

A DEDICATION TO RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM...

The Vox

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Honors for MHS

SEAGREN, NEVIUS NOMINATED TO MILITARY ACADEMIES

by Fred Wilcox

America's looking for a few good men and they found two right here at Marion High School. Chad Seagren and Trampus Nevius are currently pursuing career plans through the military.

Chad Seagren is the first Marion High School student ever to be accepted into a military college. Chad, a senior with an interest in engineering, has been accepted to the naval academy in Annapolis, Maryland and West Point Military Academy in New York. Chad's interest seems to be towards the naval academy at this time.

Chad and his parents are very much excited about the idea. He will leave in mid-July of next year to begin the new life. He will begin with two months of boot-camp like training and start his academic involvement a short time later. Chad's father, a veteran who served four years, from 1963-67, and who served 18 months in the Vietnam War, believes that this is one of the best things that could happen to Chad because it has the disciplinary aspect, which helps produce the well rounded individual.

Military colleges are in many ways the same as regular four year colleges in the aspect of education, but offer a wide variety of benefits not associated with non-military colleges. While Chad is attending military school, he will be paid a stipend (monthly allowance). Also, the costs of room and board, which impose a large financial burden on many, and are skyrocketing every year, are free of charge to those who choose to attend military colleges. Another advantage is that after he graduates, he will have a six year obligation to the United States government to pay off his debt, but he will receive a regular government salary while he serves this time.

These benefits do come but at a price. (In fact, of the 13,000 that apply to attend West point worldwide, only 1,300 of the applicants are accepted. That's less than 10 percent) There is a strict criteria that determines whether or not one attends one of these colleges. Among the recommendations for those who wish to apply; high scholastic average (high grade point avg. and consistency in grades), good health (not

necessarily excellent), and participation in extra-curricular activities (school, academic as well as athletic, church, and others). Chad fits this criteria head on. He has a 3.95 grade point average, is in good health, and participates in SODA and many church-related activities. Another factor that is said to have helped him was his prior commitment by enlisting into the delayed entry program, for which he also had a scholarship.

To be accepted to a military college, Chad had to do two main tasks. First he had to be accepted to the college and second, he had to have congressional recommendations which came through a congressional appointment. Chad successfully completed both of those tasks.

Trampus Nevius, a senior here at the high school with an interest in becoming a pilot, has secured congressional nominations and has applied to two military colleges. The first is the naval academy in Annapolis, Maryland, with congressional nominations coming from senators Harkin and Grassley and the second is the air force academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado with a congressional nomination from state representative Leach.

Trampus is confident that he will be accepted to either the naval or the air force academy. He will receive the same benefits of attending a military academy and will be leaving this coming summer if accepted.

Trampus believes, as well as his family, that he will benefit from attending a military academy. Like Chad, Trampus believes that the disciplinary aspect of a military academy is an important factor that makes it appealing. He also believes that one of the largest benefits of attending one of these academies is that it "offers a secure life-style after the school".

If however, Trampus does not attend a military academy, he will be able to take advantage of the NROTC 4-year vice admiral scholarship, one of the highest offered by the Air force, which will pay for four years at a non-military college that accepts NROTC scholarship. For example, Trampus would be able to attend Iowa State, the only

STATE AWARD FOR MADAME VIRLEE

by Kelly Gongwer

Each year, there are two awards given out which include the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship award and the Grant for Community Service from the Department of Education. This year, Madame Virlee was privileged to accept both awards after putting a lot of time and effort not only into her resume, but into volunteering, which includes; 'cuddlers' at St. Luke's Hospital, the Starry Elementary partnership, the Granger house for the Oxley Journal Publishing, Mr. Heim and the Inter Generational concert, which will give senior citizens an opportunity to perform with our choir students and, three days of inservice for teachers to learn how to get their students involved in learning. The National Youth Leadership Council will be teaching our teachers on those three days. Madame states, "It involves students doing community service and it carries volunteering a step beyond."

The money that was awarded to Madame Virlee for her first award, which includes \$4800, will be sent to the school and will be spent on software to benefit elementary students in MAC labs and also for the three days inservice for the teachers. The other award money, which is \$28,000, will be given to Madame. "I will buy out some of my contract so that I can help other teachers with service learning projects and take courses and training to help me with that," she says.

Madame Virlee spent many weeks this past fall writing her summery which ended up being at least fifteen pages in length. Sonja Novak and Connie Altes really helped by typing it and making it look nice. She also went to a service learning community.

One thing that stands out in Madame's mind is a quote that Eleanor Roosevelt stated, "You should always try things that you're afraid to do."



Dawn Schoeberl and Madame Virlee discuss Dawn's volunteer activities.



Chad Seagren



Trampus Nevius

THUMBS UP / THUMBS DOWN

Thumbs down to people who talk about relationships that don't even exist.

Thumbs up to caffeine.

Thumbs down to cold weather...BRRRRRR.

Thumbs up to students who don't complain about the time they don't have.

Thumbs up to the American Auto Industry.

Thumbs up to Santa Claus.

Thumbs up to grandparents (on Holidays).

Thumbs down to people with short tempers.

Thumbs up to MORP...it was cool...huh...huh...huh.

