

The VOX

Marion High School

Volume LII
Issue #3
December 21, 2000

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS GIFT?

A Cell Phone

Todd Benore



A 4-Wheeler

Wade Burrell



Seeing snow when I first came here from Hawaii when I was 6 years old.

Ginny Lujan

A Heads Up Turbo remote control race car

Sam Ehlinger

A fuzzy teddy bear from my sister, 4 years ago

Cari Laue



A Playstation

Jamie Bolsinger



An E Wok

Andy Balvanz

A Cabbage Patch Doll with hair that grows

Stephanie Rogers



A Radio Flyer Wagon

Brian Barkdoll

A shot gun

Jason McGaffie



A glow worm

Chris Stine

Last year I got a bag of Hershey Kisses

John Likens



A 4-Wheeler

Nick Campbell



When I was 9, my dad got me a B.B. Gun.

Ryan Allan



A pink teddy bear

Sheila Lehrman

Money, so I can buy anything

Eric Allan

My Nintendo (the original one)

Jordan Immerfall



Three years ago, a snowmobile

Kyle McGee



A Bike

Jake Correll

A Sega

Spencer Dirks

A Red Rider B.B. Gun

Brad Young

A Catcher's Glove

Phil Lata

My ring

Amanda Carson

A trip to France

Justin Sperry

Turn That Frown 360° Around

and other sensational wintertime milestones

By Jon Lien

There are over four ways to spend up your indispensable winter break hours, and they are all here, to browse over, to choose, and to execute. These activities are geared for those whose friends are on vacation, for those who are on vacation and without friends, and for those who have no friends at all. In order to avoid hackneyed winter enterprise (sledding, making snowmen, Christmas, making snow-angels, etc.) this list is bound to fulfill your untapped longing for true celebration, and will more than likely become tradition amongst you and loved ones...

- Decorate a space heater or a gas furnace vent. Besides the dead clown phantoms and night banshees that lurk in the halls and corners of your home, the most menacing-looking formation in there is probably that old, decaying space heater or fur-

nace vent. Since there is no way to make one of these things tolerable for looking at, just cover up the entire thing with electrical tape, rubber cement, and wool carpet. If you happen to lie directly under a furnace vent at night you could probably gussy it up with wax figurines and plastic-coated electrical wires/cords that might be near.

- Set up a "dinosaur bone hunt" in the house. Your parents will be excited to excavate 'dinosaur bones' when they find out it's their personal possessions (it will make the hunt seem important, like it would feel to an archaeologist finding bones). Here are some examples: hide small things like keys, rings, or money in the toaster- make sure you depress knob on the side so the articles aren't spilling out everywhere. Hide meaningful family photos and old legal forms in the toilet. Cover

them with toilet paper and cat box litter to make it seem like the impenetrable layers of earth. Hide bigger items like expensive clothes in hollow parts of the walls or underneath loose floorboards.

- Befriend a little kid and help it get a head start on "life". Encourage it to "adopt" a tree in some park or public place you take it to. This will cause a personal connection between the kid and his/her environment- but especially with the tree. Sometime when the kid is being distracted by something dangerous (i.e. stray animals, old people, a well) spray paint a humongous pink "X" on the tree. Wait a few days or so for the city to cut it down, then take the kid back there. In a coaxing, yet disappointed tone tell him/her that the tree wanted to die because it thought the kid was a dork. Tell him/her that the lesson is "Trees are hard to please," then, as

you're walking away, murmur "dork" under your breath just loud enough for that kid to hear. Let the kid figure out on its own that the real lesson was that you were really jealous of his/her relationship with the tree.

- Create exotic footprints in the snow. For this you will need a pair of size 14 or 15 work boots, a big tree axe, and a plastic bottle of catsup. When your family falls asleep, commence a full-fledged odyssey into the woods swathing your unseemly foot gear. When your family awakens they will notice you are missing. Instead of leaving the axe somewhere along your course to look like funny evidence, keep it with you to jimmy open the nailed-up boards of an old hermit-shack you're bound to come across in the woods. When your family shows up use the catsup to spray madly into the eyes of the first one

in, then whip the rest of the bottle wildly into their face. Later, when you get home, ask them if they could figure out what your footprints were supposed to be of. (In the case that wind should obscure your tracks, or your family is disinterested by the game the catsup can be used as means of sustenance, but I bet the cold will take you into its miserable, racking grip before you can even finish the bottle.)

- Make a mask. Find an old brown bag that was probably used to disguise a huge jug of children's cough syrup or rotten milk. Poke some holes where you think your eyes might see out of and wear the mask for a few days straight. Walk up and down the halls at odd hours of the night, scraping the walls with a jagged stick, then go stare at one of your sleeping family members until you think you've interfered with their dreams.

The Vox

Published since 1934

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

Staff editorials reflect the majority opinion of the staff and will appear on page 2 of *The Vox* in each issue. Space for letters to the editor will be provided on the opinion page. All letters must be signed and will not be published anonymously. Letters must be limited to 200 words in length, and not all letters will be published in their entirety. The staff will not edit letters for usage, punctuation, or spelling errors. No letter will be published which contains libel, obscenities, is an invasion of privacy, or which would cause a physical disruption to the school. The authorship of all letters will be checked by the staff of *The Vox*. Suggestions for "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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Athletes' Locker Signs - Show Some Support

by Nikki Evans

This year there has been a lot of controversy about locker signs. "Who does them?" And "Why don't I have one?" Well, here's the story behind locker signs.

For every season the cheerleaders and poms are assigned locker signs. In fall the cheerleaders make them for the football players and the poms make them for volleyball and cross country. Cheerleaders do football locker signs every Friday when there's a game. Poms pick certain games and cross country meets because there's so many games and a lot of people.

Last year there was little, if not any, controversy. But, this year it seems like the athletes are complaining a lot. They say they look like "crap" if they can even see any white on the signs. They also say they never get signs. Well, believe it or

not you do. The cheers and poms get in trouble if we don't do them. So either someone is stealing them or we have the wrong locker number, but we are making them!

Also, do you know how long it takes to make locker signs? We have to take time out of our day to make five to seven locker signs a week. It takes about 30-45 minutes just to make a locker sign that looks good. That's almost 5 hours of just locker signs. Plus we practice until 5 p.m. Monday thru Thursday.

We take time to do these and all we ask is for a little appreciation. I'm not saying all people don't appreciate them, but some don't. All we're asking is for a thank-you or something. Remember we have to take time out of our day to make these for you. Do you ever do that for us?



Cheers & Poms, What's Your Cry? R-E-S-P-E-C-T

by Tegan Reeves

To begin this article I would like to assure you it is an editorial. I will try and be as objective as possible and take quotes from others. I just want to put the question in your mind and make sure we all don't listen to the stereotypes. You may wonder why this has become such a big deal. I am not sure if it has, but the way I see it, cheerleaders work hard and deserve the credit that they deserve; to be appreciated, not mocked. This has been an ongoing battle for the cheerleaders and poms to prove to everyone else that they are athletes.

