

The

# Vox

Volume LII, No. 5  
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# Spring Break

Spring break is a chance for students to get away for a week and relax. Some of the Spanish students will be attending a trip to Mexico for that week while others have the opportunity to stay home and take time off from school. It's a chance to catch up on lost sleep or pick up some extra hours at work. Either way it's a highly anticipated part of the school year. The following are spring break plans from various Marion students and staff:

### "GOLFING AND HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS"

Brad Young

### "HAVE FUN WITH MY FRIENDS."

Ali Fowler

### "TRACK PRACTICE AND HANG OUT WITH FRIENDS"

Kelly Weaver

### "GOLFING AND WATCHING THE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT."

Pete Messerli

### "GOING TO NEW YORK"

Royce Kensinger

### "Going to Philly"

Pat Stalkfleet

### "Hopefully going to South Padre Island"

Abby Kosak

### "STAYING IN MARION CUZ MARION IS THE BEST"

Chelsea Fuller

### "I'M GOING TO LOUNGE AROUND"

Chelsea Burgess

### "I'M GOING TO MEXICO TO VISIT MY BROTHER"

Jeremy Gruber

### "I'M GOING TO FLORIDA DURING SPRING BREAK"

Libby McGuire

### "I'M GOING TO DISNEY WORLD WITH MY FAMILY"

Trent Fish

### "Rocking all night long"

Kyle Olson

### "I'M GOING TO A FOOTBALL CONFERENCE IN WISCONSIN"

Mr. Perkins

### "Golf and visit my sons in Minneapolis"

Mr. Bates

### "RELAX, HAVE A GARAGE SALE, RELAX, RELAX, AND RELAX"

Mrs. Young

### STUDENTS GOING ON THE SPANISH TRIP TO MEXICO

ARE:

Joey Akers  
Matt Messerli  
Matt Haddy  
Matt Miskel  
Kayla Bahl  
Jaclyn Hugg  
Emily Pease  
Jeremiah Howe  
Brendan Kelley  
Kyle Martin  
Molly Weber  
Jenny Parks

## WPA

by Tegan Reeves

WPA went really well this year. Having the dance close to Valentines Day wasn't in the schedule but it actually turned out great!

Decorating wasn't so easy this year. A new lounge and an all day wrestling meet on that Saturday made finding the time to get the decorating done difficult, but the cheerleaders and pompons planned and worked hard Friday afternoon as well as Saturday to get the decorations done. It all paid off to see the valentine theme shine! Heart valentines covered the wall this year, because the pom squad decided to try something new and add a little "heart" to the decorations. Selling hearts for two weeks wasn't easy due to the competition from sunshine notes and carna-

tions, but the little valentines that were sealed with a Hershey Kiss brought smiles to many people's faces when the dance actually came around. WPA itself also served as a good fund raiser by putting a much needed \$600 into the cheer/pom fund.

The dancing and music went great and using a new DJ turned out to be a hit.

"It was a lot of fun to get out there and dance. It felt a lot more comfortable this year" said Jana Bradley laughing. She was one of the sophomore girls who decided to go a little crazy this year by wearing animal skin and bright tank tops. The casual but crazy atmosphere made the dancing more fun!

The cheerleaders and poms did not procrastinate this year. They set meetings a month ahead of time and decided on organizing committees to make sure that everything was done and done well. Along with the DJ the photography was chosen by the squads. Reads took the pictures and the outcome was impressive. The

price seemed to go up though, charging \$8 for eight wallets and up to \$25 for packages. The admission prices, though, were very reasonable. The price was \$3 each or \$5 for a couple.

All in all the "Women Pay All" dance went really well. Everyone seemed to have a good time. The decorations and all the plans turned out and all the hard work paid off!



Winter poms Elissa Crow and Leslie Nigg sold hearts during lunch. The hearts and their messages were put on the wall during WPA.



# School Lunch:

## CONVENIENTLY SERVED AT SCHOOL.

by Jon Lien

What is it about school lunch that fills us with such discontent, such spite, such sadness, such...emptiness? It seems that since the birth of these economically friendly t.v. dinner counterparts there's just been a lot of bad news. Yeah, bad news. Should you choose to read on further, you will locate more words. I will be focusing on the regular lunch to alternative lunch ratio, the elementary lunch quantity to the high school lunch quantity ratio, the amount of bugs/dirt found in nature to the amount of bugs/dirt found in Hardee's ratio; along with other studies abroad. I will not be focusing on new and improved ways to make the lunch cycle better, I will not be focusing on making exaggerated generalities, and I will not be focusing on why Hardee's is located conveniently next to a bowling alley and used trash-mobile car lot.

Something that has been somehow overlooked by this area's health department is our ability to grow.\* If you were to walk over to Starry and eat/look at their lunch you would notice little to no difference in the quantity of their servings to our servings. This doesn't seem proportional (the key is not to give us more, but give Starry less- it's all relative).\*

Now wait, we have not one, not two, but three other vending facilities open to the student clientele. This seems a bit extravagant, considering that the only difference between them is the delusive idea that we have three different areas of option, "Hmm, I could go to the vending machine and get a bag of chips and a Gatorade, or would I rather go to the fodder emporium...and get a bag of chips and a Gatorade!"\*? I mean, I don't want to sound like an old person\* but wouldn't it be more appropriate to replace one of these establishments with a salad bar or some sort of delicatessen?\* You know, a kind of healthier

alternative. Too much sugar intake at lunch makes me really incoherent for the rest of the day. Then it carries on into the next day until lunch.

Another bafflement is what I like to refer to



as the "Frugal Gourmet" effect. This is when you get something like a corn dog and then you can't get sandwiches or toast or a bun because the breading around the hot dog is your "adequate" bread intake. O.K. The main course should not be able to determine what side courses you may choose from\*, because often times it is unjust, since the side courses are almost always geared for the

regular lunch and are very minimal as it is. It may be on the trivial side, but I don't think it's necessary to have to pay extra for a "full" meal.

Why not go out to lunch, though?\* Where's the trouble in that? Options galore! If you have transportation and a watch, I say you might as well get out of here. This would give students some time to reflect on previous happenings from the day; some time to bust out of the shell. It also stimulates that pseudo-innate ability to adjust to the "real world"; you can pretend you're on a lunch break from your cubical or something. And if you don't have money, go home. Eat food there, watch t.v., listen to music, rest your weary bones on a couch instead of a cold, texturized plastic pod\*?. But, if you like what the school is serving or don't care anyway, then you're set. Stay. Enjoy.

