

The VOX

Marion High School

Volume LIV
Issue #5
March 21, 2002

Creating Excitement

Bowling Team Takes Third at State!



By Pete Messerli

On Friday, February 1, Marion traveled up to Waterloo to face the Columbus Sailors.

Marion was looking to stay atop the conference standings while Columbus was trying to salvage their season with a big win over a quality team. Marion got off to a great start with good defense and hot shooting.

However, a rough second half allowed the Sailors to tie the game and take it to overtime. Dan Thomas put Marion ahead in overtime with an early 3 pointer, and Marion would never look back from there. With great free throw shooting in the extra period, Marion came out on top and won a big game on the road 86-81. Pete Messerli led Marion with 24 points. Douglas

Cloven, and Jamie Bolsinger scored 16, and Dan Thomas contributed 15 points to the winning effort. Thomas, Bolsinger, and Cloven had 2 three pointers apiece. Thomas also pulled down 10 rebounds for Marion.

On Thursday, February 7, the Indians traveled down Highway 30 to Van Horne where they had a WAMAC conference basketball game against the Benton Community Bobcats. In the teams previous meeting this year, Marion won by two points, scoring in the final seconds of the game to take the victory. Fortunately for Marion, the second game between the two teams was not as close and exciting. The Indians ran away with this game, winning by the score of 71-50.

On February 12, the West Delaware Hawks came

to town to face Marion in what was to be the deciding game for the conference title. Both Marion and West Delaware were tied for first place in the conference coming into this game. The game was played with great emotion and high intensity. The Indians got off to a good start and had an 18-15 lead after one quarter. However, West Delaware took command in the second quarter and never looked back. The Indians dug themselves a hole by taking some ill advised shots that didn't fall. West Delaware outscored Marion 20-8 in the second quarter to take a 35-26 lead into the break. Marion got down by as many as 15 points in the third quarter before making a run and getting back to

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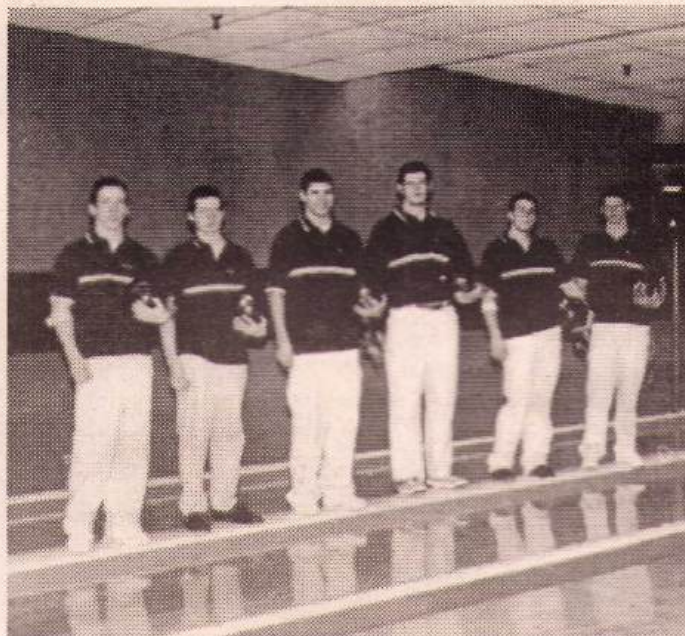
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Marion's bowling team had a strong winning record all season, which is attributed to everyone on the team putting in a lot of time and effort. It was hard work and determination that paved the way to state. All of the members on the bowling team were a little nervous but could all feel the excitement that the evenings event held. As they rolled into the Plaza Lanes parking lot in Des Moines they were greeted by great sportsmanship and competition held by other teams participating in the state meet. This was the first year Marion has ever gone to state in the current league. The team has gone to a state meet before, but in was in a

"The team camaraderie was great and we all had fun in and out of the bowling alley."

Dustin Clair

different league, and they placed 13th. This year, competing against more difficult teams than they had in the past, Marion made a major decision and moved up 10 places since their last state meet, finishing third. The only two teams that beat them were Sgt. Bluff, who won first, and Oelwein, who took second. "We were hoping for a better place, but third is good enough," Dustin said. "We had a lot of fun while we were there and were okay with third, but hoped for more. Bowling with the other guys was great." Jason Corey also commented. Apparently it was a great trip and everyone had more fun going there spending time with each other and just hanging out than they did actually bowling. Dustin confirmed this when he said, "The team camaraderie was great and we all had fun in and out of the bowling alley." The Team has had an awesome year, and looks forward to going to state again next year.



Bowling team members Jason McGaffie, Zach Masterhan, Kade Logsdon, Jason Corey, Dustin Clair, Brock Holub.

The PB & J of Our Universe

by Taylor Heim

If you watch the Simpsons often enough you would already know that there is currently a restraining order in place- science must stay at least 500 feet away from religion at all times. It's been a constant battle between the two, science often disproving religious dogma, religions standing in the way of scientific advancement. As funny as the Simpsons are, I find it troubling that the two cannot coexist. Both organizations are in place to better mankind, each in its respective way. Science exists to explain the world around us and suit our physical needs. Religion exists to explain everything else science hasn't been able to, and to suit our spiritual needs.

What I offer to you the reader is this- an idea. What if the two are more similar than different, that each one enhances the other? In the early 20th century The Charter of the Electromagnetic Spectrum was published, and the human race discovered that what we can see and hear is less than one millionth of reality. There are thousands of radio waves and a few different forms of light that are beyond human perception. In other words, there are things that we know exist, we just can't see or hear them. Sound familiar? Conversely the more we discover about our universe, the more scientifically inexplicable phenomena pop up. Is it so hard to believe that there is something, some force that is present in our universe that is beyond us? Science has all but proven the possibility that there is by discover-

ing the existence of things that are beyond human perception. By not being able to explain all the phenomena of the universe within the limits of scientific reason, science leaves the question of a higher power open-ended.

Evolution. Probably the most bitter controversy amongst science and religion. On one hand we have the Old Testament (Currently believed by Jews, Christians, Muslims, and yes, even Mormons) and on the other you have scientific facts. There is no doubt that one completely contradicts the other, so it seems idiotic to stand on both sides. Being the idiot I am, I choose to stand on both sides. I believe that the writers of the Old Testament thoroughly believed in their ideas of creationism because of the lack of evidence that Darwin later discovered. My point is that we should look at the bible in its context. Look at our theories on how the universe is created. We have no solid scientific theory. Instead we have a few theories that are vague and, as of yet, unproved. Science is trying to grasp a concept that is, at this point, beyond them, much like the writers of the Old Testament were trying to comprehend the existence of man. I'm not saying "Don't believe the Bible," but I am saying that you should look at it in its proper context.

For you people who have still not agreed with me in the fact that there is a higher power, I offer you a challenge. I challenge you to look into someone's eyes and tell me that behind them is a

bundle of neutrons that travel in a certain pattern to make a person. We aren't robots, we are living creatures with our own free will, and we often do the opposite of what logic tells us to. For this to happen is absolutely amazing and couldn't have happened any other way than some force creating it. There is no science behind it, just something that we can't understand. In fact, there are so many things that humans are incapable of understanding that I think we should all forget what we think we know and realize a lot of things are beyond human comprehension. The only way to make up for this fault is to replace our ignorance with faith- faith in something that is far greater than the limits scientific explanation or our imaginations.



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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The Atomic Monkey says:

DARK AGE OF CAMELOT

You would think after playing (most) all the great MMORPG's (massive multiplayer online role playing game) that nothing more would catch my interest. Well Dark Age of Camelot has caught my interest, and is not letting go. Mythic Entertainment has truly out done themselves, and every other game of this time.

The Story.