The only question to pose is why? Is it strength? Because it seems to me that those girls are in the weightroom just as much as any other athletes, and as I recall, I remember seeing a picture of Christie Ottaway and Ashley Corbin holding up Sean Larson. Another argument Rick Bleeker brought up was, "Cheerleaders cheer for sports,

not compete in them". Competition squad is my answer to that! Look at track runners and swimmers. These athletes compete with themselves. They work out and practice to improve. This is what cheerleaders do. Something else that I have heard is that the teams practice more and go to camps during the summer, and they train year round. Well this summer I recall cheering for 7 hours straight. The football cheerleading squad would practice for three and following or before these practices they would attend competition practice. As for camps and workshops, all of the cheerleaders attended an Elite UCA camp for a week during July. At this camp the girls woke up at 6am, ate, cheered, ate lunch, cheered, stunted and danced, ate dinner, cheered and finally were sent to their rooms around 8pm. During this camp they learned to stunt, jump, the basics of tumbling, cheers and made some of

their own, they also competed for titles for their team and individually for the all-star team. The poms squad also went to a similar UDA camp and did the same thing. If someone were to bring up dedication and time, these girls not only dedicate their time and energy to the sport but they spend hours making spirit signs and locker signs for their team.

I am sure I have not changed anyone's minds and that was definitely not my intention, but next time you begin to make a crack about cheerleaders, or mockingly do the poms "robot" think of the work they put into their sport, and how you would feel if someone put down the thing that you put all of your time and energy into!

Who Stole the Glory? A mystery in four parts

by Ryan Allan and Doug Cloven

It is a dark and dreary night. The clouds overhead breathe heavy with rain as the descrete cleaning lady takes off her rain coat and begins her nightly tasks. The day shift would normally be there to greet her as she arrived, but tonight it was different and no one was there. There was no light, not a normal occurrence. But the sole cleaning lady went on with her routine. As she walked up to light the candles placed along the wall on mounts, she was startled to notice that the candles were misplaced. She proceeded to cautiously walk down the hall feeling her way into the supply closet. Fumbling for a lantern, she heard a noise in the hall behind her. Turning to see what the noise was, she saw a dark figure shifting in the shadows coming down the hall toward her. Then for a second, the figure disappeared. She leaned forward trying to get a glimpse of who was coming toward her. As she quickly lit the lantern, she felt something brush her shoulder from behind. She spun around to see what had grazed her, from the shadows a face emerged, but was quickly hidden again by the darkness as the figure grabbed her and shoved her in the storage closet. The janitor lady heard the sound of a key locking the door and then...silence.

The next morning:

As the sun came up the next day, Mr. Ehersman was the first to come into the school. And as he did, he heard the frantic cries for help coming from the cleaning closet. As he neared the closet, he reached for his keys and noticed they were not there. Searching all his pockets, he could not find them. A little shaken, he called the police. They arrived shortly there after, and brought a locksmith. Once the door had been opened, the exhausted woman recounted of last night's events to the police officer. When she told of the assailant, Mr. Ehersman quickly recalled of his similar encounter with a masked person. "I was looking over the wrestling transportation forms needed for an upcoming meet when I heard a noise in the hall. I left my office and locked the door behind me. As I proceeded to walk to the hall I noticed someone wearing a black ski mask walking away from me. I called to him and he turned around, but then started running toward the front door.

To be continued . . .

Ice Ace

by Desiree Rouse &
Jessica Rogness



Marion High School freshman, Andy Wright, has found hockey to be "his" sport. Andy plays hockey for a junior hockey team in Waterloo, the Junior Hawks.

Andy first started out playing roller hockey, which got him interested in advancing to ice hockey. "It wasn't easy at first. I didn't exactly know how to ice skate and then I had to learn while holding a hockey stick all at the same time. After a lot of practicing it just came to me naturally." He averages 35 shots on the goal each game.

The Hawks do plenty of traveling. Just recently, Andy and his team traveled to Chicago to play in their first tournament of the year.

The traveling played off. The team received second place out of eight teams.

Andy's previous coaches have included some professional hockey players such as Peter Skudra, goalie: Pittsburgh Penguins, Kevin Consantine, coach: Pittsburgh Penguins, Troy Ward, coach: Pittsburgh Penguins.

During this past summer Andy attended three different hockey camps to help improve his game.

The Hawks began practice on August 7 and is held once a week for one hour. Though Andy had to provide his own equipment and transportation, his parents are strongly supportive.

Andy says it took him awhile to get used to wearing the equipment that is required for a goalie. "It just becomes part of you," he says.

When asked why he chose to go all the way to Waterloo to play when he could go to Cedar Rapids, Andy said that, "Cedar Rapids is just too new and they don't seem to have much of an idea on what they are doing. Maybe in a year or two, when the team has been around longer, I'll think about joining. For now I think I'll stick to Waterloo, they've taught me alot."

Andy plans on sticking with hockey for awhile and hopes that in the future he'll play for the Waterloo Blackhawks or the Cedar Rapids Rough Riders.

The Christmas Spirit

The Joy of Giving, Even when you're Clueless

by Ashley Corbin

Yes, it's Christmas time again. Didn't last year's December stress just go away yesterday? Some parents think a teenager's holiday is worry-free, but not quite. In fact it's parents that cause some of this stress. The big question everyone wants to know, "What do I get my parents!?!?"

Chances are, if you're like the rest of us, you have no clue. Some parents don't really hint at anything, leaving you in the dark. Hopefully by the end of this, you may get some sort of an idea. Just remember, it's the thought that counts (even if it's only a card).

What are you getting your parents for Christmas?

"A stone fountain."

Jessie Rogness

"I'm getting my mom clothes and my dad some underwear because he's getting holey."

Crickett Coons

"I'm getting them a 70's board game because it's kinda from their 'era'."

Stephanie Petchulat

"My mom is getting a red satin shirt, but she gave me the money to pay for it."

Lydia Chadek

"I'm getting my mom perfume."

Spencer Dirks

"Mom's gettin' slippers because that's what she wants."

Desiree Rouse

"I got my dad a Marion helmet and Mom a nice pair of earrings."

Jamie Johnson

"I got my whole family, mom, dad, and brothers, gift certificates to buy trees."

Tess Putnam

"My parents are getting matching coats."

Andy Wright

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Working for a Living

By Lindsee McGaffie

Many teens think that after school is a time to sit, relax and watch T.V. But others know that they should try and get involved in something, so they got an after school job. When you hear a teen say they have "a good paying job" you probably start thinking, "Where could any teen have a good paying job, besides fast food?"

But not all teenagers get a job working with fast food. 14 Marion students have a good job working at Target and a couple have worked there for almost two years. 16 Marion students work at Hy-Vee and most have worked there for almost 3 years.

Many students work in the mall also, places such as: Sears, Claires, Pretzel maker, Kirklands and other little places all over. Places like that are very good places to get a job. Other good places to get a job is: Subway, Carmike, Drug town and many others. When asked 80% of the teens agreed that they do like their jobs and 20% said they did not like their job but they needed it. So if you don't have a job and you go home after school and don't do anything then you probably need one. Sometimes you may need one and not know it so hurry up and look for a new job or start your first one!!

Two other students who work at Target are Brandon Nigg and Bill Thomas. While they do a variety of tasks, on this day they were working in cameras.



For many years, MHS students have been employed at area Hy-Vee stores. Scott O'Brien works in the produce department at the Marion Hy-Vee.

It's always popular to work at the mall. Jamie Lane spends many hours selling sunglasses from a kiosk at Lindale Mall.



Christina Lacher spends her working hours at Target. She works as a checker and also spends time behind the snack bar.



At Drugtown, Victor Reynolds makes sure the film supply is ready for the holidays. Victor has worked at Drugtown since last year.