After all of this carping though, I would like to express some gratitude for the lunch staff. They don't put poison in our food (Hardee's), they don't try to keep bugs and rodents in the kitchen (Hardee's), and they don't exploit debased American subculture (Hardee's). After all, it's not their problem they can't satisfy hundreds of students everyday, just like it's not our problem we can't be satisfied everyday. And as to not seem like a bigot- no one here is to blame. The people who deserve to be blamed are somewhere else. At Hardee's, maybe. (For more abrupt/bad endings, please refer to anything ever written by me/R.L. Stine).

\*For the purposes of continuity, these statements will not be considered "new and improved ways to make the lunch cycle better".

\*For the purposes of continuity, these statements will not be considered "exaggerated generalities".

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 "Something to Talk About" 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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# ALL-AMERICAN CELEBRATION

by Josiah Bushlack

On Thursday, February 24, the music program had their annual All-American Concert.

This concert is less formal and more of a celebration of music. The relaxed atmosphere is much appreciated by the musical students, since they are not required to wear their usual dress. With food and performances in the lounge this concert is the most looked forward to throughout the year by many people. There is also an auction of baked goods provided by the music boosters. The proceeds from the concert will be used to help furnish the new music trailer purchased by the music department. The trailer is being used to transport band and vocal equipment to various spots for performances.

To help bring out the crowd the band and choirs performed fun and exciting music. To start the night both Jazz band one and Jazz band two performed in the lounge playing "Cool Front" and "From a Distance" was performed by Jazz two and "Baile De Los Chingos Pelones" and "Stick With It" was performed by Jazz one. After the Jazz performances, the show moved into the gym where the concert choir was first to perform.

"Let's Get Together" and "With A Voice of Singing" followed by the auction of baked goods.

The Chamber choir was the next to perform, with the pieces "America the Beautiful," "Go Down Moses," "Praise His Holy Name," and "What a Wonderful World." While the choir performed, "What a Wonderful World," the crowd was especially moved and entertained by the senior slide show. After both choirs had sung, the concert band took the floor playing three numbers, "Chorale and Capriccio," "Under The Big Top," and "Sinatra In Concert."

The night ended with the South Side Singers Show Choir, which was choreographed by Trisha Rood, sang and danced to the songs "Power of the Dream," and "Reaching Higher and Higher." Both band and choir thought that the concert went smoothly and was a very positive experience full of memories. Mrs. Fresse feels that, "the All-American concert offered an excellent opportunity to showcase the progress made by all ensembles. It was especially exciting to debut the South Side singers Spring show."



Percussionist Dan Stalkfleet plays the xylophone for concert band. A senior, Dan has been in band all four years.



A new addition to the vocal program, show choir showed off their new attire in a performance after the concert. One of their numbers was "Reaching Higher and Higher."



For a real change of pace, the band performed their own circus complete with animals, tumblers, and a variety of other performers. The circus theme was performed to "Under the Big Top."

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## Quiz Bowl Competition

by Matt Messerli

After a two year layoff, Marion High School is organizing another academic competition squad. So far, fifteen students have signed up to tryout for the twelve available spots.

Mrs. Braun, the Quiz Bowl organizer, will take three teams of four to Wapsie Valley HS in Fairbank on April 15. "We try to get the kids together and practice twice a week during seminar. Sometimes, though, it's tough to work around everyone's busy schedules," commented Mrs. Braun.

The Quiz Bowlers practice by playing Trivial Pursuit. "I like the competition," remarked senior Ty Turner about Quiz Bowl. Lenny Oberbroeckling said, "Questions that challenge the mind are always fun for me."



# Socks AND BANANAS:

## THE "DIRTY" TRUTH ABOUT DISCOUNT STORES

by Kristen Osborn and Ashley Corbin

Discount stores can be a big help when you need to buy underwear and potato chips in one stop. However, in some of these stores you may walk in

and want to walk right back out. You may wonder if convenience overrides cleanliness.

When walking through the entrance you may feel like there is an employee standing in the doorway stamping "white trash" on your forehead. We stress this does not occur in every store but most. Also store locations vary. For example, compare the Marion Hy-Vee to the ghetto Hy-Vee on 1st Ave. See the difference? A low rated store here may look and feel like Macy's somewhere else. So we ask, "Why not hire more janitors and spare your reputation?"



### Wal-Mart

We think they finally got the idea about how annoying that dumb yellow smiley face was. So, we went into Wal-Mart with our minds made up for us, expecting nothing more than dozens of formerly unemployed people holding a job for more than a week for the first time in their lives. To our pleasant surprise the store had been remodeled and thoroughly mopped. Proven wrong, we enjoyed the do-it-yourself checkouts and extremely large candy isle. However, our assumption about the employees remained the same. It was odd though to see a rack of bananas next to the socks. If you're in a hurry, don't stop here because the store is so big, you may have to search a while before finding what you're looking for, plus it's on the other side of town so it takes a lot of time to get there and back. Now if you were trying to save time by going to this "Super" Wal-Mart you may want to think again.

Magazine Selection: Good variety  
Herbal Essence Shampoo: \$4.48  
20 oz. Pepsi: \$.90  
CD's:  
Britney Spears: \$13.88  
Korn "Issues": \$12.34  
Juvenile "400 degrees": \$14.88

Ashley's Rating: \*\*\*

Kristen's Rating: \*\* 1/2

### K-MART

We wish we could have been proven wrong about this one, but we felt like opening a box of Swiffers and dusting as we cringed down the aisles. My allergies kicked in full thrust because of the dusty, unsold items overlooked by the cleaners. The only attraction to this poorly cleansed store is the Little Caesar's food court. Making our way out the exit we almost got trampled by a man trying to go in the exit. The entrance is on the left (wrong) side and the exit on the right. If you're up early shopping here on Sunday, don't wear your grubby pajamas because you might camouflage into the cluttered slop covered isles.

Magazine Selection: Few  
Herbal Essence Shampoo: \$4.49  
20 oz. Pepsi: \$.88  
CD's:  
Britney Spears: \$13.99  
Korn "Issues": \$13.99  
Juvenile "400 degrees": \$14.99

Ashley's Rating: 1/2

Kristen's Rating: 1/4

### Phar-Mor

Moving on, we were a little hesitant to step foot into our next mission, Phar-Mor. A disappointing fact we came across was that they took out the video rentals. That would have been an upside to shopping here. They had a lot of good sales because they always compare their prices to other stores. Its location is convenient because of the movie theater across the parking lot. You can buy cheaper candy here instead of paying a ridiculous \$3 a box. It was lightly covered in a small layer of dust, but nothing to be scared of.

Magazine Selection: A lot of books and magazines to choice from  
Herbal Essence Shampoo: \$5.48  
20 oz. Pepsi: \$.85  
CD's:

All we could find was old volumes of Christian music so we couldn't compare Britney Spears, Juvenile or Korn.

