

The Wildcat Echo

A publication by the students of Maquoketa Valley High School

Meet the Assistant FFA Adviser: Kristi Goedken

by Abby Nieman

With growing numbers and increased opportunities for FFA students, MV has hired an assistant FFA adviser. Kristi Goedken, MV alumna, has returned to her roots.

What is her FFA background?

Kristi was actively involved in FFA in high school, which is close to ten years ago. She competed in many contests, including livestock judging, floriculture, dairy foods, parliamentary procedure, and Greenhand/chapter tests. Kristi also served as the chapter secretary and reporter while running for district office. She attended state and national conventions three times in her high school career. Kristi ended up receiving her Greenhand, Chapter, Iowa, and American degrees.

Why does she want this position?

Kristi got to know Ms. Lau when Kristi and Ms. Lau were in college at Iowa State University together. Kristi has been through the FFA program and knows the benefits it's provided her with, to become a better leader, network with others, and

challenge herself in contests to constantly do better. Kristi became active in our Alumni Chapter when that was formed and felt that every kid should be involved in FFA, whether they grew up on a farm or not. She stated, "It teaches SO much more than just knowledge of agriculture." As our chapter continues to grow in numbers, Ms. Lau can't do it all by herself, so being able to work with her and provide as many opportunities as they can for kids is what drew Kristi in. Ms. Lau only has so many hours in the day to help kids, so Ms. Lau and Kristi already work together behind the scenes, and now they can continue to do just that!

What are her duties?

This role will allow Kristi to assist Ms. Lau in helping coach some contests, chaperone events such as contests or state/national convention, and be a listening ear for members. Kristi will also work closely with Ms. Lau to see how they can improve the program as a whole while providing the same great opportunities for kids.

What does she do when she's not working with the FFA?



Kristi poses with her fiancé, Clay Willenbring.

Kristi works for Pioneer Seeds during the day, supporting 26 sales reps in North Central Iowa, by shipping them their corn/soybeans/alfalfa during the year that they sell. She also takes care of all returns at year's end while cutting their commission checks. Outside of Pioneer, she also helps her fiance farm his livestock and row crop operation west of Delhi.

Fun fact or two about Kristi

Kristi traveled to Uruguay and Uganda to study abroad while at Iowa State. She is engaged to fellow MV alumnus, Clay Willenbring.

Meet some new students

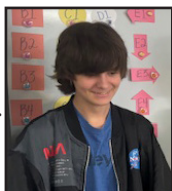
by Taylor Saunders

Each school year brings some new names on the Wildcat roster. Get to know some of them!

Gabe Saunders is a freshman who transferred from West Delaware. He participates in cross country. He's excited to meet new people at Maquoketa Valley. A unique fact about Gabe is the fact that he used to play guitar.



Gage Jessen is a freshman who transferred from Abilene High School. This new freshman also has a fascination with spiders.



Halle Mauer is a freshman who transferred from Eleanor Roosevelt Middle School in Asbury, Iowa. She doesn't plan



to participate in any activities this year, but next year possibly volleyball. One thing she is excited for this school year is meeting new people. Her plans after high school are to go to college and become a vet. Something unique about Halle is that she has had glasses since she was three years old.

Mylee Hoffmann is a junior who transferred from West Delaware, she moved over to Hopkinton. At this time she does not plan to participate in activities. She's very excited to meet new people and make new friendships. After high school she plans to find a full-time job. A unique fact about Mylee is she's the only one in her family to have red hair.



Savannah Hoffmann is a senior who transferred from West Delaware.



Junior Grant Thomas is a former Anamosa student.



Gabriella McDermott is a junior who transferred from Western Dubuque.

Sports Connection

Varsity volleyball hosts Clayton Ridge and Jesup, go 1-1

by Natalie Ries

The Wildcats didn't have to travel last week Thursday. Clayton Ridge and Jesup came to play against the Wildcats. The girls went 1-1 winning against Clayton Ridge.

The varsity team started out by playing against Jesup. The team fell just short of a win (21-18 and 21-13).

