improvisation) Tamala Askeland, Alison Sheehy and Alex McCusker; (Original Oratory) Kendra Ries; (Poetry) Sean Hucker; (Prose) Nichole Lucas and Sean Hucker; (Radio News Announcing) Mikaela Reth, Megan Mensen



Adrienne Supple rehearses her poetry selection before contest.

*"We are so proud of these students whether they earned a Division 1 or 2. Each one has grown tremendously this season. Taking the leap into individual takes a person who is willing to take risk... when most people would rather run away from the fear of speaking in front of others, these students have shown their bravery!"*

—Mrs. DeVore

and Josie Young; (Solo Musical Theatre) Zach Smith; (Spontaneous Speaking) Raven Eatman-Dietiker; and (Storytelling) Mitchell Neuzil.

Great work to all team members and best of luck at State competition in Starport in a week!

## For a good cause



In an effort to help raise funds for the Eric Klostermann family, students were allowed to wear hats and staff members were allowed to wear jeans if they made a contribution to the fundraiser. Eric was injured last year in a basketball accident. Eric and his wife Val Hunt Klostermann are both alumnus of MV. Above: Trenton Kelly makes a donation so he can don his cap. Below: Mrs. Temple and Mrs. Downs enjoy wearing jeans after contributing to the Klostermann family.



# All That Jazz : Vocal jazz concert planned for Monday



Members of Smooth Harmony perform at the Kirkwood Jazz Festival last Friday.

by Shaylyn Trenkamp

Last Friday, MV's vocal jazz groups Smooth Harmony and Jazz Xpress traveled to the Kirkwood Jazz Festival.

After some amazing performances, both groups participated in clinics with critiques from members of Groove for Thought (who appeared on the second season of the *Sing-Off* as one of the top ten vocal groups in the United States!)

The Maquoketa Valley vocal groups also got a chance to see many other schools perform, and the festival ended with an amazingly groovy concert from Groove for Thought.

Next on their agenda, Smooth Harmony and Jazz Xpress are showcasing their work for YOU here in our home auditorium. At this home concert, Jazz Xpress and Smooth Harmony will be performing

their entire repertoires and opening for their special guest Harmonic Convergence. Harmonic Convergence is one of the top vocal jazz groups from SouthWestern Community College; they perform a variety of jazz pieces, both a cappella and with a rhythm section. The concert will be on Monday, March 9th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are only \$3 for students (and \$5 for adults) so come out and enjoy a fabulously entertaining show!

## All-conference basketball teams announced

Second team:  
ZACH SALOW

Honorable Mention:  
BROCK HILLERS



First team:  
BRIANNA MENSEN (unanimous)

Second team:  
ERIN DIGMANN  
MEGAN MENSEN

Honorable Mention:  
ABBY JAY

### Tri-Rivers West Division Standings

#### BOYS

NORTH LINN	11-1
LISBON	10-2
ALBURNETT	9-3
SPRINGVILLE	6-6
CENTRAL CITY	2-10
EAST BUCHANAN	2-10
MAQUOKETA VALLEY	2-10

#### GIRLS

NORTH LINN	12-0
MAQUOKETA VALLEY	9-3
SPRINGVILLE	9-3
ALBURNETT	6-6
LISBON	4-8
EAST BUCHANAN	2-10
CENTRAL CITY	0-12

# what's up?

## What's your dream college?

by Riley Kay Sternhagen

Amanda Fortman: University of Southern California

Emily LaGrant: Berkeley or University of St. Louis

Taylor White: University of Alabama

Cassie Burkle: Iowa State University

Cassie Wilson: Drake

Zak Harbach: Oregon State

Abby Holtz: University of Iowa

Nate Lansing: Iowa State University

Jordy Downs: Oregon State

Serena Ramirez: University of North Carolina

Destiny Clayborne: University of Washington, UCLA, or NYU

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

*Amanda Fortman*



### You compete on an archery team out of Dyersville. How did you get started?

I went to an event where a female Olympic archer talked to us about competing and this really sparked my interest. That winter I signed up for their J.O.A.D. team and started to compete.

### What do you do at competitions?

You shoot about 60 arrows and score them. But the best part of competition is hanging out with other people from Plum Creek Archery and just having fun.

