

The Messenger

Vernon Junior High School
November, 1973



8th GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM
see story, page 2

We Ask They Answer

We asked, "What did you do on Veteran's Day?"
They answered--
Lori Miller--Slept, ate, and watched TV
Melissa Rogers--Huh?

Mr. Ebertsch--Stayed home with the kids.
Mark Duncan--Went hunting.
Miss Ebersole--Enjoyed my family's company, attended a special Veteran's Day service, and sewed!
Jane Maxey--Slept, ate, played football and practiced my flute.
Mr. Miller--Slept and exercised.
Mr. Meggers--Thought about people lost in World War II.
Mrs. Wood--Took a carload of kids from 4-H on a tour of the Amanas.

We asked, "What are your plans for Thanksgiving?"
They answered:
Dave Wolmutter--Go to my grandma's and

Birthdays of the MONTH

Nov. 22--Angie Garcia and Jay Myers. Do you suppose they have their candles on pumpkin pie?
Nov. 23--Mike Ryan
Nov. 25--Kathy Welsh
Nov. 27--Dina Hefel
Nov. 29--Kim Brasel, Mike Woodson
Dec. 1--Susan Halverson, Steve Halverson, Mike Harris
Dec. 2--Sue Ebsen, Lou Ann Spain
Dec. 3--Debbie Schminkey
Dec. 5--Linda White, Martha Knapp
Dec. 6--Barb Hames
Dec. 8--Bob Van Dolah, Paula Collins
Dec. 9--Chuck Robbins
Dec. 10--Steve Harris
Dec. 13--Julie Hawkins
Dec. 14--Carrie Lighty
Dec. --Janet Webel, Donna Grant
Dec. 17--Kevin Skinner
Dec. 18--Frank White, Debbie Taylor

We regret omitting Becky Boysen from the September birthdays.

Creative Writing

Students Discuss Loneliness

LONELINESS

Here I sit all alone, looking at four walls and wondering where my friends are. I have tried in my eighty odd years to be a loyal and true friend. I helped the needy listened to others' troubles, visited the sick, and ran errands for those unable to do for themselves.

Now I sit all alone in the nursing home. Where are so-called friends? Those that said, "If you ever need me, old buddy, just give a whistle and I'll come running." I guess I have served my usefulness so I am no longer needed. But it surely would be nice to have just someone stop by, smile, and say, "How are you today, old friend."

Steve Leytem

If loneliness was just me as a little rag-doll

And understanding went as far as my button eye can see,
Then maybe I'd accept my solitude
And like a little raggedy head

I'd smile on childishly, but thoughts

that fill my head
Are not of cotton.
Beneath my skin
I'm as real as I can be.
LouAnn Spain

ALONE

There's a boy alone,
Yes, he's the one.
The boy eating a hamburger,
With a poppyseed bun.

He sits there every day,
Eating the same old stuff.
Nobody ever talks to him,
His life must really be tough.

He looks at the children running,
The children having fun.
But he is always sitting there
Eating his poppyseed bun.

Well, the years went by,
And the students still have fun.
But they never noticed the absence,
Of the boy with the poppyseed bun.
Kevin Jacoby

Drama Club Organizes

This year the 7th and 8th grade Dramatic Club held its first general meeting Thursday, Oct. 18. The members nominated officers and elected them the following day by ballot. They also read aloud the club's constitution.

Officers elected are Tracy Warnke, president, Vivian Klopfenstein, vice-presi-

dent, Leigh Murdoch, secretary, Laurie Van Gorp, treasurer, and Jane Huber, newspaper representative.

The executive committee this year also includes Joel Gaede, Valerie Kramer, Julie Enneking, Linda McCormack, and Janice Kenchloe. Noel Smith is a holdover from last year. The executive committee is composed of the people elected, the people that came in second in the elections, and one holdover member.

On Thursday, November 1, the seventh graders interested in acting got together and decided on a play. They decided on "No Time for Spirits". The tryouts for this play were held Wednesday, Nov. 14, 1973 after school.