Thumbs down to people who break previous engagements.

Thumbs up to being half way through school year.

Thumbs down to people thinking men and women can't be FRIENDS.

Thumbs down to no toilet paper in the bathrooms.

Thumbs down to people who didn't vote ERA.

Thumbs up to Food drives.

Thumbs down to Christmas music before Thanksgiving.

Thumbs up to real Christmas trees. Fake things (people) are not cool.

Thumbs down to missing film and pictures from the journalism room.

Thumbs up to mistletoe.

Thumbs down to never being able to make copies...anywhere.

Thumbs up to the Judgment Night soundtrack.

Thumbs up to boys basketball.

Thumbs up to bench warmers in every sport. They are a very important part of the team.

Thumbs down to no salad bar in the high school.

Thumbs up to Mrs. Young mop-

ping the lounge.

Thumbs down to people who stare at others in the halls.

Thumbs up to the volleyball team getting the Academic Award 6th year in a row.

Thumbs up to the Wrestling managers, great job women.

Thumbs up to BIG trucks.

Thumbs down to people who don't know the difference between high school and pre-school.

Thumbs up to no censorship.

Thumbs up to Metallica's box set, but \$85.00 get serious.

Thumbs down to procrastinating, non enthusiastic cheerleaders.

Thumbs down to working Saturday mornings.

Thumbs down to whiney voiced girls (or guys).

Thumbs up to low gas prices.

Thumbs up to energetic crowds at sporting events.

Thumbs down to finding hair in your food.

Thumbs down to people that drag arguments on and on and on and on. Lets it go!

Thumbs down to overprotective relationships.

Thumbs up to math and science help sessions. Thanks a bunch!

Thumbs down to no heat in the school.

Thumbs up to HAACAP helpers.

Thumbs down to people who poke holes in the wrestling mat.

Thumbs down to Russian 4 eating all the blini.

Thumbs up to the wrestling poster.

Thumbs down to people who forget their friends when they fall in love.

Thumbs up to Mr. Sloan's sense of humor.

Thumbs up to girls B-Ball going out and giving it their all.

Who needs it?

by Amy Boland

You are just about to go in and take an algebra test in Mr. Perkin's class. You studied all night for it and you feel that you are prepared. Just before you go in your friend wishes you good luck. You feel even more prepared now that your friend gave you support. That person knows you can pass the test.

You are looking for a job and you are scheduled for an interview. You thought about some of the questions the owner may ask you. Are you involved in any extra-curricular activities at school? Why should we hire you? Your mom and dad wish you good luck before you leave.

Maybe you are a wrestler and you are at a meet. You are the next person to wrestle. Your teammates tell you to "go get 'em" and the coaches are telling you the same thing. You go out there and pin your opponent within the first 40 seconds. You feel good.

These are all examples of support. From taking a test to finding a job. From participating in a sport to performing on stage. There is no way around it, everybody needs support, whether you admit it or not.

For these students who don't know me, let me tell you a little bit about me. I am a senior here at Marion High School, and I am involved in many different activities. I have been a flute player in the High School Band for 4 years, and the one of the drum majors for the past two years. I also play in the pep band at the basketball games. Although I am active in the arts, I am active in many other activities. I have been on the pom-pom squad, am a cheerleader for wrestling, an officer in Future Business Leaders of America, a member of Students Okay without Drugs and Alcohol, a Thespian, and I am in National Honor Society. I haven't been a member of a "team," but I do enjoy attending the games.

The following are examples for events. It's Friday night, and you and your friends are going to the basketball game. You all go to the game and hang out with your other school mates. You are having fun sitting down in the stands talking to one other. Afterwards the gang goes to Burger King to hang out. You come home later that night; you had a fun time tonight. There is a music concert Thursday night and you and some of your friends decide to go. The High School Band plays a few numbers, the High School Choir sings some songs and the Jazz Band grooves a few tunes. Afterwards, you and your friends decide that you are glad you went, and you go home and start your homework. The atmosphere of the two events are different. One event is to be filled with talking and laughter; the other event is to be listened to and to be enjoyed. But both events are important. Why does the student body attend sport-related events more than arts-related events?

Some people might suggest that if the band or choir wants support, they should ask for it. But when we do ask for support,

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The Vox

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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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Features

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WITH ALL THE POLITICAL UPHEAVAL-

Will there be a trip to Russia?

by Kelly Gongwer

Each year the Virlees alternate to France and Russia for the enjoyment and the excitement for the students.

Although the summer was planned for Russia, Mr. Virlee is seriously debating the trip. There has been a lot of fighting within Russia because of President Yeltsin, who favors democracy. Now all of the Communists who are within the main office are against democracy and could lose their high paying jobs.

Mr. Virlee doesn't want any type of danger of possible encounters of Russians who may take over any Americans. "The United States supports Yeltsin and his struggle for democracy," states Mr. Virlee. And even though the upheaval may stop within two or three months, it has the potential of starting up again.

If they were to go yet this year it would be the first week of June, but if they have to cancel, which is a definite possibility, they will be going in June of '96.

HOME SICK

by Kelly Gongwer

Every year in every school there is always students who don't show up for school whether it's playing hooky or actually feeling sick.