Dark Age of Camelot is set after the death of King Arthur, who had successfully united his lands in peace. However, shortly after his death, chaos has crept into the land's three realms. They now fight each other for control.

Character Creation.

Each realm in which you must choose from, has its own unique characters, magic's, fighting styles, armors, weapons, monsters, quests, etc. This offers a lot of diversity within the game.

Albion

If you choose Albion as your starting realm, you can choose from four unique races: the Avalonians, a race skilled in the art of magic; the Highlanders, strong and hardy; the Britons, the common well-rounded race; and the Saracens, the quickest and most dexterous of all the races.

Hibernia

Hibernians can choose from four Celtic races: the nature-worshipping Humans, the Elves that specialize in spell casting, the giant-like Firbolg race that combines magic with armed combat; and the dexterous, spell-casting fighters, the Lurikeen.

Midgard

Midgard is home to the Norse. Again the player has four races to choose from: uncivilized human Vikings, lumbering Trolls, dexterous Kobolds, and wise Dwarves. In all, there are 33 character classes that can be played.

Gameplay.

The gameplay in DAOC isn't terribly different from the ever so popular Everquest game, but it also isn't exactly the same. It basically boils down to this: Select a target, enter combat mode, kill your target, and collect the loot. Sounds pretty basic? It is, but there are things that make it more interesting, such as combat styles, special attacks, evades, and much more.

The "Quest" and "Task" system in DAOC is great. There are a variety of quests given from a variety of NPC's (Non Player Characters.) Once a Quest is completed, you are usually rewarded a magic item, weapon, money, and experience. A Task, on the other hand, is a little different from a quest. Usually, a task doesn't take as long as a quest would to complete, and you won't get a magical item. You will only receive experience, and money. Good for those "I-cant-level-this-sucks-I-keep-dieing" situations.

The interface is extremely easy to use, and can be set up to your own personal satisfaction. All major points of your character (ex. Player Stats, Equipment, Inventory, etc.) are all located in one small, convenient navigational bar.

At The Movies- With Meggan and Sara

There are a lot of cool new movies hitting the theater this spring and summer. We're here just to tell you all about some of them so you can get an idea on which ones to spend your money on.

The Scorpion King - starring The Rock (April 19)

In this spin-off prequel to The Mummy Returns, you'll get to see how The Rock's character rose to be king. According to Entertainment Weekly, The Rock says, "He starts out as an assassin, but then he sees that the gods have chosen him, so he has to go on this journey of discovery..." Anyone who has seen The Mummy Returns is going to have to see and appreciate this one.

Another very nice addition to this game is its use and setup of communication between players. With the /CHAT command, any player can make a chat room. The player can then add anyone they wish into that chat room, sort of like an IRC channel.

Daoc also allows the creation of player-run guilds. With this option, you get to choose many of the little details in-between: The name of your guild, who gets to be an officer, your ranks, etc. Also, with for price (a very hefty price) you can choose to have a custom made cloak for your guild members to wear.

One thing that makes Daoc unique from other MMORPG's is its form of people vs people, known as Realm Vs. Realm Combat (RvR.) With each kill of another realm player, you will receive Realm Points. Realm Points are awarded to players for either defending their own realm or sieging on an enemy realm. Players will be awarded titles depending on the number of Realm Points they acquire as well as increases to their stats. Another feature that is soon to be added is the ability for players to purchase houses as well as personal horses with their Realm Points. Of course players aren't forced to participate in Realm vs. Realm combat, but there really isn't a down side to it. You get rewarded for participating, and you do not lose anything if you are helplessly slaughtered by a massive enemy force.

Graphics.

The NetImmerse engine used for DAOC is amazing and works very well. Large, dense vegetation can be found in the swamps, forests packed with trees and plants, and mountain ranges towering over the landscapes. Castles are scaled to size and appear as giant fortresses from the horizon and are breathtaking to behold once you finally reach the front gates covered with absolutely stunning textures. And as for the magic - the graphics are the best I've ever seen in any MMORPG. There are few negative issues though. For instance, the trees have been said to look like paper cut-outs from a distance.

Conclusion.

Overall I rate this game on a scale of 1 (being the worst) to 10 (being the best) a 9.5. It is truly an amazing work of art, and quite frankly I can't stop playing it. If your looking for something new, and exciting to play, that takes a lot of time, and hard work, this is the game for you.

We Were Soldiers - starring Mel Gibson and Chris Klein (March 1)

This movie is during the Vietnam War and is based on an early battle that encouraged American military

brass to believe that conflict in Vietnam was winnable. Mel Gibson says this about the movie to Entertainment



Weekly, "September 11 reminded us that there are such things as duty, honor and courage. This is a movie about such things."

The Rookie - starring Dennis Quaid and Jay Hernandez (March 29)

Dennis Quaid plays Jim Morris, who is a high school science teacher and baseball coach who strikes a deal with his losing team: If they win the championship, he'll try out for the major league. The big catch in this movie is going to be if the team does win, and if Morris does try and make it to the pros.

Crossroads - starring Britney Spears and Dan Aykroyd (February 15)

This feature is about three girls and a guy who embark on a Georgia to L.A. road trip. Lucy (Spears) and her 2 friends from childhood remember a pact that they made a long time ago that says they will be friends forever, but the



girls end up departing each other when high school rolls around. The girls (and a so-called psycho killer who is their driver) head to L.A. and this movie follows their adventure because they each have a certain reason for wanting to get away from home.

40 Days and 40 Nights - starring Josh Hartnett (March 1)



This romantic comedy follows Hartnett's character who, after just breaking up with his girlfriend, abstains for Lent. Then the girl of his dreams walks into his life and he has to decide whether or not

he can prove to himself and can stay away from sex throughout the Lenten season.

Clockstoppers - starring Jesse Bradford (March 29)

So you got a clock that can stop time. What would you do? This movie follows the main character, Zak (Bradford) and what he does when he discovers that his dad has invented something that can make time stand still. Anything can happen. See you at the movies!

A Different Perspective

by Nick Livingston

"School." A word that has plagued my life for 11 of the years I have lived it and "Why?", the other word that has recently plagued my understanding of the way I live my life. I never used to ask myself why I go to school, now I do. Everyday, at least once a day when I'm sitting in my extremely uncomfortable desk I stare into an endless spectrum of nothingness. Here I am now, just coming back from a "four day weekend" and about to miss two more days of hell to go to state and still the only highlight of this day is writing this article about how much I despise our society's portrayal of the educational system. "Four day weekend," are you kidding

me? I'm sorry but just because we don't have school Monday or Tuesday does not mean that they are a part of the weekend. My perception of a week

"I, like all people, have done things to "be cool."

does not revolve around school like it used to.

Why do I even go to school? In some people's eyes asking that question makes me irresponsible,

but luckily I don't care what they think. I can only think of one answer to that question; to graduate. Then I can't help but follow up with the question; why do I need to graduate? A question I can't currently stew up an answer for. The only reason I think I need to graduate is because it's been programmed in my head since I was six. I answer questions like that one as if I'm a drone built by the society, which is just about true.

Society tells you what to wear, how to look, and how to talk, etc. I feel lucky that I have been able to partially block those ideals, but I'm still affected. I, like all people, have done things to "be cool". I have made decisions depending on what others will think or say. Why have I done that? In many cases it was because I wanted to avoid the criticism. During my years in school I have frequently been ridiculed by peers for the way I dress, the way I look, etc., and I believe that many students act in certain ways because they believe it is the right way to act by other people's standards. I see many of my classmates act like someone they're not because they are afraid of who they are. They are afraid that if they act themselves they will be rejected. These types of attitudes are often found in groups; hence the observation of friends dressing the same, doing their hair the same, etc. This isn't necessarily always the case, maybe they just happen to have the same interests and that is why they became friends, but it's unusual that there are large groups of people all acting exactly the same.

