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A DEDICATION TO RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM...

The Vox

VOLUME XLIV NO. 3
December 20, 1991

What do MHS Students Want for Christmas?



A letterman's jacket
Shawn Little

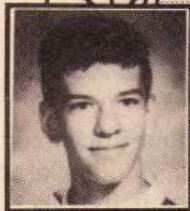
A fast car.
Jamie Zdankus



A corvette
Teresa Mitchell



The keys
to the car.
Chad
Seagren



A new car
Rob Hammill



A CD player
Leslie Benegas



Keanu
Reeves!
Oanh
Nguyen &
Karmen
Johnson



Full tuition.
Nancy Hatch



Genesis games
James Parks



Clothes!
Jill Wilson



A plane
ticket to
Florida
Holly Wallace



A hammer cassette.
RaeAnn Pierce



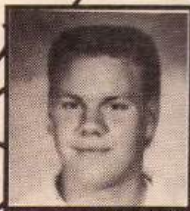
My friendships
back
Shelley Canady



A ring and more
clothes.
Teresa Garthwaite



My car paid
off.
Ray Cross



A computer
(Macintosh, of
course!)
Joy Sueppel



Tires for my
car
Chad Vavra



A black
leather coat
Nicole Osborn



Skis
John Hamilton



A Democrat to
win!
Mrs. Bennett



Starscope

Taurus-(April 21- May 20) Your practicality and leadership qualities will move you ahead of the rest. With an outgoing and spontaneous attitude you may find yourself very popular with members of the opposite sex or improve the relationship with your present romantic partner.
Lucky days: 3, 8, 19, 20.

Gemini-(May 21-June 21) Your assertiveness is an important asset this month. Try not to be too selfish, and avoid saying things that you don't mean to romantic partner.
Lucky days: 2, 5, 16, 24.

Cancer-(June 22-July 22) Not everything is as clear-cut as you would like it too be this month. Someone at a distance may be trying to get closer to you. Open up!
Lucky days: 7, 12, 27, 28.

Leo-(July 23-August 23) Don't let your dominant nature scare others away. Let your personality shine to make a good first impression. Your self-confident attitude will come in handy in a sticky situation. Lucky days: 16, 21, 22, 26.

Virgo-(August 23-September 23) Try not to be too much of a perfectionist this month. Be careful- your excellent eye for detail may cause you to overlook larger issues.
Lucky days: 11, 14, 19, 25.

Libra-(September 23-October 22) Don't let work rule your life- try to have more fun. Be understanding to romantic partner's needs and resolve differences by compromise.
Lucky days: 1, 6, 18, 25.

Scorpio-(Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Don't overlook family at this busy time of the year. When doing your shopping this year make sure your buying for the right reasons.
Lucky days: 2, 8, 16, 29.

Sagittarius-(Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Be extra careful not to make that special someone feel second best during the holidays. Be more attentive to your loved ones needs, go the extra mile.
Lucky days: 3, 11, 20, 31.

Capricorn-(Dec. 22-Jan. 20) Stop riding the emotional roller coaster. If it seems that life is going too fast, take a step back and get some perspective.
Lucky days: 4, 5, 18, 22.

Aquarius-(Jan. 21-Feb. 19) When making out your lists this year, be sure to double check who's been naughty and who's been nice.
Lucky days: 3, 15, 23, 28.

Pisces-(Feb. 20-Mar. 20) This year when it comes time to make out your New Year's resolutions- be realistic, and patient. Nothing important happens overnight.
Lucky days: 2, 13, 17, 27.

Aries-(Mar. 21-Apr. 20) You naturally worry too much, and you easily lose faith in others. It might be the time to turn over a new leaf, instead of second guessing others.
Lucky days: 4, 15, 22, 25.

Thumbs Up - Thumbs Down

Thumbs up to a long Christmas break.	Thumbs up to the food drive by NHS.
Thumbs down to junior/senior girls who always think underclass men are staring at them.	Thumbs down to grumpy teachers.
Thumbs up to the first winter pom routine.	Thumbs down to 8th graders running in the hall to lunch. WALK!
Thumbs down to uninspired basketball fans.	Thumbs down to 8th graders getting to watch TV during lunch when no one else does.
Thumbs down to noisy people in the halls during classtime.	Thumbs up to all the American hostages finally being released.
Thumbs down to all the colds and flu going around.	Thumbs down to the small response to the thumbs up/thumbs down box.
Thumbs up to SADD selling candy canes.	Thumbs up to the Christmas card for Renee Zalesky in France,
Thumbs up to the penny drive for shooting victim Miya Siosin.	Thumbs up to all the students volunteering at Crestview, Granger House, for HACAP, etc.

