

# The VOX

Volume LV  
Issue #3  
January 15, 2004

Marion High School

## Do It On Ebay

By: Seth Walters and  
Blake Hacker

Have you ever wanted your own island? Perhaps a jet plane, or maybe some baby clothes. There is a place where you can get all of these things. This magical place is called Ebay. The magic began in 1995. It has become popular because of its wide variety of products. Ranging from everyday things like a telephone to tickets to the Styx concert. Millions of shoppers from around the world go to Ebay to fulfill their shopping needs.

To find what you are looking for, simply log on to [www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com). Type your search in the search bar.

have an account. It is free as well and easy to sign up. Once you have an account you can spend your heart away.

Not all items are auctions.

"I look for all the stuff I can't find or afford anywhere else." - Mr. Perkins

Some items have a "Buy It Now" option. This is usually when a company is selling something. You don't have to place a bid, you can simply buy the item at the set price,

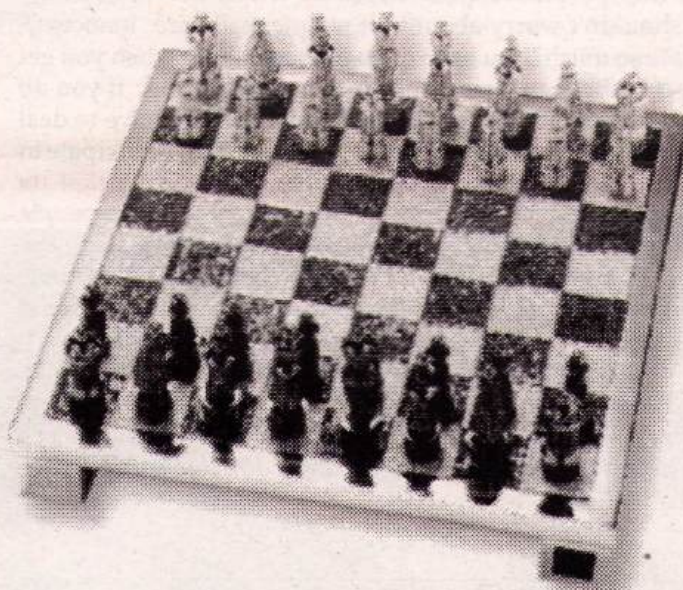
which is usually a better deal. If there is no "Buy It Now" option you must bid on the item. Type in how much you are willing to pay for the item. This is called your maximum bid.

There are many wacky and cool

ranging from \$1- 40.

A lot of MHS students and teachers are familiar with Ebay. Mr. Perkins uses it every day and has bought many things including all of the cameras they use for the football team. "I look for all the stuff I can't find or afford anywhere else," says

alike use this magical online shopping market. From Dr. Thomas buying a video camera battery for 1/4 the original price, to Nate Young buying Nintendo games for \$1, Ebay has become a modern day mall. It is a gigantic step in the future of worldwide shopping. We love you Ebay.



This diamond encrusted chess board was found on Ebay. It was being sold for over \$1,000,000. All the pieces and the board are covered with over 200 karats of diamonds.



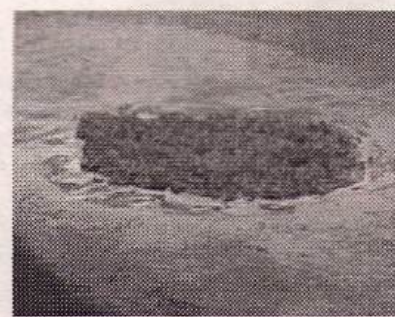
This is a Kawasaki Sax-A-Boom. It is used by the greatest band in the world, Tenacious D, in their concerts. They range on Ebay from \$35-80. People are crazy when they want something really bad.

Click search and kazaam! Up to thousands of results will magically appear on your screen. You can organize these results by price, by date the bid ends and when the item was listed. To buy or bid on an item you must

things to buy as well as rare and unusual items. If you are looking for something, you are almost guaranteed to find it on Ebay. Say you wanted to find a talking Pee Wee Herman doll. We found 46 of them

Perkins. Nick Kelly thinks that it is the greatest thing ever invented. Dane Anderson likes it because, "You don't have to see the ugly people you buy the stuff from." But it's probably a good idea that some people don't use Ebay. "I would probably spend all my money on clothes," says Jessi Knapp.

Overall, student and teachers



This private Caribbean island is on sale for \$2.4 million. There is a special deal with it too. No shipping and handling!



Losing your hair? Get a toupee on Ebay. Hey, that rhymes!



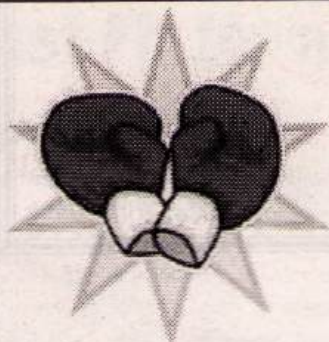
Did your Pet Rock run away? Buy another one only on Ebay.

### Where's Barndo?

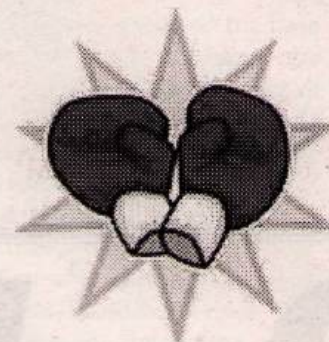
Journalism student Andrew Barnd is a big influence on the journalism team. He has inspired all of us on the Vox staff to write better articles and just be better people. With his talkative personality and charming wit, the Vox staff has decided to dedicate this entire issue in his honor. To do so, a picture of Barnd has been hidden on every page. We challenge you to locate them all. Happy hunting.







## Face-Off Drug Testing In Schools



Across the nation, random drug testing is being done in high schools. This new decision, after being approved of by the Supreme Court, has allowed a lot of controversy. Here are basically the two sides of the debate. These are just opinions presented by the Editors and there is no right or wrong answer.

By: Jenny Fager, Editor

It is stated in the Code of Conduct that the use/possession of illegal drugs will result in suspensions from the activity. The length of suspension gets more severe with every offense. Every athlete or participant of an extra-curricular activity signs the Code of Conduct agreeing to these rules. But how are they enforced? Athletes must have certain grades to be eligible to play, so why is that enforced and not the drug rule? I mean simply signing a piece of paper isn't going to stop people from using drugs.

People argue that it goes against our Fourth Amendment rights, but in a school setting all of our rights are different. It's funny sometimes when people disagree with something, they just say "Oh that goes against my rights." Don't other athletes who are following the rules have a right to have teammates they can depend on? It isn't outlined in the Constitution, but neither is anything about any kind of testing. People have a way of turning everything in the Constitution around to fit their situation. If the school has belief there is a drug problem, I believe that is a reasonable cause to enforce drug testing. All day we have to go along with certain rules of the school, so people should just get over that. They can bring in the drug dog, so I don't think drug testing is any different than that.

I don't see why people complain about it. If you don't have anything to hide, you shouldn't worry about it. If people really are "innocent," then why do they care so much? You have to do the same thing when you get a physical at the doctor. Both are being done for your well-being. If you do have something to hide, well, then it's your own fault that you have to deal with the consequences. If athletes would rather do drugs than participate in a sport, then that's their business, but I think it is unfair to the people that are staying clean. Hopefully enforcing the drug testing would encourage people not to do drugs, and would give them some incentive for staying clean. The purpose would be to discourage drug use, not to catch drug users. People that are involved in athletics are representing our school, and they should expect a little less privacy.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) states that, "schools must first determine whether there is a real need for testing." There may not be a need for drug testing at Marion, but I think if schools suspect a problem it should be enforced. I think it would cut down on drug use in athletics if people had a reason to stay clean.

By: Sara McGrew, Editor

The Fourth Amendment to our Constitution sums it up quite nicely.

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

We, as citizens of the United States, have a right to privacy. Therefore, the notion of drug-testing among high school students is absurd. I don't do drugs. I never have, and I never will. But, I do believe that making something legal which violates one of the foundations of our civil rights is outrageous!

Judy Appel, deputy legal director of the Drug Policy Alliance in New York City says this about drug-testing: "It is both foolhardy and dangerous in sending exactly the wrong message to America's children - that they have no right to privacy, and that schools can prioritize the cleanliness of one's urine over academic achievement and participation in student life."

Along with the violation of privacy, what happened to the saying, "Innocent until proven guilty," which most justice systems still hold to. To enforce random drug-testing (thereby invading the privacy of students about whom there is no suspicion of drug use) is to view them as guilty until proven innocent. Nothing justifies the sacrifice of human rights for innocent people.

Random drug testing creates an environment where students cannot trust adults and puts educators and administrators in the position of police officers or disciplinarians, which isn't necessary.

Another thing, if teenagers want to do drugs, they will do it. No matter what. I hate to disappoint all the adults out there, but I'm sorry, drug-testing wouldn't work! There are so many ways of getting around it. Also, there's the excitement of not getting caught because you can beat the system. Frequent drug users will only turn to drugs that are more difficult to test, such as "designer drugs", or they will use masking agents before being tested.

Drug testing cannot reliably detect the use or abuse of alcohol, the drug most frequently abused by teenagers and most commonly involved in teen-drug related deaths.

Here at Marion we haven't been issuing random drug testing, but our school board has been discussing it. Though nothing is certain, I am betting within 10 years, the question will have been decided. Is the violation of your privacy worth it?

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The Vox is a student run newspaper dedicated to informing and entertaining the students of Marion High School since 1934. It is published six times a year by the journalism class at MHS. The staff will report as accurately, fairly, and objectively as possible. All activities will be covered by the staff to the best of their abilities, without showing favoritism to any group.

Letters to the editor will be printed from anyone in the community. However, The Vox retains the right to edit articles without changing the writer's intent. There is a limit of 200 words per article, and all letters must be signed in order for them to be published. The decision to include them rests solely on the staff and advisor. Turn letters into the office or to any staff member.