Not Your Ordinary Housepet

by Chris Lacher

Most of us have pets. This may not be a news flash, but it's a fact. However, most of us have normal pets, with normal being defined as ordinary birds, small dogs and cats, goldfish and various furry things like rabbits, gerbils, and mice. A few people at this school have been uncovered as to being the owners of not so typical pets. Whether long and scaly or just large and loud, the kind of pets these people choose to keep may surprise you.

Senior Amber Cornell is the proud owner of Neo, a one-year-old Savannah Monitor, a.k.a: large lizard, that she bought from Petco. Currently 18-inches long, Neo can grow up to four feet in length and has an expected lifespan over twenty years. Savannah Monitors are by rule indiscriminate eaters: they'll eat anything



"Say cheese!" This Savannah Monitor sticks its tongue out at the camera. From this position you can see the sharp claws on its front legs, which is the Monitor's main source of defending itself. These large lizards are said to have a high level of tolerance. It takes a lot to get them angry but when you do, watch out!

they can get a hold of and can become easily overweight if you're not careful. Because of that, Amber generally feeds Neo turkey flavored cat food only a couple of times a day.

Another exotic pet owner is Alicia Beltram. Alicia's family has had Fluffy, their chinchilla, for about four years. Chinchillas can best be described as the product of combining a squirrel with a rabbit: a squirrel's face and a miniature version of its tail on a rabbit's body. Nocturnal as they are, they do most of the scratching in their cages at night. They require about the same amount and type of care as gerbils and hamsters and can get depressed if you leave them in their cage too long. Wouldn't you?

As the owner of sixteen Angora goats, French and Russian language teacher Mr. Virlee also uses his pets as a sort of side business. A couple of times a year, the wool is sheered off of the goats and sold down in Texas. Mr. Virlee says

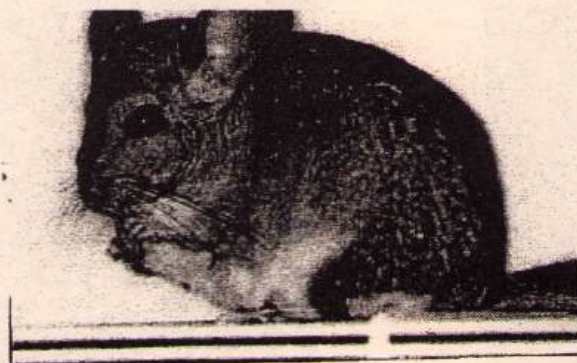
he first started out raising sheep but switched to goats because they are easier to take care of and they help keep the grass down in the summer. Mr. Virlee also gives each of his goats a Russian name and if anyone is interested in buying one, he's looking to sell a couple.

Darcy Richtsmeier, a senior, also has a houseful of pets. Among them include a two-year-old Mexican Black King snake and three ring-neck doves. Darcy also raises and sells mice, at least the ones that Mya the snake doesn't get first. "The doves don't really have names," comments Darcy, "but I usually call them Ruffles, The Dark One, and The Mother."

Though exotic pets are fun to brag about, some require extra care and patience to raise properly. Whether it be making sure they get enough exercise and eat the right food or watching out so they don't get stuck somewhere after they escape from their cage, taking care of any animal is a responsibility. Be careful if you're trying to choose a pet and make sure you have what it takes to give them the care they need. If you want a dog, you'll have to get used to handling a scooper to pick up after them. If you want a cat, you have to learn how to change the litter box. It isn't always easy, and sometimes it gets disgusting, but it's always worth it.



but docile. Clipper spends most of his time sleeping in an old cracker box we have in his cage. The only time Clipper's quills spike up is when you wake him from his nap.



In chinchilla shown here you can see the definite resemblance to a rabbit in the arch-like shape of its back. Chinchillas primarily have the same characteristics as gerbils and hamsters and require about the same amount of care.



Though not too unusual, this dog is definitely one of the more massive ones of its species. Weighing in at close to two-hundred pounds, this four-year-old St. Bernard belongs to me. Mooch loves to run as much as he loves to eat, so it takes a lot of dog food and plenty of space to house this enormous puppy.

Another member of our household and often confused as a porcupine, this hedgehog can't be considered anything

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Who do you trust with your hair?

by Jordan Immerfall

Most people spend more time on their hair than on any other aspect of their appearance. A bad hair day can affect your whole outlook. But, very few people have the ability to do their hair on their own, whether it's a girl getting ready for prom or a guy just getting a regular

haircut.