Staff Editorial: Hate Crimes Affect All

In the year 1691, a group of people were taken from their homeland in Africa and put into a system which came to be known as slavery in the Southern part of the United States. Since then, slavery has been abolished and the Emancipation Proclamation has been put into effect by Abraham Lincoln. Slavery, it seems, was over. But the discrimination and bigotry was not.

Ever since July there has been uncountable acts of bigotry in Dubuque, Iowa. Cross burnings have been popping up ever since the city decided to recruit black families to live in their city. Racial slurs are showing up on buildings in spray paint and fights over racial issues are happening in the schools. One 19-year old white male was convicted of burning a cross in the yard of a black family earlier this year. The leader of the Ku Klux Klan visited Dubuque and spoke to about 200 people. What does this mean? Are we reverting back to the way of life that the early settlers did? The answer should most likely be no. But if people are going to judge others solely by their skin tone that answer might be switched to yes.

Recently, a group of people who don't like the recruiting system in

Dubuque appeared on the "Donahue" show. They spoke about the city's plan to recruit 100 black families to live in their city. They basically felt that this shouldn't ever happen and that whites should be in power. They also proclaimed that they did not want their city taken over by blacks, like Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, and Waterloo. Many of the audience objected to that, and many people around Iowa objected as well.

Other incidences have happened in Dubuque have happened as well as a result of their insecurities. Nazi signs have been spray painted around the city and one disturbing incident where a 71 year old woman was stabbed to death by a fifteen year old boy.

This obviously frightens many people throughout Iowa, not just the fear of the acts, but the fear that anytime you mention that you are from Iowa, people will automatically think that you are a bigot. Thus the sins of the few fall upon the many.

Correction:

The football players in the last issue of the Vox were mistakenly identified. The players were Mark Ratzlaff and Brent VanWey.

The Vox

Published since 1934

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The Vox is a student newspaper dedicated to informing its readers. It is published six times each year by the journalism class at Marion High School. The staff will report as accurately, fairly, and objectively as possible. All activities and events pertaining to the school will be covered to the best of the staff's abilities.

Staff editorials reflect the majority opinion of the staff and will appear on page 2 of *The Vox* in each issue. Space for letters to the editor will be provided on the opinion page. All letters must be signed and will not be published anonymously. Letters must be limited to 200 words in length, and not all letters will be published in their entirety. The staff will not edit letters for usage, punctuation, or spelling errors. No letter will be published which contains libel, obscenities, is an invasion of privacy, or which would cause a physical disruption to the school. The authorship of all letters will be checked by the staff of *The Vox*. Suggestions for "John Vox Says..." may be submitted by any student or staff member. The decision on whether to include them rests solely with the staff. Suggestions may be given to any staff member or handed in to the office.

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A Real Knockout

One of the things that makes Marion so unique is the students that go to school here. Dan Finneman is a boxer in his spare time and has been since last summer. Over the summer he was with his uncle who was a boxer until he had a serious back injury causing him to quit.

Dan became interested in boxing after talking to his uncle and soon he was in training. His uncle became his manager and also a "coach". It did not take Dan long to earn his status, in two months he will participate in an out of state tournament. He generally practices in his basement or at his uncle's house.

Quite often he boxes in Ottumwa where they set him up to box according to his weight and records

against students from all over the state. His parents are a great support to him and make it a point to attend his meets.

The main reason Dan became a boxer was because it was something different, but now he enjoys his hobby and finds it easy to take out his anger while he is in the ring. He takes safety precautions which are required but don't always prevent accidents. Last Friday Dan pulled a muscle in his neck and that is still giving him trouble.

"It is not that expensive to become a boxer," Dan says, "you just need to provide your own gloves, head gear, boots, mouthpiece and the fee to enter the tournaments." Although Dan is undecided whether or not he is going to become a professional boxer, he does encourage kids to try it out!



Christmas Traditions

Most families have special traditions they follow. Here are some from MHS students.

Jennifer Livingston- We always get a 20 pound turkey.

Kathy Foster- We go to my Grandma's on Christmas Eve and get to open only one gift.

Amy Dippel- On Christmas Eve we order Kentucky Fried Chicken so we don't have to worry about washing dishes.

Seth Kleeberger- My dad sits down and reads us a Christmas story before we get to open any of our presents.

Staci Jirouch- We eat oyster stew and chili on Christmas Eve.

Tracey Struchen- Christmas Eve we always eat chili and on Christmas Day we eat ribs.

Adam Coats- We get up at 7 in the morning and open all of our gifts and then we go to Country Kitchen to eat Breakfast.