"Thursday night we showed some good aggressive plays, we just need to dial in and execute," stated coach Nefzger. Against Jesup Kelsey Hoeger had the most successful serves with seven successful serves. Lili Bauers and Lanni Beaman both had six successful serves following Hoeger. On the defensive court Lanni Beaman led with most blocks against Jesup. Beaman had two blocks against the J-Hawks. Lili Bauers also led for the highest number of digs. Bauers had an amazing 17 digs. Kelsey Hoeger and Lanni Beaman both had 10 digs during

these two sets. Offensively Kelsey Hoeger had the most assists, with 12 assists. Grace Richter led the teams with most successful kills. Richter had nine kills on the J-Hawks to round out the game.

The Wildcats then played the Clayton Ridge Eagles where they pulled out the first win of the season (22-20 and 21-10).

Coach Nefzger said she is impressed with the serving of this team this early in the season. "Our serving has really improved. At this time in the season we have a team serving efficiency of 90%. Again, it is very early in the season but we finished our season last year with a team serving efficiency of 84.7%." Lili Bauers, Grace Richter and Macee Nolan all contributed by having an ace in the game. The sophomores dominated with their blocking against Clayton Ridge. Both Ava Knipper and Camryn Paris had two solo blocks against the Ea-

gles. Lili Bauers also improved her digs by having five more digs against Clayton Ridge than Bauers had against Jesup by having 23 digs against the Eagles. Jumping over to the offense for the Wildcats. Macee Nolan led with the most assists. Nolan had 13 assists. Grace Richter did not stop her fire and led the team once again for most kills in the two sets. Richter had seven kills totaling out to be 16 kills on the night for the Wildcats.

The Wildcats traveled to Bellevue Marquette last night for all three levels and the first games for Fresh/Soph and JV. These stats for Varsity will be in next week's Echo along with the stats and scores from Tuesday nights home Tri.

"Make sure to get out and support all of your Wildcat athletes!"-Maquoketa Valley Wildcat volleyball team!

More than a team

Football team falls to Cougars

by Maya Smith

The first game for the Wildcats was a tough one. They traveled to Cascade last Friday to take on the Cougars. It was a slow start, ending the 1st quarter 0-0. At halftime, we were up 3-0. Unfortunately, the Cats fell short in the 2nd half and ended the game 9-10.

Coach Christensen remarked, "Last Friday's game vs. Cascade was one that I feel all of the players and coaches have found frustrating. We outgained them by over 100 yards, ran more offensive plays and only gave up 10 points. When all of those things happen you should win. Overall we didn't have that mentality needed to finish drives, and a few too many mental mistakes. This week we have really been focusing on ourselves, and 'cleaning up' some of those areas. When we are able to play our best game, we will be tough to beat. This Friday I am looking forward to how much

we improve from week 1 to week 2."

The stat leaders for the game are as follows; Brady Wall threw for 97 yards; Rogan Heidt rushed 127 yards and one touchdown; Tate Intorf had 64 receiving yards; Eli Dougherty kicked a 26-yard field goal, and Nathan Beitz led the team in tackles at 5.5.

Other stats:

Rushing: Wall, 65 yards; Dylan Knipper, 30 yards

Receiving: Dougherty, 3 yards; Anderson Holtz, 13 yards; Knipper, 17 yards

Tackles: Heidt, 4.5; Knipper, 4.5; Colin Smith, 4.5; Preston Salow, 3.5; Kyle Engelken, 3; Dalton Africa, 3

This week, the Cats prepare for their game against North Cedar tonight. **The theme tonight is country!**



Members of MV's dance team helped at Lenox College Day last Saturday. Above: Cheyenne Eike uses her face-painting skills to bring someone a smile. The dance team has been recognized for several years at State Dance for its volunteer work.

Regular Board Meeting – August 29, 2024

The regular meeting of the Maquoketa Valley Board of Education was called to order by President Donna Kunde at 5:30 p.m. on August 29, 2024. All motions carried unanimously unless otherwise noted.

Board Members Present – Dabroski, Feldmann, Kunde, Overman, Zietlow

Board Members Absent – None

Staff Present – Supt. Kim Huckstadt, Jackie Moorman, Tiersa Frasher, Brenda Becker, Erika Vanderloop, Lily Aulwes, Jill Hoeger, Mike Hucker and Tom McAreavy

Visitors Present – Mark Smith, Jim Beitz, Mike Putz, Leah Reicher, Landyn Haas and Logan Beaman

Motion was made by Zietlow, seconded by Dabroski 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.