Ashley's Rating:

\*\*

Kristen's Rating: \*\*

### Shop Ko

We took a step into a higher class store. This was nice and clean, with the shelves and aisles well organized. We definitely liked the clearance isle where we rummaged around and found an awesome deal on Valentine Nerds for the low low price of \$.30. The only downside was if you wanted to buy some cd's don't bother stopping here, they are expensive! We also found some of the isles to be unorganized, but we easily found our way around the shiny waxed floors. So don't hesitate to stop by because chances are you will only feel like semi-trash.

Magazine Selection: Great~the best by far! An entire aisle full of everything from bikes to boybands.

Herbal Essence Shampoo: 2/\$9  
20 oz. Pepsi: \$.99  
CD's:  
Britney Spears: \$15.99  
Korn "Issues": \$14.99  
Juvenile "400 Degrees": \$16.99

Ashley's Rating: \*\*\*\*

Kristen's Rating: \*\*\*\*

### Target

Well since both of us shop here regularly we knew what to expect and may have been partially bias towards the other stores when we were rating them, but we both agree this is the best, with Shop Ko coming in a close second! We could find all the products we were comparing with ease. We like the wider isles so you don't have to go single file down them. They also have a little food court area where you can grab a bite to eat. We're sorry we made you read all that and saved the best for last when we could have just let you know right from the start! The employees are nice, (most of the time), and you don't have to worry about French bread poking you while you're looking at lipstick.

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# FAST-FOOD REVIEW

## How much are you willing to spend to spare your health?

By Kristin Popovics and Megan Osborn

It is commonly believed that fast-food restaurants are the most convenient places to grab a bite to eat when you are in a hurry, but are they really that fast, friendly, and economical? Kristin Popovics and I took that claim and put it to the test when we went to four different fast-food joints: Wendy's, McDonald's, Burger King, and Subway, to compare all that they had to offer. We compared price, quality of food, cleanliness, friendliness, menu choices, and quickness through the drive-thru, and we gave them an overall rating of 1-5, one being the lowest rating and five being the best. These are the results:

### Wendy's

The first restaurant we visited was Wendy's on Collins Road in Cedar Rapids. Wendy's offers, as almost all other fast-food restaurants do, a combo menu. We compared the cost of Wendy's #1 combo meal, a classic single, biggie fries, and a medium drink. The amount totaled \$3.66. The total calories for a classic single with everything on it is 440 and 23 grams of fat.

The wait at the drive-thru was approximately 30 seconds from the time we arrived at the drive-thru

until the time we actually received our food, however, we managed to get to Wendy's at a time when they weren't too busy (approx. 12:15). The food was fresh and hot. Unfortunately, the hamburger was loaded down with grease, but considering it is a fast-food restaurant that is what you have to expect.

The menu that Wendy's has to offer is probably the most extensive of all fast-food places. They offer not only hamburgers, but chicken sandwiches, salads, potatoes, chili, pitas, and of course the ever-famous, frosty. Wendy's also offers a 10 item \$0.99 menu, so if you are really broke there is always something you can afford for \$1.04.

Once Kristin and I made it through the drive-thru, we decided to bring our lunch inside to eat so that we could check out the dining area. The inside of the restaurant was about as clean as you can expect and Kristin added, "They played good muzac (the piped in music that most businesses and restaurants play)" Wendy's also had a lady that walked around the dining area handing out mints and refilling drinks for customers. All-in-all Wendy's really seemed to live up to the "fast-food claim," and we gave them an overall rating of 4.5.

### McDonald's

The second place that Kristin and I patronized was the infamous McDonald's on 6th Ave. in Marion. At one time McDonald's was a fun place to go, a place where your parents would take you to surprise you with a happy meal, however, McDonald's has taken a drastic turn for the worse since those fun-filled happy meal days. McDonald's was, by far, the trashiest

restaurant that Kristin and I visited. The combo comparison was a #3 Quarter Pounder, larger fries, and a medium drink. The cost was \$3.77 and no, you do not get more for your money. The hamburger was not only drenched in grease, but the french fries were cold and soggy! The total calories for a Quarter Pounder with everything on it is 530 calories and 30 grams of fat, minus the cheese only 420 calories and 21 grams of fat. The line to the drive-thru was three cars deep because we got there around 12:30 which appeared to be a busy time for McDonalds. From the time that we ordered until the time we received our food was approximately 2.5 minutes compared to Wendy's 30 seconds. The person who took our order, however, was friendly, but that didn't make up for the terrible food and the higher cost.

Once inside we decided to check out the dining area. It was not very clean, to say the least. There were straw rappers and ketchup spills on the tables and garbage cans, and the bathrooms were also a mess.

McDonalds does not offer a very extensive menu. In addition to hamburgers, they offer only chicken and fish sandwiches and salads, but this can be overlooked somewhat because they also offer the very

tasty McFlurry, however, McDonalds received a measly rating of 2 from Kristin and I.

### Burger King

Burger King on 7th Ave. in Marion was the third fast-food restaurant that we visited and the last hamburger joint. Kristin and I were pretty impressed with Burger King. They have a double drive-thru lane which makes going through the drive-thru a lot faster and more efficient. However, it still took 1 minute and 40 seconds to get our food, but you must take into account that we brought Matt Haddy and Matt Messerli along with us, so our order was much bigger. The people working the drive thru were very friendly which made our visit enjoyable.

The combo comparison here was their #2 Whopper, medium fries, and a medium drink. The total cost was \$3.66, making this meal as inexpensive as Wendy's. Burger



King's hamburgers were a lot tastier and less greasy since they are "flame-broiled." The total calories for a Whopper with everything is 730 and 46 grams of fat, minus the cheese 640 calories and 39 grams of fat, so obviously the "flame-broiled-ness" does not cut down on the calories or fat. Burger King's menu included not only hamburgers, but chicken, fish, desert pies, and a \$0.99 menu, but neither Burger King nor McDonald's could compare to Wendy's.

Burger King's dining area scored an average mark when it came to cleanliness. They were right in the middle between Wendy's and McDonald's. Overall, Burger King was fairly inexpensive, but the most unhealthy of all the fast-food places. They scored a 3.7 from Kristin and me.

Now a wholesome alternative to fast-food eating...

### Subway



Everyone's favorite fast-food hang-out is also the healthiest place to eat. Subway offers a wide variety of subs, wraps, salads, and soups. You can also find seven subs with six grams of fat or less and 350 calories or less. Although the prices are a tad more expensive than the usual burger joint, you must take this into consideration—a few cents for your healthy well-being? Subway scored a 4.9 with Kristin and me.

Your health may or may not be more important to you than the amount of money you are willing to spend, but after months of eating lunch at McDonalds, Burger King, or Wendy's, it is inevitable that you will have packed on the pounds and your arteries will be crying out for relief. It may just be a good idea to bring your lunch from home—that way you can eat what you like and you'll be saving money at the same time.