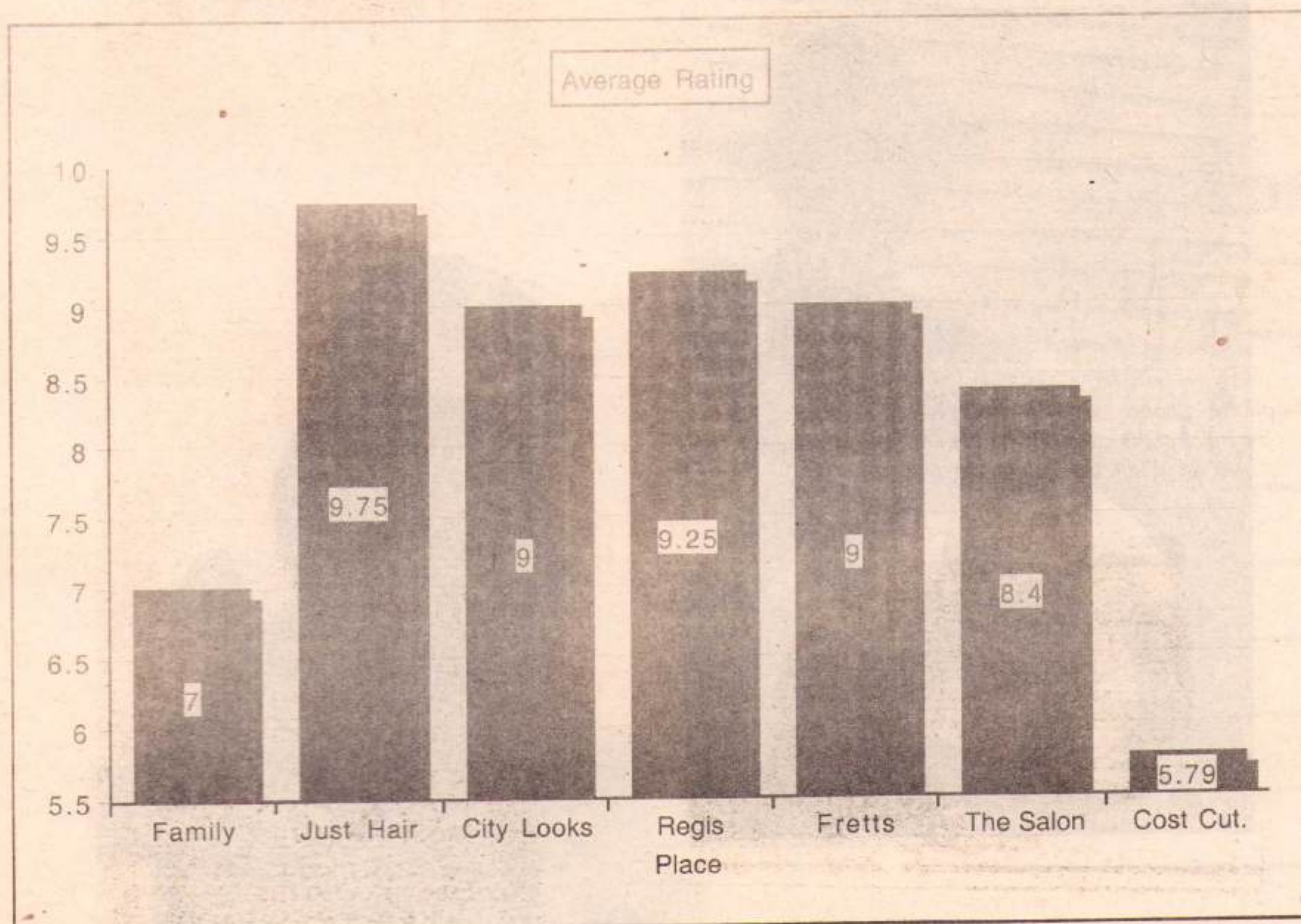
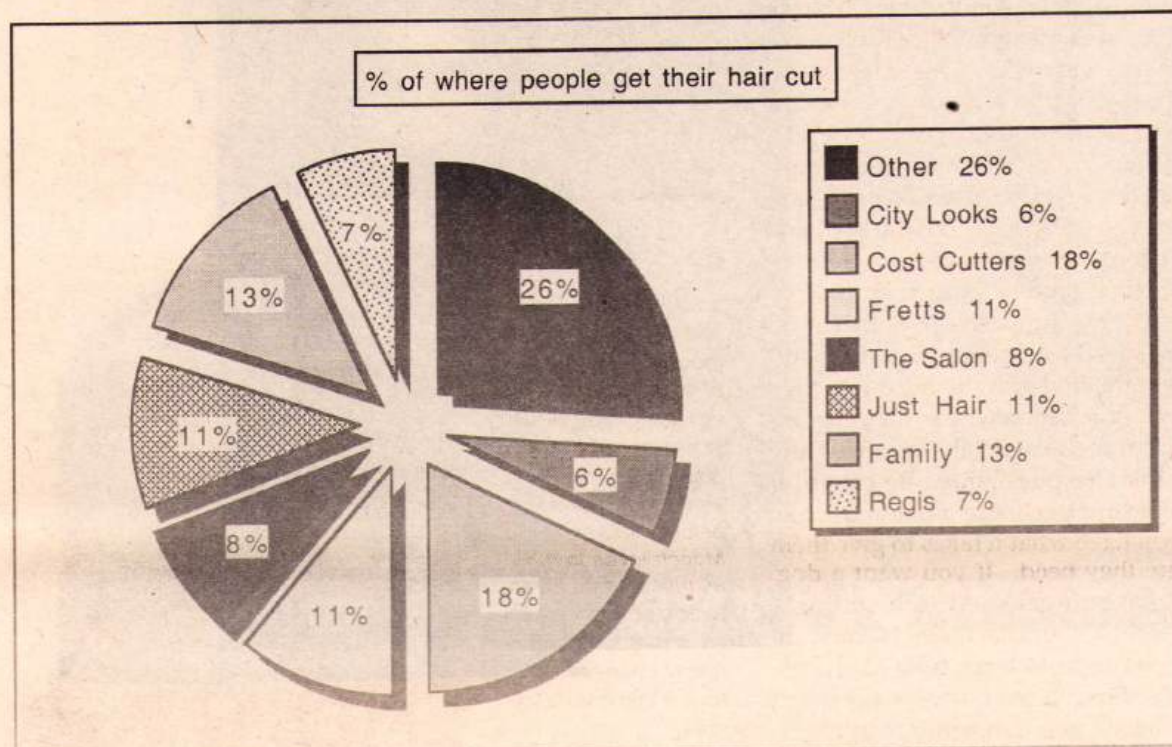
With so many choices out there, how should you know which one to choose? I asked 100 people where they got their hair cut, and then asked them to rate that place based on the price and the quality. Here are the results:

We then asked everyone to rate

their place of choice based on price and quality -

1(bad)-10(good)

Cost was not a factor which was put into the results; however, whenever you try a new place, it's a good idea to find out exactly how much a cut or style will cost.



Now Showing...

by Josh Ivey

Little Nicky

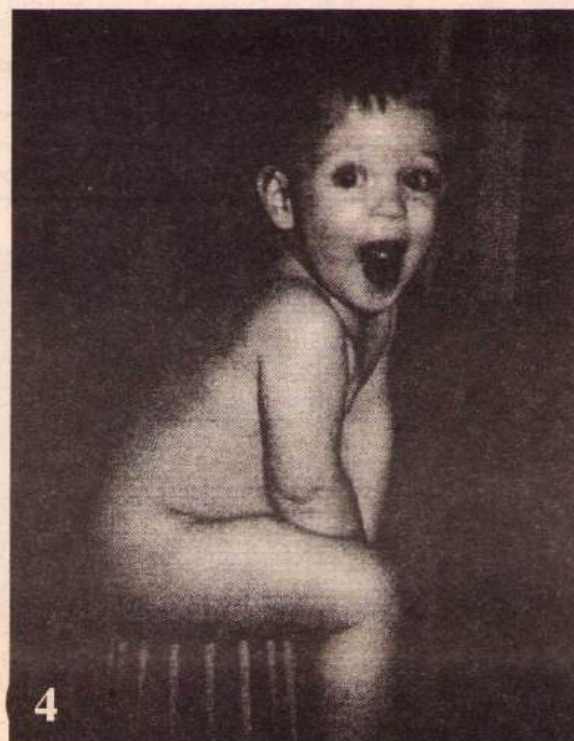
Little Nicky was one of the funniest movies I've seen. The movie plot sucked, but it was not meant to have a good plot. This movie was just a movie that you see to have fun, and I definitely had fun. Adam Sandler is hilarious, he did a semi-serious movie with "Big Daddy," but no he has gone back to the simple, stupid comedy he has shown works with movies like "The Waterboy." This movie is filled with stars, semi-stars, and SNL alumni that make the movie great for true fans of Adam Sandler comedy. The movie featured, Jon Lovitz, Kevin Nealon, Rodney Dangerfield, and Reese Witherspoon. The movie was about the son of a devil and an angel, his name is Nicky. The devil is due to pick a new devil and Nicky's two brothers both want to be named. But the devil decides that neither of them is ready so he is going to have to remain as Satan, the brothers rebel and go to earth to make their own hell on earth. Nicky is sent to earth to get his brothers back. When on earth, Nicky uses the help of two Satan worshiping friends, a failed actor, and his street merchant girlfriend to capture both of his brothers and return them to hell. This movie is fun to watch, it is rated PG-13 and definitely worth the money to go see it.

Charlie's Angels

Charlie's Angels was one of the most popular and best selling movies this year, there is even talk of a sequel. But the movies popularity was definitely not for the plot. The movie had great action scenes, even if they were a little hard to swallow, but you have to expect it to be a little unreal. This movie can be considered a "chick flick," but plenty of guys went to see the movie, most of them to see the three female stars Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, and Lucy Liu. Providing comic relief in the movie were Tom Green as "the Chad," and Bill Murray as Boz, the angels faithful sidekick. The movie does have a lot of twists and turns to throw you off and that would be good if they weren't stupid. I guess I would say the movie was decent but not great, or even good. I'd wait to rent it if I were you.

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN

Aww... remember when? Oh that's right, we weren't even born yet! Back in the day these tiny tots never thought they would run our school. Today they are our helpful staff people, but back then they were just little people in diapers. See if you can guess who is who now that they're grown up.....I THINK!



a BEAUTIFUL BABY . . .