I think many kids in high school have yet to develop a personality of their own. They just act as much like the ideal "cool person" as possible, or they do whatever makes their parents happy. I believe you can't reach a comfortable level of maturity if you aren't happy and proud of who you are. I look down our high school hall and see a lot of followers. Our world needs more leaders. I encourage people to be independent, to state their opinion, and stand behind it.

Back to the subject of school. I have thought for years that in order to be successful I must get good grades in school, go to college, and then I'll be set. Sure, that is what the majority of Americans do, but my perception of being successful has been severely altered. I think in order for you to be "successful", you must be happy. You could be homeless and still be successful if you were happy with what you were doing with life. Success to me means money. Again the only reason I think that way is because I was raised with the mentality of in order to be happy, you must be rich. I'm not quite sure how I'm going to do this, but I have confidence in myself that I will find a way. When researchers interviewed the wealthiest people on earth they found that the paths they took were very different from anyone else's. Many of them didn't even have college degrees.

You don't succeed by following someone else, you must pave your own path, and don't let anyone but yourself decide where that path leads. There's your moral.

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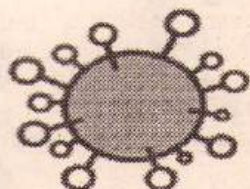
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A Different Kind of "Trap"



Sophomores Jeremy Heim and Brian Eiben practice their trap-shooting skills.

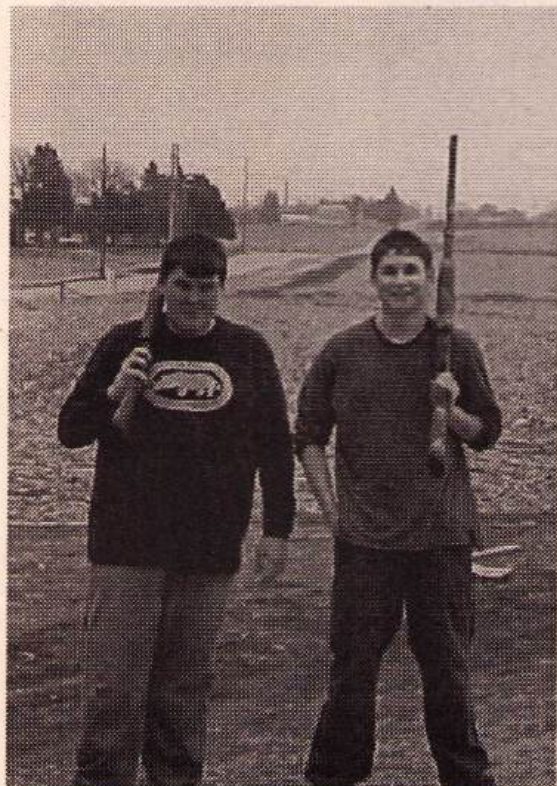
by Royce Kensinger

Recently a band of armed students have been parading around the Linn County Game Club. These students are actually in a Trap-Shooting league at the club which is based in the town of Central City. They use .12 gauge shotguns and they shoot clay pigeons. The league costs twenty five dollars a year and you get a key to get into the club. There are a lot of different age groups

but these sophomores say that they are pretty young for the league. That doesn't matter because the only prerequisite is that you have a weapon to shoot and you have to pass a hunters safety course. These few members are looking to start a team here at Marion, but they need more members and are having trouble finding a coach. If you are the outdoorsman type and have a gun maybe you should find out a little more about

trapshooting by talking to Jeremy Heim, Brian Eiben or anyone else who is in the league.

Both Jeremy and Brian would like to see a trap shooting team develop. There are teams at some area high schools which compete in a state competition.



God's Favorite

Have you ever wondered what it takes to be God's favorite? Come and see the comedic stylings of Neil Simon's God's Favorite on April 27th and 28th. The cast consists of Kate Baumert, Ashley Brown, Ann Cannon, Celeste Geraldts, Taylor Heim, Josh Immerfall, Tegan Reeves, and Ben Shinrock. The play is about a rich Jewish family who suddenly falls upon hard times due to a bet between God and the Devil. If you are ready to laugh, cry and search your soul for some meaning, come to God's Favorite on April 27th and 28th.

Fellowship

Every Monday night and Friday morning a group of Christian students meet and talk about life. For them, Christianity is a big part of their lives. With the separation between church and state, teachers aren't allowed to run the group. So it is student ran with the help of each and every person that goes. They alternate Monday nights by planning and teaching a lesson from the Bible, and also alternate whose house it is at. It's open to all students and is totally open to every opinion that one can bring. See Sara McGrew for details.

More "happenings" on pages 11 & 12

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Passion For Fashion

By Jami Sunderman and Lindsee McGaffie

Is there something you buy every time you go to the mall or go to a certain store? If you go to the mall does it feel wrong to leave if you haven't bought the one thing you just can't live without? Well have you ever stopped to think that maybe you might be obsessed with buying that one certain item. How can you tell if you are obsessed? The meaning of obsess is: To preoccupy the mind with an idea or emotion; To be abnormally preoccupied. So, really, in your head you are thinking you just like this item, and who cares if I already have ten of them? Other people are thinking that you are just plain crazy. Don't feel bad though, it's a fact that every person in the world is either crazy about something or totally obsessed. I asked a series of people what their obsession was and this is what they told me.

"SHOES"

-CHRISTIE OTTAWAY

"I BUY SOMETHING AT LEMSTONES EVERY TIME I GO TO THE MALL"

-SARA MCGREW

"I BUY A NEW SHIRT EVERY TIME I GO SHOPPING."

-JENA HUGG

"I GET ICE CREAM FROM TCBY."

-JEN GARMEN

"I CAN'T GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT BUYING CLOTHES."

-JAMI SUNDERMAN

"MY KIDS GET EVERYTHING THEY WANT"

-MRS. GAFFNEY-PAIGE

"SHOES"

-WADE BURRELL

"SHOES"

-LINDSEY FERRIS

"JEWELRY"

-MIKE MCCUE

"VIDEO GAMES"

-NICK LIVINGSTON

Enough Is Enough

There you have it obsessions about shopping and buying things, but what about the obsessions that are so annoying you would rather eat all your toe nails then hear about or see? Well, here are some of those annoying obsessions.

"ZACH KERTON'S MIND GAMES, I HATE THEM."

-CHRIS CLENDENEN

"MY FRIEND FROM LINN-MAR IS OBSESSED WITH SHOPPING, AND I'M NOT REALLY INTO SHOPPING."

-GENNA ROSSMAN

"MY BOYFRIEND IS OBSESSED WITH CAR STEREO'S AND STUFF FOR MY CAR, AND IT DRIVES ME CRAZY BECAUSE I COULD CARE LESS ABOUT THAT."

-KERI SOTELO

"OUR BEST FRIEND IS OBSESSED WITH WRITING LETTERS TO HER MAN IN PRISON AND WE ARE SICK OF CORRECTING THEIR SPELLING!"

-KRISTEN CURTIS AND LIZ MEADER

Here are Nick Livingston's video games. You can see his wide assortment and obsession with buying.