Jill Wilson- Get up at 4:30 in the morning and open presents and go back to bed.

Mr. Twachtman- On Christmas Eve we eat hot scalded German-Hungarian potato salad.

Mr. Ferguson- Being the oldest in the family I have to make up a prayer for Christmas meal and tell about the true meaning of Christmas.

Let It Snow!

Have you ever gotten out of bed at 6:00 in the morning to listen to the radio for school cancellations? A lot of people do the morning after a snow storm. Most cross their fingers for even a slight delay, but it never happens. Sometimes it's all right to close school because of bad weather. The law says that schools are to be in session for a certain amount of hours each week.

The only way that school would be closed is if Superintendent Dr. Hulleman feels that the weather conditions are very poor for students traveling to and from school by car, bus, or any

other form of transportation. He and the other administrators decide if school should be closed. Then they use their calling system to inform the media about the cancellations. When they make their calls, they use a "code word" that only the administrators know. This way the media isn't being lied to.

Many students complain about going to school on cold, snowy days when other schools are closed or delayed. But then they will have to make up a snow day and we won't have to. Since we don't have built in snow days, we would have to give up a vacation day for school. Maybe another snow storm will hit soon and everyone's wish will come true.

Let's Do Something Constructive

This 91-92 school year, the Construction Tech class is building a one story ranch style house. The house is located on 1st avenue in Marion. The basement was poured the first week of school and ever since they have been doing work such as attaching a garage, putting in a furnace and putting the siding on the house. There are ten senior boys from Marion High School. Mark Ratzlaff, Tim Garthwaite, Jamey Sloan, Sean Pospisil, Matt Masters, Chad Little, Travis Brown, Brandon Nesteby, Lloyd Steitz and Sean Clark. There is also two seniors and two juniors from Linn-Mar helping on this house. The home is 12,032 square feet which are a good starter home for a young family. There is 1-3/4 bathroom upstairs. The students are working inside the house right now and hope for it to be done by mid May and will be auctioned after that. After the house was closed in they put the furnace in with the heating done by Foster's. The next project to be completed is the plumbing and electrical work which will be done by Best Plumbing and Associated Electric. The majority of the building supplies came from Great Plains with the concrete furnished by Delaney and Kelley. These businesses supervise the work and the students assist it. Once in awhile the city comes and inspects the work that has already been done. If you ever drive by the house make sure you look at the nice job they have done so far.



Snow and cold weather don't stop Lloyd Steitz and the rest of the construction class from working on their house.

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AIDS

Magic Johnson's announcement makes most more aware of deadly disease

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is becoming a major topic of discussion throughout the nation since Magic Johnson's retirement from professional basketball. Magic tested positive for the HIV virus. This proves that anyone can get AIDS. It isn't only homosexuals or drug users that are in the "high-risk" category.

There are basically two ways that AIDS is spread. One way is through sexual intercourse. The HIV virus can be transmitted to anyone no matter if they're male or female, homosexual or heterosexual. AIDS is spread through body fluids, and having sex is very risky. Latex condoms with the spermicide Nonoxynol-9 provide some protection against the virus, but the only 100% effective way to not contract AIDS through sexual encounters is abstinence.

Intravenous drug using is the other common reason for the spread of AIDS. The virus can be spread through the sharing of needles, especially if there is some blood left in the syringe.

Another risky action is tattooing. It is dangerous because some tattoo artists may use the needles over and over again. Although these are the most common ways that AIDS is spread, not every way is known yet.

Five years ago people who received blood through transfusions were considered to be in the "high-risk" group, but today all blood is given

special screening tests for AIDS, and blood that is questionable is not used. There is no way to contract AIDS from giving blood. The needles used are disposed of after each use. Vaccinations are also harmless, because the needles are sterile and a new one is used each time.

One of the biggest misconceptions about AIDS and the HIV virus is that it can be transmitted by casual contact. This is completely untrue. Sharing books, sneezing, coughing, even casual kissing is perfectly safe. Only an exchange of body fluids can transmit the disease.

People who have been infected with the AIDS virus may have no symptoms for years, but it can still be spread. People infected with HIV may suffer all or some of the following behavior: weight loss, fever, skin rashes, loss of appetite, night sweats, tiredness, diarrhea, frequent infections, and swollen lymph glands. Many people experience these problems at one time or another, though, so don't panic if you've been some of the symptoms. If you take part in "high-risk" behavior you should get tested for AIDS.

As of now there is no cure for AIDS. Saying "no" to drugs and sex is the only 100% effective way to avoid getting this deadly virus. "AIDS doesn't care who you are. It cares what you do."

any sickness. If this happens and they contract pneumonia he/she could die because there is nothing fighting the infection.