### What's the hardest part of archery?

Having a strong mental game and not letting a bad score get to you.

### What do you enjoy most about it?

I enjoy competing and meeting new people that I would not have met through any school events.

## Fine Artists of the Week

Name: Nichole Winter

Activity: Speech

What event are you in for speech?

Storytelling

What do you enjoy most about individual speech? I

like having fun with everyone and getting better.

What have you learned through this event?

I have learned that it is fun to be silly and get out of your comfort zone.

Who is your speech role model? My role models are all of the coaches because they know so much about speech and how to make us better.

How has speech prepared you for life outside of the school walls? It has made me more confident in giving speeches and talking in front of others. I have also learned that I like presenting and I can do it.



Name: Cassiddy Wilson

Activity: Speech

What event are you in for speech?

Public Address

What do you enjoy most about individual speech? How

rewarding it is when your hard work and effort pays off, and also learning the power of words.

What have you learned through this event? I've learned that I LOVE talking in front of people and that memorizing a long speech doesn't bother me. But I also learned through the speech I chose by Jimmy Valvono that life is precious and each day is what you make of it.

Who is your speech role model? I have a few, students whom I look up to are definitely Taylor White and Emily LaGrant. Taylor talked me in to going out this year and is always there for support, and I just admire Emily and her passion. And then of course all my coaches, their opinions and insight mean the world to me.

How has speech prepared you for life outside of the school walls? I spent hours memorizing my speech and watching Jimmy's speech over and over again to make sure I've got it down perfectly. I practice almost every night, just running through it once before I go to bed to be sure I haven't forgotten it. I think my parents have it memorized too.



## Angie's Angle

by Angie Wilson

Who are you when no one is looking?



It is easy to put on a fake smile, laugh a fake laugh, and pretend to be someone you're not.

People do it all the time. Those who think happiness comes from the kind of people you hang out with or the "popular" things that you do, often find themselves at fault. It's easy to say that your favorite food is ice cream when your crush says it is too. It's easy to say that you listen to rock when the group of your friends all say they do. It is also easy to tell the truth. Speak your mind, and say what you actually believe.

When you are alone, that is when you do the things you love. When no one is looking, individuals then turn on their self light. They believe what they want, they listen to what they want, and they feel free. Don't be that person who just tells others what they want to hear. Be yourself and act like you would if no one was watching. Be that spunky person who checks themselves out in the mirror too many times, the person who dances around the kitchen to their favorite song, the type of person who belts out those high notes in the shower, be yourself. We find beauty in each other more in the imperfections we have than the perfections. So if you let loose and let your personality shine through the things that you believe and the things that you do, people will find you more beautiful and unique then blending in with the higher crowd.

## Cutie

by Annie Fjelstul

This cutie is a senior.

She has brown eyes and brown hair.

She has one sister. She's very involved in the fine arts.

She plans to go to Luther next year.



# Quotastic

*“Don’t cry because it’s over,  
smile because it happened.”*  
~ *Dr. Seuss*



Last Saturday marked the end of a long journey in my life. It was sad to see it go, but -- as Dr. Seuss advised -- I won't cry because it's over. I will smile because it happened.

Rewind to when I was first introduced to speech. In my elementary years, I would go to my aunt and uncle's house where my cousin, Katie, and her friend, Tiffany, would put on miniature shows for us. At that time, I was unaware of the speech team; however, that changed as soon as I got to middle school. Fast forward to our eighth grade exploratory speech class. I. Was. Terrified. Yet, I was excited. I knew my favorite cousins and their friends had participated in it and some of them had their names displayed on the Individual All-State plaque in the trophy case. I had so much fun during that quarter, I was set on joining the team the following year. Of course, when I found out we had to AUDITION, I was not so sure about my previous thoughts; however, a good friend who hadn't joined until her junior year when she was in high school advised me to join my freshman year so I didn't have any regrets about not starting sooner. (She knows me too well.)

Here is where I wish I could tell you, my dear readers, that I don't regret anything. I do not, of course, regret joining when I did. What I do regret is that I let myself get so close to it. Seeing that "II" beside my name on the Center 3 ratings felt worse than being stabbed straight through my heart with a blunt knife. I, in the past four years, have poured my heart and soul into each and every event I've been placed in. . . even if I did call a buffalo an elephant in my freshman year storytelling "The Buffalo and the Field Mouse."