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## by Ryan Young

Through my adventure through the internet scholarship experience, I have concluded that you are better off robbing a bank than funding your education from internet sites. My advice to you is to go to the guidance office and pick up scholarship forms there.

By JoliAnn DeLong, Lindsey Schneider, and Matt Erkel

a) Giant Party Subs Available in any length, made with your choice of Italian, wheat, or

\*Forks, Spoons, Knives = (packages of 24,50,100) about \$2.00 to \$4.00

<u>COST</u>	<u>WHAT WAS BOUGHT</u>	<u>WHAT WAS USED</u>
50.00	1 and 1/2 Full Sheet Cakes	2/3 of full sheet cakes (cut 2x2)
70.00	2 meat trays (ordered for 40)	A little over 1 tray
36.00	1 fruit tray (serves 35)	All
25.00	10 - 12 packs of pop	Used 4 packs
12.81	7 dozen buns	3.5 dozen
	Gallon of beans	Barely any
10.00	6 bags of chips	2 bags
	6 dozen napkins, plates, cups, plasticware	Used most;
		unopened packages can be returned

*Weeds*

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# PROM! - WHAT is IN AND WHAT is NOT

by JoliAnn DeLong

For those of you who are still worrying about a dress there are a few simple things you need to remember to make your time shopping for that perfect dress less stressful. We all know there is enough to worry about with out the worries of the perfect dress, like having the right date, the flowers and even where you are going to eat.

This year the fashions that we started to see a little of last year are really making a statement in the stores this year. The soft and simple look is what you will see making its way down the Grand March. The most popular colors are basically pastel. The soft lavender, rose and coral are the hottest so far. Though the brighter colors are becoming very popular also. We will probably see more of them next year and just remember that black is always a safe bet when picking out a dress. Also a new material in dresses, called ambre, has caught a lot of peoples eyes also. It is a shiny glistening fabric that fades from a darker to lighter color from head to toe of the dress. Sequence are still very fashionable, but the iridescent smooth styles are the ones catching peoples eyes.

This year one thing you need to remember is "less is more". More and more dresses are strap less and even more have the really low backs. It seems that girls are getting more daring and are trying a lot of new and different looks in order to stand out in the crowd. Another new fad that is up and rising is two piece dresses. It doesn't matter if it is a halter top and skirt look or a tank top and skirt look, they are really being adored by the shoppers. Dresses using straps for design are also very popular. Accessories that are growing are hair pieces, more and more girls are looking to add a little something by using hair pieces such as barrettes, or even tiaras and combs. All accessories add that little touch that a dress might need in order to add that little touch.

As far as tux's go there are a few new styles that the guys really seem to like. They have a easy choice of a black or white tux and even the black and white tux together. With either the black top and white bottom or the black bottoms and white top. Though some are going with the pin stripped Al Cappone look. They have a top hat and dangling chains to top the



by Amanda Carson

This year Prom is being held on April 15, in the old gym. The theme is going to be "This Magic Moment", and the colors are white, gold, and greenery in the background. The prom committee has already decided on a scene and is in the process of ordering the things that will be needed for the dance. The DJ has been hired and the photographer has also been called.

The Grand March is going to be at 4:00 again this year and pictures will start at 2:00. The dance will run from 8:00 - 11:00 in the old gym. The tickets for the dance will start being sold on Monday April 3, and they will cost \$7 for single or \$10 per couple.

The junior class has been very lucky to have Jaclyn Hugg, because her father works at E.S.I. He has a friend that is an interior decorator has helped us out with many of the plans that need to be done. We will start decorating on Friday, April 14, early in the morning, and will continue throughout the day.

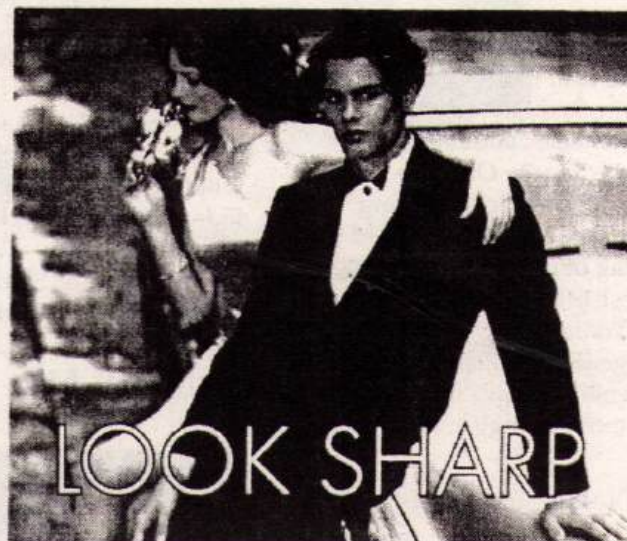


At Mr. Neat's, Matt Erkel checks out prom tuxedos. Tuxedos range in price from \$70-\$140 depending on the accessories and shoes.

look off. The guys this year seem to be going more with the two button dress coats because they are more sporty and more comfortable than the three button dress coats. Instead of the traditional bow tie, this year guys seem to be liking the simple, double-collar button shirts or a straight collared button shirt. This year vests seem to be more popular than a cubberbun. This change allows the guys to add some color to their tux and to match their dates dress. Although a dilemma top the change is that many of the designer vests is that they haven't yet come out with the popular pink and coral colors.



While at the state wrestling meet, the cheerleaders looked at dresses at Shaeffer's. Morgan Leverett helps Nitasha Fish into a dress which cost \$680.



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**NAME: Kayla Bahl**

Age: 17  
Activity: Basketball Statistician  
Past Season Memory: Beating Vinton - Shellsburg and Waterloo Columbus  
Season Thrill:

When I had to run after the bus at Anamosa because Bill left me.  
Starting Out: I have been a statistician for four years.  
Favorite Weekend Memory: When Amanda McGrew, Sara S, Megan Osborn, Emily Pease, Jenny Scheer, and I put 80 political signs in Doug Haas's yard and went teepeeing.  
Favorite Snack: Chex Mix  
If you could do anything, what would it be? Travel around the world.  
Biggest Influence: My parents  
College Future Plans: I am going to UNI to major in secondary education in Math and Science or accounting

**NAME: Brenden Colin Kelley**

Age: 18  
Activity: Concert, marching and jazz band, and baseball  
Past Season Memory: Pitching in an 8th grade baseball



game as a freshman under the supervision of John Heald and Alex Dvorsky.  
Season Thrill: Last year being the first band in 10 years to get Division 1 ratings at State in marching, jazz, and concert band.  
Favorite Weekend Memory: One weekend, Dan, Mike, Jerhimia, and I were frisbee golfing and a sixth grader was mocking Dan's throws. So, Dan mocked him on the 8th hole and we lost.  
Favorite Saying: You either work for the mother, or you own it!  
Favorite Snack: Oranges  
If you could do anything, what would it be? Unite the world under one flag of peace and equality.  
Biggest Influence: Adam Langfit, Kurt Vonneght Jr., and my father.  
College/Future Plans: Going to the University of Iowa for 4 more years and studying english or political science.

