

# The Vox

Volume LVIV  
Issue #4  
February 28, 2007

Marion High School



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Top ten worst pick  
up lines  
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## Comparison

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# A penny for education

Recently in Linn and Johnson Counties there was debating over an issue that will greatly impact everyone, including us as high school students. The debate was about whether to raise the sales income tax from 5 to 6 percent. The issue was sent to the polls on February 13th and resulted in a yes by a 58 percent in Linn county and 67 percent in Johnson county. This means starting on July 1st, we will be charged 6 percent on any taxable purchases. The money earned will go directly to Marion High School and other area schools.

Due to an incentive that was given to help raise the amount of votes, Linn and

Johnson county schools will get all of the money from the new 6 percent sales tax for the first half of its ten-year run. Schools that will benefit

## Marion High School will be receiving around \$18 million.

include Marion, and many others such as Linn-Mar and Mt. Vernon. According to *The Gazette*, the amount of money each school will earn ranges from \$129.5 million to \$1.4 million depending on the size of the school. The money received from the sales tax will impact each school differently. Some schools will

be using the money to buy land for new buildings, such as College Community, while other schools plan on using the money to help catch up on technology, such as the Cedar Rapids schools.

More specifically, Marion High School will be receiving around \$18 million. Marion looks to use about \$5 million for property tax relief, about \$11 million for things that deal with the power and water supplies, and about \$2 million for technology. That is \$18 million that will be positively affecting our school. Not only will the money impact students' lives, but also by using money for property tax relief, it will have a positive impact

on local homeowners.

To some people a 6 percent tax doesn't sound very appealing. Paying an extra penny to every dollar can affect some in a negative way. People with low-incomes or those without children attending school may feel as if they are not benefiting. However, to most, the positives will outweigh the negatives.

All in all, the increase in the sales tax will be a positive change to our everyday life. With the development of new buildings and the addition of new computers, our hopes for a n improved learning area and a chance at a better education are more reachable.

## How do you feel about the 6% sales tax?

I think it's a good idea because it's going to help our schools, and it's really not that much of an increase.

-Sydney Bean, '08

I think its great because maybe our school will get better heat distribution!

-Erin Harritty, '09

I think its awesome, it means I won't have to share my room with another teacher anymore.

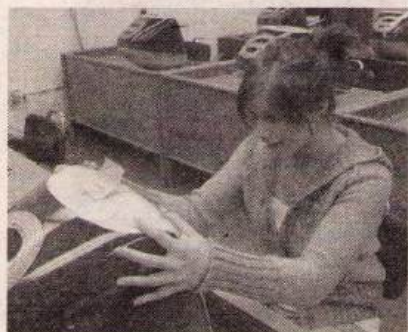
-Mr. Martin

I believe it is a good idea, especially for schools like Marion. We desperately need more room for parking, and this will be great to help that.

-Casey Fangmann, '08

I feel that the income tax is stupid because it's not that much more money going to the state, but it just makes stuff more expensive for us.

-Parker Brown, '10



A frustrated Jennifer Link, '09, shakes the computer as it freezes again. Students often have problems with computers.



Rachel Dullea, '08, is shocked when the book she is reading in class rips in two. A lot of the books at MHS need replaced.



Some of the heaters in our school look a little worn. This heater happens to have a flap.

Marion High School  
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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.

# Shouldn't we get a break too?

By: Nicole Pratt

To many elementary students, recess is the most important part of the day—a chance to go wild. For some kids, it's hard to sit all day in a classroom, which makes recess a necessity. In the US, there are only 7% of schools that don't offer recess in the first and second grades, and only 13% at the middle school level, according to CBS News. Most elementary and middle schools in the US today offer recess for at least fifteen minutes each day, but no

high schools in Linn County offer recess.

Can you imagine having recess again? Wouldn't it be nice to have a break from our ninety-minute classes? While it's nice to have almost a half an hour-long lunch, but would also be nice to get a chance to go outside and see actual sunlight. Lately schools have been shortening or completely eliminating recess.

Many people have a strong opinion about why kids should at least be allowed one recess, including PTA President from Rivers

Edge Elementary School in Richmond, VA, Wendy Logan. "The kids study all day, and they need some time for social activities. And those kids who struggle sitting the whole day—they're the ones who need it the most", says Wendy. Many parents, teachers, physical education teachers and pediatricians believe that recess is important to give children needed exercise and time to learn socialization skills and move around so they don't fall asleep in the classroom.

Scientists have discovered

that America's population is getting more obese because of eating habits and lack of exercise. Healthy exercise habits begin in early childhood. Studies show that kids must move around every once in a while so they can continue learning in class, increasing academic success.

Recess shouldn't end after elementary school. Just because we are older and more mature doesn't mean we still don't need a chance to get up and move around from sitting in a desk all day.



Above: Empty benches outside in the sunlight while Marion High School students are trapped within the school doors. It would be a nice advantage, especially in this nice weather, to be allowed to go outside.

## Everybody listen up!

By: Jenna Koppedryer

Many of us probably remember the good ol' days at Vernon Middle School when the announcements were read over the intercom and we actually paid attention to what they said. Who says it still can't be like that? Announcements should be read over the intercom as well as a copy of the announcements in every room.

What's wrong with the announcements now? Well, the

biggest thing wrong with the announcements is that many students don't actually listen to the announcements. This may be because the teacher may not be loud enough or just because they don't care,

**"It would be nice to have the announcements read over the intercom, because half of the time the teachers forget to read them to us."**

- Kiley Remington, '08

but either way, many aren't listening.

By reading the announcements over the intercom it would eliminate the problem of not being able to hear what is being said. It would also force kids to be quiet, know-

ing that these will only be read once. Also since the intercom is much louder it would grab students' attention and it would be much harder to talk over the intercom.

