

Homecoming 100% Successful

"Joan Driscoll Crowned Queen

As Football Teams Romp Over Maquoketa"

By Joni Blommers

Everyone had to agree that his year's Homecoming, Oct. 16, 1975 was a great success. The outstanding outcome is attributed to the exciting and wide variety of festivities.

Kicking off the events was the "Fire Up" rally on Thursday night. The rally included the annual waterballoon throw and the first-year bike race. Mr. Hulbert, Mr. Pilcher took first places in the race, while other participants came in close behind (although some never made it around the first curve of the track!)

Next, the queen candidates and court were introduced. Representatives this year included: Brenda Driscoll and Lori Van Nest (freshmen), Tammy DeWoody and Vivian Klopfenstein (sophomores), and Delaine Grannon and Beth Edwards (juniors).

Senior queen candidates were: Joan Driscoll, Laurie Johnson, and Sue Ryan. Co-captains, Ank Kleis and Rich LeHew, said a few words pertaining to Friday night's game. Last of all the cheerleaders fired up the big "M", along with it the intense Indian spirit.

On Friday classes were dismissed at 1:05 for the pep assembly. The assembly got off to a roudy start as the senior boys

made their entrance. Jett Grannon, Jim Harford, and George Moody were given the honors of smashing cream pies in the faces of the three unfortunate souls: Miss Russell, Mr. Bates, and Mr. Messerli.

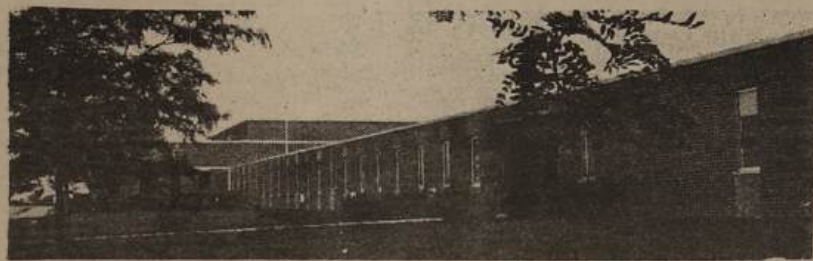
The cheerleaders and the sophomore and senior classes presented their skits. Everyone learned something about football as Mr. Thurness walked his starting offensive line-up through the first play to be used in the upcoming game.

Lots of yelling, standing, clapping, and stamping experienced throughout the assembly, led the seniors to the winning of the "Spirit Stick."

A large crowd attended the game Friday night. The sophomore team won 22-0. During half time of the varsity game, senior, Joan Driscoll was crowned Homecoming queen. The varsity team fought a hard battle to bring up a 20-0 victory over Maquoketa.

The last of the Homecoming festivities included the dance, "Indian Summer" sponsored by the sophomore class. The dance was held Saturday night in the high school gym. The music was provided by the "Steamboat Willy Band," and was attended by many and enjoyed by all.

Thanks goes out to everyone who worked on making this year's Homecoming an outstanding success!



A Student's View Of New Rules At MHS

by Steve Herreid

How much do you know about the new rules at Marion High School?

Here's a little quiz that might help you to understand them more clearly. Mark each of the following sentences either true or false:

1. _____ Marion High was okay in the first place; we need new rules about as badly as we need worse lunches.
2. _____ Keeping students in school is the name of the game. And if stricter attendance policies will accomplish that, then that is exactly what we need.
3. _____ Especially since the lounge is now supervised, it now should be opened to all upperclassmen at all times.
4. _____ It is an insult to me to have to use a parking permit as a high school student.
5. _____ The increased availability of faculty members in the study areas is a definite step toward better grades at Marion.
6. _____ The student body should be proud of whomever is responsible for the new rules.
7. _____ The student body should lynch whomever is responsible for the new rules.
8. _____ Other high schools are not so hard on THEIR students; there is no reason for singling us out.

The purpose of the test was to voice a few of the opinions which have been circulating around the high school lately. Chances are good that no two people would answer all the statements the same way. However, the fact that most all students even HAVE an opinion about this points up an interesting situation: interest in the rules and regulations governing the student body is at an all-time high. Marion High Schoolers want to know the how and why of the new rules; for after all, they are the ones who have to live with them.

With this end in mind, I decided to have a talk with assistant principal, Clyde Kramer. Following are some of his comments regarding on a few of the key areas. I have not been able to resist adding a thought or two of my own,

without trying to be the "devil's advocate."

ON ATTENDANCE: "One of last year's seniors took a survey and found that students felt that 48 per cent of the days they missed could have been avoided. How can a kid pass a course when he misses 30 days or more? To give credit for it is wrong. Under the old policy, kids were writing out their own excuses and many times their parents weren't aware of the absences."