This year has been quite different since there were at least 60 students gone in a six day period and Mrs. Jackson said, "There were 91 students gone on December 9th and 110 students gone the very next day." On the 13th of December Mrs. Jackson reported of having 85 students gone and 62 students ill on December 14th.

A local nurse at Mercy Care North says that they have been dealing with the upper respiratory and flu viruses. "There has been 250-300 people coming in every day and it hasn't let up," she states.

Some of the symptoms that are being watched are having their body ache, having a fever, getting chills, feeling nauseated, having sore throats, and coughing.

The nurse Mercy Care North also said that this has been going around for about four weeks and is very contagious.

Support

Continued from page 2

sometimes we still do not get it. After performing at all the home football games and at a volleyball meet, the band invited the varsity football team and the volleyball team to come and hear them perform. I know we told them three days in advance, and we thought we would see a few familiar faces. The only support we did receive was from the band parents. You make not think it makes a difference by coming to those events, but it actually does. After that happened, it was hard for the members of the band to volunteer and stay and play during the third and fourth quarter at the football games. It is not fair to ask for support when you are not giving other students support. Why should the pep band play in the freezing cold weather during the third and fourth quarter at the football games? Why should anyone come to the marching contest? Why should anyone go to anything?

So, who needs support? Does the team with a record of 8-0 need more support than the team that has a record of 0-8? The team that is winning needs the same support as the team losing. The football, volleyball, wrestling, and basketball teams already have a support group - the cheerleaders. But then the cheerleaders need a little support group, the student body, so go ahead and give them some support, cheer with them. It's hard enough cheering in front of a dead crowd at pep assemblies and at games. Why not make their jobs easier and help support the team? This kind of attitude goes for everything. If you want support for your sport, club, or music group, then you must support all other activities, not just your own.

CONCERT CHOIR

The Concert Choir was very busy with this year's holiday season. Together with the help of the various bands and choirs here at Marion, the Holiday Concert that was held 7:00 PM, December 14 was a large success. This year the choir performed "Morning Has Broken", Bach's "Alleluia! O Praise the Lord Most Holy", the classical "Impossible Dream", "The Holly and the Ivy" and the ever comical "Twelve Days After Christmas".

With every holiday season brings a Madrigal Dinner. This year, the choir king, Jon Cormier and queen, Kelly Westergaard had the chance to make their performances at the Longbranch on the eve of December 21. As hoped for, there were more people in attendance than many of the years past. The choir blessed the evening with many different a cappella songs. "Coventry Carol", "Masters In This Hall", "April Is In My Mistress' Face", "Wassail Song", a special number by the men called "Boar's Head", and "Sing We and Chant It" were among the medieval numbers performed that evening.

For fun this Christmas season many of the students enjoyed caroling. Six different special caroling sessions were enjoyed by both the singers and their audiences this year. "We have so many people in choir this year that not everyone got to go to each caroling session, but the ones I went to were really fun and really appreciated," Maria Clark commented. Several of the choir students sang for the Marion Chamber of Commerce at various businesses in downtown Marion, Mentzer, a Kiwanis meeting, the Town Centre in Cedar Rapids, Emerson School, and at an elderly peoples Christmas luncheon. Numerous carols were sung ranging from fun songs like "Jingle Bell Rock" to traditional Christmas songs like "O Come All Ye Faithful".

STUDENT SENATE

The Student Senate ended the year with a food drive for the month of December. All of the food that they raise goes directly to Hacap to help those less fortunate than ourselves during the holiday season. They also sponsored, along with FBLA, a needy family this Christmas. Every week something new was brought in to the lounge that might help the family in some way or just make this Christmas a better one. The one week the students brought in clothing that were in good condition, the second week spare change was collected, the third week was "toy week", and the final week was designated to bringing in any extra wrapping paper or Christmas decorations to help brighten-up their holiday.

ACADEMIC DECATHLON

This year's Academic Decathlon is just now getting underway and things seem to be going pretty well. All nine of the students that were chosen have been busily working on various study topics. Their first meet is at Mt. Vernon on February 14th and the members are both anxious and nervous about it. Many of the teachers are giving the members special tutoring in the subject that they teach for extra practice.

BAND

On Tuesday, December 14th, Marion's 7-12th grade concert choir and band and the 9-12th grade jazz band performed in the gym. On December 18th, members of our band and choir went caroling at Linn Manor, Crestview, and Winslow House nursing homes. On Saturday, January 15th, Marion's Jazz Band A will be participating in the NIEBA State Jazz Band Contest at

Oelwein High School. Marion High School will also be participating in the Augustana Honor band activities on January 16th and 17th. The following will perform; Joy Sueppel, Lisa Johnson, and Amy Boland on flute; Jennifer Hartmann and Katie Straub on clarinet; Sarah Hughes on alto-saxophone; Chad Warden on baritone saxophone; Tony Spinks and Josh Sova on trumpet; Jason Kellerhals on horn; Jason Kelly on trombone, and Dan Reid on tuba.

FBLA

FBLA is now finished with their poinsettia and candy sales and was successful. Starting at the beginning of November, FBLA began working bingo games to raise money for the spring conference. They now work bingo the first Sunday of every month. They also had a Christmas party on December 22nd right after school in which gifts were exchanged among members. FBLA has increased in size lately. Marion High School's Future Business Leaders of America program now has 29 members.