Answers:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____

Turn your answers in to rm. 22 - the person with the most correct will win a prize.

Who's got the beats?

by Pat Stalkfleet

How many you times have seen a rusted out Ford Tempo with a loud system and thought to yourself, "at least it bumps."? It's true, a loud stereo makes a car more

complement any music-jazz, classical, rock, rhythm and blues, rap, or country. If you feed your subs plenty of power, put them in the proper enclosure, and they'll

\$500.00 a speaker. Although Acoustics are awesome subs, they are still a step behind the aluminum coil, 12" Eclipse. Eclipse is about

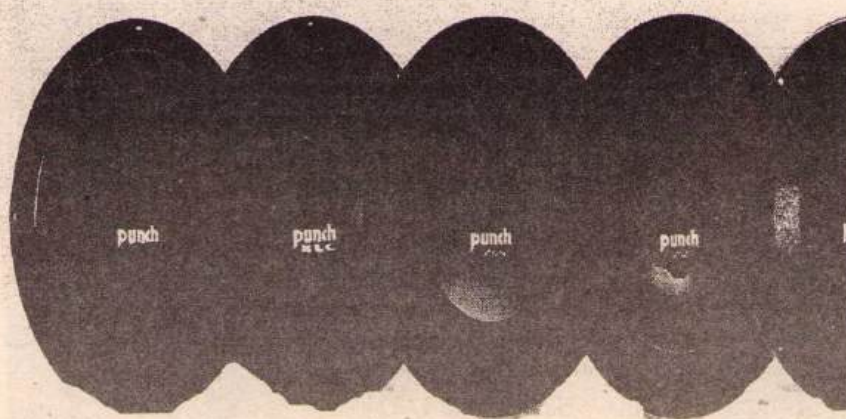
\$800.00 a speaker. These sub woofers and many more can be found in "Crutchfield" magazine. Local stores like Best Buy, Ultimate Electronics, and Classic Audio will

would cost under \$200.00 for 300 watts. Find the amplifier that best fits your speaker system. Some speakers' power range, or how many watts they can push, can spread from 150 watts to 1,000 like the 15" RF Power DVC. If you don't know your sub woofers power range I would find out threw one of the sources listed above.

CD Players-

A common and quality deck that you see is the Panasonic. This runs anywhere between \$250.00 and \$350.00. In "Crutchfield" for \$219.95 you can get a KDC Kenwood that is originally \$300.00. The KRC Kenwood

Rockford Fosgate
Subwoofers



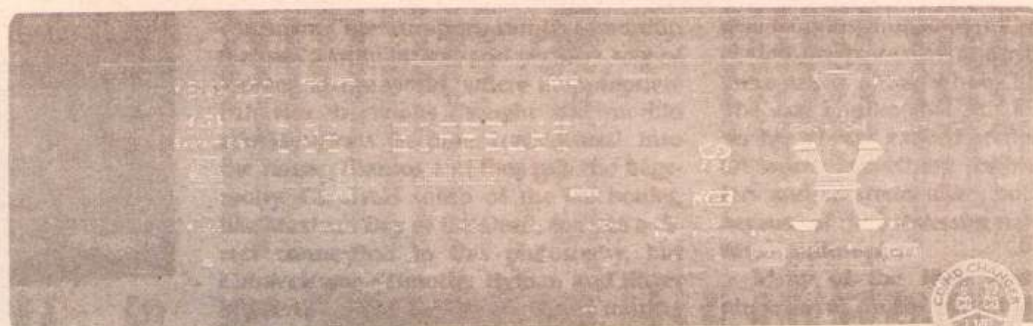
fun to ride in. Everyone has their own ideal stereo system. It's not always the loudest or most expensive one, it's the one that best meets your needs. There is a huge variety of CD players, sub woofers, and amps. What you need to do is find the right combination for you and your ride.

Sub woofers-

Sub woofers are used for booming out the low notes. You might not realize how much they

hit hard enough to add fullness to your music. Infinite is a good quality sub at a good price. They are anywhere between \$230.00 to \$350.00 for two 12" sub woofers in a box. JL Audio 12" subs are about \$130.00 to \$150.00 for each speaker. Boston Acoustics run anywhere between \$300.00 to

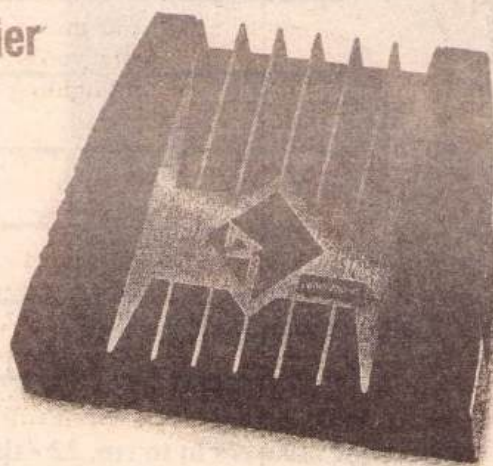
5



Size
1, J&E
Depth
7"

Amplifiers

Punch 2-channel amplifier



have a limited selection and relatively higher prices than ordering from Internet or by mail.

Amps-

The clean, dynamic power an external amplifier provides will make your music stronger - not just louder. For your good quality amp you pay about a dollar a watt. There are exceptions, however. A Rockford Fosgate 500 watt Power amp will push up to 800 watts. That's why it cost \$579.00. A more affordable Jensen amp will still sound nice and

without features is \$279.95 down from \$350.00. With features like MiniDiscs, full-dot matrix display, spectrum analyzer, 10 second anti-skip, and 4.5 volt output level, it cost \$519.95 on-sale from \$600.00. Pioneer and Sony make decent decks. It all depends on how much money you want to spend. I would recommend talking to people and possible buying your system or part of it from someone who can cut you a deal. Otherwise, look around and compare prices to find the best deals.

Planning the Perfect Fiesta

Have the Perfect Super Bowl Party

by Nick Livingston & Royce
Kensinger

Our group of friends has been looking forward to the Super Bowl for quite some time now. We made a small list of all the things we feel are vital to experiencing the best Super Bowl you possibly can. We tested five stores and Walmart on a scale of one to five on product availability, price, selection, and overall goodness. Our results are tallied below. We hope this list will be useful to you in your final football fiesta.

Hy-Vee

3600 Hwy 151 East Marion
Product Availability: 1
Price: 3
Selection: 2
Overall Goodness: 1 5/810.

EconoFoods

3200 7th Av Marion
Product Availability: 2 1/2
Price: 4
Selection: 1
Overall Goodness: 2 1/4

Target

4501 1st Av SE Cedar Rapids
Product Availability: 3
Price: 3
Selection: 3 1/2
Overall Goodness: 3 1/2

Shopko

5001 1st Av SE Cedar Rapids
Product Availability: 3
Price: 3 1/2
Selection: 3 1/2
Overall Goodness: 3 3/4

K-Mart

180 Collins Rd NE Cedar Rapids
Product Availability: 3
Price: 2
Selection: 2 1/2
Overall Goodness: 1 6/4

Wal-Mart

2645 Blairs Ferry Rd NE Cedar Rapids
Product Availability: 5
Price: 4
Selection: 5
Overall Goodness: 4 1/2



Special tips from the Committee

In order to throw the best party possible, you must follow certain guidelines.