# Entertainment: Something Old, Something New - Movies, CD's and TV shows you should know about

By: Blake Hacker

## Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King



For the third holiday season in a row, little hobbits and huge battle scenes have returned to theaters. It is the end of the journey to destroy the dreadful ring that has some sort of huge significance and power in Middle Earth. It took me 3 tries to even enter this movie because it was sold out every time. Finally, nearly a week after it was released, I got a ticket 3 hours before show

time, and got to see it. Even when I arrived 25 minutes early, there was a line from the ticket lady to the doors. When we got in, it was insane, the theater filled up in less than 5 minutes. My huge LOTR friend, joined me in the

movie crusade. We got good seats to see the screen, but I was stuck next to the most annoying person in the world. He smelled bad, and throughout the whole movie he was snorting and yelling when Sam would fight the creature guy. Anyways, the

movie was good. It made me happy, kind of lengthy in some parts, but has some great battle scenes, and a good story line. In the end, the ring gets destroyed and all of the main characters live. Before you see this one though, you need to have seen the first two.

## Last Samurai

Tom Cruise is a great actor, we all know that. From

his youth he has shown an amazing, natural talent for acting on the screen. This is



his best movie yet, I loved every second of it. Tom plays a war veteran, who has been haunted by his past wars. He has become an alcoholic, and is hired by the Emperor of Japan to train the Japanese army for battle. He was picked because he is known as a hero in America for his famous battles. When in Japan, he is forced to take his army to fight rebel samurai soldiers. The army is not ready for battle, and Mr. Tom gets captured by the samurai. I really liked this movie, and everybody should see it, now.

## Something's Gotta Give

First of all, I have no idea what the title of this movie means. The movie is backed up by a long list of accomplished actors. To name a few: Jack Nicholson, Diane Keaton, Keanu Reeves,



Something About Mary, are the directors of this conjoined twin comedy. Cher is also in the film, playing herself. Greg and Matt play the brothers, who have been stuck together since birth, so you already know it is going to be funny. Greg is the left brother who wants to become a big Hollywood hot shot actor. Matt plays the right brother, who is a small town type of guy. The two have gotten very used to being stuck together, and can do anything "normal" people can do. All the craziness begins in Hollywood, when Greg convinces Matt to move there. The two meet all kinds of wild people, like Cher. It is a very funny movie, everyone of all ages should see it.



## Osbournes Christmas Special

and Amanda Peet. Jack plays a man named Harry, who has been dating younger women for 40 years. He has never dated a woman over 30. While on a weekend getaway with Peet, Jack has a heart attack and is sent to the hospital. The doctor, Reeves, doesn't allow Jack to leave, but he can stay with Peet's mom, Diane Keaton. Slowly Jack begins to love her and there are love triangles and circles and squares all over town. This movie is more for adults, and has a lot of old person jokes. I did like it, but I would suggest that you wait until the DVD to watch it.

Well folks, just when you thought MTV couldn't make you hate MTV anymore, they have gone and done it. The overly popular Osbourne family, in an obvious ploy for more attention, threw a big Christmas bash at their crib. The party had celebrity guests, including: Carmen Electra, Dave Navarro, and Tracy Morgan. Tracy played the Santa Clause for the evening, which was very funny. Ozzy sang a song with the other MTV reality tool, Jessica Simpson. The whole show wasn't that bad, because of a few people. Triumph the Insult Comic Dog sang a funny song and Adam from the Man Show taught Jack to make cranberry sauce. Bottom line, it was OK, but you shouldn't ever watch it, ever.

## Stuck on You

Funny man Greg Kinnear joins forces, literally, with Matt Damon. The Farrelly Brothers, who have directed such instant classics like: Dumb and Dumber, Shallow Hal, and There's

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# Tobacco Fighter

By: Holly Grieder

Not many students have developed a fixation outside of school. Junior Josh Immerfall has though. For the past three years Josh has been involved with JEL. JEL, which stands for Just Eliminate Lies, is an anti-smoking program for youth in Iowa, which is completely ran by youth. Josh says the program especially tries to expose that although the tobacco companies say in public that they don't market to youth, in a private setting that has been proved untrue.

JEL tries to reach as many people across the state as it can. You have probably seen billboards and commercials sponsored by JEL in past years. Also, JEL has a Summit every summer for the youth involved with the program. It takes place at Iowa State. When talking about what JEL is trying to accomplish this year Josh says, "JEL is trying to gain even more than its existing 7,000 members. Also try to add more diversity into the movement. We also have a goal to get 1,000 kids to attend the Summit this year."

Josh has had a passion for fighting tobacco for quite some time now. He says, "I've always been opposed to smoking because of secondhand smoke." Along with JEL, Josh is involved in Take Charge.

This year Josh is on the Senior



Executive Council of the program. There are thirty-four members that are also on the council with him. They plan the activities for JEL for the entire year. On November 20, the day of The Great American Smoke Out, Josh and the other members of the Senior Executive Council went to Des Moines to fight tobacco. In Des Moines they put sidewalk chalk facts about tobacco on the streets, hung sheets on the highways to promote being tobacco free, and handed out anti-tobacco pamphlets on busy streets.

If other students are interested in getting involved with JEL Josh recommends that you sign up online at [www.JELiowa.org](http://www.JELiowa.org), or attend the summit in July.

# ALL STARS

By: Seth Walters

Matt Wycoff, Brian Ryther, Brett Forkner. Do these names ring a bell? They're names of past All State football winners. This year two more names were added to the list. Brett Blofield and Ben Remington were selected this November. Every year journalists and coaches around the state gather to determine the best of the best.

Brett was selected 1st team All State. He started playing football in 7th grade. "Everything about it was just so fun," Brett continued throughout middle school and high school. Most athletes start lifting the summer after their freshman year. Brett started a year early. This granted him the strength to be one of the greatest linemen the Indians have ever seen. Brett now holds the school record for bench press at a whopping 395 lbs and he plans to make the 400 club by the end of the school year. Brett has played as an offensive and defensive tackle on the varsity team since his sophomore year. "He never gave up a sack," says Coach Perkins. Brett plans to continue playing football in college. "I would love to go on to play in the NFL, who wouldn't? But I won't get my hopes up," says Brett.

Ben Remington was selected 3rd team All State. He also started football in 7th grade. "I loved to watch it

so I figured it would be just as fun to play it." Like Brett, Ben started on the varsity team as a quarterback his sophomore year. Ben holds the 2nd place on two school records. This year he made 15 touchdown passes and he has thrown an amazing 2,887 yards during his 3 years on varsity. Ben plans to continue playing football when he goes to college. "I will probably go to Grinnell or Columbia," says Ben. He then plans to go to med. school and be a doctor.

Ben and Brett have been a very important asset to the varsity team and it will be hard for someone to fill their shoes next year. They both are holding onto a 4.0 and it look like they have a very bright future ahead of them. Coach Perkins would like to add, "They were leaders on the field and are leaders off the field. It was a pleasure to coach two very talented athletes for three amazing years."



All Staters Ben Remington and Brett Blofield.

# SPEECH!

By: Cameron Thomas

This year's speech team consists of ten groups made up of 36 actors and two advisers. The advisers this year are Mr. Wake, directing a One Act, three Ensemble Acting groups, and three Improvisational Acting groups, and our new adviser Mrs. Nekvinda, directing Musical Theatre, Choral Reading, and Readers Theatre.

All 36 students auditioned in late November and practice through January and February. They will perform at WaMaC, January 19, Districts, January 24, and State, February 15. At districts they must receive a division one rating from the one judge to advance to state and at state they must receive recommendation from two of the three judges to advance to All State or recommendation from one judge to receive honorable mention. At All State, the only thing left to do is win the All State banner, the highest honor. The teams are:

Musical Theatre: A selection from "Annie"

Alisabeth Caraway, Amanda VanMeighem, Amanda Kruk, Diana Arnold, Madeline Godar, and Molly Lohr.

Choral Reading: "Alexander and the Horrible, No-Good, Very Bad Day"

Tess Putnam, Sara Beaty, Nicole Ivers, Jodi Moore, Coulter Page, Anna

Hauskins, Cassie Sweeny, Amber Jordan, and Lisa Burns.

Readers Theatre: "All I Needed to Know..."

Anna Lafontant, Katie Lawson, Jen Noe, Nick Walters, Brian Buh, and Jessica Blazek.

One Act: "Couch Potato"  
Cameron Thomas, Jessica Sauer, Josh Immerfall, Jenny Kruk, and Perry Clouse.

Ensemble Acting:  
"The Blue Hour: City Sketches"  
Perry Clous, Laura Stulken, and Heather Rowe

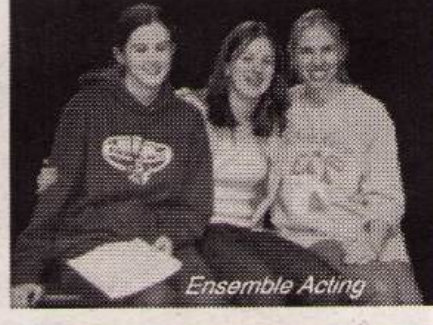
"Don't Rhyme This Time"  
Bethany Godar, Sarah Whited, and Valerie Watt.

"The Woolgatherer?"  
Ben Shinrock and Sarah Young.

Improvisational Acting:  
Group 1: Ben Shinrock, Cameron Thomas, and Jessica Sauer.

Group 2: Brian Buh, Megan Anderson, and Jenny Kruk.

Group 3: Ashley Brown, Jordan Crane, and Nicole Ivers.





## ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS...

By: Ashley Evans

Some people ask for ponies, some ask for ninja turtles, some don't ask for anything, and some just want the joy of the Christmas season upon them. Part of the Christmas season is giving

ing and receiving gifts, but you don't always get what you want. Here's what MHS students asked for:

~Ashley Cory, sophomore: "I'm not getting a lot because I'm getting a car. My birthday is the day before Christmas."

~Allison Lint, freshman: "I'm asking for 'Hello Kitty' stuff, and I think I'm getting a DVD player from my sister."

~Amy Bahl, junior: "I want a DVD player."

~Josh Taylor, junior: "Either a Blazer or a PS2."