But this isn't just an advantage for the students; it is also an advantage for teachers. For many teachers it is a hassle to read them knowing they could be doing something else. Many teachers also dislike this method because of all the students talking over the teacher who is talking.

Reading announcements over the intercom is an advantage to the students and staff in our school. As a group we need to take action. Go to your student senate and tell them what you want to alter and this could eventually end up as a permanent change for the best.

Think you might  
be pregnant?

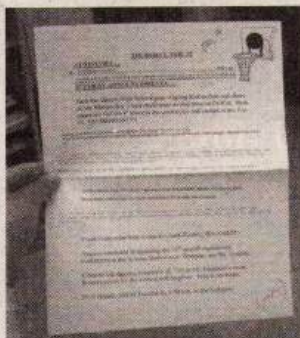
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# Building a home for humanity

By: Sam Kiburz

One of the most common opportune jobs for people in the Midwest is a job in construction for homes and other things. New homes and businesses are always needing more and more space to feel comfortable in the space that they're in. "This course is designed to provide and in-depth hands-on work experience in the construction

of a family residence."

The sixteen students that are enrolled in this class get their hands-on experience with this family residence and will get the skills they need to strive in the construction field of work.

Along with every other class that is offered at Marion High School attendance is a main priority. There are always sixteen students enrolled from either Marion

High School or Linn-Mar High School. The course usually resulting in a two period class at the last part of the day.

You might be wondering, well what do you do when there is a school cancellation at either MHS or LMHS? The process that they go by is if you have an early out of school and you go to LMHS you are to come to the job site. The site of the class may change between the school and the site of the construction. Though rain or shine there is always class unless

there is a school cancellation.

Just like other classes there is a certain grading standards, which are; Attendance, attitude, working safely, cooperation with other students and instructor, work initiative, and problem solving and quality of workmanship. The students and Mr. Weisinger do everything to the house besides, plumbing and electrical work and laying of the concrete. By the end of the year the class will have completed their sixteenth student built home.



A sign displays that the house located behind it was constructed by students from Marion & Linn-Mar building trades. Building trades is a unique activity that brought students from both Linn-Mar and Marion together.



One of the houses worked on by students from building trades. Despite only having 16 students, by the end of the year, the unique class will have completed building sixteen different houses.

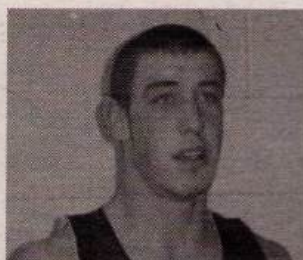
## Basketball Update

By: Jordan Garretson

### Boys' Basketball Stats Leaders

(per game averages through first 20 games)

Points: Marty Tope (13.1)  
Assists: Gabe Lynott (3.4)  
Rebounds: M. Tope (6.8)  
Steals: Allen Reisner (1.9)  
Blocks: A. Reisner (1.6)  
FG %: M. Tope (60.1)  
Free Throw %: Jake Cram (74.5)  
3 PT FGs: J. Cram (33)  
3 PT FG %: Jon Hannah (35.3)




Pictured above is Allen Reisner, pictured below is Jacqueline Kane.



### Girls' Basketball Stats Leaders

(per game averages through first 23 games)

Points: Morgan Paige (12.1)  
Assists: M. Paige (3.1)  
Rebounds: M. Paige (5.9)  
Steals: Jacqueline Kane (2.3)  
FG %: J. Kane (44.0)  
Free Throw %: Lesley Hennessey (71.0)  
3 PT FGs: Brittany Fish (63)



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# We own the stage, get your own

By: Sam Kiburz

Competitive speech in general goes into so many different categories that it would take forever to go through. From large group to individual events to debate the goes on and on.

They have different state festivals and different events.

Marion's competitive speech team is in the Iowa High School Speech Association (IHSSA). Our speech team competes in six contests and two festivals in Central and Southeast Iowa.

Speech goes into group and individual speech contests. Senior Sean Robinson is involved in both of the categories. He was involved in improv and musical theatre.

In Speech you get a ratings of one to five. One being the best possible score and five being the worst possible score you can get. "Nobody really gets a five or four and if you do you basically get disqualified." In his group ensemble his members and him got ratings of two in improv and a one in musical theatre. He had never done individual before this year. When asked, how is speech going this year? He stated, "It's been really long, individual takes a really long time, and I've never done it before."

Speech is all about being creative and being dramatic. Being able to show off your talents how ever you can do it your best. Creation is the biggest aspect of all things and if you can do that then you shouldn't waste the gift join Marion High School's competitive speech team, don't waste your talent.



Members of the speech team play a game after a speech competition. The game helps pass time while participants are waiting for the results. Seven groups received one ratings and got the privilege to go to the state competition.

## STATE QUALIFIERS

Diana Arnold  
Floris Bannister  
Ryan Brunner  
Darcy DeLong  
Anna Doneson  
Mary Beth Gaines  
Sariah Holder  
Joe Jewell  
Max Lafontant  
Will Larsen  
Derek Miller  
Olivia Moskot  
Andrea Oldfield  
Sean Robinson  
Alex Skalla  
Joe Smith  
Pat Smith  
Alex Stalkfleet  
Josh Ster  
Alex Sturtz  
Derek VanDerMillen  
Amber Vittitoe



Derrick VanDerMillen, '08, talks to Josh Ster, '08, while Sarah Young, '06, watches during the McJeggar skit at Follies. This is Derrick's third year participating in Follies. The humorous skit, which was written by Derrick, went over well with the audience and was definitely a fan favorite.

## Perfecting performances

By: Sam Rinehart

Have you ever wanted to participate in a variety show with lots of singing, dancing, and acting? