

# The Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

## Learning through emersion: Students study abroad

by McKayla Weber

This summer three Maquoketa Valley Spanish students, Kayla Flanagan, Isabella Mensen and Tristen Flanagan, spent a month in León, Spain. Srta. Ries was able to connect these students with a woman who runs a language school in Spain and sets students up with host families. At the end of the program, the participants earned a Certificate of Completion. In this week's cover story, read to find out what they did there, what they learned and so much more.

### TRISTAN FLANAGAN

**What did you do there?** While I was in Spain, I visited cathedrals, went swimming in lagoons, ate tapas, took dance lessons as well as ceramic classes, attended concerts and fairs, and went to the beach.

**What was your favorite meal you had?** I really enjoyed the salad they ate there, it was cucumbers with tomatoes with garlic seasoning and vinegar, they also ate a lot of bread there which I liked.

**How do you feel about their experience?** I am happy I went, and some aspects of Spain make me grateful I live in America.

**What's something fun you got to do?** My Spanish girl and I hosted and went to "Spanish parties"

**Was there anything that surprised you about their culture?** Yes, many things! For example, anywhere you'd suspect there to



While in Spain, students attended classes to learn more about the language and culture.



The students enrolled in the language class pose with their peer tutors.

be a bathroom at places like parks, some bars, and stores there would be no bathroom. Also, in grocery stores dead fish and deer legs are laid out on ice for people to buy.

**What was something you learned while there?** I picked up on a lot of Spanish vocabulary while I was there.

### ISABELLA MENSEN

**What did you do there?** I went to school for 5 hours a day then after we would go out and do different activities until about 8 pm. Then, on Saturdays, we would go on an excursion, and Sunday was a family day.

**What was your favorite meal you had?** I would say my favorite meal would be the Spanish tortilla.

**How do you feel about their experience?** I feel as though it was a good experience and that I grew a lot as a Spanish speaker

**What's something fun you got to do?** We got to go to a farmers market every Thursday, and then every day around 11:30 we would go for a snack at a cafe with the other people in the program. My favorite big activity that we did was going to the caves.

**Was there anything that surprised you about their culture?** I was surprised about how much they ate. It is normal for you to eat three big meals and two decent-sized snacks.

### What was your favorite part of the trip?

My favorite part was getting to know my host family and the other kids who went on the trip

**What was something you learned while there?** I learned how to speak in more fluent sentences.

### KAYLA FLANAGAN

**What did you do there?** When I was in Spain I took Spanish classes, visited caves and cathedrals, tried new food, attended many festivals, and hung out with my Spanish family.

**What was your favorite meal you had?** Any dessert.

**How do you feel about your experience?** I loved going to Spain, and it made me want to keep studying Spanish.

**What's something fun you got to do?** I got to go to a fair with my classmates and Spanish friends.

**Was there anything that surprised you about their culture?** I was very surprised that people don't talk to strangers like they do in America.

**What was your favorite part of the trip?** Trying new things, and seeing how people in a different part of the world live.

**What was something you learned while there?** I learned a lot of new Spanish words and phrases.

# Busy week of winning for volleyball

by Natalie Ries

Last Thursday night the Wildcat volleyball teams all traveled to Marquette Catholic and had a clean sweep providing a win for all three levels. Coach Nefzger commented, "All three levels got the Win, it was a great start for our JV and Fresh/Soph Teams. We had too many missed serves at all levels but we did a great job of keeping control and not riding the rollercoaster of gaining the lead, losing the lead, and so on." The varsity team started off with a 25-18 win followed by a 25-13 win and finished off the night with a 25-9 win.

Lili Bauers was not scared to serve and had 19 successful serves against Marquette Catholic.

Offensively Lanni Beaman had a great night at the net with ten kills. Macee Nolan also helped this cause of awesome kills with 17 assists on the night.

Ava Knipper and Bauers were the highlight of the defense for the night. Bauers had a total of 16 digs. Knipper has been keeping up with another two blocks last Thursday night. "We played with a good level of confidence and were doing some really good things. Our energy was like nothing I have seen so far this season, it's fun to see them fired up," noted Coach Nefzger.

"We tweaked a couple things Friday afternoon at practice to gear up for our Saturday tournament at Anamosa," Coach stated. "We faced some big schools and took some losses but we got better." The Wildcats prepared for a tough tournament in Anamosa this past weekend. The varsity team finished the day with a 1-3 record. The players played against Ed-Co, Dubuque Hempstead, Bellevue, and Clear Creek Amana.

The Wildcats took a victory over Ed-Co. The final score of this game was 2-0 with the first set having a score of 21-15 and the second set 22-20. The varsity team knew they had a tough game ahead and they played like they had a mission. Grace Richter led the team with five aces against the Vikings. Beaman once again led the team with most kills with a total of five in these two sets. Nolan had a total of six assists to help the wildcats to a victory. Defensively Camryn Paris had a block party with four blocks. Also Bauers and Nolan shared the lead of digs both having five for a total of ten digs between the two of them.

Another team that Maquoketa Valley had good competition with was Bel-



**Camryn Paris (5) and Breanna McShane go up for the block against an MFL hitter as Callie Freiburger (15) prepares for the dig. (photo by Natalie Ries)**

levue. The Wildcats came short of a win with the score being 2-0 in favor of Bellevue. Richter led the team again for most successful serves in a game with seven serves over and in. Richter also had most kills as well as Paris with five kills. Nolan once again helped 11 times with the hitters being successful. Defensively Breanna McShane and Knipper both had two blocks to help out the team. Bauers never let down her steam and added 15 more digs to her total digs for her seasons.

The Wildcats stayed at home this week for their triangular Tuesday night. MV hosted MFL Mar-Mac and West Central. The Wildcats came out with a victory against MFL and West Central.

The Wildcats had a score of 25-16 and a score of 25-12 against MFL winning 2-0. Bauers started the team off with 16 successful serves. Offensively Paris had six kills with Nolan having 11 assists. Beaman led the team with 11 digs.

The Wildcats played the next game against West Central. The varsity let West Central have a total of 16 points throughout the two sets. The scores of these games were 25-11 and 25-5. Bauers was once again successful with her serves having 11 successful serves. Camryn Paris had six more kills. Bauers had four digs.

**The Wildcats host Springville Thursday night for Pink Out Night.**



# Cross country team tackles new course at Clayton Ridge, Schaul takes first

by Ella Reicher

Finally, cross season has begun! Our girls and boy team have been eager to start racing after waiting for the meets to begin with teams that are talented and larger in numbers. In the end the girls and boys team had a good finish to their meet at Clayton Ridge. Overall the girls finished with a total time of 1:53:35.90, and an average time of 23:19.19. On the boys' team the total time was 1:36:07.00 with the average time of 19:13.40. Overall the boys had a 3rd place finish and the girls with 2nd.

Matthew Schaul finished first in the boys' race, and the starter even gave him the gun shell.

## Boys Individual Results in the 5K run:

Matthew Schaul, 16:40.50, 1st place  
Kenyon Baker, 17:56.10, 6th place

Owen Smith, 20:59.70, 27th  
Jayden Schwandt, 21:54.00, 32nd  
Shane Wright, 22:21.20, 35th

## Girls Individual Results in the 5K run:

Audra Burbridge, 20:53.60, 2nd  
Taryn Burbridge, 21:47.00, 3rd  
Lexi Halverson, 23:35.40, 7th  
McKenna Bush, 25:05.60, 15th  
Bianka Ronnebaum, 25:14.30, 16th  
Breanna Bush, 25:28.20, 20th  
Jada Knipper, 26:58.40, 23rd  
Rylee Reed, 30:38.20, 38th  
Jordan Hatfield, 30:55.80, 40th  
Haydin Flannagan, 30:55.90, 41st  
Leah Reicher, 34:20.00, 47th

Congrats to all of the runners that competed! The team will be competing tomorrow in Monticello.



Right: McKenna Bush and Bianka Ronnebaum make their way along the Clayton Ridge course.

Below: Matthew Schaul and Kenyon Baker take an early lead in the boys' race.