**NAME: Adam Fisher**

Age: 17  
Activity: Band - Marching band, concert band, jazz band, pep band  
Past Season Memory: Marching the last show

at the Five Seasons Center

Season Thrill: Going on the Texas trip for band and choir. I had a blast.  
Starting Out: Starting out as a freshman, I was a little scared because it was a new building, new classes, and schedules and a lot more people. It turned out to be just fine!  
Advise for Newcomers: Keep an open mind, just be yourself, and have fun.  
Favorite Weekend Memory: On a Sunday in winter when it was -10 degrees and I didn't have any homework, I just sat by the warm fireplace with a cup of hot cocoa and burned a barbie doll.

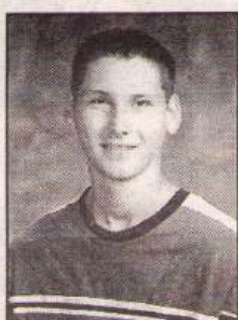
Favorite Saying: ... uhm ....  
Favorite snack: Snack Packs  
If you could do anything, what would it be? After visiting the wonders of the world, I'd get an island in the South Pacific where I'd live for a few years, then have NASA build me a neat flying machine so I could fly into a black hole and then somehow fly back out and then return to my island in the South Pacific.  
College/ Future Plans: Go to the University of Iowa and graduate in 2004...then after that....who knows?

**NAME: Amanda McGrew**

Age: 17  
Activity: Basketball  
Past Season Memory: When Kristin broke the school record for assists with my basket.



Season Thrill: Beating Vinton at Vinton and beating Waterloo Columbus in overtime.  
Starting Out: Playing AAU and losing every game by 50 and if we lost by less than 50 we counted it as a win.  
Advice for Newcomers: Don't slide down the bench because you might get a splinter in your butt.  
Favorite Weekend Memory: Freaking out in the back seat of Mike Balvanz's car on the way to the Benton football game.  
Favorite Saying: "I only look sweet and innocent..."  
Favorite Snack: Bread  
If you could do anything, what would it be? Marry and have 100 kids with Ben Affleck.  
Biggest Influence: Kari Ozburn  
College/Future Plans: Getting an apartment with Kari and going to Kirkwood

**NAME: Mike Murray**

Age: 18  
Activity: Band, track, football  
Past Season Memory: Being district champs in football my senior year.

Season Thrill: Getting a Division 1 in marching band, concert band, and jazz band my junior year.  
Starting Out: Nothing is as tough as

it seems to be.

Advice for Newcomers: Never give up, keep trying.

Favorite Weekend Memory: The time I went to see Fear Factory with all my friends.

Favorite Saying: "Hi Guys!"

Favorite Snack: Doritos and Mt. Dew

Biggest Influence: My favorite guitarist, Tim Mahoney from 311

College Future Plans: Go to Kirkwood for 2 years and then go to a major university for my major.

**NAME: Lisa Slatten**

Age: 17  
Activity: Competitive Speech, Student-Run Play, Spring Play  
Past Season Memory: For one of the pieces in speech

we had to be barefoot and I tripped on a big wooden box and got a splinter about one inch long.

Season Thrill: Getting to receive the medals of Special Recognition for our group at the All-State competition in Des Moines.

Starting Out: I specifically requested an activity where I didn't have to memorize anything in case I blanked in front of the audience.

Advice for Newcomers: Speech is a great activity if you want to overcome your fear of public speaking and it's also a good way to make new friends and meet new people.

Favorite Weekend Memory: I work Saturdays and Sundays from 5 am to 2 pm. When I get off work I do my laundry, clean my room, do homework, then sleep. That doesn't make for a very interesting weekend.

Favorite Saying: Good gravy!

Favorite snack: Anything with potatoes or rice.

If you could do anything, what would it be? Move some place where the weather is stable and never, ever, ever cold!

Biggest Influence: There isn't just one- all of my friends influence me in some way to be a better person and improve.

College/Future Plans: Go to college to major in English and History, and become a teacher. Don't ask me why!

**NAME: Dan "Dante" Stalkfleet**

Age: 18

Activity: Football, band, jazz band, and baseball

Past Season Memory: In baseball



Brenden Kelley was pitching, coach Heald put me in right field. The ball was hit towards the first base in the air, I went

running and I dove and caught it. Coach Heald cried.. "The Taco Day Play of the Bell!"

Season Thrill: This year in football playing defensive line. It was the best time of my life.

Advice for Newcomers: It's hard, I know, but keep at it.

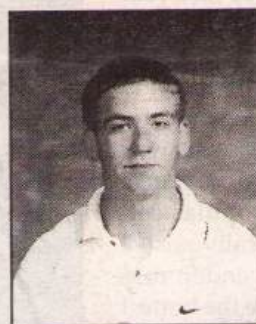
Favorite Weekend Memory: Cruising to the Super Toad and seeing Fear Factory, System of a Dorn, and Static - X live.

Favorite Saying: I am thee salimander Ehnhehnhn! Pika - chu! Charmander!

Favorite Snack: Mountain Dew and Doritos

If you could do anything, what would it be? Live with penguins! Lots of them!

Biggest Influence: Big Dan Kelley  
College/Future Plans: University of Iowa, the crazy life in college.

**NAME: Ty Turner**

Age: 17  
Activity: Basketball, golf, baseball, and bowling.  
Past Season Memory: Golfing in sectionals.

Season Thrill: Nothing is thrilling at Marion.  
Starting Out: I used to play in little league baseball.

Advice for Newcomers: Go out for four sports, if not interested in sports, be involved in extra curricular activities such as band, choir, or the clubs.  
Favorite Weekend Memory: Spending all weekend with my two best buds and doing anything and everything.

Favorite Snack: Left over food from Arby's after closing.

If you could do anything, what would it be? Take a beautiful cruise in the caribbean with a special someone and witness a solar eclipse.

Biggest Influence: Parents  
College/Future Plans: I am going to attend BYU major in computer science and do some acting.

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## FBLA NEWS

The Marion FBLA has been silent lately but is ready to come out with a bang this spring with the overnight Spring Conference at the Five Seasons Center, April 7th and 8th. Schools from the eastern Iowa area will be attending the conference. The members will be in competitive events, attending a banquet, and dancing the night away. The cost is seventy-five dollars, a small price to pay for an evening of pure joy.