~Krisanne Ryther, sophomore: "I know my mom already wrapped the 98 degrees poster, so I'm asking for the 'Best of SClub7' CD."

~Levi Dixon, freshman: "I really want a bass guitar and the movie 'Scarface'."

~John Likens, senior: "I want Ashley Brown, wrapped up in a box, under my tree..."

~K' Lissa Tope, senior: "I usually ask for cds, gift certificates and money."

~Amanda Van Meighem, senior: "I hope I get a purple phone and a puppy."

~Andrew Barnd, junior: "I want world domination."

The same students were asked after the Christmas break to see if their wishes came true:

~Ashley Cory: "I got more than I expected, including my car."

~Allison Lint: "I got TONS

of Hello Kitty stuff and a necklace but I didn't get a DVD player."

~Amy Bahl: "Yeah, I got my DVD player."

~Josh Taylor: "I didn't get either one. I got clothes, DVDs, and gift

~Andrew Barnd: "No, I'm still working on it."

Among the students, the most popular gift was clothes. "I got a parka and it keeps me warm," said sophomore Grayline Ross. Other

gifts were DVD players and DVDs, jewelry, college supplies, car parts, money, gift certificates, computer

games, guitars, CD players, cell phones, Playstation games and Playstation 2s, cameras, tvs and X Boxes. A few unexpected gifts were received too. Senior Amanda Smith said, "I got a rape whistle in my stocking. It even matches my key chain. I also got beef jerky, but my mom said it wasn't meant for me." I guess she'll just have to wait until next year to get the perfect gift. Happy holidays!

certificates."

~Krisanne Ryther: "Not only did I get the SClub7 gold 1997 album, but I also got the full 1st season of the 'Cosby Show' on DVD."

~Levi Dixon: "I got a Playstation 2 instead."

~John Likens: "Christmas morning when I woke up and unwrapped Ashley, it was.....it was marvelous."

~K'Lissa Tope: "I got what I asked for."

~Amanda Van Meighem: "I didn't get either. I got a digital camera and they [Dustin Henderson and Anna Servey] just stole it from me!"



Amanda Smith protects herself from a potential predator. One of her Christmas gifts was a rape whistle, from her parents, to keep her safe.

## FILLING FREE TIME

By: Alyssa Clark and Ashley Cudworth

All year you wait for it, the break of all breaks, two full weeks off of school, and two full weeks to do whatever you want. What more could a high school

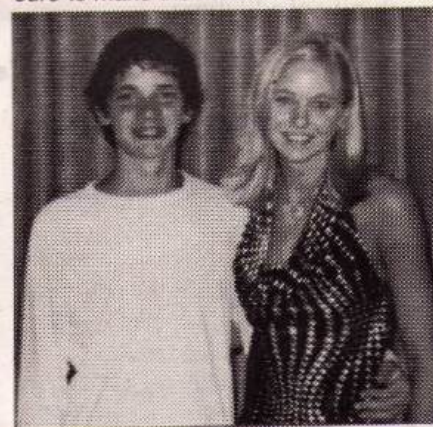
student ask for? Probably not much except for something to fill those two weeks up. Some people were disappointed that we didn't get any snow until the last day of break, but most of them had a good time despite the weather. The unseason-

ably warm weather allowed students to get out of the house and enjoy outdoor activities. If they were not outside taking advantage of the warm weather they might have been hanging out with friends, spending time with

family, shopping, or catching a flick at the local theater. Some of the students left the state over break. Andrew Barnd got laid in Hawaii, and Paige Johnson visited family in Ohio. A few even ventured out of the country, Brock Holub soaked up the sun in Cancun, Mexico, as did Andrew and Sara Reynolds and Zach Labs relaxed in Jamaica. Even some of the staff escaped the Iowa winter. Mrs. Dostal enjoyed the holidays in the warm weather in Tampa, Florida. Mr. Immerfall went to Arizona, and Ms. Braun traveled to the Bahamas.



Students Clancy Quinn, DJ Engle, Nicole Cox, and Blake Hacker frolic in the snow over winter break. Since it didn't snow until the last few days of winter break, students made sure to make the most of it.



Senior Sara Reynolds poses for a picture with her brother, freshman Andrew Reynolds. They vacationed in Mexico over the cold winter break.

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## Exploring New Horizons

By: Andrew Barnd

Imagine the view as you cruise down the timeless Seine river in Paris, with mile after mile of beautiful historic landmarks. Now picture getting off the boat under the shadow of the Eiffel Tower, as its grand magnificence takes your breath away. Unless you've already signed up for the Spring Break 2004 trip to France and Spain, you might not be able to experience these impressive sights. For the 29 MHS students and chaperones who have signed up so far, a memorable trip including countless historic sights and locations is drawing near. The group will leave for their 10 day European adventure on March 18, 2004 led by Ms. Martin and the entire foreign language department. This is the second school sponsored trip Ms. Martin has led in the past year.

The group will leave from Cedar Rapids on Thursday, March 18, and fly overnight, arriving in Paris, France the next day. The first two days in France will be spent exploring the city of lights and all it has to offer. Some of the highlights will be Notre Dame Cathedral, the palace of Versailles, the Champs-Élysées, and of course, an ascent to the top of the Eiffel Tower. Day four will be a Loire Valley guided excursion into the French country side, with stops at Chateau Chambord,

Chartres Cathedral, and Chateau de Chenonceau. The first part of day five will take the group to the Louvre museum, holding some of the world's most important works of art, including the Mona Lisa. The rest of the day will see everybody getting on a Talgo train for an overnight ride which will take them to Madrid, Spain. Students will see some of the rich Spanish heritage with visits to the Prado, Plaza Mayor, Puerta del Sol, and the Royal Palace. A day will also be taken for a short trip to Toledo. There, the group will have a guided excursion, seeing the Church of Santo Tome and St. Mary's Synagogue. On Saturday, March 27, the group will say au revoir and adios to Europe and get on their plane for home.

One of the benefits of going with a group is that many meals will be provided including a full buffet style breakfast and dinner daily. Students and chaperones will be able to enjoy different styles of European cuisine on a daily basis. During several times of the trip, students will get the opportunity to go out and explore the sights and culture for themselves. For the students and the chaperones going on this trip, it should prove to be a opportunity of a lifetime.

## Rollin' in the Dough

By: Alyssa Clark

Could you use a little extra cash, but don't have the time for a year-round job? Maybe you should consider looking into getting a seasonal job. It is a little late to get a holiday job this year, but here are some ideas for a summer seasonal job:

- Detasseling
- Construction
- Ice cream or snow cone place
- Umpiring
- Working in a concession stand



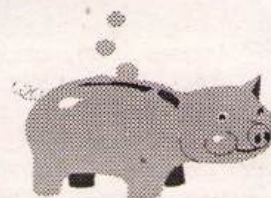
If the summer time is too busy and you're thinking about getting a job next winter, here is some advice from MHS students who had a seasonal job this year.

"Apply for one early if you are looking for money for Christmas." - Hilary Meeks

"It is cool because you aren't reliable after the season is over." - Seth Walters

Looking for a winter seasonal job? Here are some examples:

- \*Snow shoveling
- \*Working at a tree farm
- \*Gift wrapping
- \*Working at a ski resort
- \*Working at a department store



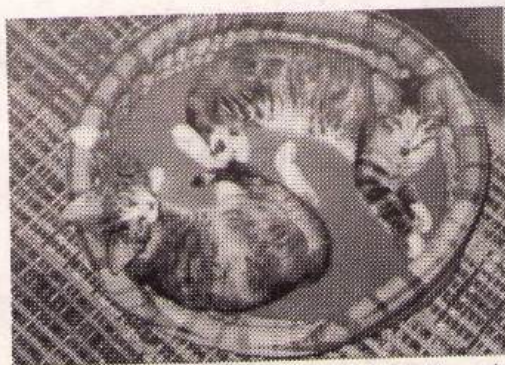
# People and Their Pets

By: Jaimie DeLong

There are many different kinds of pets and along with pets comes pet stores. There are many different kinds of animals available at the different pet stores. It was found that dogs are one of the most popular pets for many people. But aside from dogs there are also cats, birds, spiders, lizards, mice,

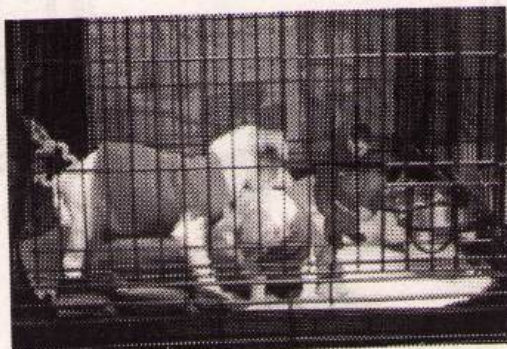
and even horses. Of course you're not going to find a horse in a pet store, but the other animals can be found at your local pet store or breeder.

There are many different pet stores to choose from here in great old Marion. The Pet Stop, across the train tracks, sells all kinds of animals. Along with animals they sell pet food, toys and even clothes at an average price. Petco is another great animal supply store.



"After my first cat died I didn't think that I would ever want another pet but when Miss Humbert and I picked out my two babies I realized how much fun pets can be." says Ms. Martin.

They sell all of your pet needs at a higher price but on the upside of it, you can join the Petco pals club to get discounts on your purchases. My personal favorite, is The Humane Society. The put animals up for adoption that have been saved from broken homes or the streets. You can buy a pet from here for only \$125.00. To some this may seem like a lot, but if you think about it, they spay or neuter them and give them all of these shots. Plus, you can pick from animals of all shapes, sizes, and breeds that are very sweet and lovable.



Two puppies play in their cage at the Pet Stop in Marion. Dogs are the most popular pet in the United States. These two are still waiting for a good home.

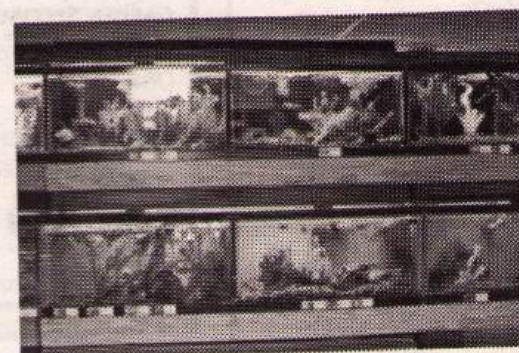


Ms. Jamison feeds one of her two chinchillas. Although they are unusual pets she loves them just the same.

Then there are the people that already have pets and don't need to know about place to find animals. Even though there pets may be unusual or even weird, they are still loved. Many students through the school have pets and absolutely love them. These are some students that were found: Jeremy Allen, a junior, is the proud owner of 20 horses. Trevor Seitz has a Bearded Dragon, a lizard, named Munkiee. I'm sure everyone knows about Miss Jamison and her babies Roo and

Rolly. Her pet chinchillas are her best buds and though they are an unusual pet, she loves them just as though they were humans. Holly Grieder is happy to let everyone know about her beta fish, Larry. I'm sure you're thinking, ok, it's a stupid fish who cares but, this is no ordinary fish. Larry is a jumping fish. Holly holds a piece of food on her finger and he jumps up to retrieve it. Mrs. Martin is probably the biggest animal lover of all though. She has two cats, Scout and Al. She loves them more than anything and if you have ever been in a class with her you ought to know.

So, as you can see People absolutely love their pets and even though they may not be the average cat or dog, all pets are loved.



Fish are low-maintenance pets. When asked about her fish junior Holly Grieder said, "Though he is small, he holds a larger part of my heart."





## Nothing To Do...

By: Ashley Cudworth

All week you anxiously wait for Friday to hear the 2:45 bell that will signal the end of the school day and the start of the weekend. With just over two days of freedom, the last thing you want to do is waste your precious time off. You know that you want to do something fun, but what happens when you can't think of anything that would be worth your time? You call up your friends looking for some suggestions and the only thing you can agree on is that you're all broke, and thus there is nothing to do. So you're sitting at home on Friday night, the clock's ticking, and no one has any good ideas. Living in Marion, Iowa doesn't give you many options for weekend activities, but if you're tired of doing the same thing all the time, maybe this list of suggestions from other Marion High School students will give you something new to try.



"On the weekend I sleep and do a lot of nothing."  
Levi Dixon



"I work on the weekend, it's better than sitting at home."  
Coulter Paige



"I like to go bowling on the weekend."  
Natalie Allen

"I like to spend quality time with my family and make quilts for the homeless."  
Courtney Smith

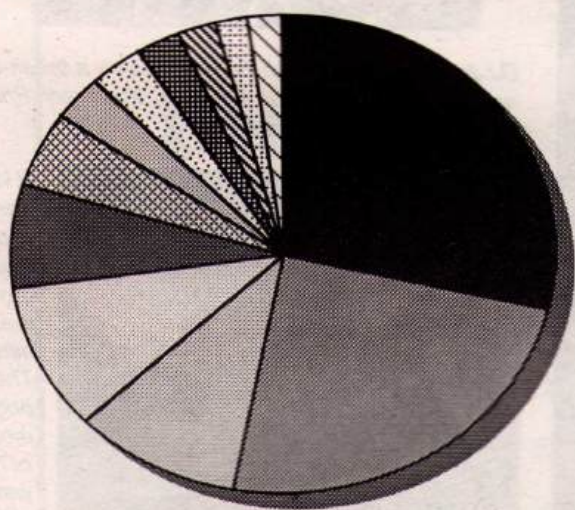


"We go to Barnes and Noble and pretend we can't read."  
Ashley Brown and John Likens



"I like to watch indoor soccer games and try to play the guitar on the weekend."  
Mel Schnieders

- Play Nintendo/other video games
- Watch movies or TV with friends (the more the merrier)
- Go to the mall
- Catch a movie at the cheap theater
- Sleep
- Go ice skating
- Play board games with your friends or family
- Volunteer
- Go TP'ing (just don't get caught)
- Go camping
- Road trips
- Bake cookies
- Hang out with friends
- Listen to music
- Eat fast food
- Play sports (pick-up games or through a league)
- Go to garage sales or thrift shops
- Have a girl's night out
- Have a boy's night out
- Go to sporting events (winter is a great time to go to hockey games)
- Get dressed up and go to a restaurant
- Go bowling
- Go sledding or skiing
- Take a road trip
- Throw a party (just because)
- Go shopping



- Monopoly
- Candy Land
- Clue
- The Game of Life
- Mall Madness
- Sorry
- Trouble
- Hi-Ho Cherrio
- Risk
- Operation
- Twister
- Chutes and Ladders

## Favorite Board Games

By: Kristina McCusker

"Collect \$200.00. You passed Go!" "Welcome to the Game of Life." "Sorry!" "Left hand on green." These are only some of the famous sayings of all the different styles of board games. When we were younger, we would spend many hours playing with friends and family members. Remember those commercials that advertised, "Grab your family, grab a board game, and have a family game night!"

Board games are now becoming more popular kids because of the new technology. The well-known games have moved from old school boards and game pieces to just a computer and a mouse. The computer has made entertainment easier, but the bad part about it, you lose the quality "family time."

After asking the student body which was the result of which board game was their favorite.

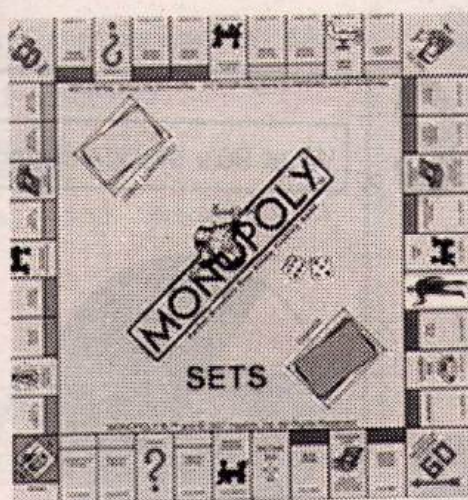
Monopoly	29%
Candy Land	24%
Clue	10%
The Game of Life	10%
Mall Madness	7%
Sorry	5%
Trouble	3%
Hi-Ho Cherrio	3%
Risk	3%
Operation	2%
Twister	2%
Chutes and Ladders	2%

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# WHERE WERE YOU WHEN..?

By: Hilary Meeks and Amanda Smith

Most of the students that attend Marion right now can say that they remember the years before the year 2000. The Nineties were a time when many things were beginning to take off, and little did we know that those things would become what we look back on in high school. You would have never thought that the fashions from back then would actually become popular again, but slowly it's all coming back. Do you remember "Ice Ice Baby" by Vanilla Ice? Oh yeah, don't even act like you didn't like that song. Remember MC Hammer and how it was actually cool to own a pair of parachute pants? The New Kids On The Block were everyone's favorite, and everyone had their favorite group member that you thought was the cutest- Joey, Donnie, Jordan, Johnny, and Danny. Of course, you had to have at least one piece of the many memorabilia that was thrown at you in the stores, whether it be the lunch box, pen and paper set, bed sheets, or notebook.

Another type of music that grew in popularity was hip-hop and what came to be known as, "gangsta rap". There were people that stood out as leaders for this new type of music that is now mainstream. A few examples of them would be: Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, and Easy E, which were part of the group N.W.A. There were other groups that they were rivaling with, such as Public Enemy. These groups took pointers from the first pioneers of the rap and hip-hop era—Run DMC. Although these artists came out in the late 80's, their popularity only grew as we entered the 90's and are still around today setting the tone for rap artists today.

Do you remember what you wore back then? Skin tight stretch or stirrup pants that went with the shirt that you tied on the side? No Fear or L.A. Gear shirts? For girls it was a necessity to have a huge scrunchy in your hair that matched your shirt or a thick cloth headband. Boys would wear shirts that were three times as big as they should have been with a chain attached to their wallet in their back pocket. When winter rolled around how did you keep warm? A Starter pullover jacket, of course.

Popular television shows made breakthrough debuts and became most of our favorites. *Saved By the Bell*, *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, *Full House*, *Boy Meets World*, *Blossom*, *Family Matters*, *Growing Pains*, *Babysitter's Club*, *Sweet Valley High*, *My So-Called Life*, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Power Rangers* and *Step-by-Step* were some of the more popular shows. If you have older siblings you may have even watched *90210*, *Melrose Place* or *Party of Five*. MTV started in the late eighties, but really started to take off in the early nineties. As a music artist you would know that you "hit the big one" when your video aired on MTV. It's amazing to look back on the way TV used to be without all the reality, makeover or dating shows.

The 90's was a great decade that paved the way for the clothes we wear, the movies and shows that we like and the music that we listen to. Those were the things that made up our youth and will never be forgotten. So as you read this article remember what your childhood consisted of and the trends that you followed. Think back on your favorite TV shows and favorite music artist and reminisce about how funny you must have looked with your three times too big shirt or your stirrup pants. Ah yes, the good ol' days..

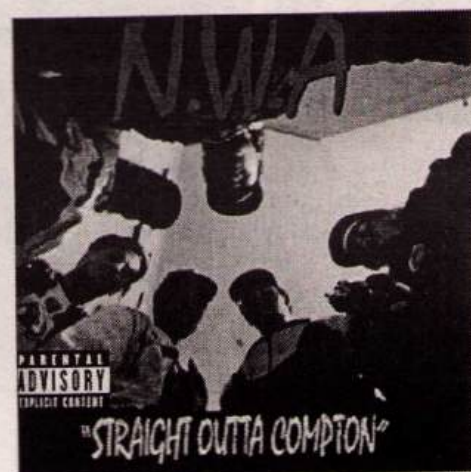


The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles was a popular TV show that produced action figurines, clothes, blankets, and bed sheets. The Ninja Turtles consisted of Michelangelo, Donatello, Raphael, and Leonardo.



DJ Jazzy Jeff and Fresh Prince became a break-out rap duo after the famous TV show, *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* hit the airwaves.