Leah Reicher, FFA Member, updated the Board on her experience at the Washington Leadership Conference held this past June. Miss Reicher expressed her appreciation to the Board for allowing students to attend these types of events as it was a learning experience for her.

Discussion regarding technology usage took place. Further discussion will happen over the course of the year.

One open enrollment request in and three open enrollment requests out were approved in a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Zietlow. All ayes. Carried.

The following personnel recommendations were approved in a motion by Overman, seconded by Dabroski:

Curt Hines – employed as High School Custodian

Dennis Wood – resignation as Bus Driver
Andy Schuster – resignation as Middle School Baseball Coach

Tom McAreavy – employed as Bus Driver
Trevor Boge – resignation as High School Baseball Coach

Jeff McCormick – resignation as Paraprofessional

Bobbi Bauers – employed as Paraprofessional
Roll call vote answered as follows: Dabroski, Feldmann, Kunde, Zietlow, ayes; Overman, nay. Carried.

The 2024-2025 St. Joe's Daycare and HACAP Food Service agreements were approved in a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Zietlow. All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Overman, seconded by Feldmann the Board approved the 2024-2025 Kirkwood Concurrent Enrollment Partnership Contract. This allows students to take classes from Kirkwood through the Jones Regional Center in Monticello and earn college credits while still in high school. All ayes. Carried.

The board approved the call for bus bids to be purchased in FY26 in a motion by Zietlow, seconded by Dabroski. All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Zietlow, seconded by Feldmann the 2024-2025 fundraising requests were approved. All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Overman the Board approved the 2024-2025 Bus Driver Handbook and Preschool Handbooks were approved. All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Dabroski, seconded by Feldmann the Board approved the out-of-district senior citizen's pass. Currently, any senior citizen (age 65) that lives within the district, is eligible to receive a senior citizen pass free of charge. This pass allows them admission into any event held at MV free of charge. This is a lifetime pass. The out-of-district senior citizen pass would allow any senior citizen that lives outside of the district the opportunity to purchase a lifetime pass for \$50. Roll call vote was answered as follows: Dabroski, Feldmann, Kunde, Zietlow, ayes; Overman, nay. Carried.

In a motion by Zietlow, seconded by Overman the 2024-2025 Bound Agreement with ASPi was approved. All ayes. Carried.

The Board approved the 2024-2025 Letter of Agreement with Monticello for the Alternative High School in a motion by Overman, seconded by Feldmann. All ayes.

In a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Dabroski the Board approved the 2024-2025 Concurrent Enrollment Contract with Northeast Iowa Community College. Again, this allows students to earn college credits while still in high school. The courses may be taken online or in-house by students that elect to enroll. All ayes. Carried.

In a motion by Dabroski, seconded by Zietlow the Board approved out of state FFA travel request from Ms. Lau for the World Dairy Expo in Madison, WI on October 1, 2024, and the National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis, IN on October 22 – 26th. All ayes. Carried.

The Iowa Association of School Boards Convention is Nov. 20-22nd.

The September board meeting will be held on September 23rd at 5:30 p.m. in the High School Library.

The open enrollment process has been very fluid this summer. It appears the district will see a positive enrollment trend this year.

Director Kunde discussed reviewing IASB Lighthouse topics each month. Further discussion of this will take place in September.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m. in a motion by Feldmann, seconded by Overman. All ayes. Carried.

Athletes of the Week

Name: Claira Gray

What do you enjoy most about being part of the cheer team? I

most enjoy just spending time with the team and getting to know them all better. I also have just enjoyed watching the team improve so much this season.

Why is having cheer important at MV?

I think that it's important because it helps bring energy to the game on Friday and entertainment at halftime as well as at pep rallies.

What's your favorite cheer? My favorite cheer would have to be, "Hey, Hey You!"

What's something about cheer that others may not know? How much thought and planning ahead of time goes into it, and how long it takes us to prepare so that we are all on the same page when it comes to be game time.



Name: Grace Richter

How did you prepare for this season in the off-season? I did lifting with Abby DeGroot which helped me get much stronger on the court!

What's your favorite part of practice? I like scrimmaging the best. It's fun and you get to see what we need to work on more.