The Bathroom Thing

I highly suggest taking care of these problems before the game because you're going to kick yourself if nature calls during it. Don't plan on going during commercials, they are half the reason you should be watching the game.

Siblings

This is the rule most commonly broken. Small children equals distraction, which equals eyes off the screen and hands off the food. I have found that a good way of preventing this is either locked doors, a vicious dog, or duct tape.

The Furniture Standard

You must have comfortable furniture. You must! Without it you will find yourself constantly changing position and fighting with others for their spot. Don't let this happen.

Space

It is imperative you have lots of space. Less space equals less food consumption. It also can cause people to feel uncomfortable which can cause fatal problems. A smart move would be to prepare two rooms, so when the game is coming to close you can have separate fans in separate rooms which will cut down the number of fights.

R U PREGNANT?

Birthright
of Cedar Rapids, Inc.

Next to Mercy Care North
Phone # 393-3251

FREE CONFIDENTIAL PREGNANCY TEST
(coupon is not necessary for free test)

Brett Forkner



Name: Brett Forkner
Age: 17
Activity: Wrestling
Past Season Memory: District champs in football 1999 and 2000, getting 2nd team all-state line-backer.

Season thrill: Last year when Vinton forfeited to Wycoff, so we moved him up to heavy weight and I went in to take the forfeit so they put their varsity wrestler out there to wrestle me and I killed him.

Nikki Martin



Name: Nikki Martin
Age: 17
Activity: winter poms
Past Season Memory: Performing the light routine last year, with badly sewn-on lights that kept coming off

every where.

Season Thrill: Last years light routine all of those lights were so spectacular! It's to bad we could not keep them on.

Starting Out: I was so nervous, but the people I was surrounded by were nice and funny that I soon relaxed.

Advice for newcomers: Don't be afraid to express your opinion but know when it is appropriate. Don't let the

Robin Jarmon



Name: Robin Jarmon
Age: 17
Activity: Fall Poms, Winter Poms, tennis
Season Thrill: Going out on the football field for the first time to perform.

Starting out: Going to camp is always a good thing to do but it's hard, you have to get up early every morning and dance 8 hours and learn 3 dances in one week. You're outside a lot and you get sun-burned, your feet ache, and all you want to do is go home and sleep but it all pays off in the end. Advice for Newcomers: Even if you don't make your goal the first time keep trying you're best to achieve it. Have fun with everything you do.

Favorite Weekend Memory: When my old assistant manager scared Nikki

by Christie Ottaway

The Cedar Rapids Rough Riders are becoming a big thing with people from Marion. The team was started last year with the construction of the Cedar Rapids Ice Arena. Last year the team was popular, yet this year you

little things get to you.

Favorite Saying: Woo-Ha

Favorite Snack: Just about anything with sugar

Favorite week-end Memory: see Robin Jarmon's

If she could do anything: I would like to read people's thoughts.

Biggest Influence: My Mom

Future Plans: Possibly attend Mt. Mercy or some other 4-yr. college and major in secondary ed.

Martin and me when we were at Quik Trip so we went out and got window chalk and wrote all over his brand new truck the next day. He was working that day and so was Nikki so he made her help clean it off while I was at a movie!

Favorite Saying: Just say bubbles or you can never have too much glitter

Favorite Snack: French Fries

College/future Plans: Probably going to Kirkwood and take basic classes until I figure out what I actually want to do.

could say that it is almost professional. By professional I mean the players

long as four hours a day, and up to 25 hours a week. There are no prac-

play. You would think they would miss home, being away for so long

"The more people the more pumped up you are, you want to perform better for you and them."

Brett McKinnon

are treated like celebrities, the games bring in crowds of over 4,000, and Saturday games are broadcasted on 94.1 KRNA. If you haven't heard anything on these guys, you must not pay much attention to things.

After some research on the team, these facts came out. None of the guys are over the age of 21, none of them are from Iowa, and they are always doing things around Cedar Rapids and Marion. "We do normal kid/teenager things, like going to the movies, shopping, out to eat, and hanging out," says Brett MacKinnon, number 22.

"Sometimes we're noticed like when we eat out and when we are walking around the mall," said Chris Pedota, number 24. Things like that happen all the time. People like to congratulate them or even ask for autographs.

When these guys practice, they really practice. Practices can get as

tices on Sunday's, they need these Sundays off. Hey, they even have curfews, 11:00 pm on weekdays and 1:00 am on weekends. "I'm 20 years old and my curfew is the same as a high school student," jokes MacKinnon.

Trades are also made on the team. "Trades need to be made, it can help the team. They are good players and great guys," replied MacKinnon. Pedota says, "It helps the team. We gain good people and they help fit the team and become better." Trades aren't always a bad thing, and it sounds like the team welcomes them.

Now I mentioned before that not one of the players are from Iowa. There are players from Minnesota, Massachusetts, New York, and even France. Some of the players go home during the season to visit, and there parents even come to visit and watch them

home. Sometimes I can't wait to get home, other times it's just not a big deal."

Games being sold out could make the players nervous. "If you're not nervous you're not prepared," says MacKinnon, "Being nervous wears off when your out there, but your always nervous in the beginning." You would also think the big crowd would pump up the players with all the yelling of the fans. "The more people the more pumped up you are, you want to perform better for you and them," replied MacKinnon. Pedota says, "It gets us psyched for the game when we hear everyone."

Games are often on Friday and Saturday nights, at the Ice Arena in Cedar Rapids. Tickets cost anywhere from \$6.00 to \$16.00, which you want to get early because they sell out fast.



The Rough Riders

Competitive Speech

by Chris Lacher

The Marion competitive speech team is gearing up and preparing for its first production of the year. With the cast already chosen, five different acts have been created, each standing as kind of their own mini play. The speech team is expecting to compete in upcoming district and state contests and they practice on an average of three times a week after school. The casting is as follows:

One Act: Early Frost

Louise: Heidi Hanel
Hannah: Jessica Sauer
Alice: Nikki Martin
Lydia: Crissie Wood
Mrs. Clayton: Meghan Redd
Brad Feickert: Technician

Readers Theatre: Audience

Missi Watt
Celeste Gerald
Jessica Scheer
Kate Baumert
Ann Cannon
Lara Moellers
Crystal Schneider
Neil Allen
Tess Putnam
Sarah Whited
Mimi Warner

Choral Reading: I Know I Saw Gypsies

Stephanie Law
Jessica Scheer
Kate Baumert
Ann Cannon
Adam Martin
Neil Allen

Ensemble Acting

"Five Women Wearing the Same Dress"

Georganne: Sarah Hansen
Trisha: Stephanie Law
Mindy: Heidi Hanel
Frances: Missi Watt
Meredith: Meghan Redd

"Mere Mortals"

Charlie: David Stulken
Joe: Nick Livingston
Frank: Ben Samuelson

"A Friend Like Artie"

Britts: Jessica Sauer
Artie: Adam Martin
Linda: Crystal Schneider
Peter: Jeff Shinrock

Improvational Acting

Group A

Crissie Wood
Sarah Hansen

Group B

Jon Lein
David Stulken



After winning the championship at Iowa State, Quiz Bowl members pose with their plaque. Front Row: Mrs. Braun, Kathryn Barnum, Crissie Wood, Crystal Schneider. Back Row: Eric Buh, David Wagner, David Stulken, Casey Steadman, Mark Godecke, Stephanie Law.