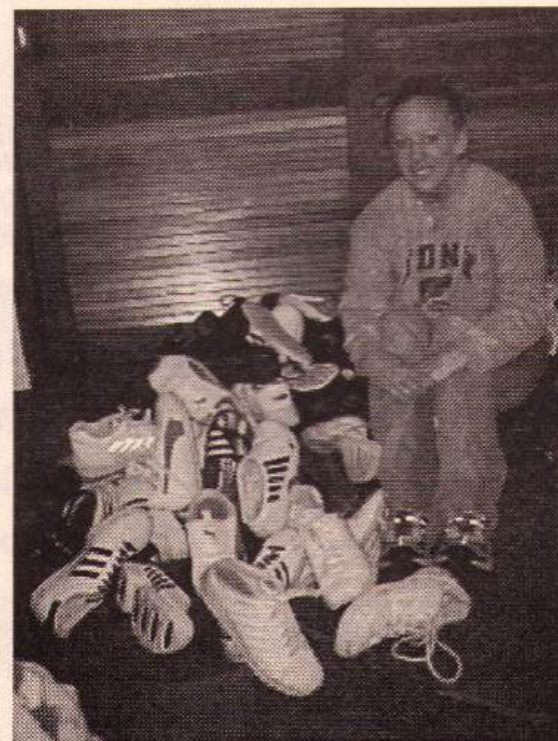


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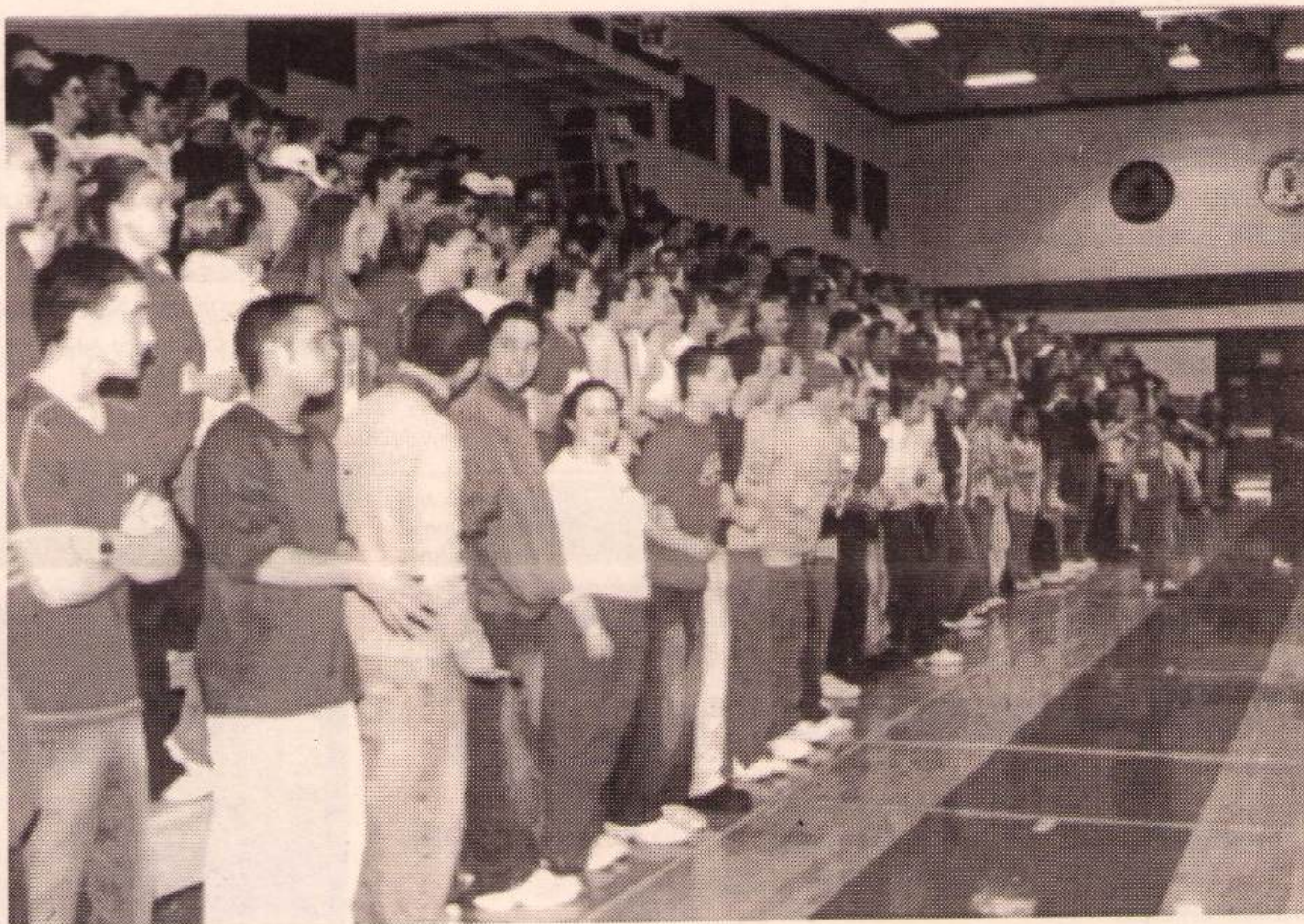
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To Be Or Not To Be? Are Fans Out Of Control?

Mr. Ehresman has gone from a teacher to Athletic Director in the past three years. He has had to go from watching the game to keeping fans in order and making sure everything goes smooth. He has a new view on fans at games.

"Generally speaking I think our fans have been really good compared to some other schools. My concern is when people start BOOING when a call doesn't go in their favor. It is unnecessary at high school events. The place for athletes and parents to get started is at the youth level. Parents can go to workshops on how to be good parents while the kids can learn to enjoy the sports and be competitive at the same time."



Being a college official lets Mr. Fruehling get the true picture of how sportsmanship alters as you get to the higher levels of athletics. He had this to say about sportsmanship,

"The worst sportsmanship is at the lower level. Parents have a lot to do with it. At the college level the fans are pretty distant compared to the high school where you can be courtside. Sportsmanship is mostly about getting caught up in the emotional part of sports. Most people realize that after the game is over that it wasn't necessary to get so upset because it was the right call."

Mr. Fruehling
Collegiate Official

"Most of the time, I aim for fans getting outraged by myself. It gets me pumped up more. Any fan support is great though. Usually it doesn't bother me because the positive fan support outweighs the negative by a lot."

Douglas Cloven
Varsity Basketball
Player

... A Good Sport

by Justin Sperry
Any comments email
lce42199@aol.com

According to the Iowa High School Code 716.7, individuals disrupting school district activities will be asked to stop the disruption and may be asked to leave the school district grounds, temporarily or permanently. Spectators find themselves caught up in the activity so much that they forget about the rules and the people that they are affecting. I am included in this obsession to be involved in the game that has nothing to do with myself. The infatuated of spectators at sporting events has escalated into a world wide problem that doesn't seem to be slowing down.

The latest event that received national attention was the case of Thomas Junta, a hockey father who beat a fellow opponent's dad to death after an apparent rough game. Mr. Junta claimed he was attacked by the smaller man, but the prosecutors weren't impressed by his allegations. Mr. Junta was sentenced for manslaughter and will receive seven to ten years in prison. It blows my mind that a father whose son was playing in the Pee-Wee hockey division could get in such an outrage that he would kill a man. Mr. Junta may not have had any intention to kill the other man, but it was the fact that they were fighting over a game that had nothing to do with them. This leads me to another observation on how parents are reacting at their child's sporting events.

They cheer when their child is winning, but don't seem to know how to react when their child has been defeated. They blame the defeat on everybody besides their child. The

better athlete or team is the reason for the loss, but their feelings for blaming others for the loss is obvious. These parents seem to want the victory more than their child and won't leave the situation alone. The child knows the better athlete has won and know they tried their best. Through many years of participating in sports, I have realized that these parents are still trying to live their lives through their child. The child is not being able to enjoy the fun events of their childhood. It is the most miserable time because they don't get an opportunity to enjoy it. The opinion is bias, but the truth hurts for some parents.