SODA

SODA (Formerly Students Against Drunk Driving) is helping the Marion Chamber of Commerce to put on the "Wacky Winter Olympics" that will be held on February 19th. Students can participate by buying \$1 raffle tickets to win; if under eighteen, \$150 worth of merchandise from Marion merchants and, if eighteen or over, a trip for two to Cancun for four days. Also there is a wide variety of shirts on sale. The proceeds for this event will be divided between Marion, Linn-Mar, and the Marion Saint Joseph's for drug free schools. Our portion will go directly to SODA to help put on the post-prom. Come watch your SODA representatives and staff members perform at the "Wacky Olympics" on Saturday, February 19th at 10:00 AM. in the Marion Square. There will also be a meeting held January 10th if all fares well.

NHS

National Honor Society and their food drives went well during the holidays. They are still in their key chain sales and are selling them at all of the basketball games. Also, NHS will not be cleaning the road until spring and is still continuing their paper pickup.

VOLUNTEERISM

There is huge diversity of programs that were going on during the holidays. All of Mr. Immerfall's American History classes were given a tour of the Granger House just before Christmas by some of Marion High School's fine Granger guides. Novak Elementary students were also given tours of the house. All of those participating in the cuddlers program went through a retraining program over Christmas vacation to get acquainted with St. Luke's new security setup in their pediatrics ward. Our new big brothers/big sisters program is appearing to be successful at this point. All students that have taken part in this program have made a one year commitment and they are as follows; freshmen Lesley Burrows, Doug Fishwild, and Jeremy Clark, junior Jennifer Hartl, and senior Jon Stickney. Amy Kraus is now volunteering at the Marion Library. On Sunday, December 19th, volunteers from Marion wrapped presents for HACAP and helped people shop for their children. Shopping was done at Jack's West and was sponsored by the Homeless Children's Trust, which is administered through HACAP for the purpose of buying presents for needy children. While the parents were shopping, Aegon sponsored a Christmas party for the children.

by Fred Wilcox & Nicole Swierk

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Features

Hoilday Happenings

A Colorful Feaste WHAT DID YOU GET FOR CHRISTMAS?

by Nicole Swierk

"Hear ye! Hear ye! I would like to present to you our King Jon Cormier and Queen Kelly Westergaard". Lines similar to those filled the reception room at the Longbranch on the night of December 21 at 7:00 PM. The cold of the outside could not be felt in the warm room, as more than 150 people enjoyed an evening of music, drama, laughter and an enticing meal.

This year's holiday season brought with it yet another Madrigal Dinner. More than 70 students worked hard for many hours to present this year's Madrigal Feaste. In contrast to last year there were a handful of students who are not involved in choir but still participated in it. The "extras" were instrumentalists, pages and a couple of servers that were picked-up on the way.

Every year with the Madrigal comes an awesome transformation of the students. They no longer are obnoxious students but actually

take on a major responsibility, making sure somebody's night goes well with hardly any problems. When problems happened to arise throughout the evening, each server took care of them in a responsible way. There wasn't any problem that the students couldn't overcome.

Events throughout the night included the pestering of those in attendance by the beggar, Mr. Ferguson bruised a wench and was locked up in the stocks, and Claudette Walker was beaten for placing a love spell on Lord Steve Zaruba. This year's Madrigal also included more singing than last year and will continue to contain more in the years to come.

Overall, the students did a good job of making it an evening that will be memorable for everyone. Mr. Heim commented that, "most of this you can not rehearse, you have to go on the feeling of the tempo and improvisation".

by Melissa Walderbach & Jason Hyduk

There may not be a Santa Claus for many high school students anymore, but the Christmas gift giving goes on. What did you get for Christmas this year? What were the hot market items that many students received?

Students received gifts ranging from portable C.D. players to antiques to just wanting to see snow when they wake-up Christmas morning, but the hottest gift giving item of the season was the starter coat. Sports stores, such as Fan Fair and , were selling out of them weeks before Christmas. "The sales of the started coat started to pick up right before Thanksgiving and we were still getting parents in on Christmas Eve trying to find a starter coat for there child. With such a shortage of coats many parents resorted to paying extra to order one and wait until after Christmas to give their child their coats," says a Fan Fair employee.

Other hot Christmas items were things such as, Clothes, C.D. players, sega game gear, movies, and the all famous for anyone gift, money.

All in all this was a successful Christmas, receiving most of the gifts on our Christmas lists, even down to the wish for snow when you wake-up Christmas morning. Sometimes it makes you wonder if there really is a Santa Claus? Some of the favorite gifts were:

Sarah Jackson- Antique wood file cabinet ("with handle the wrong way")

Greg Wilkinson- Vikings coat

Curtis Aswegan- Sega Genesis

Kelly Austad- My room remodeled

Jeremy Steepleton- A watch from Danielle

Josh Johnson- Skis

Brook Fairbanks- 2 rings

Tony Stillions- Budweiser stein collection

Mrs. Osmundson- Camara

Stacey Tschantz- Diamond ring from Josh

Carrie Ciha- Luggage for trip to Czechoslovakia

Mr. Bates- Golf clubs

Sheli Huffman- Cordless phone

Royce Sanks- T.V.