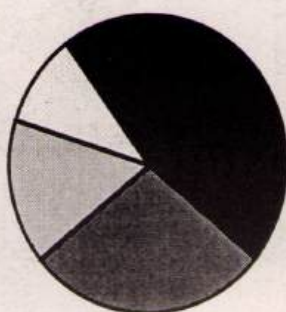
The New Kids On The Block—Jordan Knight, Danny Wood, Donnie Wahlberg, Joey McIntyre and Jon Knight—together this fab five became the most popular group of the early nineties. I'm sure their success was mostly due to their rat-tails and the fact that they would pretend they were moustaches. A couple of their chart toppers included "You Got It (The Right Stuff)," "Hangin' Tough," and "Step by Step."



N.W.A. was a popular music group of the nineties. The original members of N.W.A. were Dr. Dre, Easy E, and Ice Cube.

## We Love The 1990's

What 90's Music Group Do You Want To Make A Comeback?



MC Hammer	36%
New Kids On The Block	28%
Vanilla Ice	16%
Ace Of Base	10%
Fresh Prince	10%



## POPULAR MOVIES OF THE NINETIES

Dances with Wolves-1990	Days of Thunder-1990
The Batman Returns-1992	Aladdin-1992
The Santa Clause-1994	Seven-1995
Robin Hood-1991	Silence of the Lamb-1991
Pretty Woman-1990	City Slickers-1991
Beauty and the Beast-1991	The Fugitive-1993
The Firm-1993	Sleepless in Seattle-1993
Pocahontas-1995	Shawshank Redemption-1994
Jurassic Park-1993	Speed-1994
Forrest Gump-1994	Pulp Fiction-1994
The Lion King-1994	Good Fellas-1994
Home Alone-1990	Clueless-1994
Mrs. Doubtfire-1993	Ghost-1990



Jessie- the intellectual, Slater- the jock, Screech- the nerd, Zack- the blond Tom-Cruise, Kelly- the popular cheerleader, and Lisa- the shopping guru. This group as a whole made up the cast of Saved By The Bell and was part of the reason the show was such a success. Kids could easily identify with at least one of the cast members and the show focused on topics that affected teens.

*Forrest Gump*, which came out in 1994, was a popular movie that starred Tom Hanks. One of the movie's popular lines was "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get." Other popular movies of the time were *Clueless*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, and *The Lion King*.



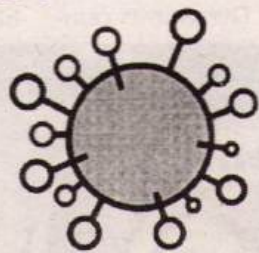
What Saved By The Bell Character Would You Date?



The Cowboys Starter Jacket was the most popular jacket worn by Marion High School students in their childhood days. Students would sport Starter jackets to show what team they favored or if they didn't have a preference, they would wear the team that their friends wore.

## Did You know?

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TOP 20 STARTER  
JACKET TEAMS  
WORN BY MHS  
STUDENTS:

1. Cowboys
2. Bulls
3. Hawkeyes
4. Vikings
5. Packers
6. Dolphins
7. Chiefs
8. Lions
9. 49ers
10. Wolverines
11. Suns
12. Cardinals
13. Eagles
14. Hornets
15. Hurricanes
16. Magic
17. Spurs
18. Tar Heels
19. Raptors
20. Jayhawks



Big colorful scrunchies were very popular among girls in the early nineties. You could find them in a variety of patterns, colors, and textures. "Bigger is Better" always applied in choosing a scrunchy. It was still cool even if the scrunchy didn't match your outfit.





# Come on...

# They're Watching You...

By: Kristina McCusker

"Come on! Everyone is doing it! At least try it." It's the famous saying that many teens hear at least once. But what is the biggest pressure that teens face today? Is it drugs and alcohol? Is it sex? Or is it just peer pressure alone?

After talking with the student body of Marion High School, students commented that their biggest pressure peer to peer, is, "to fit in." Not far behind, sex, drugs and alcohol have tallied up.

These days, characters in movies, books and television shows have portrayed teens as a crowd of popular jocks and cheerleaders, rebellious loners, outcasts, and nerds. To some students, their goal is to become one of the "popular kids." But do we really have to segregate everyone into groups? Do we have to point and say, "Oh, there's the jocks," "There's the cheerleaders," and "Oh, over there, it's the nerds." The real question is, this, however: is the entertainment (movies, music, etc.) industry really putting

that big of an influence on teens today? "The biggest pressure facing students today is growing up too fast (sex, drugs, and all of 'the evils of the world.'). It is okay to encounter them when you are old enough, but bad when you're not mature enough to handle the situation. Media and society aren't just the problem, the problem is growing up too fast," stated Mr. Ferguson.

Surveys have shown that the entertainment industry seems to have one of the biggest effects on teenagers today. Movies have shown people changing themselves into perfect beings so that they will have the chance at popularity. These fairy tale endings have made some teenagers believe that they, too, can make a drastic change if they get the chance.

Even the music industry is a big influence. Some music and music videos have lyrics and elements of how popularity affects teens, such as "I'm Popular" by Nada Surf, which is about how the captain of the football team is the school role model and sex symbol.

Some lyrics talk

about drinking, smoking, sex, etc. It's easy to see why many adults take a point to tell their kids what kind of music they can and can't listen to. But is that right? Do you think parents should tell their kids to listen to the certain kind of music? In my opinion, no. Kids today are going to be the "rebels" that they are and go against their parents judgement. Students these days are faced with many different pressures coming from all sides. Parents, teachers, the media and society have all claimed a part of the teenager's life. From cleaning their room, to doing the dishes, to becoming the best student they could be in school, teens sometimes have trouble with the reality of growing up.



By: Holly Grieder

Everyone has probably taken notice of the new security cameras on school grounds. A lot of students could be also wondering what they are here for. Well, contrary to popular belief they are not to catch underclassmen going out to lunch...yet. The new security cameras are placed so the administration can view most of the parking lot. There are two actually in the lot, and two inside the building. Of the cameras inside the building, one is placed by the north main entrance, and the second is placed by the south lot.

When Dr. Thomas was asked about the new purchase he said they were only for security purposes, and to protect school property and student's cars. The cameras for now will not be used to catch underclassmen going out to lunch unless that becomes a problem.

The security cam-

eras would have come in helpful when sophomore Krisanne Ryther's car was maliciously vandalized this school year. One night when she was coming out of practice she noticed something on her car but didn't think much of it because it was dark and she

It turns out that while her car was in Marion High School's parking lot someone had defecated on her car. "I had to scrape it off that night, it was really gross," she said. Junior Matt Horine's car was vandalized during his freshman year. Someone keyed

his Audi while he was in school. Matt says, "I wish the school would have had the security cam-



This is the security equipment located in Dr. Thomas's office. The equipment shows the parking lot and different places of the school.

couldn't see very well. At a light she noticed it was a brown, and when she got home she smelled it just to check to be sure.



This is the security camera that focuses on the main entrance of the high school. Cameras are a new addition to our school security.

eras then because then at least I could know who did it."

Another serious incident was last year when Ashley Spear got her tires slashed while she was away at the State Choir/Band

Contest. The now senior remembers being devastated and infuriated that someone did that. The good thing is the authorities investigated and the perpetrator was caught.

The cameras won't necessarily stop people from vandalizing other students' property, but at least they might make the offenders think twice. If nothing else at least we will now be able to identify students who vandalize other's property, and the offenders can also suffer the repercussions.

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1st Team All-State Basketball, 97-98, 98-99  
Collison All-American, 98  
Member of Longview State Championship Team, 98-99, 99-00  
Business University  
Associated Press First Team All-American, 02-03  
All Big 12 Academic All-Star, 00-01, 01-02, 02-03  
First Team Academic All-American, 02-03  
First Round Draft Choice for Seattle SuperSonics, 03  
Communication Studies Degree, 03

**Kirk Hinrich**  
Sioux City, West High School  
Jordan Spang Award for Citizenship, 99  
1st Team All-State Basketball, 97-98, 98-99  
Collison All-American, 99  
Member of State Championship Team, 99  
Kean University  
Associated Press Third Team All-American, 02-03  
2nd Round Draft Choice for Chicago Bulls, 03  
Communication Studies Degree, 03

**Kyle Kerver**  
Pella High School  
Northeast Hoops Society, 98-99  
1st Team All-State Basketball, 98-99  
Member of Three State Basketball Tournament Team, 97-98, 98-99  
Tennis, 97-98, 98-99, 99-00  
Crestview University  
Associated Press Second Team All-American, 02-03  
First Round Draft Choice for New Jersey Nets, 03  
Visual Communications Degree, 03

IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION AND ITS CORPORATE PARTNER IOWA FARM BUREAU



## Would You Like Fries With That?

By: Clancy Quinn and DJ Engle

Are you ever in a hurry and need a cheap meal? There are a lot of places you can go, but some are better than others. The things you look for are how fast you get the meal, the nutritional value and the location of the restaurant. "I think the most popular place to get a quick bite to eat is McDonald's, where they have double cheeses in the Dollar Menu," said senior Dane Anderson. Not only

are they cheap, but also they are quick and easy to get. The only downside is the nutritional value.....

Other things on the dollar menu include McChickens,

Value sized fries, apple pies, and sundaes. Another popular place to eat is Wendy's. Even though it's a lot further than other places, the food is worth it. The variety of different value meals makes Wendy's popular with a lot of students. They have anything from a regular hamburger to baked potatoes or chili. One of the bad things about Wendy's is the fatty food. A lot of the food is high in saturated fat and calories, but if you're

looking for something healthy, you can always try one of the many salads.

If you want to get away from all that grease and fat in fast food, a good place to go is Subway. "Not only are the sandwiches healthy but taste great too," says sophomore Bailey Schindler. Most of the Subway sandwiches come under 6 grams of saturated fat compared to over 30 in most fast foods hamburgers. Another posi-

tive about Subway is its location relative to the school. It's really close and the students of MHS have easy access to it.