The stories have continued to flood newspapers nationwide, stories of fans getting completely out of control over a simple game. The latest incident that happened in Iowa was at an Iowa wrestling meet where an African referee had racial slurs yelled at him just because the outcome of the match didn't go the Hawkeyes way. The meet was stopped and a service announcement warned that any more of this rude behavior would result in

fans being kicked out. The match was between two talented athletes that deserved a lot of credit for their hard fought match, but the only thing the fans did was complain about the officiating that was done. When the fans should have been giving both wrestlers a hand for their exciting performance. This type of conduct really disappoints me. The fans are there to enjoy the great display of talent that is being showcased for them. It is a privilege to be able to see such athleticism by so many athletes. It is not there for them to complain and get out of control just because the results didn't go their way. Fans need to realize that being able to watch a sporting event should be a fun and exciting experience, not a dangerous and depressing event. Other recent events that have occurred include fans throwing debris

on the field during a Cleveland Brown's football game, soccer fans being killed during a rival soccer game, and a son killing his obsessive father.

The events that have occurred have really placed a black cloud over the sportsmanship of fans and athletes across the world. The bad reputation may be getting worse, but there are a lot of good things that happen at sporting events. Players and coaches being good sports after a win or loss, they realize that the effort put forth is worth more than a victory. Nobody likes to lose, but the greatest accomplishment is knowing that you went out there and tried your best. The victory just puts the icing on the cake. Fellow opponents getting together after seasons to play together during summer leagues,

praying together after a game, shaking hands no matter the outcome, and cheering for both teams. These things are what make people want to come out and be entertained by such great athletes. People don't want to come when fans are out of control, so the better the fans are the more people that will come out and support the teams. If you plan on coming out to watch a sporting event remember that it is a privilege to watch such great athletes perform so be a GOOD FAN. It really lets the athlete cherish the exciting moments that they are able to be apart of because they won't forget how great the fan support was. It means a lot when the fans are behind you during some of the tougher moments in athletics.



Getting A Head Start

by Nikki Evans

"It's great! I'm getting credits out of the way."

-Kristen Osborn

"I've learned a lot more in French at Kirkwood because it was more fun and interesting."

-Tony Offerman

"Kirkwood is a good opportunity for students planning on going to college."

-Kristin Mork

Every year students at Marion High School are given the opportunity to take college classes for dual credit at both college and high school. Students have the choice of going to Kirkwood, Mt. Mercy, and Coe. One thing that is positive is that the high school will pay for both the books and the class. However, if students do not earn a C or higher the school forfeits the responsibility to pay for everything and it is now the students responsibilities. Most classes that are taken are usually the basics to get a head start on college. Students feel that they need to challenge themselves so they get a early start.

This year a total of 55 students are taking classes at Kirkwood, Coe, and Mt. Mercy. Classes are varied with students taking everything from Microbiology to Intro to Yoga. Many students are trying to take classes with at least one other person they know so they can make the transition from high school to college more easier.

In addition to students taking classes at local colleges, many students are getting involved right here at Marion. There are 50 students enrolled in either Photoshop, Illustrator, or CISCO. These classes provide high school credits along with college ones.

"Kirkwood gives me a better chance to see what college is going to be like. Plus the school pays for it, so I might as well try it."

-Amanda Pexa

"The more time I spend at Kirkwood the less time I will have to be at high school."

-Sarah Haddy

"Kirkwood is fun. And when I'm sick I don't have to have my mom call me in."

-Rachel Eagle

"GOING TO KIRKWOOD IS FUN. NIKKI AND I HAVE A GOOD TIME, PLUS I'VE MADE SOME NEW FRIENDS."

-BROOKE KELSEY

HANDS ON EXPERIENCE

by Eric Allan

Business Work Experience (BWE), coordinated by Mrs. Young, is a great program offered to students blocks one through four, all four quarters. There are a few different reasons why the class is offered and why students are involved in BWE.

Marion offers the class to students so they can receive credit for the work they do throughout the week. A few of the benefits the program provides is that a person is able to help others, earn money, and learn a trade they might be going into as a profession. For students who are involved in lots of extracurricular activities and don't have enough time to work outside of school, the BWE program provides an opportunity to earn money for bills like gas, insurance, college, or other expenses a student might have. Most of the students in Business Work Experience work weekends and week nights and average working anywhere from ten to twenty-five hours a week. Out of the five people I asked, four of them said

their jobs help them the most because it provides them with money they need and everyone said he/she took the class to get credit for the time and work they do outside of school. But along with the privilege of being able to work during school also come responsibility.

There are just a few requirements the students are responsible to meet. For every block a student has BWE he/she must work a minimum of ten hours a week. So if someone has the class for three blocks, he/she must work thirty hours. Every student is required to turn in a journal/time sheet every Monday before 3:00PM or else it is counted late. There are also three mandatory meetings per quarter. If one meeting is missed, you get restitution, if two are missed, you get dropped from the class. It seems pretty harsh, but if a student is really serious about working, he/she will do what it takes. If you are looking for a way to earn money but just don't have the time, try looking into Business Work Experience and experience it for yourself.



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Trying Out with Spirit

by Jessi Knapp

Making the Marion Cheerleading and Dance squads isn't as easy as you think. You need to show yourself as someone who is responsible and capable of supporting your school 100%. The tryout process seems long and takes a lot of effort. There's at least eighty girls or boys that tryout for cheerleading and dance, everyone having their own ideas and hopes about the outcome of their tryout.

In this process of making a squad for the different seasons, you are given three essay questions, dance and cheerleading are separate. You also need to provide a locker sign as a cheerleader, and a spirit poster as a dancer, all of your own design. There is a three day period before the actual tryout that all participants are taught the material needed for tryout day. Cheerleaders are taught two chants, one cheer, a series of jumps, and how to spirit. Dancers are taught a dance routine, a kick line, and a series of leaps, turns, and jumps.

Each participant is expected to attempt each thing taught at their tryout. Although you may mess up during tryouts you'll find that what shows a lot is your showmanship, don't forget to smile! Smiling tends to camouflage any mistake during a performance. The best advice given is to look like you enjoy what your doing, if you aren't having fun, what are you doing here? Just think, 3 days of hard work learning material, and over a month of writing essays and making posters and signs, over within a matter of 20 minutes. In the end, its all worth it, or is it?

Some students find that the stress and anxiety involved in the whole process is to much, others seem to find the whole thing exciting and something new to experience. What did students say was the most stressful thing in previous tryouts?

"The actual tryout, or the week before just waiting, isnt fun." -Paige Johnson

"Finding out if you made it or not." -Lindsay Engle and Charley Martin

"When you're going throught the process of it you ask if it's worth it." -CJ Kennedy

"Trying to learn and remember all the material you are taught, and then staying calm and not freaking out is so hard." -Raychel Ellwood

"Learning all of the cheers over and over again." -Jen Garmen

"Waiting to actually tryout on the day of tryouts." -Kristy Sauerbry

"I don't worry to much, but its hard to get everything together." -Danny Hocken

"Learning the routine and actually remembering it." -Shelley Osborn

"When you have to spirit in during Cheer tryouts." -Morgan Kelley

The tryout process has good points too, think of all the fun things you get to do: pep assemblies, performances, camp during the summertime, and getting to know other people throughout your squads. Tryout time of the year is one of the most stressful points, and tend to get students worked up the most.

The All American Concert

The All American choir and band concert was held on February 26, this year. All choir and band members needed to provide a dessert dish of some sort that would be set out for those who came to watch to be able to enjoy while they listened to the show. Certain desserts were chosen to be put in the auction they had in between each show. They auctioned off quite a few desserts along with a sports bag and an old band uniform. All the songs performed by the choir and band were all of American composers.

Cantorei, the all womens choir, sang *Alleluia* composed by Emma Lou Diemer, *My True Love Has My Heart* composed by Eugene Butler, and *It's the Hard Knock Life* arranged by William Simon.