Brent Pearson- \$100

Holly Newton- CD player

Chris Wikert- Stereo

Mrs. Madsen- Gold bracelet

Mrs. Young- Spending time with the family

Holly Welbes- T.V.

Lenny Baker- CD player

Nicole Osborn- Emerald ring from Matt

Tracie Schmitt- \$100 (in a big box)

Jill Wilson- Stereo

Richard Kerslake- 3-Pak briefs

Mitch Long -Tube socks



The head table for the Madrigal Dinner was ruled by Queen Kelly Westergaard and King Jon Cormier.



The troubador (Chad Zrudsky) and the Jester (Dan Johnson) dueled with jokes to determine who was the funniest.

TOYS, CLOTHES & FOOD POUR IN AS MHS Helps Others

by John Maske

After Thanksgiving, most of us began to notice posters hung around the school for a food drive.

This food drive was implemented by Student Council and N.H.S. Mr. Bates, Mrs. Young and Mrs. Putnam were the faculty members who sponsored the drive. For a month, students continued to pour in donations, and in the end they were able to deliver three boxes of food each for three families. Along with student donations, the Marion Hy-Vee donated a large amount of groceries, for which they are to be thanked. The boxes delivered included a turkey or ham, and as-

sorted bakery products and fruits and vegetables. The large donations and continued support of the project is to be attributed to the fact that the two groups involved continued to keep the project in the minds of students through posters and announcements. Special credit goes to Joy Sueppel and Jill Wilson, as they contributed much time and energy to the project, as well as getting Hy-Vee to participate. Thanks also go out to all M.H.S. students, for as Mr. Bailey commented, "The project is a direct reflection of the population of our school they were willing to pitch in to help the less fortunate. Congratulations to all!"



Joy Sueppel and Jill Wilson spearheaded the food drive effort for Student Senate.

Military Academies

Continued from page 1

college in the state of Iowa that accepts NROTC scholarships, with a four year obligation to the military after graduation.

Trampus was also judged under strict criteria for nomination and will be when being considered for acceptance to the military colleges. However, Trampus exceeds every possible category. He currently maintains a 4.0 grade point average, is in perfect health, has excellent vision for the specialty he

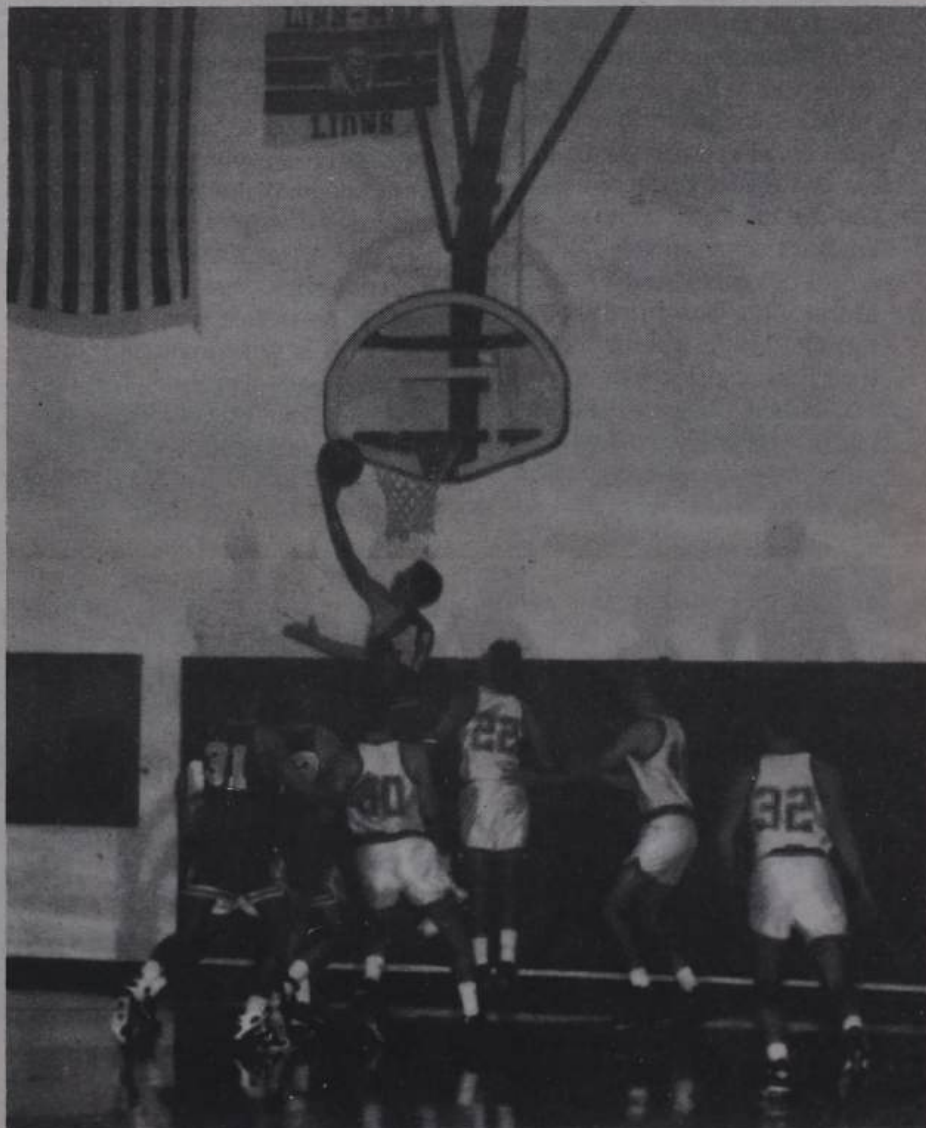
wishes to enter, and participates as president of FBLA, the senior class treasurer, a member of NHS, and as a competitor on our Academic Decathlon team. Trampus will learn whether or not he will be accepted sometime next semester.