All this happens in the human body without you knowing it. The HIV virus has no symptoms so you could have it for years and not know it. You develop symptoms when you have Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). This disease works much the same way that HIV works since it is a result of HIV. It paves the way for various opportunistic diseases such as pneumonia and tuberculosis. The virus may also attack the nervous system, causing damage to the brain.

Since Magic Johnson's announcement last month that he had the HIV virus, some of you may be wondering exactly what the difference is between the two. Well, to put it simply, HIV is the cause and AIDS is the effect.

When foreign substances, such as germs, enter the body your immune system is activated as a defense against them. White blood cells called lymphocytes produce antibodies to the germs. They cooperate with the other kinds of cells to keep the immune system active so that it can fight invading substances. HIV is very specific in that it attacks these lymphocytes which are essential to the immune system's success. As a result of this a person is susceptible to

Aids/HIV - What's the Difference?

Some Answers to Your Questions

Q: Is kissing someone with AIDS dangerous?

The AIDS virus can get into saliva, but only a very small amount and it is destroyed anyway by digestive enzymes. There has never been a documented case of HIV infection through saliva.

Q: Is it risky to play sports or share athletic facilities with people who are infected?

The AIDS virus is not found in sweat. But in contact sports such as football, boxing and basketball blood can mingle and the AIDS virus can be passed on. However, the risk appears to be very small as the Olympic's chief medical officer said that Magic Johnson would be welcome to play in the 1992 Olympic Games.

Q: How does AIDS make you sick?

The virus attacks white blood cells which are the body's defense against disease. Eventually, a person's immune system is completely destroyed so they are susceptible to any sickness.

Q: What is the risk of getting AIDS from a blood transfusion?

The risk has been significantly reduced through screening of all blood donations. Screening has been standard practice since 1985.

Q: Do all HIV infected people have AIDS?

No. Initially, most people infected with HIV have no symptoms and may not know they are infected. AIDS is the most severe result of HIV infection.

Prevention: What's the next step?

A telephone poll was conducted by the Vox, in which 50 people were asked about their opinions on such matters as sexual education and birth control being available to students through the school as a means of protection from sexually transmitted diseases. Of the 50 people polled, 40 agreed that the school making condoms available to students was a good idea, 3 people disagreed, and 7 were undecided or had no opinion.

AIDS: School Board Policy

The Marion School Board has come up with special guidelines that are to be followed if a Marion student has AIDS. The following is what the school board has put together as it's rules:

Epidemiologic studies show that AIDS is a viral infection transmitted via intimate sexual contact or blood to blood contact. To date, there is no recorded transmission of AIDS through casual contact. There has also been no transmission observed with medical personnel who directly care for and are exposed to AIDS cases. Since there is not evidence of casual transmission by sitting near, living in the same household, or playing together with an individual with AIDS, a student with AIDS should be able to attend school as long as they are physically able to perform the tasks assigned to them and as long as their attendance does not create a substantial risk of transmission of the infection to other students or to district.

The district staff and administration shall develop guidelines concerning the management, exclusion, re-entry, and associated treatment of students who have AIDS. Inservice education of appropriate school personnel should ensure that proper medical and current information about AIDS is available.

These are more rules set up by the Marion School Board:

1. Routine screening of students for AIDS associated viruses is not recommended. Screening should not be a requirement for entry.

2. Children diagnosed as having AIDS, or with an AIDS associated virus and are receiving medical attention are able to attend classes in an unrestricted educational setting. Family members of infected children are able to attend school without restriction also.

3. A different plan for education, which may include a more restricted setting, should be provided for the child diagnosed as having AIDS of laboratory evidence of infection with the AIDS associated virus if:

A. Skin eruptions or cuts that cannot be covered are present.

B. Inappropriate behavior which increases the likelihood of transmission is exhibited. (ex. biting)

C. The child is too ill to attend school.

4. Decisions as to educational management should be shared utilizing expertise of the physician, parent or guardian, public health personnel, and those associated with the educational setting.

A. Notification of the school should be through the principal and school nurse who are responsible for school health and will notify only those individuals necessary to assure optimal management.

Volunteers Still Going Strong

Many new and interesting events are happening with the new volunteer program at Marion High School.

Jessie Pearson, Jenni Wennekamp, Alison Moe, Christie Bulman, Amy Krause, and Johanna Bushlack are all volunteering at the Granger House as hostesses for the holiday season. On Saturdays and Sundays you can see these girls wearing historic costumes from the MHS drama department.