## NHS.

by Anna Kalkwarf

NHS, SODA, and FBLA sponsored a sledding party on Sunday, Feb. 20th. It was a huge success due to the snow storm on Thursday night. The fresh snow allowed for great sledding conditions. There was a good turn out and everyone who went sledding had a great time. There were board games for the non-sledders and a warm fire in the fire place of the pavilion. NHS also has a couple of road clean-ups left this year. The applications for getting into NHS have been sent out, and they must be turned in by early April for consideration. The new members will be inducted at Honor's Night on May 11.

## WWW PROMOTES Healthy Lifestyles

The Win With Wellness group has been working hard to get all of their projects done. The Nutrition group set out oranges during the lunch cycles, and put some healthy snacks in the teacher's lounge. The Positive Self-Concept group gave everyone an "I Am Loved" pin on Valentine's Day. The 3-on-3 basketball tournament ended with Mike Boquist, Jared Steger and Matt Messerli coming out on top. The Chemical-Free Living had a coloring contest at Emerson. They handed out suckers to FMI with the message, "Don't be a sucker, don't do drugs." The group also had an ASAC display at the high school. The Environment group had a Car Pool Day. On March 8, the Safety group tied red ribbons on peoples' cars to remember all the people that have died because of drunk driving.

The week of March 13-17 was spirit week. The days were Sunshine Day, Sports Switch Day, Wacky Wednesday, Hat Day, and Green Day. The Luau dance was held on Friday night from 8-11. If people brought a canned food item, they got \$1 off admission. Half of the proceeds went to the Big Brothers, Big

Sisters Foundation and the other half went to the Food Pantry.

## SODA

by Kristen Osborn


SODA along with NHS and FBLA sponsored a sledding party at Squaw Creek on, Sunday, February 20. There was a great turn-out and


everyone had fun showing their sledding abilities on the infamous Squaw Creek "mountain". The members enjoyed snacks, drinks to warm up with after sledding, and board games. On Monday, March 20, SODA held an open gym/ karaoke night. About 25 members attended which was good considering their wasn't school and people had other plans.




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*C. Everett Koop, Former U.S. Surgeon General*

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# ONE SEASON ENDS . . .

## FRESHMAN Girls End With A Win

by Amanda Carson and Anna Kalkwarf

On February 3, the freshman girls lost a close game to the Benton Bobcats, 52-56. The leading scorer, Jessi Clark, had 23 points. Clark also had 5 rebounds. Ashley Podoll and Candice O'Connell each had 8 points. Podoll also grabbed 6 rebounds. Kirsten Nelson and Podoll both had 4 steals.

The girls went to Monticello on February 7 and suffered a defeat, 17-46. Clark was once again the top scorer with 8. Along with 8 rebounds. Podoll snatched a whopping 14 rebounds and put 6 points up on the board. The girls won their final game of the season against the Don Bosco Dons, 51-35. Jessi Clark had

a repeat performance scoring 23 points. She also had 10 rebounds. Ashley Podoll scored 10 and grabbed 8. Kirsten Nelson contributed 8 points. Megan Standley pulled down 7 rebounds. It was a good effort by all.

## FROSH BBB

by Jared Steger

The Freshman boys basketball team ended the season on a very high note. They played the South Tama Trojans twice, losing the first game 51-70. They were able to bounce back and get a win the second game, by the score of 43-22. They then really took it to Don Bosco at home beating them by the score of 52-38 to end their season.

The Indians had a lot of contributors on the team this season one of which was their leading scorer, Caleb Lynott who averaged 14.6 ppg. He was also the team's leading rebounder averaging 7.3 boards per game. Quince Springer and Trent

Fish also helped the team, both averaged 7.4 ppg, and Fish lead the team in steals with 51. Another player that really improved and stepped up for the Indians was Matt Boquist who averaged 6 ppg and 5 rebounds, not to mention a team high 30 blocked shots.

## Soph Boys BB

by Matt Messerli

The 10th grade boys' basketball team finished off their up and down season with a (10-9) record. The Indians finished (7-7) in the very competitive WaMaC Conference. First-year coach Mr. Manderscheid was pleased with the overall effort his team displayed this season. "The kids hung in there and competed against some tough competition," noted Manderscheid. "We had a great season."

The team scoring leader was guard Doug Clo-

ven. Cloven averaged 11.5 points per game and was the team's leading three-point shooter. Swingman Kyle Olson also did some major scoring, averaging 11.4 points a game. Power forward Nick Campbell chipped in with a 7.6 point per game average.

The sophomores did a respectable job of hitting the boards throughout the season. Pete Messerli was the team's leading rebounder, grabbing 6.6 boards a game. Bryan Ryther also did a good job rebounding, hauling in 6.5 a game.

Defense was the Indians' strong-suit this season. They held seven teams under 55 points. Also, the team drew a total of 28 charges this season. That's an astronomical number considering the Indians only played 19 games.

The Indians collected some big wins this season. Most notably, they defeated conference power West Delaware late in the season, handing the Hawks their

second loss of the entire year. The team had a very tough non-conference schedule. They had close losses against their Mississippi Valley Conference opponents, including an overtime loss to Cedar Rapids Xavier.

The sophs showed this season that they have a lot of potential to contribute on the court with next year's varsity squad. They have some very competent guards and some improving big men. If they continue to develop they future for Marion boys' basketball looks bright.

## Varsity Girls' Basketball

Kristin Popovics and Megan Osborn

On February 17, the Marion Girls' Basketball team held their first District game at home against Mt. Vernon. The Indians kept a slight lead throughout the first half, and were up by 7 at halftime. The team had a very strong third quarter and ended the game with a tremendous victory. Julie Straub had 16 points and 14 rebounds, Kristin Popovics had 27 points and 8 assists, and Jamie Clark had 13 points off the bench.

The Indians hosted the second round game as well against 10th ranked Central DeWitt. The Sabers' had the lead throughout the first half, and were up by 9 at halftime. But a fourth quarter surge by Marion cut the lead to 44-42 with three minutes remaining. However, the Indians couldn't come out on top and the final score was 71-59. Kristin Popovics led with 19 points, Kari Ozburn added 10, and Jana Bradley, Julie Straub, and Jamie Clark each had 8.

All-in-all the Marion Indians had a great season full of success.

## Varsity BBB

The Marion boys basketball team finished off their season with a loss to Xavier in their District game. Marion finished the season with a 8-13 record in Coach Corby Laube's first year. Marion was lead by Aaron Stewart's 20 points in his final game at Marion High School. It was the last game for 11 graduating seniors at Marion. Marion will hold their banquet at the high school on Sunday March 19.