And how was the 10-day limit arrived at? Kramer said he discovered that the average number of days missed last year was right around 10 per student; and that many local businesses will not hire a high school student if he has missed more than 10 days. And, according to Kramer, "They had to have researched that limit."

I find no flaws in the principle of Mr. Kramer's reasoning. Attending school is the only way to get a solid education, and I believe the mechanics of the new policy will indeed effect a change for the better. But there are two adjustments that I believe should be made; first, the students be given a crystal-clear idea of what will be excused by the Appeal Board and what won't in other words, just how easy it is to lose course credits? And secondly, in my opinion 10 days is a little bit skimpy, especially for seniors when college visitation days are included on the list. Some slight relaxation or modification of these regulations would be greatly appreciated by most students.

ON LOUNGE: "We moved a monitor up to the lounge because the students were abusing it by cutting out and going up-town. And we're accountable for those students."

Bravo.
But the real stickler, in my mind, is the one-period-per-day-per-student rule. The administration's position was that the recent upswing in the number of failures necessitated the restriction. But there are several flaws in that line of thinking. First, it doesn't take much to realize that under the present situation, the conscientious students are being penalized at the expense of those who don't do their work. Besides, in most cases those students who get good grades will get their studying done no matter where you put them, and the opposite is true for the good-offs. Anyway, isn't one important function of a high school the developing of a sense of responsibility in the pupil? It seems to me that a less strict lounge policy which is more like the conditions in college, would help a student to learn to budget

his time in order to get the most out of every day ON HIS OWN. And finally, regarding skipping out, any upperclassman will tell you that the mere presence of Mrs. Jones in the lounge, taking attendance twice a period, has effectively squelched the skip-outs.

What is the solution? One possibility is to limit the one-period rule only to those students who carry a D average or below. Or give a student full lounge privileges only if he is on the honor roll. Or open the lounge to all upperclassmen, retaining the monitor to keep things under control. A new, workable program certainly shouldn't be too difficult to formulate.

ON GRADES IN PROGRESS: "Under the old setup, a student could get a C first quarter and then completely slough off the second, taking an F. But the two grades would balance to a D, and he would still pass. The grade in progress will de-emphasize that."

Agreed. The grades in progress is one of the best points in the new rule package, and it should benefit everyone.

ON THE RESULTS SO FAR: "The greatest comment that I've gotten out of the students is that teachers are more available to get help from. . . Absences have decreased by at least 50 per cent during the first three weeks of school, when compared with a year ago. . . No, it really doesn't bother me that some of the students are against the changes. In fact, it makes me feel good, for that shows that they know more about what's going on. And all around, I'm pleased with the attitude the kids have shown thus far."

OTHER COMMENTS: "The new policies were created by the faculty, Mr. Morgan and I. . . We didn't change just for the sake of change; we did it to make Marion High School better. Students need to be guided somewhat, and the changes were made to help them."

To sum it all up, Mr. Kramer and cohorts seem to be quite happy with the new arrangement, while most of the students are taking the opposite view. The rules themselves seem, at least to some extent, to be doing what they were intended to do; and that is undoubtedly the reason for the administration's satisfaction. But that DOESN'T mean that all the changes were perfect, or that all regulations have reached an ideal state. Marion students should not be reluctant to press for any changes that they honestly feel would be good for everyone involved--especially themselves.

THE VOX

Marion High School

Paddles Reissued

"Student Offenders Beware Of Supreme Court Ruling"

By Dave Nash

All spit ball-tossers, rest room-smokers, bubble gum stickers and potty mouthed back-talkers, beware! The United States Supreme Court has decided that it's a legal practice now for a "school official" to introduce your sitter to the flat end of a saddle.

As high school students, I doubt that we would ever have to fear a paddling, (all of us except the freshman, that is) but this new law could have some far-reaching effects upon the maintenance of disciplining within our public schools.

The enforcement of this new ruling could improve the school environment greatly--especially in the elementary and junior high grades. The fear of legal suits filed by irate parents against well-meaning faculty members could be minimized. Even the psychological aspects of physical punishment could emphasize within a person that others really care about well-being. Healthy anxieties could be treated by the administrator in a means that would communicate to the "defendant" the actual emotions of those he has offended. And, of course, the natural fear of pain would aid in the "witness" from the faculty ranks to observe and document the punishment. And third, you must notify the student's parents of his behavior, and of your intentions.

I think that you would agree that by the time all of the above matters were seen to, you wouldn't be mad anymore! Anyone knows that effective discipline must be administered on-the-spot.

Alas, another superficially fine sounding ordinance is watered-down by legalities.