Concert choir, a mixed choir of men and women, sang *America the Beautiful* arranged by Joseph Joubert, *My God is A Rock* arranged by Joyce Eilers, and *He Never Failed Me Yet* composed by Robert Ray. After Concert Choir was finished with their performance, Cantorei joined them to sing *New York, New York* arranged by Frank Metis.

The Southside Singers also performed their American show at the concert which consisted of: *America is Standing Tall* composed by Jay Althouse, *The Armed Force Salute* arranged by Joyce Eilers, *R.O.C.K in the U.S.A* arranged by Alan Billingsley, and *God Bless the U.S.A* arranged by Mark Brymer.

After the Soutside Singers came the Marion High School Jazz Band, performing *Three Point Shot* composed by Mike Pendowski and *Virtual Salsa*, Not composed by Victor Lopez.

Concert Band then performed *River of Life* composed by Steven Reineke, *On a Hymn* song of Philip Bliss composed by David Holsinger, *The Walking Frog* composed Karl King and arranged by Robert E. Foster, and *Elton John Classics* arranged by Ralph Ford.

Overall the night was a huge success, everyone seemed to be enjoying the snacks and the music, and with the auction and number of people who showed up to watch, the music program made just under two thousand dollars. Hope to see you at upcoming choir and band concerts!

Student Senate

Student Sentate members are now discussing when to reschedule the WPA dance. The dates that are as of now being taken into consideration are sometime in later May or March 21st, which is the Thrusday right before Spring Break. Also, the week of March 11th through the 15th is also teacher appreciation week. The Student Senate members will be making all teachers a pancake breakfast and will be leaving special things for them in the teachers lounge. Other discussions within Student Senate include, class accounts and many other fundraising idea's.

Quiz Bowl

On March 9, 2002 the MHS Quiz Bowl Team headed to Ames for the ISU Cyclone 2.5 Bowl. The team consists of five members: Stephanie Law, Jon Lawson, Eric Buh, Tess Putnam, and Bethany Godar. They fought hard and ended up with a third place trophy.

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SODA Update

This year the SODA program is going to be trying something new for post prom. The students have put a lot of thought and consideration into where post prom is going to be held. The students all voted on holding the activity at the Marion YMCA. As most of us know the usual location is at the bowling center. Having it at the YMCA has its advantages. There is a lot more for the students to do such as open gym, swimming, movies, karaoke, and some new activities that are expected to be popular with the students are boxing, sumo wrestling, darts, and much more. Post prom will be held on April 20th from 11-4:30a.m.

Competitive Speech Success

by Desiree Rouse

This year the competitive speech team had two students qualify for All-State. On Saturday, February 16, seniors Kate Baumert and Heidi Hanel traveled to Ames to compete for the Ensemble banner at the speech festival.

In order for one to proceed to state one must first receive a rating of one at districts and must also be nominated by judges. If you are the critics choice then your school will be

the host for the Ensemble banner for one year and will be recognized as the best in the state. "It was really an honor to be nominated for All-State. It's really incredible how far Marion has come in speech throughout the years and hopefully it will be carried on," said Kate Baumert.

The two started their day out with an opening ceremony, where banners are presented from those who received it last year. This is when the schedule for the day is explained to everyone. Kate and Heidi were not scheduled until closer to the end of the day so they were able

to observe those who they were up against. Twenty minutes before their performance they had a chance to sneak away and practice their performance.

In the end, the two each received medals. Medals were also presented for outstanding performance at state in Pella. Those who received these were Nate Barkley, Perry Clouse, Stephanie Law, Meghan Redd, and Ben Shinrock.

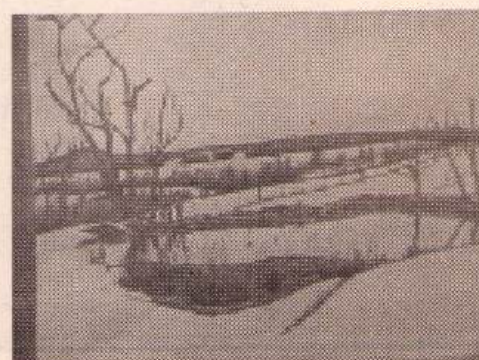
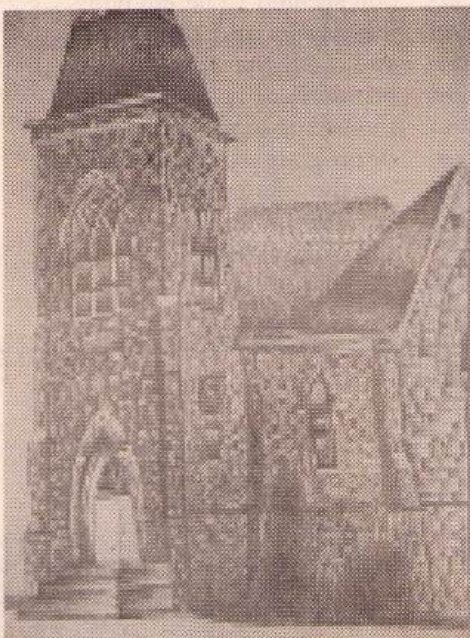


Mr. Ehresman, Heidi Hanel, Kate Baumert, and Mr. Wake were part of the excitement of the All-State Speech festival in Ames. By performing at All-State, Heidi and Kate were recognized as one of the top twenty ensembles in the state.

Amazing Art

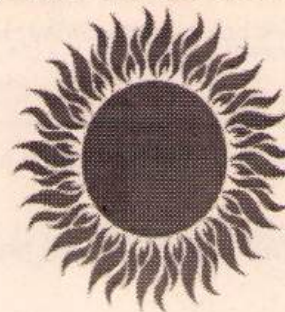
Celeste Gerald's talent has been recognized by AEI Visual Arts All state Team, (Arts Educators of Iowa). 51 students across the state sent in slides of their best work to AEI, 10 were chosen to be viewed, and out of these ten Celeste was awarded third place. She will attend a ceremony in Des Moines where she will be awarded a plaque and a large gift certificate to Dick Blick.

Celeste has been interested in art since childhood. "I remember drawing pictures for my classmates newspapers, I also took art classes as a child," she explains. Celeste is very talented in all aspects of art, but drawing is her favorite, particularly in colored pencil or ink. Other than her artwork, Celeste also reads occasionally and enjoys music. You'll find her wearing headphones almost every day. She plays piano and sings as well. Her ability will take her to UNI where she plans to pursue a graphic art degree at University of Northern Iowa.



Although they didn't compete at All-State, these performers were awarded medals for excellence. They were in the top 4% of ensembles in the state.

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Marion Wrestling Sends Four To State- Conway Places Third

By: Tony Offerman

Marion hosted its own sectional tournament and walked away with crown. The Indians won the meet by a

qualifier. With the Indians winning the sectional they advanced to Regional Duals against highly regarded Inde-

sive first round wins. Kody Blazek, a freshman, won first round 9-1 and Conway posted a 17-8 win. Seniors Jake



The referee gets close to the action to check Aaron Conway's position during his match for third place at the state wrestling tournament. Conway beat Dusty Pollard of Osage to take the medal. Pollard, a former state champion, had been expected to contend for the title at 119 lbs.

huge margin of victory, 98 1/2 points. The Indians were lead with seven champions, 103 pounder Aaron Doubet, 112 pounder Kody Blazek, 119 pounder Aaron Conway, 130 pounder Jacob Blazek, 152 pounder Troy Little, 160 pounder Jordan Forkner, and 171 pounder Tony Offerman. Marion advanced 4 more second place finishers in 125 Jamie Offerman, 135 Justin Sperry, 189 Matthew Tielebein, and 215 Ryne Tope.