On December 11th there will be an orientation meeting at Crestview Acres Nursing Home at 7:45 am for those interested in volunteering there or for those interested in the "adopt-an-elderly" program. After this orientation meeting Marion students will choose and be assigned to their duties.

Several students are still volunteering their time to help younger kids at Starry Elementary School with their homework, and are basically being big brothers and sisters to the kids. Many positive comments about this project can be heard throughout the halls, and everyone is enjoying their experiences.

On Sunday, December 15th over twenty high school students will be busy wrapping presents and helping HACAP families do their holiday shopping at the K Mart store. not only does this experience give MHS students an opportunity to help people who are less fortunate in our community, but it will also be a cherished holiday memory for everyone involved.



While volunteering at the Granger House, Jenni Wennekamp leads a tour of the historical Marion home as it is decorated for Christmas.

A Record for Perfection

Sean Wedding, a junior at Marion High School, has not missed a single day of school since sixth grade when he was forced to stay home because of the chicken pox. Even then, he only missed two days because most of the time he was sick was over Christmas vacation.

Why does Sean have such good attendance? As he says, "When you miss a day, you miss a lot," he thinks, giving geometry class as an example of a class where you can really fall behind with absences.

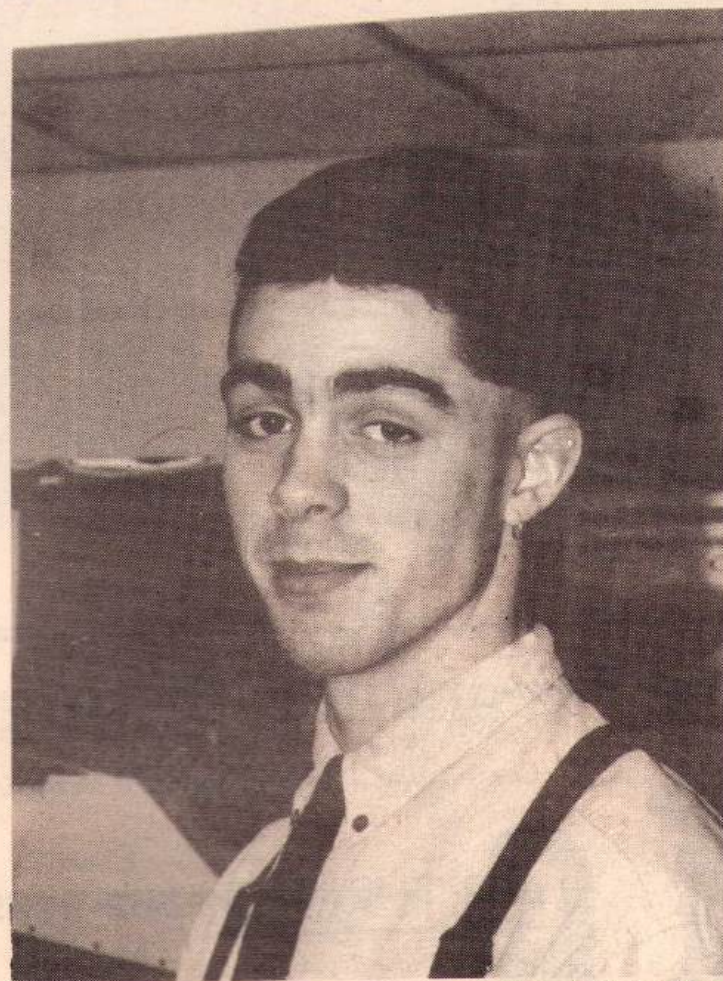
Another reason Sean has attended school each day of the past few years is the he feels that he can't do any good sitting at home so he might as well

be here, at school, with all of his friends.

Even though Sean hasn't missed a day of school, he has come to school when he's had a cold, but in his words, "I wasn't dead or anything." He also said that when he had the flu or felt awful in the evening, he was always fine by the next morning.

Sean has other family members in school, but they don't have the attendance record he does. Their family is always back from vacations in time for Sean to make the first day of school.

Although Sean doesn't feel he has a major advantage over his friends that miss school now and then, he sees no disadvantages to having a perfect attendance record and plans to keep it up.



This is a very familiar face to most Marion staff and students, since Sean Wedding has not missed a day of school since 6th grade.

Winter Concert

On December 5, 1991, Marion High School presented a holiday concert featuring the concert choir and the concert band.

Mr. Heim was the chorus director and Sharon Colton was the featured accompanist. Songs presented by the chorus included Gloria in Altissimis Deo, Ave Verum Corpus, Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind, Over The River And Through The Woods, and Winter Wonderland, a familiar song aided by the talents of Kathy Foster and Micheal Parks performing solo parts in this song.