Seriously, folks, what are your views on corporal punishment in the schools? Should it be allowed? Should it be abolished? What restrictions should be placed upon a teacher or administrator in dealing with offenders? THE VOX wants your opinion, too. Deliver your reply to "The Quill Room" (Room 58) Marion High School, Marion, Iowa, 52302.

Tids and Bits

Author Looks At Some Strange Locker Problems

dana jeffrey---

I'm quite sure that M.H.S. lockers have been issued to those individuals who either never go to their lockers or treat them as they should, thus constituting normal behavior, but the remainder of the M.H.S. lockers have been issued to those students who possess an urge either to mutilate the locker or smother it with love as though it were an orphaned child whose former parents have abandoned it in order to be able to travel new paths in the world outside of M.H.S. These locker molesters and pacifiers exhibit abnormal behavior and are thus more intriguing than those of the normal majority.

The sadistic locker owner tramps through the halls after each class, frown on brow, towards the place where his locker stands bravely awaiting the approaching brute. As the feared mutilator arrives, the locker cowers while its surrounding companions are dutifully shut by the respectful hands of their owners.

Painfully, the locker withstands the greeting of a solid kick from its owner. Its combination dial is given a slap of the owners palm before it is whirled in an attempt to open it to the intruding paws of the beast.

Unfortunately, the first attempt is not successful, and the enraged owner, dizzy from watching the spinning dial, squeezes the black disc once again between grimy fingers and makes another locker breaking attempt. This time succeeding with a harsh right, stinging left and torturing right. The brutality of the animal is now fully demonstrated as he flings the door of the locker open contrary to the will of its creaking hinges and smashes it against the face of the neighboring locker. The sadist then enters, crashing books against the damaged enclosing walls of the locker. Once the robber has stolen all vital belongings he polishes off his sadistic act by kicking shut the bottom door of the locker and brutally slamming the top back onto its latch. The brute then takes leave of his destruction, smashing a steel plated heel against the face of the trembling locker as he goes.

On the other hand, the slightly masochistic locker owner pussy-foots through the halls of M.H.S. each hour with downcast eyes and chattering teeth, towards



the tiny section of the wall where her locker impatiently awaits her hushed arrival. As the tip-toed owner shuffles towards it, the locker jumps as the owner of the surrounding lockers shut their doors and depart. A clammy bone-riddled hand caresses the ridges of the door of the locker in a greeting. Skinny fingers then press the dial and gently swirl it to the appropriate numbers of the combination-slow right, trembling left, and an anxious right again. Fortunately the first attempt is successful and the thankful owner sinks to her knees and meekly cracks the bottom door to the width necessary for only a sliver of soft light to penetrate. Still caressing the warming face of the locker, the owner then gently opens the locker door wider, careful not to allow it to touch the cold face of its neighbors. The future masochist then enters with trembling appendages. She blindly gropes for the books she needs for the next class, gasping each time a book strikes the wall of the locker. Once having smashed her fingers amongst the books, the owner regretfully withdraws her trembling hands from the realms of the locker. She then carefully on the floor, cherished items which she has removed from the locker.

She now attaches her fingers to the edge of the locker doors while pressing her cheek to them so as to hear the slightest creak of hinge. The doors are then slowly closed, constantly caressed throughout the process. A cold appendage is gleefully smashed between latch and door so as to prevent the tiniest scratch which may result from the final latching. The locker pacifier, swelled finger dangling, then caresses the locker once more in a farewell gesture and departs cautiously scanning the halls for locker mutilators.

Locker mutilators and pacifiers are not to be laughed at but rather are to be pitied by the remainder of the student body for they are misfits of our society. Gratitude should also be shown by the majority to these minorities for they are bright spots in the everyday life of M.H.S.

Drug Abuse Convention

By Sandy Nielsen

Sept. 14-26 marked a two-week period in which Mr. Hulbert, Mrs. McLeod, and Mr. Morgan went to Chicago for a drug abuse convention. Various topics discussed were that of, how to prevent drug and alcohol abuse and, more importantly as Mr. Morgan stated, "It dealt with people problems-how to deal with them. Plus, as Mrs. McLeod said, "We didn't center on drug addiction, but rather activities which would develop us-make us more aware of students and more open to them. It also gives us skills in communication; this is where our self-awareness comes in," stated Mr. Hulbert. He also added that, "One of our goals was realizing what pressures teachers and students go through. We did this by role-playing."

Mr. Hulbert interjected an interesting theory of his: "You can abuse anything; you can abuse noodles, if you have noodles four and five times a day."

All stated that the trip was enjoyable and very worthwhile.