Chad Seagren is the first and Trampus Nevius may perhaps become the second student from Marion High School to be accepted to a military college. What's even more ironic is that Chad and Trampus may end up attending the same military school, Annapolis Naval Academy.

ALTHOUGH THE RECORD DOESN'T SHOW IT, VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL KNOWS Victory is in Reach

by Dan Erkel

This year's varsity basketball team started the season out with style, running by Monticello 81-64 in a non-conference battle. Marion used a run and gun attack to stifle the Panthers big men. With momentum from that game on their side, Marion went on to give much more experienced Linn-Mar team a scare, only to fall short 74-69. They were then tripped up by West Delaware, Waterloo Columbus, and South Tama, 67-61, 77-66, and 71-70. One of the team leaders, Thad Rahn, had this to say about the team's 1-4 opening mark. "We've won every game. We just beat ourselves because nobody can do it for us." The varsity team has played well in all four of their losses, losing by an average of just over five points.



Jeff Kinney proves that white men can jump with a beautiful reverse layup that left Linn-Mar defenders in awe.

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8th Grade Athletics

by Amber Eganhouse and Bethanne McBurney

8TH GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL

The first game of the season for the eighth grade basketball team was played against West Delaware. The little Indians lost their A game 27-32. The B team also lost. Their second game, the A team lost, but not without a fight. The final score was 41-45. The B team tried hard but couldn't pull it off as they went down in despair 2-25. So far, Kate Humiston was showing great basketball talent. So were Michelle Freese, Katie Chapman, Katie Schuver and a whole flock of others.

The third game was against Monticello. Unfortunately, the A team lost 31-39, but the B team had their first victory, with a score of 24-12. In the fourth game, the A team had a taste of victory, with a final score of 44-41. Kate Humiston and Michelle Freese were hot on rebounds. The B team didn't get as far as the A team and got defeated 10-42. On their fifth game, Marion stuffed Monticello with a 35 to 23 victory. The leading scorers were Michelle Freese with 6 points and Kate Humiston with a whopping 21 points. The B team also experienced success as they won 25 to 21. Beth McBurney and Tammy Sluik were showing signs of great improvement. At the next game at Benton, only eight players showed up but with determination they grabbed another win of 41-34. The Indian's second to last game against West Delaware was forfeited because of sick players. At their last game against Anamosa you could see

many people healthier as the A team killed Anamosa 49-32. Most players showed improvement throughout the season. Out of the games played, the eighth grade had a record of 4 wins and 3 losses. Good job girls.

8TH GRADE WRESTLING

The 8th grade wrestlers started the season well in their first meet against Anamosa. All showed talent and Matt Post, Aaron Stillions, Wade Fieckert, Kevin Phan, and Jason Wickham won their matches while Jayson Wallace tied. Their second meet was Nov. 8th when they wrestled West Delaware. At this meet, the guys wrestled two matches a piece. Matt Post won both of his and Travis Offerman and Jason Wickam both won one. The third opposing team was Monticello. The three winners were Wade Fieckert, Matt Post, and Travis Offerman. Travis won by a pin. In the Vinton/Shellsburg game, all but one person won their match. In the fifth meet, they again played West Delaware along with Independence. At that meet, Aaron Stillions, Kevin Phan, and Allen Carter all won. The Nov. 30th game was against Lisbon and only Carter won. In the next to last game, only four people wrestled Monticello. Aaron Stillions and Matt Post won and Travis Offerman tied. And, in the final game of the season, played against Benton Community, Travis Offerman, Kevin Phan, and Matt Post won. The top three scorers of the season were Matt Post winning seven, and Kevin Phan and Allen Carter with four wins apiece. Good Job Wrestlers.

FRESHMEN BOYS BASKETBALL IS Working to Improve

by Jason Hyduk

Freshmen basketball team played well against a tough Jefferson team, but still was not enough to win their season opener as the J-Hawks would come out with a 66-44 win.

In the next game against LaSalle Marion would still need improvement to win, as the Lancers roll to a 55-38 win.

The next game Marion found it was tough to play big schools outside the Wamac as Iowa City West hammered the freshmen 86-27.

Now the freshmen would be looking for a conference win before the Christmas break. But Independence would show they wanted

more as they would go on to win.

The Freshmen would now let Independence come to their backyard. "Marion played the 1st quarter and half quite well, but Independence's size and speed overwhelmed us," said Coach Ehresman as they would win 83-38.