Mr. Bobe directed the concert band playing songs in the holiday spirit. They were Symphonic Legend, The Sussex Mimmers' Christmas Carol, Themes from the Nutcracker Suite, and A Fresh Aire Christmas. Mr. Bobe thought that everyone would be surprised at

the enjoyable music the concert would provide and hoped that there would be something for everyone. He wanted to feature Themes from the Nutcracker Suite and Fresh Aire Christmas. He and the concert band offered just that and by the end of the performance the auditorium was in a holiday mood.

Mr. Heim hoped for almost the same thing. He looked to hear precision singing from a four part chorus and lots of holiday emotion and energy. The audience definitely heard emotion and was happily surprised by the solo performances during Winter Wonderland. Over The River and Through The Woods was a familiar song that showed great holiday spirit. "I hope that everyone comes to see what their friends are doing and support them," commented Mr. Heim before the concert.



Top 10 Reasons to Return to School after Christmas

- 10.) Even school food is better than left over turkey after two weeks.
- 9.) So you can compare your awesome (or not so awesome) Christmas gifts.
- 8.) You can only take so much of family togetherness.
- 7.) The smile you give relatives has begun to freeze on your face.
- 6.) You just can't wait to get back to your beloved homework.
- 5.) You never realized how much you really would miss those teachers at M.H.S.!!!
- 4.) Sleeping until 11:00 has begun to get really boring.
- 3.) You never realized how slowly action moves on the soaps until you watch them every day.
- 2.) Life has no meaning without school to complain about.
- 1.) The sooner you get back to school, the sooner spring will be here!



Oh,



Christmas Tree

Year to year it's hard for families to choose a real tree or a fake tree for Christmas, but when the students at MHS were asked about the choice, the majority said they would pick a real tree over a fake tree because of its natural scent, originality, and going out as a family to cut the tree.

Students mentioned that when buying a real tree you have many to pick from, but when shopping for a fake tree they're all the same. On the other hand, fake trees do have their good side. Since real trees shed so much, students said they would rather get a fake tree and not have to vacuum, and also a real tree needs to be taken care of day to day. Others also think it's not right to cut down a real tree because of the environment, but after a while those trees soon die out and you can mulch them after Christmas, so Christmas trees can be environmentally safe when using it. A few mentioned the fire hazard posed by real trees when they dry out, and price is also an issue. While good fake trees are expensive, they can be used for many years, while trees cut from a tree farm now average \$4.00/foot. Within four years, the price of a good artificial tree has been evened out with the real tree.

Students who preferred artificial trees also said they liked those that looked real, not the aluminum kind or the ones with branches that look like bottle brushes. Most chose the artificial tree for both cost and environmental reasons.

Whether you get a real tree or a fake tree you still are bringing out the Christmas tradition.

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Girls Basketball

Team small but united

The girls varsity basketball team is much different this year. This year there are only eleven girls on the team. The team includes one senior, five juniors, four sophomores, and one freshman.

Marion has a new coach this season, Mr. Kielty. Due to some unfortunate circumstances Mr. Kielty only attended one practice and became very sick and was put into the hospital. He is now back and practicing with the team, but during his absence the head sophomore coach, Dawn Cooksley took over.

So far the Indians have been in the Metro Tournament. They received eighth place in the tournament. On Friday, November 29 the Indians played Kennedy in the first round of the tournament and lost 53-41. On Saturday, November 30 they played Prairie. The winner of that game would determine who played at the Five Seasons Center on Tuesday, December 3. Marion lost to Prairie 51-44 so Marion went to the Five looking for a 7th or 8th place. Marion put up a good fight but lost to LaSalle 68-42.

December 7 the girls hosted West Delaware and lost in the fourth quarter. Then on December 10 Marion hosted LaSalle. They lost 75-44. Andrea Wilson led the Indians with 10 points.

Coach Cooksley thinks that the girls can be very competitive and she has high hopes for a great season. "We may not have the numbers out for basketball, but we do have the aggressiveness and the desire to be a good ball team and win." She says that she wishes she could have seen more girls out for the team.

The Indians will be hosting Independence on December 13.

Boys Basketball: Setting Goals

The sophomore basketball team started their season with a tournament at Washington where they lost one game. Their next game was against Muscatine in the holiday tournament where they lost a hard game 56-30. Highest score was Andy Logsdon, and Scott Bemisdarfer with 7 points. Freshman Mitch Long filled in for 6. Bemisdarfer was the leading rebounder with 10 rebounds with Chad Seagren filling in with six. Andy Logsdon also had 6 steals.