Burgers and fries may get a little old, so a good place to go is KFC. It may be

famous for their Kentucky Fried Chicken but there are many different things on the menu. If all you want is a quick piece of chicken or a whole value meal, which comes with mashed potatoes or potatoes wedges and a drink, then KFC is a place for you.

If you don't feel like cooking something yourself and are really hungry, then you can go to one of these places for a quick, easy, and



## Back in Action

By: DJ Engle

Have you ever wanted to go to a movie but can't afford the \$7.50 that the Carmike Cinemas charge to view the movie? Well then, you're in luck. The Collins Road theatre charges \$3.00 for matinees, \$3.00 for children, and \$4.00 for adults. The only problem is that the movies are second run. "I think that the price is well worth the wait to see a movie because it is so cheap and the movies are really good," said Ashley Berry, a frequent movie goer.

The first movies to come out were "School of Rock," "Seabiscuit" "Radio" and "Second Hand Lions." Some special features that Collins Road offers is that the pop are Pepsi products instead of Coke products. If you're not in the mood to have a pop, then don't worry, the theatre also has

a cappuccino and coffee machine. In addition, they are showing independent movies which might not

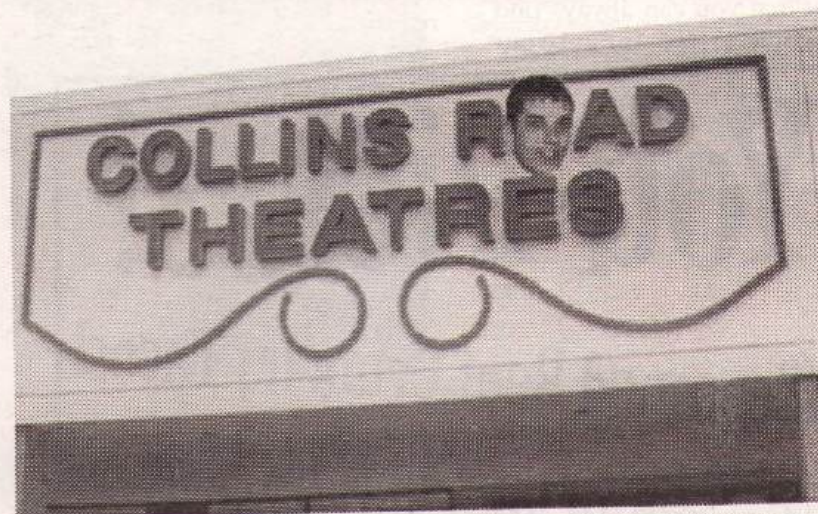
otherwise be shown in Cedar Rapids. They also try to show a closed-captioned movie once a week for the hearing-impaired.

The whole place is renovated so everything is new. The seats have cup holders so you won't ever spill your drink again. All the seats are brand new. The walls have famous movie stars on it and every week you get to vote on who you want on the walls. There is also a butter dispenser so you can put your own butter on your popcorn. "One of my favorite things about the whole theater is that I can douse my popcorn in all the butter I want. It also makes cool noise when you press the button," states senior Ashley Berry.

So if you're ever in the mood to see a movie and you've got a few bucks, then go to Collins Road and watch a movie.



At the new Collins Road Theatre they have all brand things. The carpet has pictures of pop and popcorn.



The new Collins Road Theatre is located on Collins Road, Cedar Rapids. The new theatre is second run

and the movies cost \$3.00 for matinees and \$4.00 for regular.



Collins Road Theatre has many special features and this is one of them. Now you can dispense your own butter on your popcorn, so you can give yourself a lot or none at all.



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# 12 Senior Interviews

# THE VOX

January 15, 2004



Name: Amanda Van Meighem

Activity: Basketball cheerleading  
Other activities: Volleyball, track, wrestling

man-ager, choir, chamber choir, S.O.D.A., thespians, musical, spring play, competitive speech, take charge, CHAMPS, volunteering

Season highlight: Seeing Sara every day and the talks about boys with Ashley, Ashleigh, and Paige.

What do you like the most about your activity?: The skirt and the teamwork. It takes a lot of teamwork for stunting and when we all work together, the greatest stunts go up and great things are accomplished.

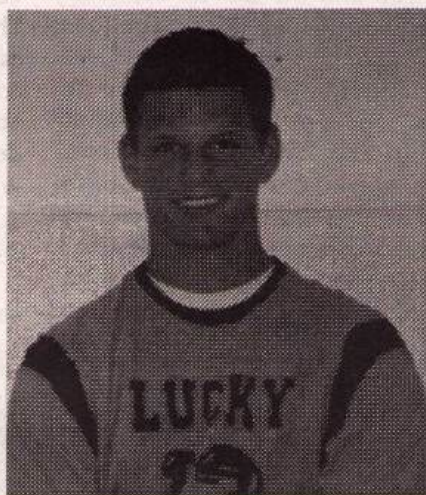
Best high school memory?: State track in Des Moines junior year when we went out for our team dinner. There were crazy statues everywhere and we all had fun taking pictures with them all over the restaurant. And some how we ended up with a huge spoon.

What will you miss the most about Marion?: The people, everyone's very hospitable and nice compared to other places. It's nice to know that you can always find sweet people in and around your

school.

Future plans: To attend Iowa State University and major in animal ecology and pre-veterinary medicine.

Favorite quote or some advice to leave to the class of 2004: "Every morning in Africa a gazelle wakes up. It knows it must move faster than the lion or it will not survive. Every morning a lion wakes up and knows it must move faster than the slowest gazelle or it will starve. It doesn't matter if you are the lion or the gazelle, but when the sun comes up, you better be moving."



Name: Brock Holub

Activity: Bowling

Other activities: Football, baseball, journalism

Season

highlight: Averaging 226 against Oelwein

What do you like most about your activity?: It seems so easy but it is ac-

tually a big challenge.

Best high school memory: Beating Western Dubuque in the Homecoming game my sophomore year.

What will you miss the most about Marion?: Seeing all my friends and teachers everyday that I won't see anymore.

Future plans: Hopefully own my own concrete company.

Favorite quote or some advice to leave to the class of 2004: You're only young once, live life to the fullest, do your best, and have fun.



Name: Cameron Thomas

Activity: Concert band, choir, speech

Other activities: S.O.D.A., Marching band, musical, creative ink, journalism, thespians, spring play, pep band, chamber choir.

Season highlight: speech...

What do you like most about your activity?: I do improv and not knowing

what you're going to do until you perform is a real thrill.

Best high school memory: Pippin

What will you miss the most about Marion?: Singing, honor bands, Alisabeth, and the sound and light booth.

Future plans: Go to Kirkwood and do photography and theater.

Favorite quote or some advice to leave to the class of 2004: Don't wear a meat-hat while swimming with sharks and never fry bacon naked.



Name: Ashley Spear

Activity: Bowling

Other activities: Volleyball, tennis, softball, band

Season highlight: When I threw the ball about 10 ft. into the air and I was really scared because I thought it'd put a hole in the floor, but it just made a really loud bang. My face turned bright red and everybody laughed, some people gasped.

What do you like most about your activity?: I get to go bowling for free every week. Bowling is fun. "That's what happens when you're on the bowling team."-Jenny Fager

Best high school memory: When we went to San Antonio with the band and K'lissa, Nicole, Time and me got stuck on the upside-down roller coaster and did the "retard way." K'lissa had to remind me to "keep my head erect" because it was my first time on an upside-down roller coaster and I was kind of frightened.

What will you miss the most about Marion?: The food because it's the only meal I eat that isn't cereal (I love cereal). I'll probably miss my friends too.

Future plans: Go to a private 4 year college and major in Biology. Then go to grad school and become a marine biologist. Then I will move to Florida and get a tan while training some dolphins.

Favorite quote or some advice to leave to the class of 2004: "Only remember the good things in life."-my 106 year-old great-great aunt (she's still alive.)

Name: Perry Clouse

Activity: Speech/Journalism

Other activities: Spring play, fall musical, creative ink, thespians, choir, chamber choir, jazz choir.

Season highlight: Speech with

ing.

Best high school memory: My senior year homecoming and having an awesome girlfriend.

What will you miss the most about Marion?: I will miss how simple life is at MHS and many of the great teachers I've had



hopes of going on to All-State. I really enjoy being the "faces" editor in journalism.

What do you like most about your activity?: Journalism helps me be more creative and work on my social skills. Speech is a great way to get with others and another way of act-

a chance to work with.

Future plans: Attend a 2 year college, move on to a four year college and then pursue a career in acting.

Favorite quote or some advice to leave to the class of 2004: Don't get a job, don't worry about the future, and stay young as long as you can.

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Name: Chas Raeside  
Activity: Basketball  
Other activities: Track/ drummer  
Season highlight: District champs sophomore year.

What do you like most about your activity?: Winning

Best high school memory: None

What will you miss the most about Marion?: Taking no more than two classes every term because I'm homeschooled.

Future plans: Study to become a pastor

Favorite quote or some advice to leave to the class of 2004: "Discipline yourself and others won't need to." - John Wooden



gotta make weight!" But most of all I'm going to miss Ehresman, that man is flippin' awesome.

Future plans: Attend the University of Southwestern Cedar Rapids ( Kirkwood ) for two years for Automotive Technology, transfer to a respectable four- year college for political science and sociology majors, become a Republican senator in 2010, build up credibility in the public eyes for 12 years, and finally run for President of the United States of America and lead this country through 8 wonderful years of peacetime with robust economic activity, after which I will retire into a life of solitude filled with meditation, prayer, and Easy-Bake ovens.

Favorite quote or some advice to leave to the class of 2004: Be as loud, obnoxious, and as stupid as possible. Teachers love it.

Name: Zach Labs  
Activity: Concert band

Other activities: Marching band, cross country, track, investing in stocks, member of the NRA, wallowing in my self-pity, etc.

Season highlight: Band doesn't have a season, so I'm going to mention something totally unrelated: I don't like refried beans.

What do you like most about your activity?: It's fun. We get to play with knives. No, I'm just kidding, I like playing music. Also, sometimes you can leave and Bobe doesn't notice for several days, and by then I'm in Cozumel running an underground hamster ( yes with the letter p ), fighting society, making millions and freeing hundreds of slave hamsters from their teenage masters.