Messenger Marks 20th Birthday

This month we celebrate the beginning of the MESSENGER. Twenty years ago the paper INDIAN ECHO was started. This paper started in November 1953 and continued in print until 1963.

After the junior high moved into the present building, the paper was reborn. Not only was there a new adviser, but the name changed to THE MESSENGER. Mrs. Louise Wright was the adviser for three years. The first editor of the MESSENGER was Cindy Clossen, who is now the home economist for Iowa Electric Light and Power Company. Miss Coleman was the adviser from 1966 to 1969 when Mrs. Larson became the adviser.

get fat!

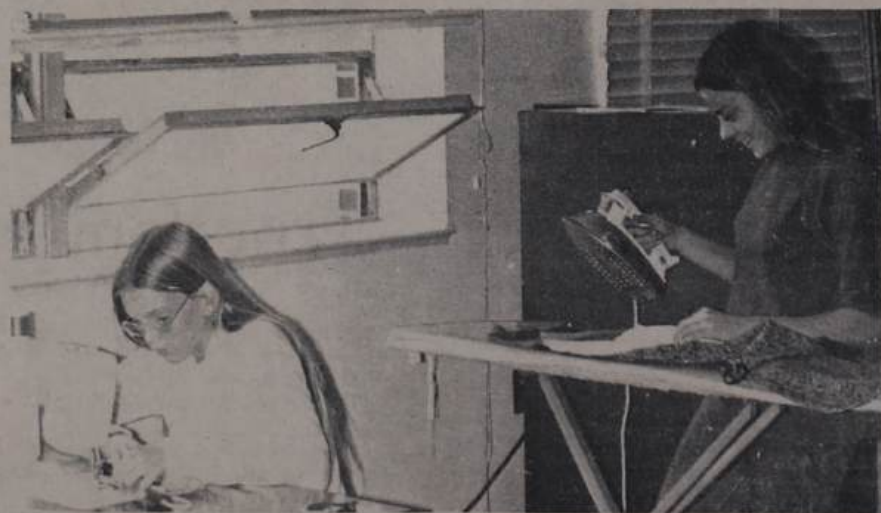
Laurie Zundel--I'll be feeding my face!
Mrs. Borg--Visit my sisters.
Barb Zimmerman--Eat and eat and eat.
Linda White--Not much.
Noel Smith--Sleep in.
Ron Parker--Nothing.
LouAnn Spain--Dreaming about Mike Cummings.
Ann Winistorfer--Go to my grandmas.
Rick Palmer--Eating.
Mona Faur--Doing homework--maybe!
Shelly Barker--Play basketball.
Cathy Shaffer--Watch the parades.
Karen Park--Nothing.
Debbie Miller--Eating mostly, and watching a couple of parades.

We asked, "What do you like most about Thanksgiving?"

They answered:
Ralph Gorton--Going to my cousins'
Ann Ames--The turkey
Jerry Kirk--Everything except the cranberry sauce.
Lori Zierath--The food



John Schindler and Robert Lee explain their social studies Civil War project.



Geri Tritle works at the sewing machine and Amy Skilling presses a seam.



Mrs. READ

Mrs. Read is the reading consultant at our junior high. Many of us saw her at the beginning of the year when she explained our textbooks, but perhaps you have questions about what she does.

She helps teachers get material such as textbooks and additional information for their classes. Mrs. Read helps students with reading problems of all kinds. She explains things from the text book to confused students three mornings a week.



Kristi Craft and Linda White explore the mysteries of a sewing machine.



Seventh grade wrestlers are coached by Mr. Messerli.

Wrestlers Earn Two Victories

Friday, Nov. 2, the Marion Junior High wrestling teams got their season off to a good start at Monticello by a score of 52-21. The fastest pin went to Larry Atwater in 34 seconds. Other pinners for Marion were Scott Oglesby in 1:16, Bart Dolley in 1:45, Doug Murray 1:57, and Greg Pollock 2:44. Wrestlers who won by decisions were John Peterzalek, Rod Douglas, Larry Offerman, Bruce Winch, Den Cemej, Mark Klopfenstein, and Brad McAreavy.