The sophomore basketball team had another difficult night against Monticello where Monticello won. Andy Logsdon, Chad Seagren, and Glen Renfer all had one assist. Chad Borst led the team with the most rebounds and Seagren filled in for three. Seagren also had one steal. Freshman Jeff Kinney had one rebound. Last year the sophomores went 0-18. This year the sophomores hope to improve that by working hard and working together as a team.

This season our varsity boys basketball have set many goals. So far things don't seem to be looking on the bright side, however they have only just started. Slowly but surely they hope to see improvement.

Marion defeated Muscatine 72-70 and they took 2nd place at the Holiday Tournament. However they weren't so lucky their next three outings, losing to Iowa City High, Regis, and Monticello.

Zlatan Muminovic states, "I feel if we worked harder in practice our games would improve a great deal."

Rob Madren feels, "Our basketball team has a lot of talent and potential, but we have a lot of work to do to accomplish our team goals."

The coach this season is Steve Ottoson, the assistant coach is Dave Messerli, and manager is Tracy MacNamara.

Uniform Exchange

This winter, varsity basketball cheerleaders and wrestling cheerleaders have to share their uniforms. There were eight new uniforms purchased and twelve varsity cheerleaders. This means every few days wrestling and basketball cheerleaders trade uniforms with a partner from the other squad who will wear the old uniform.

In addition to the hassle, the sweaty, dirty uniforms, sometimes worn three times a week, go unwashed because the uniforms need to be dry cleaned, and this cannot be done too frequently because it can be expensive.

Customarily, varsity cheerleaders use money from the cheerleading fund to purchase new uniforms every four years, and pass their old uniforms down to the JV cheerleaders. Last year, JV used money out of the cheerleading fund to buy themselves new uniforms, and varsity did not find out until the money was already used. Therefore, varsity had to wait on getting their new uniforms and raise more money to buy them later. There was only enough money for eight, and that is the reason for the exchange.

Some cheerleaders feel that Marion athletics should help pay for the uniforms, just as it pays for uniforms for other sports. Cheerleaders work hard for the school and many of their efforts are unappreciated. They earn their own money for things like uniforms, at the same time using the money they've earned to do things like provide the WPA dance.

A few more uniforms may seem expensive, but in the long run it would save money when the new uniforms need to be replaced because they have worn out twice as fast from being worn twice as much.

Wrestling: A New Generation

At 9:00 on Saturday, November 30, the varsity wrestling team got on the bus to head for West Delaware High School for the Hawk Invitational. Out of eight teams, Marion took fourth place with 110 1/2 points. The three teams that finished ahead of the Indians were Waterloo East, 124 1/2 points; New Hampton, 196 points; and Decorah with 204 points.

Marion was at a slight disadvantage because there were no wrestlers at the following weights: 140, 145, 171, or 189 pounds. Before Brad Henderson was to wrestle, he got a cut above his eye and had to forfeit. With nine wrestling that day, Marion did very well. There were two first place finishers from Marion. They were: Ben Balvanz at 119 pounds and Jason Rubalcava at 152. Chris Krull took second place in the 135 category.

Marion surprised many people with a fine showing at the Mount Vernon Invitational on December 14th, finishing fourth and only seven points out of second place. First place finishers were Ben Balvanz at 112 and Brad Henderson at 140.

Activity Update

Choir

The choir had their Christmas Concert on December 5 with the band. Following that event, the rest of the time before break was spent preparing to carol at different places around the community, including the Community Center and Kiwanis Club.

Band

Band had their Christmas Concert also on the 5 of December with the Choir. On December 7 NEIBA Honor Band was held in Oelwein. Attending for Marion were Cassie Toomer, Amanda Bocock, and Jason Kellerhalls.

FBLA

FBLA had a Halloween party for kids in grades K-4 on the Saturday before Halloween where they made a profit for the first time ever. FBLA sold candy for most of the month of November. Towards the end of November was the national Conference in Ohio for FBLA where Tim Bennett and Justin Turner represented Marion.

SADD

Since the holiday period is a time of parties and lots of arrests for drunk driving, SADD is making sign for the holidays and will put them up in the school. SADD is now selling candy canes for the holidays also.

Knowledge Bowl

Knowledge Bowl had a competition for spots on the team. Here is a list of the people still on the team: Tim Bennett, Dan Stunes, Jim Gregory, Kyle Carter, Justin Turner, Jay Vavra, Diana Zillman, and Roet Plang.

NHS

NHS is having a food drive for the poor in our area. Food collected will be donated to the Marion Food Pantry. They are also still collecting paper for recycling.