Best high school memory: Several things, first of all, when I was in Mrs. Wikert's class my freshman year, when she was turned around, I took the screen off the window frame and threw it out the window, along with several textbooks. ( Don't worry, she got them back, but I think she still doesn't know it was me. ) Also, on our freshman band trip, Seth and I bought road flares at a gas station, and the bus driver wouldn't leave until they found who bought them.

What will you miss the most about Marion?: Almost every thing: the limited parking, the angry band parents, the wrestlers chanting "Can't eat,



## Getting Out

By: Hilary Meeks

With all of the choices that you have to make when you become a senior one of them might be if you want to graduate early. Everyone has the option of graduating early if they meet the basic requirements to graduate. What are the requirements that you have to have to graduate? Everyone has to have at least 28 credits total, 14 will be for the required core classes and 14 have to be electives, such as foreign language, band, journalism.

Having this program is an option for those students who have plan on graduating, but don't wish to go the whole year, because other plans like military or work. This option may create a motivation to do well in your classes and to make sure that you pass them so that you can get the credit to graduate early. It may teach students some lessons, because they could learn how to manage their schedule and to be responsible. Another reason that students may want to graduate early could be that they are ready to move on and get right to work or college. They may also feel that they have surpassed the maturity level that they see in the halls everyday.

Although every student has the option available to them, many students do not take advantage of it. There are also reasons why students would not want to graduate early it might be because of the activities that they are involved in or because of the post secondary program that Marion has available, they want to take advantage of taking college classes that the school will pay for.

There are six people who will be graduating early at the end of second term. They are:

Valerie Ellison, Melissa Albee, Lydia Chadek, Cari Laue, Holly

Swierk, Mike Finch. In addition to those graduating at the end of the second term there are five graduating at the end of third term, they include: Ashley Smith, Macey Cuhel, Trisha Fortner, Sheila Lehrman, and Heather Ottaway.

"I think that it is a great opportunity for a certain segment of our population. It gives students the opportunity to still get their diploma even when a school isn't their favorite." -Mr. Bailey

### EARLY GRADUATES:

1. CARI LAUE- is going to graduate early, to join the Marines, at the end of the second semester. Cari is going to be shipped out on January 15th and will start her basic training on the 20th. She will be in basic training for 12 weeks.

"I wanted to join the Marines because I wanted to do something."

1. VALERIE ELLISON- is going to graduate at the end of second semester. She will take classes next fall at Kirkwood and be taking her general education classes. Before she starts school next fall she will be working full time. "I made the decision to graduate early because school has never been my favorite thing. I get to my 'life after school' sooner."

2. MELLISSA ALBEE- is graduating at the end of the second semester. "I am graduating early because high school is stressful, no matter what anybody says." She is planning on working two jobs until the fall when she will start classes at Kirkwood. She is planning on getting her degree in interior design then transferring to a design institute in Chicago to get her Bachelor's Degree in interior design.





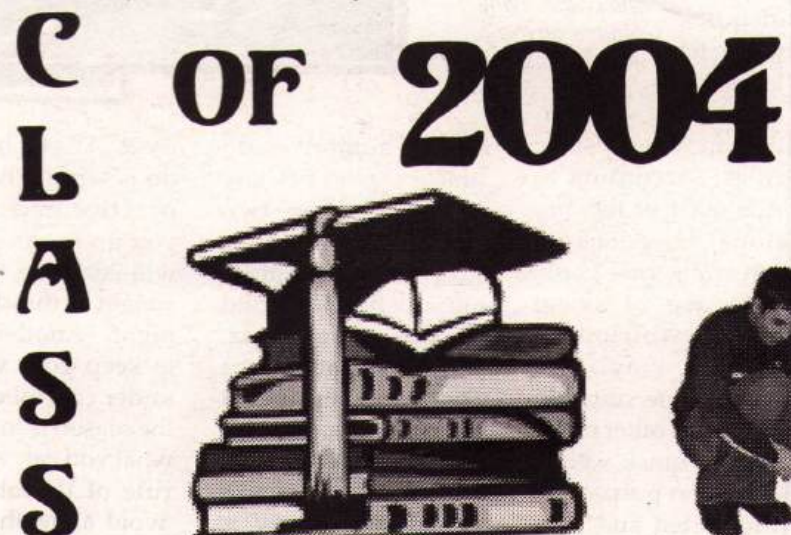

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## Working Their Way to Success

By: Clancy Quinn

For the past few weeks, the varsity boy's basketball team has been improving their game. The WaMaC conference is now going to be one of the toughest conferences in the state, therefore all of the hardwork put in should payoff in the end.

The Indians started off the season showing everybody just how hard they can work. Even though losing a lot of key players from last year, the four captains: Ben Remington, DJ Engle, Curt Hansen and Chas Raeside, are working hard behind the scenes to keep the team on track. The team is a scrappy playing team

that never gives up until that final buzzer sounds. This season's record does not show the true character of the team, but the captains and the rest of the team

had the hot hand in the Anamosa game dropping in 11 points, including two three pointers. Raeside is the high scorer

the season has just started, and there are many more games to prove what a great

will be in for a real treat the second part of the season.

The sopho-

have at least one selfish player that has to get his shots, but with the sophomore team, that doesn't happen. This is the key element in the success, being unselfish with the ball and just playing hard. Another thing that has helped the team this season is how long they have been playing together. They have all been playing together since 6th grade. Even with the loss of sophomore Ben Messerli to varsity, the team hasn't looked back and has shown that they are just as good on their own. With wins over Anamosa, Linn Mar, Western Dubuque and Beckmen, the sophomores have proven they are the team to beat this year.

Members of the boys basketball team listen to Coach Laube explain a play during a timeout. Laube has been involved with the varsity program now for four years.



Curt Hansen looks up to his team members during a varsity basketball game. Hansen is one of the four varsity captains.



Senior Chas Raeside dribbles around the opponent towards the basket. This is Raeside's third year on the varsity team.

will never give up. The first couple of games the Indians were led by two of their captains, Raeside and Engle. Engle

for the Indians with a 23 point performance in their win over Dyersville Beckmen. The team isn't worried because

team they really are. With captains keeping the team together and keeping them working hard every second, you

more boys, with their never say die attitude and unselfish style of play, have gotten off to a 5-0 start. Most teams

## Losing Weight .. Is It Safe or Not?

By: Andrew Barnd

Not eating. Not drinking. Using diuretics and laxatives. Using sweat boxes and whirlpools. What do these practices all have in common? These have all been used at one time or another to lose weight in wrestling. In this sport, making weight is a big factor for all those who participate in it. In order to compete at meets, wrestlers must weigh at or less than a certain amount according to their weight class. As for the methods of quick weight loss listed above,

they are all against the rules. According to rule 4-4-4 of the National High School Wrestling rule book, "the use of sweat boxes, whirlpools, rubber, vinyl, and plastic type suits, diuretics; or other methods for quick weight reduction purposes is prohibited and shall

disqualify the individual from competition." This national rule has been in effect for over two decades now, and has been a rule in Iowa for much longer. This ban on unsafe weight loss was put in place with the safety of all student athletes in mind. According to

lose weight, you may be wondering, what are good methods for safe weight loss? For juniors Jon Trumpold and Kody Blazek, they use a method called drifting weight. It is a safe and natural way to lose a few extra pounds before a

ing carbohydrates and calories.

Even if you are losing weight safely, you may not want to lose as much as you possibly can. The American College of Sports Medicine suggests that males over the age of 16 with less

than 5% body fat should not be allowed to compete in an athletic event unless they are cleared by a doctor. This is because in males, more than 5% body fat is needed for normal physiological functioning. Here at Marion, all wres-

tlers are tested for body fat before the season even begins. This tells them how much weight they can safely drop to be able to wrestle at their desired weight.

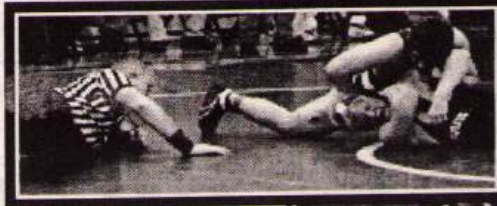


Coach Weisinger gives Austin Conway a little preptalk before his match. The wrestling team has had a good start to their season.

Junior wrestlers Kody Blazek and Jon Trumpold watch what they eat during the Holiday Dinner. Keeping weight is a top priority for all wrestlers.



Senior Danny Rhodes takes on an opponent as the referee watches. Rhodes is one of the many seniors on the wrestling team.



medical authorities, an athlete should not lose any more than two pounds a week. Much more than this will result in dehydration and muscle tissue loss. Someone who uses a plastic suit in a sweat box can lose up to several pounds at a time.

So now you know all of the wrong ways to

meet. All you have to do is wrestle hard in practice and when you go to sleep, you will continue to lose weight all through the night. Another way to keep your weight under control during the season is to watch what you eat. A good rule of thumb is to avoid altogether eat-

## BOWLING FOR A WIN

By: Brock Holub

The boy's bowling season has rolled off and is under way. Marion has opened up pretty strong and is 2-1 on the year with the only loss coming from Oelwein. The match was very close and came down to the last game.

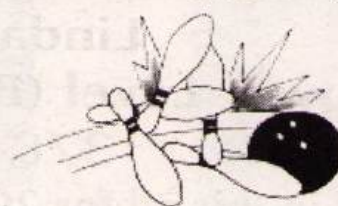
Marion beat conference rivals Waterloo Columbus at Maple Lanes in Waterloo. The guys also went on to win their first tournament which was open to all district teams proving that Marion is one of the best teams in the state. There are only six weeks left of the season and there are high hopes for the whole team. All sights are on the state tournament in Des Moines.



Members of the boy's bowling team sit and watch on during one of their bowling matches. This is the third bowling season at Marion High School.



Senior Brock Holub approaches the lane as he prepares to bowl his turn. This is Holub's third year on the bowling team.