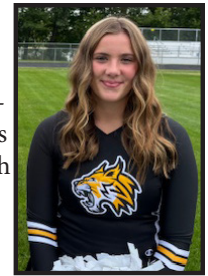
# Athletes of the Week

Name: Jeanie Teymer

**What do you enjoy most about being part of the cheer team?** I enjoy how nice everyone is and that we can all laugh together.

**Why is having cheer important at MV?** I think it's important because we try our best and make things loud and fun, and for people to come support the football team.

**What's your favorite cheer?** Mighty Cats  
**What's something about cheer that others may not know?** Throwing people up is a lot harder than it looks.



Name: Kyle Engleken

**What do you enjoy most about football?** Hitting the other team and winning big games.  
**What lessons about life have you learned from the sport?** How to be mentally tough and push through adversity.

**Who are your favorite pro/college football teams?** I like the Hawkeyes and Steelers.

**Why is football a sport worth going out for?** It teaches you so much about who you are and what you can do.

**Who is your football role model?** My role model is Trevor Grimm (AKA Deacon Hill).

## Wildcats top Knights 49-0

by Maya Smith

Last week, our football boys traveled to North Cedar. At the end of the 1st quarter, the Cats were up 14-0. By the end of the half, it was 49-0, Knights trailing, which wound up the final score.

Here are some game stats:

Passing: Brady Wall; 212 yards; 3 touchdowns.

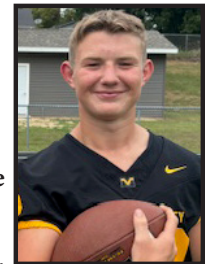
Rushing: Rogan Heidt; 86 yards; 2 touchdowns.

Receiving: Taten Intorf; 62 yards; 1 touchdown, Rogan Heidt; 38 yards; 1 touchdown

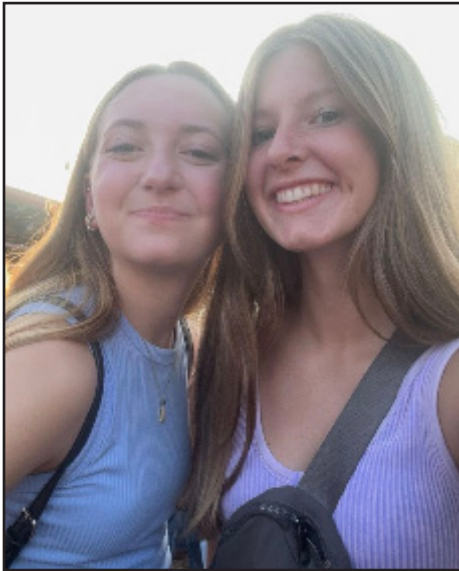
Tackles: Kyle Engelken; 7.5 tackles

As a team, there were 54 total tackles and 2 sacks. In total, MV as a team rushed 159 yards.

Tonight is the boys' first home game. Be there or be square! **The theme tonight is neon.**



# Best Buds



**Lilly Kraft & Ella Reicher**

by Lucy Hucker

### How did the two of you meet?

Lilly: When we combined schools and she was a weirdo.

Ella: Second grade when all of the schools combined.

### What is your favorite memory you have with each other?

Lilly: Going to Galena and mini-golfing and seeing how bad we are.

Ella: Hanging out with her in her car on her 16th birthday. #enoughsaid.

### What song best describes your friendship?

Lilly: "Hideaway" by Daya

Ella: "The Duck Song" by The Duck

### What does a typical hangout look like?

Lilly: We usually go out to eat and go back to Ella's cabin.

Ella: Sitting in Lilly's car with our Roast and Toast

### What do you admire most about your friend?

Lilly: I admire that Ella has a lot of energy and doesn't care about what anyone thinks of her.

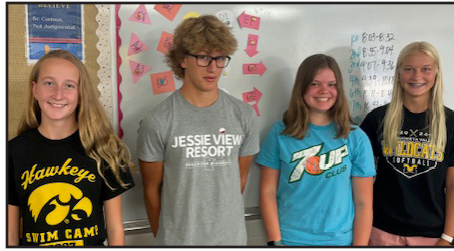
Ella: I admire that she is outgoing and her willingness to telling people how she feels.

### Where do you see each other in the future?

Lilly: I see us still hiding out in the cabin and literally just floating in the water.