The closest competition was Maquoketa Valley, who finished way behind the Indians. Marion seemed to dominate the whole day. Some wrestlers weren't even suppose to make it to district but pulled a few upsets and walked out of the gym a district

pendence at home in the Gold Gym. Marion ended up pulling just short of the regional win losing 34-25. The loss ended the dual season but finished 15-6.

Marion grabbed a second place finish at districts and sent four to state. Marion was lead by their only district champion, 119 pounder Aaron Conway. Kody Blazek 112, Jacob Blazek 130 and Justin Sperry 135 also qualified for state with second place finishes. Marion fell twenty points short of the title but showed they could wrestle with the best pulling a few upsets on the weekend.

Conway was the only one to place at the state tournament held the end of February. Two made it past the first day, with impres-

Blazek and Justin Sperry lost two well fought matches the first day to conclude their impressive careers at Marion. Kody lost his quarterfinal match and failed to bounce back and win his consolation match. Kody wrestled very well at state, making him the first freshman to qualify for state since 1996. Conway won his second round in :43 seconds making a state place winner. Conway lost his semifinal match but came back the next day and won his semifinals consolation. For third place, Conway pinned the defending state champion in the second period for a conclusion to a very impressive weekend. Aaron went 4-1 with three falls all weekend, which is very good considering the caliber of wrestlers he faced.

Varsity Girls Finish With Heart

by Kristen Osborn

Finishing out the season with a record of 7-15 overall, 5-9 in WaMac the varsity girls basketball team placed 5th in the conference ahead of Independence, Waterloo Columbus, and Don Bosco. The Indians spent their Valentine's Day evening competing against top-ranked Benton Community in the class 3A region 7 quarterfinals. Marion hosted the game, but the home court advantage wasn't

enough to get passed the Bobcats' defense. Jana Bradley and Jessica Trumpold led the Indians with six points apiece, while Ashley Podoll pulled down nine boards. The Indians were defeated 26-45. Bradley averaged 14 points per game, 4.12 assists, she had 82 steals, and shot 65-90 of her free throws making 72.22%. Sophomore, Tina Lujan averaged 7.8 points, 5.6 rebounds, and had 27 blocked shots.



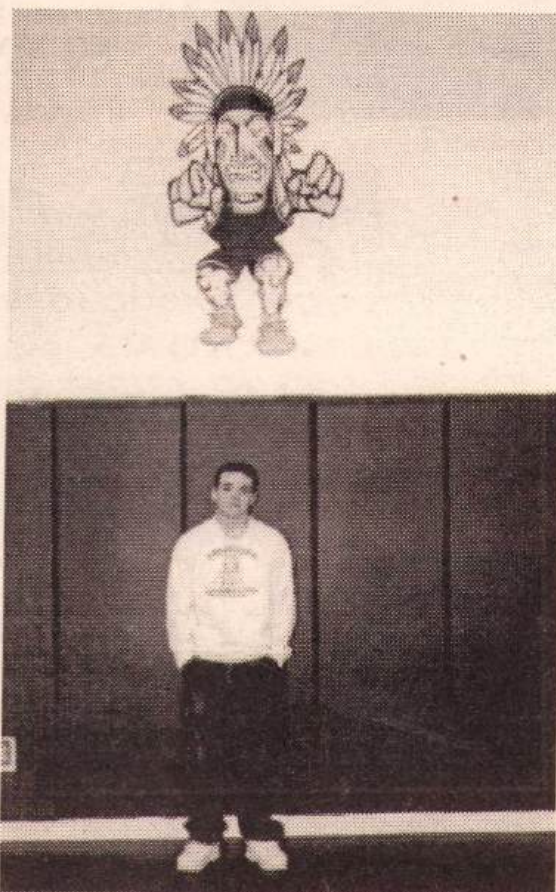
Senior cheerleaders, dancers, and girls basketball players were honored at senior night before the girls' final home game.

SHOWING GUTS!!!

Do you have what it takes? "Hard work, dedication, discipline, and wrestling one hundred percent with one hundred percent attendance is what you need to be in this club," says wrestling coach Bruce Weisinger. There were thirty-seven wrestlers on the team and only nine of the thirty-seven wrestlers made the guts club. Coach Weisinger started this club and it has been a part of the team for 11 years now and still one of the biggest honors. There have been a lot of good wrestlers come through Marion that have never made this club. To a lot of the wrestlers on the team the Guts Club is a huge honor to be a part of and though the award may be little, it illustrates to your team and school you have what it takes to be completely dedicated to the team. The nine wrestlers that made the guts club are Jon Trumpold, Andy Balvanz, Jake Blazek, Troy Little, Ryan Rogers, Aaron Conway, Chris

Clendenan, Kasey Bellach, and Jordan Forkner. There have been some wrestlers that have made the club more than once. Jake Blazek has made the guts club four years in a row. To accomplish something like that is even a bigger honor and deserves a little

something more. Jake Blazek comments on making the guts club all four years, "It feels pretty good to be the only one. One of my goals was to make it to the guts club four years in a row and now I have finally accomplished this goal."



**Continued
from page 1**

within four points with only a quarter to play. Unfortunately, Marion's run was too little and too late. Marion was defeated 62-52, putting a damper on their conference title hopes. Bolsinger led the Indians in scoring with 12 points. Campbell was one point away from a double-double, tallying 9 points and 10 rebounds. The Indians shot only 35% from the field compared to West Delaware's nearly 50% shooting.

The Indians hosted Vinton for senior night on February 15th. 11 Marion seniors

were honored before the game for their hard work and commitment throughout the season. The Indians got off to a great start, taking an early 11 point lead before Vinton brought the lead back to five at the end of the quarter. Marion extended its lead in the second quarter taking a 27-18 advantage into intermission. After a solid third quarter, Marion had a 40-29 lead, with only 8 minutes left to play. Vinton made a strong comeback at the beginning of the quarter cutting the lead to five points at 40-35 less than a minute into the quarter. After a timeout, Marion's Cloven made

a strong drive to the basket converting on a layup and getting fouled in the process. Cloven's three point play seemed to take the last bit of energy out of the Vikings and the Indians took outright second place in the conference by winning 56-43. Messerli led Marion with 19 points and 10 rebounds, while Thomas and Bryan Ryther contributed 9 points to the winning effort. The Indians were solid on the free throw line as well, shooting 16-19, making four more free throws than Vinton attempted.

On Tuesday, February 19, Marion traveled up to Independence

for their last WAMAC game of the season. Independence won by a score of 67-59. The Indians' final record for the regular season was 15-6 and 11-3 in the conference.

The Indians had their district semifinal game at home on Monday, February 25. This game was a rematch against Anamosa who defeated the Indians earlier in the season. Marion got off to a great start by taking a 14-2 lead. However, Anamosa came storming back and got as close as 21-19 late in the second quarter. The Indians pulled ahead a little more throughout the third quarter and held a 47-37 advantage with only a quarter to play.

Anamosa came right out of the gate in the fourth quarter and cut the lead to five points. Fortunately, the Indians kept their composure and managed to fight through Anamosa's momentum. Anamosa was forced to foul in an attempt to get the ball back and catch up. However, their plan backfired and Marion hit some clutch free throws down the stretch.

When the final buzzer sounded, the Indians were on top by a score of 61-49. Leading scorers for the Indians were Messerli with 14 points, Raeside had 13, and Campbell contributed 12 points and 9 rebounds to the winning effort.

On Thursday, February 28, Marion took a short bus ride over to Cedar Rapids Washington High School to play a district final game against the WAMAC Champion West Delaware Hawks. The Indians came into the game trying to avenge their two regular season losses to West Delaware, hoping

this would be their night. The game was played with great emotion by both teams and the 1,600 people in the crowd brought a great atmosphere to the gym, too.