(No Deposit, No Return)

By Wendy Wolmatt

If "No Deposit, No Return" means something like pop bottles to you, then you don't know too much about the new Marion High School swing choir titled, that's right, "No Deposit, No Return." Along with a new name for the Marion High Swing Choir, comes a new image (hopefully not characteristic of their first performance) and several new faces. Besides being smaller this year (24 members) and composed of mainly seniors and sophomores, the choir plans to focus more of their attention on music and blending, rather than choreography. Each member is expected to have some sort of individual performance prepared in case they are called on to fill in a gap between numbers, such as a dance, comedy routine, song, or general entertainment.

With swing choir contest coming up in late January and numerous Christmas plans being lined up, director Cheri Russell feels, "the group has got to get moving; only with the full cooperation of the entire choir will they be able to compete with choirs the level of 'Happiness Inc.'" and others.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH: What causes one class to have more school spirit than another?

For the first time this year the Junior class has won an honor. They won the Bulletin Board contest held during the week before Homecoming. The announcement came during the assembly on Friday. They were thrown candy for their prize. Thanks to the cheerleaders for this great honor.

Did you know that October 12 thru the 18 was "International Take An Aardvark To Lunch" week? You didn't? Shame on You! All aardvark lovers wore buttons that proclaimed the event. Even a couple of teachers got into the act. Mr. Boquist and General Nash both wore an aardvark button, and I would like to commend them for being demented enough to go along with the idea.

Wind up your radios, kiddies, Doctor Demento has returned! Yes, our beloved doc has returned with the "Top 10 Demented Hits" and the rest of his delightfully demented discs. He has even dug up some new ones. Like "Junk food Junkie" and "It's Sister Jenny's Turn To Throw the Bomb." Plus, an added demented extra, The Dr. Demento Fan Club. For a small fee you can become a member of the club, and the proceeds will be used to help save "Dementia". Dementia is news to us all, because each of us contain a grain of dementia in us. If you doubt this, listen to the doc. You'll find yourself enjoying his demented sense of humor.

If you haven't yet noticed, we have a newcomer at MHS. A brand-new pop machine has taken up residence in the cafeteria. This one is guaranteed not to dump Coke down your sleeves or crushed ice on the floor. Its added attractions include a wider selection of flavors (four rather than two) and aluminum cans instead of paper cups. Unfortunately, the price of pop has also gone up 20 cents. But that's progress for you!

For anyone who's ever faced three study halls in a row and nothing to do in them, here are some tips to help you survive such as ordeal. Counting things is always a popular method of passing the time. You can count the number of tiles on the ceiling, chairs in the room, students chewing gum, and so forth. People-watching also makes an interesting activity. Find out how entertaining it can be to watch some one trying to finish 57 algebra problems in five minutes. Studying for your various classes makes the time pass quickly. As final solutions, join the VOX staff. Then you can speed your study halls writing things like this!

Girls Volleyball Ends Season

By Sharene Ottaway and Denise Jackson

The first year for Girls Volleyball ended Saturday, Oct. 18 with the final games being districts at C.R. Kennedy. The team came in 4th place ahead of Mt. Vernon.

The other teams competing were C.R. Washington, C.R. Jefferson, and C.R. Kennedy. Marion ended with 2 wins, one with Mt. Vernon and C.R. Jefferson. Kennedy took the title in the finals defeating Washington. Over all this was a very good year for the team. They ended up with a record of 10-55. This doesn't seem like it was a very good record, but if you take into consideration that this was the 1st year it has been offered here and the

tough teams we played, it is a good record.

Our freshman and J.V. teams should also be commended on their successful season. Most of the time, our freshman were playing sophomores, and our sophomores and juniors were playing J.V. This was because all the Cedar Rapids' schools and most of the other schools don't have freshman. We hope this changes next year as more Wamac schools should be starting the program.

Coach Pazour felt the girls gained a lot of experience and know-how this year. She thinks next year will be a better year, and that they should be able to improve our record.



Have You Met Turk. . .?!

Meet Turk! If you don't happen to know who Turk is, he is the band's new Mascot. The stork brought him on Mr. Brockway's birthday.

Turk accompanied us to State Contest in Sigourney, October 11. He didn't bring us much luck though, since our rating was withheld. It was really a disappointment because for the previous

week we were "busting our buns" at 6:30 a.m. rehearsals.

But Turk did help someone! The honor guard received a unanimous "1" rating and a standing ovation. All the while they were performing, Turk was being flipped through the air, bringing a new meaning to bird lovers.

Yearbook Makes Memories Last

Good times should be made to last.
Haste, that notorious enemy of memories,
turns awareness into forgetfulness.
And momentous experiences are over
almost before they've begun.
Fun times, unique times

become lost times . . .
unless they achieve immortality
between the covers of a book.
Some say yearbooks can make
time stand still.
they can.

ORDERED YOURS