Ella: I see her and I still sitting in her car eating food.

# Meet the Freshmen



**Breanna Bush, Sawyer Kemp, Olivia Begle, and Morgan Hoeger**

Name: Morgan Hoeger

Siblings: Ty, Maggie, and Myra Hoeger

Activities you plan to be in: Volleyball, basketball, track, softball, FFA, and speech

Favorite subject: Algebra

Career aspirations: To own my own coffee shop

Hobbies: Hanging out with friends and family, and baking

Something cool about you: I bring cookies to school.

Name: Sawyer Kemp

Siblings: Gavin, Kade, and Kash

Activities you plan to be in: Football, wrestling, golf, FFA

Favorite subject: Lunch

Career aspirations: I don't know

Hobbies: Hunting and fishing

Something cool about you: I have a lot of swag

Name: Breanna Bush

Siblings: McKenna and Brayden Bush

Activities you plan to be in: Cross country, band, marching band, and jazz band

Favorite subject: Spanish

Career aspirations: Olympic swimmer and a business major

Hobbies: Crafts and DIY projects

Something cool about you: I swim for Dubuque area Hurricanes club team, at Hempstead high school, and I'm training for a state qualifying time

Name: Olivia Begle

Siblings: 2 siblings

Activities you plan to be in: Volleyball manager, golf, musical and play crew

Favorite subject: Spanish

Career aspirations: Architecture or Chemical engineer

Hobbies: Art, music, and organizing

Something cool about you: I go camping a lot in the summer

—typist: MaryEllen Smith

# Cutie



by Alaina Mead

This cutie's ready to ride! He is a senior and lives in Earlville. This cutie is the oldest in his family and has two brothers. He is not involved in any sports or activities and is usually working! *Last week's Cutie was Brady Wall.*

# what's up?

by Ryleigh Moriarty

### Who is your favorite celebrity?

Aaliyah Peterson: Jenna Ortega

Matthew Shaul: Yared Nuguse

Grace Richter: Sabrina Carpenter

Cole Beitz: Katy Perry

Eva Mensen: Young Justin Bieber

## Comedy Corner

—compiled by Grace Richter

The first home football game is this week. Here are some silly football jokes to celebrate.

What did the receiver say to the football?  
Catch you Later!

What happens to football players who go blind? Become referees.

Where do football players go when they need a new uniform? New Jersey!

How do football players deal with their problems? Tackle them head-on.

Why do coaches like punters? Because they put their best foot forward!



## Students of the Week

### FFA Members



Kayla Hoeger, Ella Reichner, Emma Brockhohn, Ty Hoeger, Morgan, and Kelsey Hoeger helped at the New Vienna tractor pull last weekend.

Below: Kelsey Hoeger and Ty Hoeger help with the kids pedal pull.

This past weekend, FFA members assisted with the New Vienna tractor pull where proceeds were donated to the family of Dawn Bries, an MV elementary teacher whose husband passed away recently from cancer. Monday, Elaine Langel with the tractor pullers called the school in tears explaining what amazing students MV has in its FFA program. She stated the amount of help they provided with set up and tear down with no questions asked was amazing! She said she cannot emphasize enough what great students we have and how much their help was valued.



## Hall Smarts

by Lylah Billmeyer



MV dominated their volleyball opponents Tuesday night, so the theme for this week is volleyball!

What year was volleyball invented?  
Addie Wilson: 1972  
Tommy Cole: 1950  
Macoy Stone: 1863  
Mason Jolley: 1880  
Answer: 1895

What state was the first-ever volleyball game played in?

Addie: Arkansas  
Tommy: North Carolina  
Macoy: Kansas  
Mason: Virginia  
Answer: Massachusetts

What's the word for when you stop the ball from hitting the ground after it being spiked by the opposing team?

Addie: Bump  
Tommy: Receive  
Macoy: block  
Mason: dig  
Answer: Dig

What was volleyball's original name?

Addie: Handball  
Tommy: Massive Sport  
Macoy: spike ball  
Mason: teather toss  
Answer: Mintonette

**Food Pantry Drive!**

**AT THE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH FOOTBALL GAME!**

HOSTED BY THE **MVDT**