West Delaware got off to a good start hitting their first four shots of the game. Fortunately, for Marion, the Hawks' lights out shooting didn't keep up to that pace the whole game. Marion hung with the Hawks and trailed by three, 15-12 after one quarter. The game went back and forth throughout the second quarter and the Indians found themselves trailing by two, 28-26 at halftime.

The Indians opened up the third quarter with an 18-5 run and took a 47-39 lead late in the quarter. However, West Delaware hit two straight three pointers to bring the game back to a 47-45 Marion lead at the end of the third quarter.

The fourth quarter was nip and tuck the whole way. It consisted of three lead changes and four ties. Half way through the final quarter, the game was tied at 56-56. Minutes later, the Indians found themselves on top by three before West Delaware converted an old fashioned three point play to tie the game up again. In the final minute of the game, Marion pulled away by hitting some clutch free throws. Olson put the Indians ahead for good when he hit two free throws to give Marion a 63-61 lead. In the final 10 seconds, Thomas sealed the win by hitting 1 of 2 free throws to give Marion a 66-62 lead. After another foul, the Indians ended up winning 67-62, earning them a birth into the sub state game.

Campbell was a force inside grabbing 17 rebounds. He also

led Marion in scoring with 17 points, giving him a double-double. Messerli contributed 14 points, while Cloven chipped in 12, and Thomas added 10.

On Monday, March 4, the Indians traveled over to Cedar Rapids Kennedy for their sub state game against Davenport Assumption. Unfortunately, this was not Marion's best night. In front of 2,000 fans the Indians gave it their best effort but it was not enough in the end. Davenport Assumption shot lights out from the field and defeated Marion 77-60.

Marion found themselves in a hole early in the game, and they could never get out of it. At halftime, the Indians trailed 49-28. However, the Indians didn't go down without a fight. After a few three pointers early in the third quarter, the Indians cut the lead to 14 points, but that's as close as it would get. Messerli and Bolsinger led the Indians with 11 points, while Campbell collected 10 points and 6 rebounds.

This loss ended Marion's season, but it was an extremely successful season from day one. All the hard work and dedication the team put forth throughout the summer and season really paid off. The Indians finished with a record of 17-7 making this year's Marion boys basketball team the most successful team furnished by Marion high school in the last 29 years. The Indians finished with a 17-7 record.

Also, thank you to the support from the student body, the teachers, and the community. You guys brought a great environment to the game every night and helped the team a lot by showing great class, spirit, and pride.



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Looking For Continued Success

By Jami Sunderman

This year, the girls soccer team will start their practices on April 15. They will compete in a jamboree on April 25 at Kennedy High School, although their first actual game will be held on April 26 at Xavier High School. The girls' head coach is Becky Humbert and assistant coach is Missy Steinhoff. Coach Humbert has made a preseason workout for the girls that aren't involved with track. That workout consists of running, lifting, and ball touches every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The running will start out at one mile and they will work themselves up to three miles before practices start in April. Every Tuesday and Thurs-

day the girls are supposed to do an Ab workout to help strengthen stomach muscles. There are a total of 48 girls out for soccer this year. That's a good number compared to last year's 32 girls. Out of those 48 girls out for soccer, there are 18 returning varsity letter winners and all 11 starters are returning for the Indians. Coach Humbert says "We scheduled harder teams this year like Xavier, and Mt. Pleasant is on our schedule twice this season because they gave us such a hard time last year." The boys and girls soccer field is currently under construction, due to the new field they will be getting. Because of the new field not being fin-

ished yet, both teams will practice out on the practice football field and will play all home games at Tuma Soccer Complex off of County Home Road. "I would like to help boost everyone's individual performance and bring everyone to the next level. I also want to continue to strengthen the team as a unit and teach the value of sportsmanship," says Humbert. "As a team, we are shooting for the conference title. Our goal is to

get a banner up in the gym. We also would like to do well in districts. We will be up against some talented teams but we have a valid chance." The girls will play in 13 regular season games, then move to districts and go from there. All of the girls that played last year were encouraged to participate in indoor soccer and other sports. Being involved increases mental toughness and physical strength, as well as endurance.

Running Wild

Marion Boys Track is in its third week of practice and has its first WAMAC Conference meet on Friday, March 22nd. It is the indoor at Cornell that doesn't count for points, but puts a lot of perspective on how the season will go. The Indians, as always, are looking to compete and show everybody what they can do. "We are very excited, we have a lot of talent and we are off to a very good start," said Coach Immerfall. The only reason they are ready is because of all the hard work and long hours they have been putting into practice. "We are working a lot harder than we did last year, and even though we lost some amazing seniors, we gained some guys that could really compete," commented four year track athlete Nick Campbell. That being said, it is going to be a great year for Marion Boys Track.

2002 Boys Golf

The 2002 golf season looks to be very good for the Marion boys.

There are four lettermen returning, headed by all conference performer Pete Messerli. Pete placed in the top 10 at conference last year and after a very strong summer season looks to improve on that finish.

Other lettermen returning are senior Brad Young, junior Caleb Lynott, and sophomore Joe Derby. All of these golfers picked up valuable varsity experience last year and should all improve which will lead to a very good season.

Coach Messerli said, "We have high hopes for the season and the tournament play. If the golfers work hard in the small amount of time we have, they should have a good year."

Girls Track In Full Stride

by Kristen Osborn

The girls track team started practice on March 4, 2002. A total of 44 girls are out for this year's season. The breakdown is as follows: four seniors, four juniors, 15 sophomores, and 21 freshmen. The coaches hope that everyone who started on March 4th will finish the season in May. "We are excited about the upcoming season due to the quality athletes at the junior and senior level, along with the sheer numbers in the freshmen and sophomore classes. We look to improve upon last year's success," comments coach Ferguson about this season.

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In Love

The love of a man
has touched the heart of a
young girl
That love has seized her mind
and they have fallen deeply in
love
The heart of this man keeps
pounding and pounding
until it suddenly stops
His life's blood has run out of
energy
Each day it begins all over
but only because they're in love.
And so it will be until that
final day
together, forever, in love.

Chad Turner



Picture drawn by Liz Shores

Today
you've hurt me so much.
Today
you've watched me die.
Today
I learned who really cares.
Today
I sat and cried.
Today
I was reborn.
Today
I found comfort not from you.
Today
a promise was sworn.
Today
was the worst day of my life.
Today
was also the best.
Today
I became stronger.
Today
my soul will finally rest.

Jasmine Warner

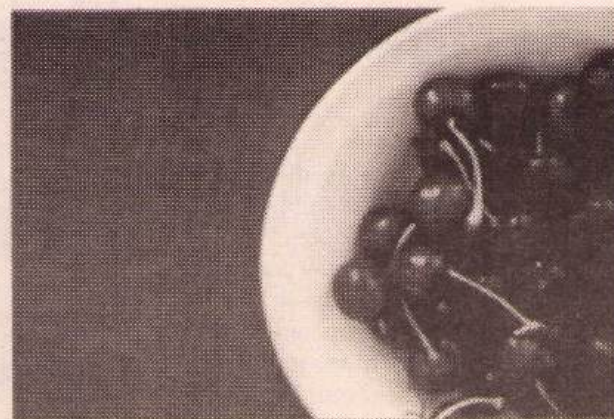


They arrived yesterday,
I wish they would go away.
I don't know why they pick on me,
I want them to let me be.
At school the boys won't come near.
My mom says they may stay for years.
My friends have them too, I think.
I really think these cooties stink!



"The Forgotten Banana"- Photo taken by Ragina Kroemer

Ragina Kroemer
was awarded a \$7500
Art scholarship to Coe
college. She competed
against 70 other art stu-
dents and placed 1st.



"Life"- Photo taken by Ragina Kroemer