Over the four years, I rarely gave a thought to the consequence of this. Going into high school, I promised myself that I would only join activities I had a true passion for. Of course, this was going to lead to a little heartbreak, but it was only last Monday at conference that it really registered that my next performance could be my last. Seeing that rating killed a little part of my soul. That sounds completely melodramatic, but -- as most of you know -- losing something you love hurts. A lot. I wish that I never had to leave this, but it is time for me to move on.

Each year brought a new category into my inventory. Each year brought a new highlight in my speech career. Each year brought a new challenge to my doorstep, but most importantly, each year brought me farther out of my comfort zone. I am so grateful to all of my coaches for everything they have done and all that they have pushed me to do. I would not be the person I am today without that challenge. I would never have been confident enough to open my mouth in class and make coherent, comprehensible sounds, let alone stand up in front of a room full of people and present a speech. Participating on this team has given me the ability to be more of a leader, something I never thought I'd be. This is why, dear readers, we all need to go out on a limb once in a while. Some of the scariest parts of life offer some of the largest rewards, whether they be worldly or personal. That being said, I want to offer a huge thank you to all of my coaches because I, for once in my life, have exceeded my own expectations.

Now, with just another last on a very long list of them crossed off, I can focus on using what I have been taught over my four years to help myself succeed in the coming years.

Of course my heart cried a little bit when I realized that this journey was over. It was torn right down the middle. However, now that the initial sting has worn off, I can smile at all of the good this has done in my life. This event has offered me more than I ever thought and has taught me some valuable life skills. I will never regret all the time I have spent with the speech team. . . even if I did have to break my night owl tendencies in order to catch the bus.

## Do's and Don'ts of the Approaching Spring Season

by Shaylyn Trenkamp



It may seem early, but believe it or not spring is just a couple of weeks away.

What should you do before this season quickly (okay, maybe not so quickly) fades away? Well, just look below and you'll find some great tips on how to spend your last weeks of winter.

First off, do GO OUT something new or old as this next season starts. Play auditions are just around the corner, for example. \*wink wink\*

Don't miss out on the amazing concert this coming Monday (March 9th) with Smooth Harmony, Jazz Xpress, and Harmonic Convergence!

Do look on the bright side of this chilly weather- sledding, snowboarding, skiing, ice skating, snowmobiling, or cozying it up with some hot cocoa are all still acceptable options with this weather. Take advantage of it!

Don't forget to congratulate the individual speech participants who made it to state, whoot whoot!

Do love this boot/scarf/sweater weather while it lasts. (This excludes striped sweaters of course, because everyone knows the best time to wear a striped sweater is all the time.)

Don't let the hour we lose to Daylight Savings Time slip past you. Make the most out of your weekend.

Do remind those who you love how much they mean to you. And please send your thoughts and prayers out to West Delaware during this hard time.

## Instrumental music department hosts Parade of Bands



The MV bands showcased their talent Thursday night during the Parade of Bands concert. The 5th, 6th, 7th-8th, and high school bands each performed several songs and then joined forces in a final patriotic song.

Above: Mr. Hadley directs the high school band.

Right: Colin Wendt plays the trap set during the final number.



## Ag Olympic Fun



Tiffany and Alec build a cheese and cracker home.



## Best Buds



Kendra Ries & Becky Thompson  
by Destiny Clayborne

**How long have you guys been friends?**  
since 5th grade

**How did you become friends?**

School and softball

**What do you do for fun?**

Make fun of each other

**What is your funniest moment together?**

\_ Getting stuck on level B road

**Do you have any nicknames?**

Kendra: Beck

Becky: Ken

## Cutest Couple



Alex Britt & Christie Fry  
by Heather Sabers

**How long have you been dating?**

Four months

**What do you do for fun?**

Play chess

**What's your most memorable moment together?**

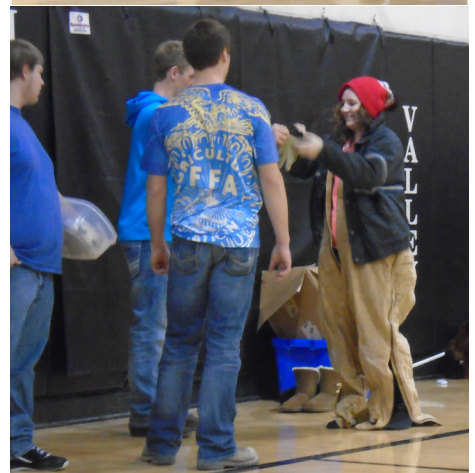
Going to Chuck E Cheese.