Student Council

Student Council is conducting a penny drive for the U. of Iowa shooting victim this month.



In a losing effort against Independence, Jenny Hartl passes the ball in to Nicole Chamberlain.

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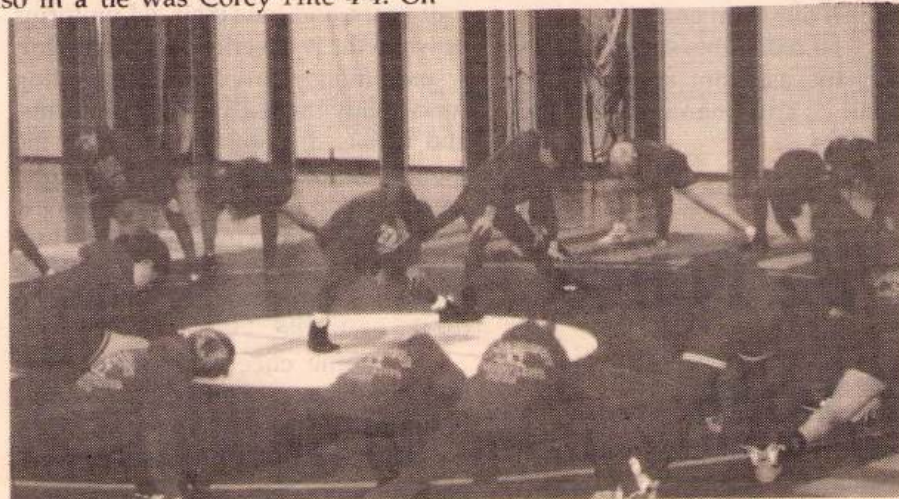
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Eighth Grade Starts Winter Season

Wrestlers work for points

The eighth grade wrestling team opened their season on November 4, competing against Monticello. Chris Wikert, Spencer Northway, Dave Thompson, and Brion Wendling successfully pinned their opponents, and Mickey McDowell won his match 7-0. Next on the schedule for Marion was Anamosa, in which Josh Johnson, Eric Borst, Wes Hillshiem, Brion Wendling, and Ben Kinkead won their matches by pinfall, and Jason Hatch won a close match 5-4. On December 6, Marion wrestled against Lisbon, and Jason Hatch, Josh Griffin, Josh Claypool, and Greg Wilkinson pinned their men, Mickey McDowell tied in his match, 2-2, also in a tie was Corey Hite 4-4. On

November 19, Marion wrestled against Vinton and Dean Ratzlaff, Josh Griffin, Chris Wikert, and Wes Hillshiem pinned their opponent. Winning their matches by points were, Spencer Northway match 16-7, Josh Griffin 9-1, and Josh Claypool 7-0. On November 26, Marion wrestled Independence, and winning by points were, Wes Hillshiem 7-2, Josh Claypool, 10-4, and Spencer Northway 5-5. On December 10, Marion was in competition with West Delaware. Winning by pinfall were, Wes Hillshiem, Chris Wikert, Josh Griffin, and Brian Wendling. Winning by points were, Dean Ratzlaff 10-0, David Barcz 7-1, and Jason Hatch 10-4.



Before the meet begins, the eighth graders stretch in the Vernon gym.

Girls gain experience

On November 14, the eighth grade girls basketball team beat Monticello 33-31, in a close game. Jenny Long was the leading scorer with 18 points, Kim Ozburn came in second with 8 points. On November 21, The Indians lost 2 close games to Independence in which 11 girls scored, Megan Dorgan leading with 8 points. The girls once again faced defeat on November 25 to West Delaware. Amy Bassett scored 14 points and Jenny Long had 10 points and 7 assists. On December 9, Marion once again played an exciting, close game against Monticello, but this time, Monticello got the win, 39-32. Kim Ozburn lead the team with 12 points.

On December 12, Marion beat Benton Community, 28-17. Leading a balanced attack, 8 out of 10 girls scored for the Indians. Amy Bulman lead with 8 points, Amy Bassett had 7 rebounds and 4 steals. In the final game of the season, the girls lost two games to West Delaware. Amy Bassett scored 8 points and Carrie Peiffer had 4 to lead the girls. Rebounding well for the Indians were Jenny Long with 5 and Christine McGlaughlin with 4.

When asked how the season went, Amy Bassett and Jenny Long were agreed that "We did good, but the season didn't turn out the way we wanted it to."



Chris Wikert gets recognized after pinning his West Delaware opponent.

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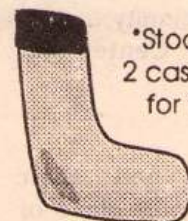
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