The Indians would find it hard to get a win as Kennedy would roll over them 66-44. Coach E would have this to say about the season so far "John Cannon, Jeremy Koeppen, and Johnse Bushlack have increased their level of play 100% and Jake Schuller, Shawn Bruce, and Chad Zrudsky have been instrumental building individual autonomy and team cohesiveness."



Jake Schuller shoots the freethrow as the Marion freshmen attempted to beat Independence.



In Fr/Soph girls action, Mattie Renfer shoots while Amy Bulman and Karen Straub wait for the rebound.



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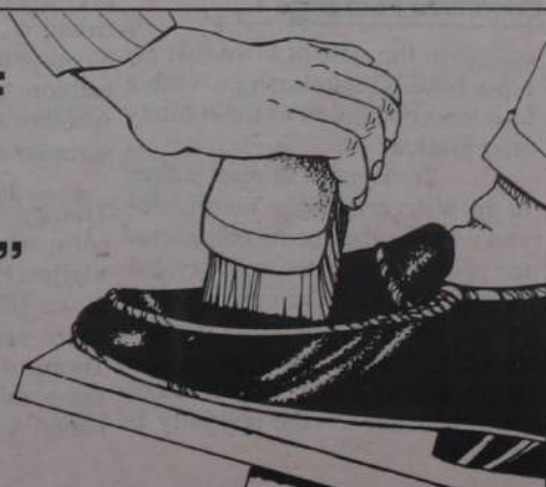


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WINLESS SOPHS KEEP TRYING TO Raise the Score

by Jason Hyduk

The sophomore basketball team went to Monticello looking for a season opening road win. But bad passing and poor judgement would keep them from a victory, as the panthers rocked Marion 67-32.

In the next game against Linn Mar, Marion played a lot smarter and set up the offense well but they still came up empty handed. Josh Claypool powered on the boards as he had 14 rebounds and 26 points. Linn Mar would sneak out of there with a 81-69 victory for the Lions.

Waterloo Columbus was next on the list for the Indians, but the flu season would have a big effect on the soph's, as they showed up in the "Loo" with only 7 players and 4 of

which were still sick. The Indians would need to find someone healthy and able to lead the team. Eric Borst showed he was ready to play as he had an excellent night on both offense and defense though it take a team to win and that night there was just Eric and the Sailors would run out with a 63-51 win over the Indians.

The Indians would then move on to Muscutine looking for a win before Christmas. It looked as if they would get that win in the first half. But the second half would be tough for the Indians as foul trouble and poor judgement would play a big role as West Delaware would strut out with a 54-99 win.



Josh Claypool goes for two of his 26 points in a losing effort against Linn-Mar.

HAMPERED BY INJURIES, THE WRESTLERS Pushing for Pins

by Sarah Jackson

Early on the fourth morning in December the varsity wrestlers journeyed to West Delaware for the first tourney of the season. Although the team didn't place highly there were many individual successes. Bryan Balvanz, Mike Kalkwarf, and Nate Werneburg all were finalists along with a third place from Wes Hilleshiem and a fourth from Chris Krull.

As the host of the annual Benton, Vinton triangular, we beat Vinton by three points (36-33), but lost to Benton 24-41.

Although only 8 (of 13) wrestlers went to the Mt. Vernon Tournament they still managed to open mouths in awe and place second. Seven out of the eight wrestlers placed, and first places were received by Chris Krull, Bryan Balvanz, and Nate Werneburg.

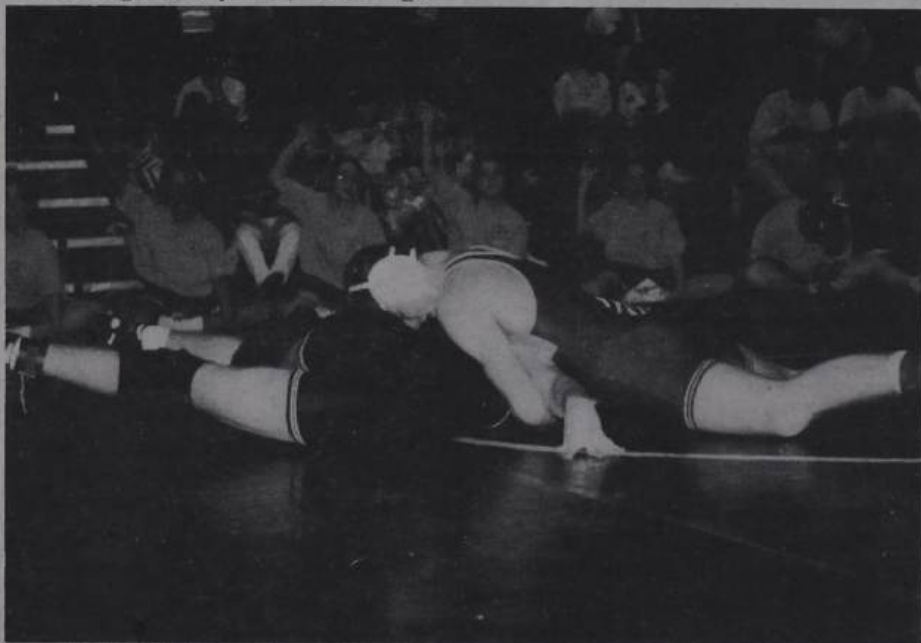
Far from the excitement of the Mustang tourney was the triangu-

lar at LaSalle. The Indians struggled to a 20-45 loss to Indee and a 27-41 loss to the Lancers.