On Friday, November 9, the Vemon wrestlers defeated Tipton by a large 112 to 33 majority. Surprising even Mr. Cahalan by the size of their win, they at one time had 8 pins in a row. Larry Offerman got the fastest pin by pinning his opponent in 15 seconds. For the most part the boys did an excellent job.

When you start wrestling, it's fun. You learn moves and counter-moves and you have fun, but when you go out on that mat, it's not so much fun anymore. It's just you and him and no one else. You're trying to think, but you can't because you're all mixed up.

Before the match you've decided what you're going to do when you're up and when you're down. So you walk out there, look across the mat, and say to yourself, "He's not too big-looking." But don't let the little ones fool you; they're just as good as the big ones.

The whistle blows. He starts to come at you, and wham!--he got the take-down--and two points. You're on your stomach trying to get away. But you can't. He works his way up to your chest, slips in the half and rolls you over on your back, squirming and trying to roll over. But you can't. The mat stinks now. You begin to hate wrestling. He starts to cradle you. You resist, but it doesn't work. You're confused. You rest for a moment, and in that moment you're pinned. That was all he needed--just that one moment, and you're done.

You get up. You're mad. You pick yourself up, shake his hand, and he won. You're about to give up wrestling, but something keeps you in. You think to yourself, "Next time we meet, you'd better be ready because I'm going to pin YOU next time."

Aerial Teams Dangerous, Wasteful

Are precision aerial teams necessary? Currently there are four aerial teams, including the air force Thunderbirds, the army Golden Knights and Silver Eagles, and, of course, the navy's Blue Angels.

The Pentagon now budgets \$5.3 million for the demo teams.

Many crashes occur yearly. Every time a Blue Angel crashes, it costs the taxpayers \$2.5 million. The teams move at approximately 450 mph, their wings no more than three feet apart. In all, the demonstration teams have used millions of dol-

lars, and 33 have died since the teams have started. In the past year alone, they've had five crashes and 18 deaths.

These planes perform before five and six million people a year, and over large civilian populations in the show areas. What if one of these crashes hits a crowd or a housing development?

I think they should stop these aerial teams before something tragic happens, and use the taxpayers' money for something more useful.

By Larry Grekoff

Editorial

Be Thankful for America

Thanksgiving is usually thought of as turkey, pumpkin pie, other good foods, stomach aches, and Alka Seltzer. But there is more to it than just food.

What with Watergate, soaring prices, fuel shortages, and devaluation of the dollar, you may feel that there is nothing left to be thankful for in this country. But you're wrong. Ours is a country where you can be what you want to be.

But in Russia the government decides what you want to be. In Ireland people are constantly afraid of being killed by their countrymen. In the Middle East the people are in constant fear of war. When it comes to Thanksgiving feasting, we worry about getting fat while in India and other places people are starving.

So when Thanksgiving rolls around, just remember our country's good points and you'll have plenty to be thankful for.

Girls BB Wrap-up

The 7th grade A squad girls basketball team played their first game on Oct. 30 at Manchester. We lost 34-46. Mr. Campbell thought we all played well for our first game. Janene McElree led the scoring with 18 points. He thought our defense played well. All nineteen players saw action.

The 7th grade B squad also started the season at Manchester. We lost by a score of 0-10. Mr. Ebertsch said that he thought there was much room for improvement. He thought that Lisa Binner and Terri Hall hustled in and played well in defensive court.

The Marion Indianettes of the 8th grade A squad played Manchester here on Oct. 30. Both teams played hard, but Manchester had a victory over Marion with a score of 44-34.

The B squad game against Manchester was really a great one with a Marion victory, 30-16. The Indianettes had good de-

fensive work.

The eighth grade A and B squads were happy on Nov. 6 when they both beat Independence. The A squad score was 18-6, and for the B squad it was 21-8. In the A squad game, good plays were made by Joy Carstens and Paula Pitzen. Linda White and Laurie Landis made good plays for B squad.