# STATE EXCITEMENT

## Wycoff ties STATE pin record while placing THIRD AT STATE

by Mike Balvanz

Matt Wycoff tied Iowa's State career pin record this weekend at the State Wrestling Tournament. Wycoff achieved this by pinning Jeff Hall of Clear Lake in 4:13. "I was just very happy to achieve this goal of mine, especially here at State. It has been something that I've been waiting for." Wycoff's 121st pin in his high school career, tied Cory Christensen's record. Christensen is now the head wrestling coach for Williamsburg. Wycoff ended his senior year with 39 season pins.

Wycoff's first match of the tournament was against Bart George of Norwalk, where Wycoff had a very disappointing loss by the score of 1-4. After that match Wycoff regrouped with five straight wins which included a revenge 3-2 win over George and a 4-3 win over second ranked B.J. Strandenburg of Storm Lake. Doing this gave Wycoff his second straight third place finish at State.

There were four other wrestlers from Marion to advance to the State tournament. Matt McCue at weight 145, Tony Offerman at 152, Ken Ware at 160, and Jesse Kensinger at 171. This is the most wrestlers that Marion has sent to the State wrestling tournament since 1986.

Junior wrestler Matt McCue had a tough first match which he lost in overtime to Nathan Berns of MFL Mar Mac. He then had a 6-10 loss to Clint Bitting of Atlantic. Sophomore wrestler Tony Offerman lost to Justin Sinclair of Central DeWitt 7-5, and had a second round loss to Marty

Hirsch of Winterset by the score 10-3.

Marion's lone first round winner was senior Ken Ware who beat Zach Madsen of Northwood-Kenseth by technical fall in 5:28 by the score of 18-1. Ware then lost the next round to Mark Van Oort of Galva. The reason that this loss was so disappointing was that Ware had his opponent pinned for five seconds before the referee got around to see. By that time the kid had escaped. If Ware had won this match it would have assured him to be a State place winner. Then Ware lost his next match to Andy Kennedy of Monticello in an overtime loss with the score 4-6. This is the match that knocked Ware out of the tournament.

The only other Marion wrestler to place was Jesse Kensinger at weight 171. Kensinger also had a tough first loss to second ranked Travis Stueker of Algona with a score of 8-18. Then he came back and beat Brandon Hoppenworth of Ballard Huxley by technical fall in the time of 2:37. Then had an 11-8 win over Jim Dean of Waterloo Columbus. Then Kensinger went on to pin Josh Youngbear of South Tama in :57 seconds. Kensinger then met Stueker again and had a much closer match with him. Kensinger was in the whole match with him but eventually lost with the score 10-13. Kensinger lost his final match but still placed sixth.

Congratulations to Wycoff on placing third and tying the State pin record, and Kensinger on placing sixth.



# ... ANOTHER BEGINS

## Boys Tennis

by Josiah Bushlack

Boys tennis is starting out slow this year. Last year's coach, Mike May, resigned and a new coach wasn't hired until March 16. The new coach is Travis Fuller. I'm sure this is going to be the best season since 1997. Losing Coach May was tough. He will be missed. Many have said that Coach May was the best tennis coach ever. It will be hard for the new coach to fulfill such a loss. This year there will be one returning letter-winner, Josiah Bushlack, therefore a lot of new tennis stars will be making their debut on the tennis courts this year. Coach Fuller is going to have a full load and will have to know a lot about tennis to bring this team to the top.

## Girls Tennis

The girls tennis season started on March 14, with Coach McNutt as their coach. There season will be

a tough one, because of the loss of their top two players from last year. This year there won't be just one girl who stands out, all of the girls will have to contribute to the team to make this season successful. There will be different girls on top throughout the season which will make the competition intense for the team.

## Girls Up And Running

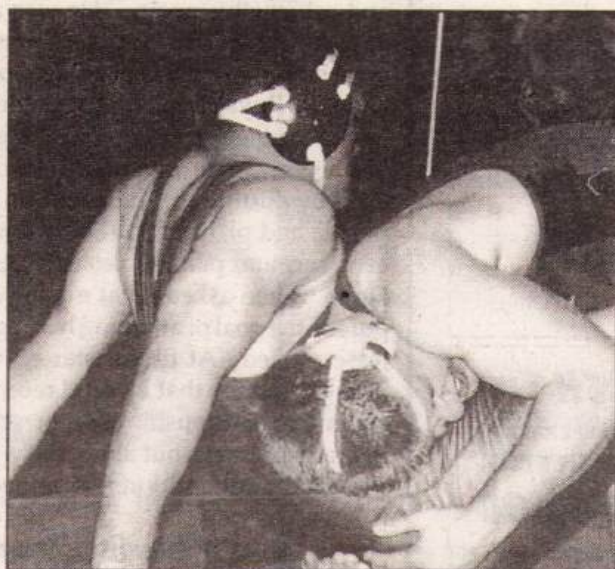
The girls track had their first official meeting on March 1, 2000. Fifty girls showed up. Many of them under classmen. Practice began after school on March 6. The team is going to have to make some adjustments this year. Emily Baumert is unable to compete because of her knee injury. Also, the team lost their top sprinter, Greta Nelson. However, there is a large group of girls that participated in the state meet last year that have returned. Michelle Petersen,

Leighann Freeman, Rachel Eagle, Nicole Burrell, Anna Kalkwarf, Jana Bradley, and Elizabeth Meader all made the trip to Des Moines last year. Coach Gaffney-Paige commented, "We have a good combination of young kids to put with the veterans. We have state qualifying returnees. We're going to call on them to step up and lead the team by being top place winners in every meet." The girls had their first indoor meet on March 18 at Coe. All of the metro schools were present. They have WAMAC indoor meet at Cornell on March 24.

## Boys Track '00

The boys track season is right around the corner once again and the Indians hope to continue rebuilding and take back the reins a tough WaMac conference.

The season will kick off with the annual WaMac indoor at Cornell and get a preview of what's to come later in the season. The team will be led by senior sprinters Matt Wycoff, Jesse Kensinger and Jesse McDannald along with distance runners Ken Ware, Mike Balvanz, and Ryan Young. Other returning letter winners include Taylor Heim in the 800, Sam Ehlinger in the 3200, Jordan Immerfall in the 110 HH and Kyle Koeppen who ran mostly 400's. The Indian will also get a boost from sophmores Jason McGaffic, Tony Offerman and Carlos Zelaya. There are many up and coming runners that it would be hard to name them all, but one thing is for sure,



Matt Wycoff wins third-place with a take-down over BJ Strandenburg of Storm Lake. Before the tournament, Strandenburg was ranked 2nd at 189 lbs.