# GIRLS BASKETBALL SURVIVES

By: Alyx Miskell

**Survivor:** to carry on despite hardships or trauma; persevere. This definition describes one lady in our school; her name is Ms. Gaffney Paige.

On March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003, she was diagnosed with Lobular Carcinoma. This means that she had a tumor with cancer cells in her right breast. Family and friends were very supportive during this time. The only things that she didn't understand about the situation was that she not over weight, exercised frequently, and it showed up negative on her mammogram, and it was not in her family history. After finding out the news she was faced with two decisions, she could have a mastectomy or lumpectomy.

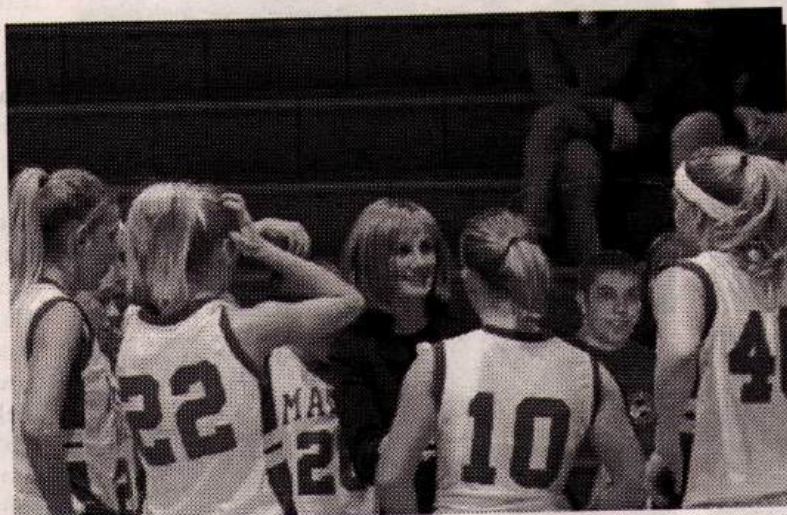
On April 1<sup>st</sup> she went into surgery for a lumpectomy. Later, on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, she found out that the cancer cells had not spread. Following her surgery she had seven tubes attached under her arm for five weeks. This was so the lymph node fluid could drain and not build up. The next step of re-

covery was going through four amounts of chemotherapy, for three hours each time. During this time they put drugs through the IV's to kill cancer cells left in her body (if any). There are many side effects for chemotherapy; they will kill cancer cells and your

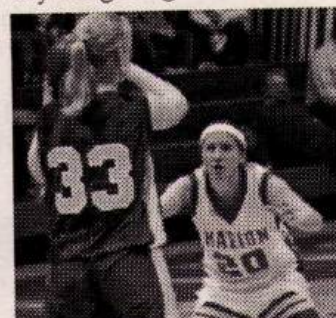
healthy cells. Also, you may have hair loss. Along with chemotherapy she also had six weeks of radiation. This was when laser rays are shot at the spot where cancer was found. Some side effects of radiation are: skin can get burned, you're in pain, and you sleep for long amounts of time.

Ms. Gaffney-Paige's advice to anyone with obstacles in their path is to fight no matter what, never give up, don't pity yourself, or feel sorry for yourself, just believe in your heart that everything will be ok. To-

day, she feels fortunate that she got a second chance. Be happy that you get to do everything in life, don't take anything for granted.



Coach Gaffney-Paige motivates her players during a home time-out.



Whitney Perkins closely guards her opponent from Dyersville-Beckman.

## Making Improvements

By: Jenny Fager

A big change has taken place in girls bowling this year. The number of girls who came out has almost tripled, and there are enough girls to fill a varsity and JV team. After having a strong boys team for the last couple of years, the girls are working hard to prove themselves. Returning bowler Ashley Spear says, "I like to bowl a lot. We're doing better, and working towards our goal."

With the season almost half over, the girls haven't had the best record, but they are continuing to improve their scores as individuals, and as a team. The girls have had some tough losses against Waterloo Columbus and Oelwein, they are looking closely at their mistakes. The girls ultimate goal would be to go to state, but if they want a chance, they need to step it up and keep making improvements.

## New Spirit

By: Nicole Cox

With the seasons changing and the tempera-

In eighth grade, Coach Jamison's cheer-leading career

began. Her friends forced her to tryout for the basketball cheer-leading squad. She ended up loving it and continued cheer-ing



Varsity winter cheerleaders pull off a stunt called diamond head at an away basketball game.

tures dropping, winter sports are arriving quickly, one of them being winter cheerleading. This season will end up being different due to last year's assistant coach recently having a baby. The squads will experience a new coach, Ms. Jamison, who was new to the district last year.

Coach Jamison started at Marion teaching math but felt she needed to be more involved with the students. The position for assistant basketball cheerleading coach opened, and she willingly took the opportunity.

throughout high school.

Coach Jamison feels she has a lot to offer to the squads. She hasn't been out of the sport for that long, so she is up to date with cheerleading these days. While cheering, she also learned every position of stunting: basing, spotting, and flying which will be a great advantage to the teams.

For this season, Coach Jamison's goal is for everyone to have a great time, and she is also hoping for no injuries.

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## A Feast Fit for a King

By: Nicole Cox

It's Christmastime once again. Snow is in the air, lights are all around, Christmas tunes are coming from every corner, and the best thing of all: scrumptious food.

At school, no one really thinks of the food as scrumptious. It's more like a form of survival until the school day is over. But one day a year, the students and teachers have something great to look forward to: the Holiday Dinner. It's the best and biggest meal with lunch lines extending through the hallways. There is also an additional twenty minutes to devour the tasty treats.

To most students and teachers, Wednesday, December 8 seemed like a normal day. Nothing out of the ordinary besides the big lunch. But it was different for some of the staff here at MHS: the cooks.

The food service ladies began planning the Holiday Dinner long before the actual day. They first ordered all the food the last week in November. They also made the stuffing on the previous day. When Wednesday rolled around, they were finally ready.

The cooks had an early start to their day. 4:30 a.m. to be exact. They had a lot to get through. Since all the food was made by them, it took a lot of time; they just started making the gravy at 11:00 leaving only 10 minutes for all the work to be done. The cooks all agreed this hard work was all worth it.

Students soon lined up for turkey, ham, potatoes, green bean casserole, stuffing, rolls, marshmallow salad,

Many students wait in line to get their meals. The line moves slower than normal because the food is self-serve.



After going through the line, students work to find a spot to sit at the neatly decorated tables.

During the Holiday Dinner, Dr. Thomas serves turkey to Melisa Schmidt. Mr. Ehresman served the ham.



Students fill their plates with traditional holiday foods. They look forward to this meal the whole year.



Mr. Wikert, Mr. Fontenot, and Mr. Weisinger enjoy a meal with a Marion police officer. Each year, different members from the community are asked to join the students and staff for the meal.



One fun part of the Holiday Dinner is the principals serving the food to the students and staff. Mr. Ehresman cuts a slice of ham for sophomore Kailee Jordan.

Another unique feature about the Holiday Dinner was the cantorei choir (all girls) singing for everyone during the meal. They sang beautifully, and the performance was a great success. One song was "When I Am Silent" which included solos from Amanda Van Meighem, Hillary Youngman, Sarah Young, Jaimie DeLong, and Jena Hugg. The mixed choir was supposed to sing, but there were a few technical difficulties. There were also a few Christmas songs sung including Silent Night and Let It Snow by soloists Danny Hocken, Alisabeth Caraway, and Amanda Van Meighem.

So with our stomachs full and satisfied, we'll have to wait around for the Holiday Dinner to return next year once again.

## Fa-la-la...

By: Perry Clouse

Many things come to mind when people think about the winter holidays: the beautiful snow covered landscapes, the delicious holiday dinners, and the wonderous display of multi-colored lights everywhere in town. Al-



The mixed choir sings "Arise Your Light Has Come" as the opener for their portion of the winter concert.

though these icons all help people get into the mood of the season, there is one element that would even melt ice off the most stubborn of Scrooges. That element is the music.

To break everyone into the holiday spirit, the Marion High School music department came together once again for their annual holiday concert. The concert took place on December 15 in the red gymnasium. Those who arrived early were treated to the sounds of the Marion/Cedar Rapids chapter of "Merry Tuba Christmas," and were allowed to freely roam the cafeteria to see the many student art ex-

hibits. Before the concert, Chad Turner, Seth Walters, and Zach Labs humorously requested that all cell phones be turned off, by means of a comedy sketch. After the laughter in the gym ceased, all attention was given to the women's choir, cantorei, as they started the show. The performance included the pieces "Let the Earth Resound", "Pachelbel's Canon of Peace", and "Gaudete! Gaudete!". Soloists for "When I Am Silent" were Amanda Van Meighem, Hillary Youngman, Sarah Young, Jamie DeLong, and Jena Hugg. The bell accompaniment for "Ding Dong Merrily

The band begins to play "Declaration, Ballade, and Finale". "Patapan" and "Imani" were played too.



On High," was provided by freshman Nachelle Duecker and junior Megan Anderson.



Senior Nathan Barkley assists the band by playing the French horn.

Following this, the mixed concert choir took to the stage with "Arise Your Light Has Come" (bell music

was performed by Ben Shinrock, Jenny Kruk, Jarret Hugg, and Ben Koppedryer), "Agnus Dei" (soloists Cameron Thomas, Bethany Godar, Danny Hocken, and Lindsey Reinhardt.), "The Water Is Wide", and "Rise Up Shepard."

After both choirs were finished with their performances, Marion alumni were invited to join the two choirs in a special performance of "Carol of the Bells". Finally, after all was sung and done, Mrs. Freese turned the concert over into Mr. Bobe's hands.

The band played

"Declaration, Ballade and Finale", "Patapan", and "Imani," a Kwanza piece with vocal chanting of the entire band. Following all the scheduled songs, the band and choir invited everyone in the audience to join them in singing a few Christmas carols to fill the entire gym with a little Christmas cheer.



The cantorei (all-girls) choir started off their show with "Let the Earth Resound". Their selection also included "Pachelbel's Canon of Peace" and "Gaudete! Gaudete."