In the 7th grade A squad game at Independence all of the girls were pretty high scorers. Jane Huber led off shots with 16 points. Janene McElree was second with 8. Dawn Moser and Cheryl Barker each made 6. At the end of the first quarter Marion led Independence 12-6. At the half the score was 26-13, and the final score was Marion 48 and Independence 26.

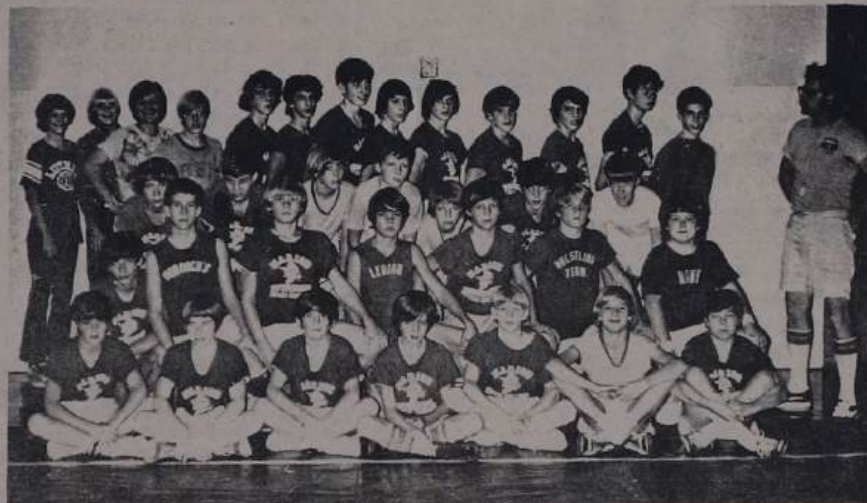
On Nov. 13 the 8th grade B squad played at Manchester in an ever-exciting game. Linda White kept smashing in baskets, having a total of 20 points. Sandy McGovern had a total of 5. At the end of the floor Laurie Van Gorp, Tami DeWoody, and Wendy Sievers all set up a good defense. The half-time score was 15-8 for Marion, and the final score was Marion 31-Manchester 12. The B squad season is 3-0. Good work!

The A squad had an even more exciting game at Manchester. One of the most exciting times was when Brenda Hauck threw in a hook shot--and made it!

Joy Carstens popped in quite a few baskets, total ing 18 points. Brenda Hauck had 6 and Paula Pitzen had 4. On the other side of the court was Leigh Murdoch and Amy Skilling stealing the ball all over the place, leaving Manchester's forwards stunned. At the half Manchester led 20-12, and the final score was also for Manchester 25-28. The 8th grade A squad's season is 1-2.

In the seventh grade B squad game with Manchester on Nov. 13, we were defeated 11-24. Marion made all their points in the first half. Kelly Mathews made 6 points in baskets and 3 points in free throws. Teresa Cracraft also scored.

In the seventh A squad game we were also defeated, 23-32. Cheryl Barker made 8 points, and Dawn Moser made 6. Other scorers were Janice Kincheloe, Janene McElree, and Jane Huber.



Coach Cahalan looks over the 8th grade wrestlers.

In-Service Includes Pancakes

On the Nov. 2 in-service today the teachers got together at 7:45 for breakfast. The teachers got the idea because they wanted to do something new.

On that odd morning, they fixed a large breakfast. Mr. Cahalan and Mr. Ebertsch flipped the pancakes. Mr. Taylor tried his luck on eggs. Mr. Miller turned the sausage, and the orange juice honors went to Mr. Brainard. All this commotion took place in the home ec room. Only six pancakes burned. How about that?

Well, after some of the teachers got back from the hospital (!), we got a few comments. Read on---

Mrs. Dunn--Very nice. Delicious. It went off very well and the men are good cooks.

Miss Ebersole--The food was delicious. The men were good "waitresses". I'd like to do it again.

WHO keeps your books neat? Library people! Who heads these people? Mrs. Raasch! The officers of the Library Club are Connie Panek, president, Vivian Klopfenstein, vice-president and Tami DeWoody, secretary.