Showing Their Smarts

by Nick Livingston

Marion sent two teams to the Cylclone Quizbowl this November. A total of 37 teams traveled to Ames this year to lock horns in the brutal battle of knowledge. Marion's team Magna won their division and shared overall first place with the winner of the other division.

Choir Notes

by Doug Cloven

This year's show choir has more members, more performances, and more confidence. The 22 member choir has more than seven performances, including a number or two in Orlando, Florida for the bi-annual spring

break trip where the band choir and show choir members perform some pieces previously practiced that year. On December 16th the first real show was planned to be Cocoa and Carols, where the spectators were encouraged to enjoy

not only a sweet serenade of music and blissful dance steps but some hot cocoa to make the concert just that much more fun and enjoyable. However, the winter weather caused its cancellation.

The winter con-

cert was held the 19th. Feb. 3rd will be their next show during the M.H.S. Follies, where they will perform along side any other student that wishes to perform something that has something to do with the theme for this year: Rock.

Promoting Wellness

by Nikki Evans

The school year is off to a good start and so is Win With Wellness. This year WWW is going to be new and improved. Instead of the usual twelve to fifteen members, Mrs. Dostal and selected teachers and administrators decided to let everyone join who wanted to. "There were so many qualified students who were just points away from this great leadership opportunity that I thought every willing student should be able to be a part of it," Mrs. Dostal said.

Throughout the year WWW does a number of activities throughout the community. This year's themes are: Positive Self Concept, Environment, Chemical Free Living, Safety, Nutrition, and Physical Fitness. Each group will incorporate their theme into 6 activities during the year. Along with those activities, participants also do many acts of kindness in the community, put together the Luau, 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament, and Sunshine Notes.

This year's members are: Andy Balvanz, Emily Barnd, Jana Bradley, Ann Cannon, Carly Chadek, Doug Cloven, Ashley Corbin, Kerry Crow, Rachel Eagle, Nikki Evans, Sarah Haddy, Taylor Heim, Nikki Jellison, Jaime Johnson, Gina Kromer, Pete Messerli, Kristin Mork, Kristen Osborn, Stephanie Petchulat, Tegan Reeves, Bryan Ryther, Justin Sperry, Jessie Trumpold, Wes Waters, and Brad Young.

Bring in the New Year With A New Start...

by Christie Ottaway

Everybody should have a New Year's Resolution, whether it be big or small. Everybody has something they want to change about them or the way they work things, but never make it a point to actually happen. A new year is a perfect time for this to happen. Some of people gave me their resolutions and this is what they had to say:

Stop littering

Brian Barkdoll and Cory Cosman

Get better



grades and make lots of money

Ashley Heeren

Cut back on littering

Bryan Ryther

Take fewer steps while walking (take bigger strides) and get less injuries

Andy Balvanz

Stop gyrating and singing in front of the TV

Chelsea Fuller

Go on a diet
Wes Waters

Frosh Work Out Kinks

9th Grade Boys Basketball

by Pat Stalkfleet

The freshman basketball team improved to 1-1 on December 9, 2000 by defeating Don Bosco in the Wamac Conference opener in Gilbertville. Ben Remington was a one man reeking crew, scoring 21 points with 2 blocks, 5 assist, and 9 rebounds. DJ Engle and Ben Shamrock also played great defense, controlled the ball, and ran the offense according to head coach Dick Sloan. The Indians look to go 2-1 Saturday, Dec. 16th at home against Monticello.

Freshman Girls Basketball

By Pete Messerli

This season, the freshman girls basketball team has played four games. They opened up with a home game against the Benton Community Bobcats. At half time, the Indians were behind by the score of 22-11. After falling behind by as many as 15 points, they came back in the second half to pull within 5 points at 30-25. Unfortunately, this was not enough, as Marion lost 36-28 in their first game. Leading scorers for Marion were Jena Hugg with 8 points, Anna Survey 7, Shaina Gardner 6, and Ashley Hanna had 5.

In the second game of the season, the girls played cross town rival, Linn-Mar. After getting off to a fast start, going up by 9 at half time, Linn-Mar came back and defeated Marion 44-32.

In the third game of the season, Marion went to Manchester to play the West Delaware Hawks. This was a very hard fought game which Marion came out with their first victory of the season, winning 25-18. Jena Hugg led the way with 9 points and Shaina Gardner had 8.

On Saturday, December 9, the freshmen team traveled to Don Bosco for their third straight road game. This game was very close from the start to the finish. At half time, Marion was trailing by two points, 12-10. In the second half, Marion turned up the defense and held Don Bosco to only 9 points. The final score was 25-21, Marion won their second game in a row. Top scorers for Marion were Ashley Berry with 8 points, Jena Hugg with 7, and Jaclyn Klopfenstein had 6.

Taking Control of the Mat



by Jordan Immerfall

The Marion Wrestling team started off at a tough tournament in Manchester, the West Delaware Hawk Invitational. Despite scoring 155 points and crowning 4 champions, the Indians finished 5th out of 8 teams. Marion's 1st place finishers were Aaron Conway at 119 pounds, Justin Sperry at 130, Matt McCue at 140, and Brett Forkner taking the cake at 215. Conway paved his way to the finals with 2 falls, and then easily handled West Delaware's Adam Schulte 11-4. Sperry took the long road to the finals, being the 4th seed and beat the top seed in the second round 5-3. Sperry won his championship match against Scott Trueg of Waterloo East 8-4. McCue collected 3 pins in his

three matches, flattening his last opponent in 1:21 seconds. Brett Forkner steam rolled both of his opponents, pinning both to win the 215 pound weight class. Also doing well for the Indians was Aaron Doubet placing 3rd at 103 and Troy Little at 152 placing 4th.

The Marion JV wrestled at Independence on Saturday, with some of the wrestlers wrestling at the Varsity level. Josh Nelson showed what the Marion JV team was made of, winning the varsity 160 pound weight class.

Marion traveled to Mt. Vernon on Saturday, finishing 3rd out of 8 teams. Marion's first champion was Aaron Conway beating Larry VanVang 5-0 in the finals. Winning the 125 pound

weight class was Justin Sperry, with a impressive 14-7 win over Mt. Vernons Heath Munson. The next of Marion's champions was Matt McCue, handling Anamosa's Josiah Kline easily with a 11-5 win. At 215, Brett Forkner up-ended East Buchanans John Gallery 15-8. Conway, Sperry, McCue, and Forkner, all improved their records to 8-0. Marion's other finalist, Jordan Immerfall, lost in the 189 championship bout to Mt. Vernons Aaron Reisland. Also doing well for Marion was Adam Mohling winning his third place match 3-2.

Marion started off its Dual Meet schedule well beating Waterloo Columbus 45-28. Collecting pins for Marion were Aaron Doubet, Matt McCue, and Brett Forkner. The next week they continued strong in a dual where they dominated Vinton. Marion got wins from Justin Sperry, Adam Mohling, Jordan Forkner, Matt McCue, Josh Nelson, and Brett Forkner, along with several forfeits from Vinton, to win the dual by a score of 52-27.

Varsity Boys - Trying to Turn the Corner



In a varsity boys game against Alburnett, Tyler Mayer attempts the lay-up. This shot started off the run of scoring which eventually won the game.

by Ryan Allan

The Guy's basketball team has started this season with four games so far. Their record is a solid 2-2 with

games against Alburnett, Monticello, Don Bosco, and Center point-Urbana.