## Bowling Team Wins District: State Meet Up Next

by Matt Messerli

Marion's five-man boys' bowling team is headed to the State Bowling Tournament after their first place finish at regional qualifying. It will be the third time in MHS history that Marion has qualified a bowling team for the state meet.

Dustin Clair, Jared Nielsen, Jason McGaffic, Ty Turner, and Jason Corey are the five bowlers that make up the team.

The first half of the regional qualifying, Marion had a combined 2,832 after

three games apiece. McGaffic recorded a 244 in one of his games to lead the Indians to the championship.

Ty Turner had this to say about State: "I think it's great we're going to State. It's a great accomplishment considering Marion hasn't sported a bowling team recently. I'm excited to compete at State!" The state meet will take place on April 29th at the Westdale Bowling Center.

## Girls Golf

The future of the girls golf team is still up in the air as of right now. Although there has been some interest shown by a few students, a new coach has yet to be hired. Mr. Bob Miller had been the girls golf coach for the past several years and he decided to resign after last year's season. Mr. Wikert has put an ad in the Gazette advertising the open position, but as of now, there are no prospective candidates. Hopefully, a new coach will be hired soon and the girls can get out on the course to start practice, but it is still uncertain whether there will be a golf team at all.



Playing their final regular season game, the seniors relax with the rest of the bench at the end of the Central City contest.



Matt Messerli goes up for a rebound against Central City as Joey Akers and Aaron Stewart wait for the play.



# BASEBALL FEVER

## COACH FISH NAMED HEAD BASEBALL COACH

by Matt Haddy

As some of you may know Marion has hired a new baseball coach. Coach Fish was named as successor to former head coach Terry Heald. Coach Fish has been the freshmen baseball coach for the last few years as well as an assistant football coach and head boys track coach. I had a chance to sit down with the new coach and tried to get a feel for what he will be bringing to the program.

I first asked Coach Fish what his initial reactions were after finding out that he would be Marion's next baseball coach. "It was really a sense of relief, it has been a career aspiration of mine to get back into head coaching." Credentials are definitely something that Coach Fish is not lacking. After graduating from Coe, where he played, he worked for the Olympic Committee in Los Angeles. He decided that this wasn't what he wanted to do so he came back to Iowa and was an assistant baseball coach at Coe and Washington H.S. under his former head coach at Coe. After this he became the head coach at Central City where he coached for nine years before coming to Marion. He has also been involved with youth baseball at all levels as well as Babe Ruth and has organized and coached the Iowa Select team that has traveled to Australia. He has also been the coach of the Iowa High School All Star team twice in his career.

As with any coach, Coach Fish has many goals for both himself and the Marion baseball program. In the long run he would like to see Marion be recognized as the best team in not only the metro but in Eastern Iowa as well as annually contending for the WAMAC and state titles. He knows that he will have the athletes for it but he is not sure how many pure baseball players he will have. This is what he considers to be unique about Marion's program, "There are no real, just one sport athletes which really makes this school special." He hopes to develop a Babe Ruth program and build from the bottom up. For the immediate future he hopes to try and share his love and passion for the game with his players and coaches. He wants to have all the players and coaches at all levels on the same page, and share the same philosophy throughout the program.

As I said before Coach Fish has other duties and one of them is head track coach. I asked him how this would affect him planning for this upcoming season. "I don't want to disrespect track at all, track is very important, but my passion is baseball so of course it may interfere a little." He believes, though, that track can be very important to all

players as well, "I treat track as a pre season of sorts for baseball." "It may interfere a little but I will always be talking baseball and will be working with the Babe Ruth."

Coach Fish is very pleased with the facilities at the school. "The field has been in good hands." He would, however, like to see an upgrade in the training facilities for the players and maybe add a few extras, such as batting cages and extra side mounds.

Throughout this interview I really got the feeling that Coach Fish is excited to be a part of the program. Its been two years since he was a head coach, "Its been hard to watch and not be a part of it. We have a good nucleus of seniors coming back, there may even be some surprises. We have a extremely tough schedule this year, playing the conference teams three times along with the other metro teams will be tough." In the long run though Coach Fish just wants to see everybody become a better baseball player. Really, isn't that what we all want?

# THE HIGHEST RANK

by Ken Ware and Jared Steger

Achieving the status of Eagle Scout is a difficult thing to do. Only two percent of the boys who participate in Boy Scouts actually go on to get their Eagle Scout. In our school we have eight young men who have achieved the Eagle Scout honor. Seniors Jesse Kensinger, Aaron Stewart, Nick Bast, Ty Turner, Junior Matt Miskel and Sophomores Nick Cambell, Eric Griggs, and Jason Likens all have worked hard from Cub Scouts to boy scouts then to Eagle Scouts.

To become an Eagle Scout it takes a lot of time and effort from the person pursuing this great honor. For example, it took Jason Likens the better part of four years starting from Tiger cub and working up through



Jason Likens, with Vicki Hughes, built a new fence for Usher's Ferry for his Eagle Project.

Boy Scouts. These guys have to work hard to achieve their goals and a part of doing so is deciding what to do for their final project to get their honors. The final projects consist of planning, dedication, and hard work. Each individual has to comprise a project that gives them so many hours of volunteering, which can come from the help of their peers and family. They have to write out a plan and make sure it is reviewed before they begin. Matt Miskel one of the youngest to attain the rank of Eagle at 14 years. He did so, by laying a wood chip trail at Camp Courageous. Miskel had some influence from his father, who helped push him towards his quest for his honor.

Eric Griggs, attained his Eagle at the age 16 by rebuilding benches at Pinicon-Ridge. Griggs started at Tiger. He was also pushed by his father to work up the ladder and achieve his goals. "He was an Eagle Scout too. He told me it was a great honor, so I just kept going, from Cubs to Boys then finally Eagle." Jesse Kensinger was the oldest to get his Eagle. Jesse finished his final tasks by putting together a group of people and planning out how to reconstruct and paint tables at Ushers Ferry. When asked what made you pursue the goal of attaining his Eagle Jesse replied "At first it started off with the money that I would receive and my parents pushing me towards the rank of Eagle, but along the way I learned a lot and kind of enjoyed it"

Most boys who grow up around the tradition of Cub Scouts become involved in the program for fun and the activities that are offered. Now days, in Boy Scouts young men are pressured out of the program either by peer pressure or lack of interest. That has come to the attention of the Board, who decides what projects and activities that are offered. They are trying to change the program to were it is not a, "Geeky program," or something were you are considered, not in the cool group. By implying more fun activities and projects that has the young man to try and get his friends involved, to show his peers how fun and exciting it can really be.

It is a great honor to attain the Eagle, and if you do it means that you are a leader among the community, a respectable person, and have already made your future clearer for yourself by learning about the world, politics and even yourself.

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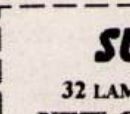
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