Mr. Barrow--All that was needed was a pancake flipping contest! Mr. Taylor--The eggs were great! Give that a cook a medal!

Mr. Miller--It was fun, and we could do it again. The sausage was great!

Mrs. Johnston--It was good.

Mrs. Raasch--It was nice to be waited on. Also, the egg fryer was superb.

Mr. Ebertsch--Chef Cahalan whips up a super batter, but O. (Orange) J. (Juice) Brainard needs to read the label.

Mrs. Moore--Great to be with my fellow teachers.

Mrs. Taylor--Very Excellent. So much delicious food. I enjoyed it immensely.

Mrs. Larson--It was really fun and such good conversation.

Mrs. Borg--Super-delicious! We may lose some of our teachers as chefs.

Miss Riemenschneider--They were really nice to us. The food was excellent. It was new to me because in the other school, we didn't have these get-togethers.

Mr. Shultz--Good. Mr. Cahalan and Mr. Ebertsch are good pancake makers!

Now can't you just imagine all those men in pretty-colored aprons!

(Editor's note: We all regret that due to circumstances beyond our control we do not have a picture of this historic occasion.)

Boys Lettermen Choose Officers

On Tuesday, Oct. 30, the Boys' Lettermen Club met. Matt Moeller, as last year's vice-president, automatically became president. In his absence Mike Freilinger presided. Other officers elected were Brad Albaugh, vice-president, and Larry Atwater, secretary-treasurer.

Then Mr. Meggers brought up the subject of having a wiener roast at Thomas Park along with initiation all in one. Only lettermen would be able to attend. Then Mr. Messerli brought up the idea of going to a wrestling meet or having a swimming party for entertainment.

On Nov. 6 the Boys' Lettermen Club held a wiener roast. As soon as the fires were high, the president of the initiation committee, Mike Freilinger, announced to all new members what their initiation was. So they all took off to run around Suicide Hill. The catch was that they couldn't come back until they had found the shirt that was hidden up on Suicide. Well, they all went home with greasy hair and lipstick on their faces. There was plenty of food left over.

Girls Lettermen Meet, Give Honors

The Girls' Letterman Club held a meeting to elect officers. These were President--Brenda Hauck, Vice-president--Amy Skilling, Secretary--Tami DeWoody, Treasurer--Carol Anderson, Newspaper reporter--Denise Jackson.

A meeting for officers of the club was held to discuss if we should have dues or have a project. We decided on a dance sometime in March. We also discussed the possibility of having a sweatshirt or T-shirt for for all the sports.

This is a club for any girl who earned a letter in basketball, gymnastics, or track. If any girl got the equivalent to a letter in softball this year, she can also join. In this club you do projects that are decided by the members and then carried out.

In girls softball season that just closed these girls earned awards.

Those who earned equivalent to an "M" are:

8th grade
Cheryl Bogard, Carol Anderson, Tami DeWoody, Brenda Hauck, Denise Jackson, Valerie Kramer, Jackie LeClere, Debbie McCleary, Debbie Miller, Leigh Murdoch, Cathy Sheaffer, Debra Shultz, Amy Skilling, Kathy Welsh, Laurie Zundel, Dina Hefel

7th grade
Cheryl Barker, Kathy Claypatch, Annette Foege, Lou Ann Freilinger, Kelly Matthews, Diana McPherson, Dawn Moser, Debbie Pietsch, Kristi Unsted.

Those who earned equivalent to a certificate:

8th grade
Sarah Bennett, Donna Coleman, Lorrie Kinkead, Terri Kopetsky, Lisa Muller, Sharene Ottaway, Lou Ann Spain, Manager, Pat Wilson, Sandy Moorman, manager

7th grade
Joni Balcom, Shawn Bolden, Teresa Cracraft, Lisa Hartl, Traci Grussendorf, Mary Katzmark, Cami Kemp, Kim Kemp, Cally Malone, Dana Marolf, Patty Painter, Jennifer Palmer, Kathy Peterzalek, Tracey Pollock, manager; Lynne Roby, Melissa Rogers, Lisa Schirm, manager.