The Saturday after the Triangular the Indians bulldozed over Tipton with a score of 53-15 and gracefully tied with Cascade 36-36.

On January 8, the Indians placed 8th out of 12 teams at the Benton Community Invitational. Bryan Balvanz was a champion at 130 lbs, pinning two opponents and winning the championship bout with a score of 11-3. Other place finishers included Chris Krull (3rd) and Doug Fishwild (5th). The Benton meet also included a JV division, where Marion had champions at 152 - Jason Hatch - and at 125 - Danny Johnson. All but two of the JV wrestlers placed in their weight classes.

With all the ups and downs that the wrestlers have had this season so far we should congratulate them on their determination and effort.



At the Mt. Vernon Invitational, Bryan Balvanz applies the reverse half to his Pekin opponent in the championship match. Balvanz won 11-2.

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Staying Tough

GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAMS KEEP WORKING FOR VICTORY

by Greg Wilkinson

On November 23, 1993 the Varsity girls basketball team opened the season with a Jamboree against Cedar Rapids Prairie. Only playing 2 quarters the final score ended up as a tie 18-18. On December 4, the girls traveled to Vinton to play the Vikings, only to be defeated 57-20. Coach Sloan said "Vinton was a tough team and played well." We need to work on our defense to prepare for the next game with Linn-Mar.

On to Linn-Mar the aggressive girls went only to lose 74-19. With the lack of girls on the team it's hard to win because of not being able to substitute other girls into the game. After suffering the big loss to Linn-Mar, the girls then hosted Waterloo Columbus on December 11. The Sailors played hard and kept us from scoring a lot.

Coach Sloan trying to get the girls fired up and the confidence they needed for the West Delaware match at home. The girls kept the score close, but the girls weren't

able to pull it off with a devastating 37-38 loss. Coach Sloan said, "The girls are getting better as the games go on" and they're preparing for the upcoming games.

FR/SOPH GIRLS BASKETBALL

by Kevin Bockenstedt

Sophomore girls started off slow with few members of the sophomore class going out for the team. Many freshman girls were moved to the team which made for a tough battle to overcome. With losses to nearly every team they have played it has made hard to overcome the thought of defeat. There have been good, fun times as well says a few of the team members.

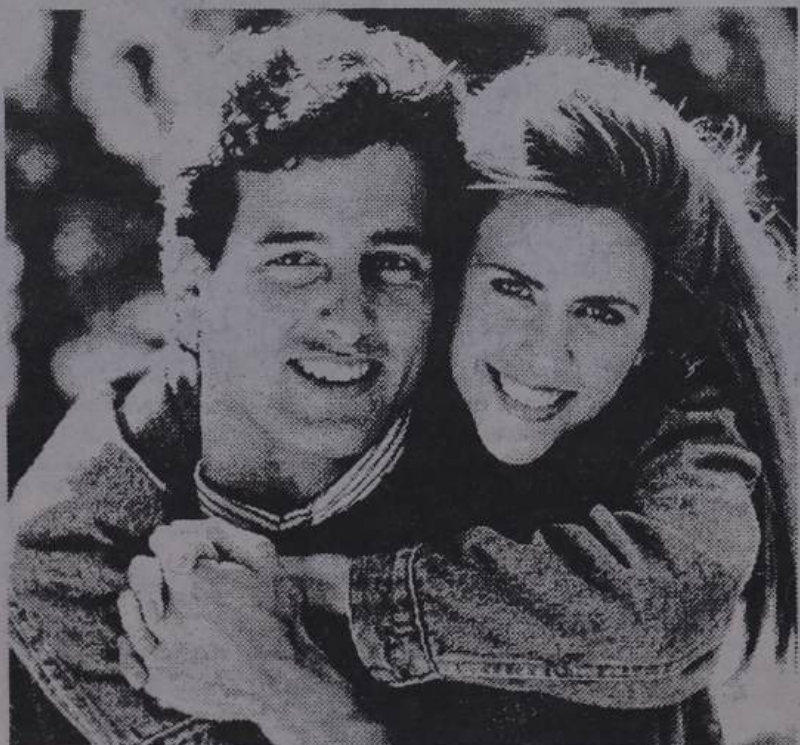
For the freshmen, the season started off wrong with a 50-9 loss to Independence Saturday, December 4 at Vernon Middle School. They improved slightly over their next two games by two points each game. Their second game was again a loss

to Regis 46-11. LaSalle posed a problem for the Freshman, only able to play with nine team members, got defeated 46-13. The Freshman continued to have problems with scoring against opponents from the Wapsie Valley Conference. They

were troubled by the Jefferson team who defeated the Marion girls 46-8. Harmony Henderson, Katie Parks, Tonia Tasker, and Tressa Smith scored 2 points a piece. Kennedy continued the streak with a 51-5 stomp on the Freshman team.



Against Linn-Mar, Nicole Chamberlain takes the ball down court and keeps away the Linn-Mar defender.



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