What's your goal for the team this season? I really believe that this team can WIN a conference championship this year!

What has made your junior year unique for you? This year has felt unique because only having two seniors on the team means I need to step up and be more of a leader on this team. I'm still trying to improve on this skill but I hope I can use the experience I have and help my teammates more.

What can the crowd do to help pump up the team? I think that if the crowd

can really get into the game and cheer super loud when we do something good it would give the team a ton of confidence!

One thing I have noticed though is that the student section cheers when we are serving. Although I love the energy, that can be kind of distracting. It would be way better if they would be super loud when the opposing team was serving to get into their heads ;)



Best Buds



Brielle Kuhn & Lena Lewin

by Lucy Hucker

How did the two of you meet?

Lena: In Kindergarten

Brielle: At school

What is your favorite memory you have with each other?

Lena: Every time we hangout.

Brielle: When we ride around on the golf cart.

What song best describes your friendship?

Lena: "HOT-TO-GO" by Chappell Roan

Brielle: "Replay" by Zendaya.

What does a typical hangout look like?

Lena: Driving around and listening to music

Brielle: Plotting our love lives

What do you admire most about your friend?

Lena: Brielle is just unbothered.

Brielle: She is always so nice.

Where do you see each other in the future?

Lena: I see her being very wealthy and having a hot husband.

Brielle: I see her married to a dirt bike husband with dirt bike babies.

Cutie



by Alaina Mead

This cutie's ready for Halloween!

This is a junior and he lives in Delhi. He is involved in football, basketball, track and baseball. This cutie also is the oldest kid in his family and has a younger brother! *Last week's cutie was Taylor Salow.*

what's up?

by Ryleigh Moriarty

What are you most excited for this school year?

Tracy Reth - I am most excited to watch Friday night football games and spend time with my friends.

Mr. DeVore - Helping students become better mathematicians, watching students in their extra-curricular activities, and laughing with my co-workers!!

Ever Botos - I am most excited this school year for all the activities that we do before Christmas or thanksgiving break. Also homecoming week is a blast in the school.

Kipton Thompson - Baseball

Eva Mensen - I'm most excited about spending time with my friends.

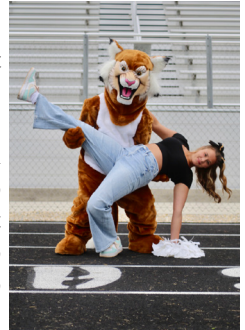
Carly Dirks - I'm excited for Drama Productions.

Maya Smith - Golf

JT's closet

B r r ...

Guess what time it is? You guessed it! It's fall. Fall is the coziest time of year. I'm sure you'll want to feel good about what you're wearing. So today, I'm going to help you with that.



Let's start by **Jeanie Teymer**

at the bottom...your

shoes. New Balances, Blazers, Nike Air Forces, low Hunter boots and Covers. You could style all these with cute socks.

For bottoms the most common things to wear are leggings (black), filled in mom jeans, overalls, baggy sweats or joggers.

For top options we have sweaters, sweatshirts/crews and long sleeve tops. The colors for the season are neutral fall colors. Think browns, tans, blacks and reds.

Don't forget the hair pieces. Add a fun ribbon or bow to style it. If you like to follow trends, wear a knotted headband that would look great with beachy waves, low ponies, braids, or even a slick back bun.

I hope that you get ready for fall with all these cute ideas. Have an amazing Friday... GO CATS.

Comedy Corner

—compiled by Grace Richter

Here are just some random jokes for today!

The past, present, and future walked into a bar. It was tense.

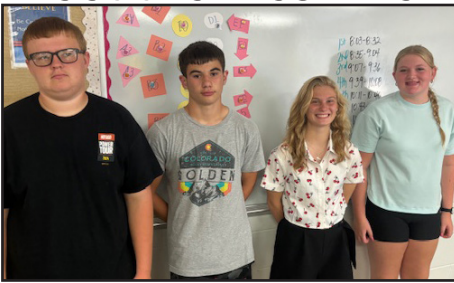
What did one DNA strand say to the other? Does my bum look big in these genes?

Two years ago I asked the girl of my dreams out on a date, and today I asked her to marry me. She said no on both occasions.

My boss told me yesterday, "You shouldn't dress for the job you have, dress for the job you want". But when I turned up today in Ghostbusters clothes, he said I was fired.