**Describe your relationship in one word.**

Entertaining



FFA members square off with non-FFA members in "Are You Smarter than an FFA member?"



# The Cat Box Hall Smarts

opinions, ideas and random thoughts from the staff of *The Wildcat Echo*



A meow to speech students working their magic.



A meow to the band students for their great concert last night.



A furball to the cold, but a meow to the upcoming warmth!

A furball to all the coughs heard in the hallway.



A meow to all of you sporting a GREAT attitude.



A meow to all of you who have signed up for the blood drive.



A meow to everyone who is supporting the Klostermann family with a donation.



A meow to our all-conference basketball players. Rock on.



A good luck meow to the FFA members who are preparing for district contest.

A REMINDER to come to the vocal jazz concert Monday night. You won't regret it!



A furball to the gas tax even though we know we are the ones who will benefit from it.



A meow to students who help other students with homework.



A meow to History Rocks starting!



A HUGE meow to Mrs. Mausser who has recently been given an amazing opportunity. More details to come...



A furball to a WIN list that takes teachers 10 minutes to read through.



A meow to SNO-COMING! Thanks, student council!

by Emily LaGrant



It's been awhile since we studied astronomy in middle school but that doesn't mean students are clueless. Let's see what these students know about space. Our contestants are: Bryce Askeland, Amanda Fortman and Cassie McIntyre.

1) What is our galaxy called?

Bryce: Milky Way

Amanda: Milky Way

Brandon: Milky Way

Cassie: Milky Way

A: Milky Way

2) How many planets are in our solar system?

Bryce: 9

Amanda: 8 with Pluto

Brandon: 9

Cassie: 9

A: 9 (Pluto is a planet)

3) What is one constellation?

Bryce: Orion

Amanda: Orion

Brandon: Big Dipper

Cassie: Orion

A: Any above

4) What is the closest planet to the sun?

Bryce: Mercury

Amanda: Mercury

Brandon: Mercury

Cassie: Mercury

A: Mercury

5) How many moons does Mars have?

Bryce: 2

Amanda: 3

Brandon: 6

Cassie: 37

A: 2

The winner this week was Bryce with all 5 points. Brandon and Cassie tied for third with 4 points and Amanda got last with 3 points. Wow, I'm impressed. It's been a while but our Wildcats really know their stuff still. Congrats, everyone!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MV for the week of March 8, 2015

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2015

1. Daylight Saving Time Begins - Turn Your Clocks AHEAD One Hour

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015

1. Fine Arts Booster Club Meeting - HS Cafeteria - 5:30 PM
2. HS Harmonic Convergence, Smooth Harmony & Jazz Express Vocal Concert - HS Auditorium - 7:30 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015

1. Earlville & Johnston Elementary Spring Pictures - 8:30 AM
2. HS Girls & Boys Track to Indoor Meet at Wartburg College in Waverly - 2:30 PM (Bus Leaves 12:45 PM)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015

1. Deadline for All Elementary Teachers to Have Grades Updated in PowerSchool

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015

1. Delhi Elementary Kindergarten Round-Up - 9:00 AM
2. National Honor Society Blood Drive - MS Multipurpose Room - 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM
3. HS Post Prom Party Committee Meeting - HS Cafeteria - 6:00 PM
4. HS FFA Monthly Meeting - Auditorium - 7:00 PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2015

1. Deadline for All Middle School & High School Teachers to Have Grades Updated in PowerSchool

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015

1. HS State Individual Speech at Starmont - 8:00 AM (Bus Leaves Delhi at 6:00 AM)
2. HS FFA to NE District Contest in Van Horne - 8:00 AM (Bus Leaves Delhi at 6:15 AM)

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2015

1. HS Wrestling End-of-the-Year Banquet - Hopkinton Community Center - 4:00 PM