Their first game on 11/28 against Alburnett was of motion picture quality.

Coming back from a trail of 18 points at the half, Marion won the game by one point when Pete Messerli hit a shot at the buzzer. Marion finished with 52 points and Alburnett lost a home game with 51 points. Tyler Mayer had 18 points and Nick Cambell had 10 points and 8 rebounds.

Marion's second game was away against Monticello. Marion's Doug Cloven and Tyler Mayer scored 12 points each and Bryan Ryther and Pete Messerli led the rebounds with 5 each. Despite the great effort made by the team, it wasn't quite enough and Marion left for

home with a loss of 35 to 44.

The game against Don Bosco on the 8th of December had a great turn-out. Marion stole the first half glory with a 29-8 point lead. The defense played a key role in their first half success. Kyle Koeppen had 10 points and 11 rebounds. Nick Cambell had 13 points and 8 rebounds. This was Marion's first conference game and ended it with a victory of 58-39.

The next day, on 12/9, Marion played away against Center Point-Urbana. Doug Cloven had 15 points and 8 assists. Pete Messerli had 13 points and 3 steals. Pat Stalk-

fleet had 10 points and 4 rebounds. Nick Cambell, finished with 11 points, and Kyle Koeppen finished with 5 rebounds. Marion played a good game and led most of the way. But in the 4th quarter, 4 Center Point-Urbana players fouled out and Marion lost respectably 60-63.

Next crosstown rival Linn-Mar came to the Marion gym. A cold-shooting Indian team lost by 14. One key were many missed free-throws. Doug Cloven scored 15 points and Pete Messerli and Kyle Koeppen led in rebounds with 15 each.

Avoiding Winter Blahs

Winter Workouts

by Sam Ehlinger and Anna Kalkwarf



As the weather gets colder and colder, it's easy to lock yourself in your house and sit on the couch with your blanket. Sure, it's nice, but you may notice yourself getting a bit squishier. Yes, you need the "E word." Exercise doesn't have to mean getting on a tread mill or buy a Cindy Crawford aerobics video. You can simply do what you did when you were little, **PLAY IN THE SNOW!!**

Sledding -

This is by far the favorite of everyone. All you need to do is find yourself a sled and a hill. You can find a sled at pretty much any local store for a cheap price. Tubes are a good choice. They tend to go faster than a plastic sled. Walking back up that huge hill always gets the blood flowing. This is a great workout!

Skiing and Snowboarding -

Something that everyone should try once in their life, for sure. Here are two places you can go. They both offer lessons if you need them. For beginners, we recommend shorter skis. The longer they are, the faster they go! If you're in a sport, **BE CAREFUL!!!** (Coaches tend to forbid ski trips.)

Sundown Mountain

Dubuque, IA 319-556-6676 Open Dec. - March
Mon - Thur : 9am - 9pm
Fri - Sun : 9am - 10pm
Trails - 21
Weekend \$34 Weekday \$26

Chestnut Mountain

Galena, IL Open Dec. 24 - Mid March
Sun - Thur : 9am - 9pm
Fri, Sat : 9am - 10pm Fri
starting 1/5 - open til midnight
Trails - 17
Weekend \$34, Weekday \$27

Good Ol' Snow Ball Fight -

You know those days. When there's a thick blanket of snow, but the temperature has risen. It's warm out and the snow is sticky! Just scoop up a ball, pack firmly and wing at your friend who is unexpectedly walking to their car. Bam, instant snow ball fight. All the running, dodging and throwing well definitely get the heart rate up.

Staying Fit

by Desiree Rouse

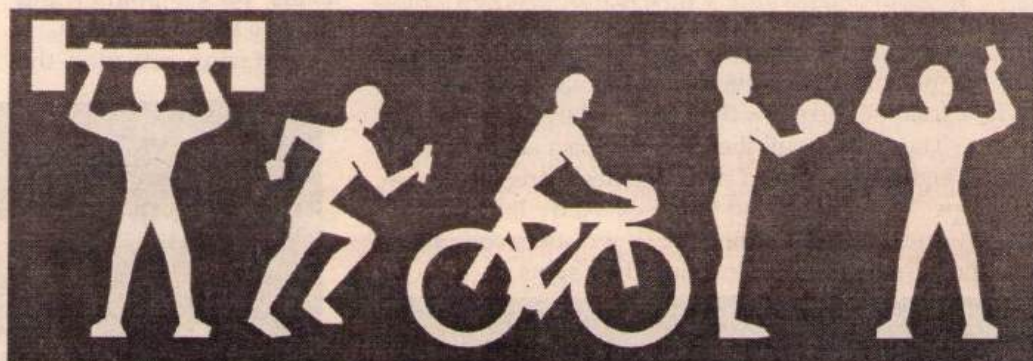
Every year we have a Christmas break for about two weeks. Some people travel and then there are some who stay here in Marion.

Many of the people who spend Christmas at home actually do stay at home. They'll usually sit around the house doing

aerobics class. For a one month membership you'll pay \$40 plus tax. To make it cheaper for yourself you and four friends could chip in on a membership. At Gold's gym you'll pay \$19.96 to \$34.95 a month. To get even cheaper you can go to the YMCA. If your 16 it will only cost you \$98 for the whole

aerobics classes with an indoor pool and open gym.

If you do decide to buy a membership to a gym it is probably best that you purchase a yearly membership, that way you can exercise all year round. If your not one for working out in a gym you can go just about anywhere and buy any sort of



nothing or they'll sit on the couch and flip through stations on the t.v. with a bag of chips. If you think about it, we usually gain all of our weight during the winter season, because it's too cold to do any outside activities.

There are quite a few gyms that you can go to and workout. This way you will be able to stay in shape over break.

Just a few of the main workout facilities around here include the MAC, with over one-hundred treadmills, bikes, stair machines, and skiers. They offer aerobic classes, Tae Kwon Do, personal trainers, complete circuit and free weight training, tanning, and much more. You can get a yearly membership for \$450 or, depending on what area your interested in using, the price ranges from \$30 to \$60 a month. New Life Fitness World, with an indoor pool, treadmills, racquetball, tanning, Tae Kwon Do, and an

year, and if you know someone that already has a membership you can go workout with them for only \$3 each time. The Y has an excellent weight room and also offers

workout video. They work too.

Now that you have been given all of this helpful information hopefully you can stay fit this winter.

Unfortunately, no one turned in a correct answer list to last issue's quizzes. Here are the answers you've been waiting for.

Teacher

1. Mr. Virlee was a national ski patroller.
 2. Mrs. Freese weighed 2 1/2 lbs when she was born.
 3. Mr. Weisinger grew up on a huge pig farm.
- Matching:
Mr. Perkins sang, "I can't sing pretty..." in 9th grade.
Mr. Sloan was the lead in his 12th grade musical.
Ms. Gaffney-Paige dressed up as Aretha Franklin.
Mr. Messerli's father was superintendent at Marion.
Mr. Messerli also got detention for spitting on Ms. Martin's scarf.
Mr. Sloan made all-state in basketball and football.
Mrs. Paulson was Maurice Green's track coach.
Mr. Weisinger grew a mustache to avoid getting kicked out of the library.

Rooms:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Mr. Sloan | 5. Mr. Martin |
| 2. Mrs. Gonzalez | 6. Ms. Martin |
| 3. Mr. Clark | 7. Mrs. Quinn |
| 4. Mrs. Thilges | 8. Ms. Gaffney-Paige |