I thought I'd tell you a brilliant time-travel joke, but you didn't like it.

Meet the Freshmen



Trent, Owen, Ryleigh and Eva

Name: Eva Mensen
 Siblings: Owen and Ella
 Activities you plan to be in: Golf and Speech
 Favorite subject: Science
 Career aspirations: Cosmetologist
 Hobbies: Doing nails and crocheting
 Something cool about you: I was on a billboard when I was little

Name: Trent Timmer
 Siblings: None
 Activities you plan to be in: Football, FFA, and Golf
 Favorite subject: Ag
 Career aspirations: Dirt Work or Mechanic
 Hobbies: Farming, riding dirt bikes, hanging out with friends, and deer hunting
 Something cool about you: I have two different colored eyes.

Name: Owen Smith
 Siblings: Maya Smith
 Activities you plan to be in: FFA, Cross Country, Track, Marching Band, Jazz Band, and Speech
 Favorite subject: Spanish
 Career aspirations: I don't know
 Hobbies: Video games
 Something cool about you: I like to run.

Name: Ryleigh Moriarity
 Siblings: Twin brothers, Aden and Dane
 Activities you plan to be in: Speech, Volleyball, Musical, Play, Jazz Band/Choir, Marching Band, and Track
 Favorite subject: Math
 Career aspirations: Architect, Graphic Design, and Singing
 Hobbies: Writing stories, singing, band, and drawing
 Something cool about you: I can be very loud when I get comfortable around someone.

—typist: MaryEllen Smith

Hall Smarts

by Lylah Billmeyer



When is the first day of fall?

Lucy Hucker: Sept. 21
 Ava Knipper: Sept. 21
 Kipton Thompson: Sept. 23
 Rylan Rauch: Oct. 3
 Answer: Sept. 22

Which state produces the most pumpkins?

Lucy: Iowa
 Ava: Wisconsin
 Kipton: New Hampshire
 Rylan: Nevada
 Answer: Illinois

Student council, class officer election results

Student body president: Leah Reicher
 Senior Rep: McKenna Bush
 Junior Rep: Maya Smith
 Sophomore Rep: Ella Reicher
 Freshman Rep: Kayla Hoeger

Class officers

Senior
 President: Leah Reicher
 Vice-president: McKenna Bush
 Secretary/treasurer: Kelsey Hoeger

Junior
 President: Grace Richter
 Vice-president: Taryn Burbridge
 Secretary/treasurer: Maya Smith

Sophomore
 President: Kyle Engelken
 Vice-president: Natalie Ries
 Secretary/treasurer: Ava Knipper

Freshman
 President: Lylah Billmeyer
 Vice-president: Taylor Salow
 Secretary/treasurer: Aubrie Althoff

Deep Dive by Arianna Nolan



Welcome back, Divers! Now that we are back into full swing into school, it's time to learn about the creatures of the sea again! This week, we will be taking a look at a wondrous jellyfish of the deep blue sea. The Deep Sea-Crown jellyfish is what we will be taking a closer look at today through our diver goggles. This creature is a beautiful crimson red color, and is about 15 centimeters in length (6 inches). This jellyfish is one of the most common, and can be found in every ocean in the world, but that doesn't mean it's not interesting to learn about! This jellyfish has a tentacle that is about six times longer than its bell, which is like the head to other animals. It uses this tentacle to catch prey while it's swimming by.

So what does the Deep Sea-Crown jellyfish eat? Usually, these jellyfish prey on plankton and small crustaceans. What makes this jellyfish so unique is how it is able to survive when food is limited, while the predators are plentiful. It is able to protect itself from predators because it is able to hide itself so well. These jellyfish are located in the midnight zone of the ocean which is around 3,300 feet to 13,000 feet down, according to the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). So while it may appear red to us, it is dark, black color to the predators. These jellyfish are also able to admit a light that is a warning to predators to back off in case their camouflage doesn't work.

There is still a lot to be learned about these spectacular creatures, which is I recommend you go do your own research at the website Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, which is where all the information I got from this creature came from. Also, a little reminder that you can recommend sea creatures to me by emailing me, and I will do a special edition on them! So long divers, and I hope you have a *fantastic* weekend!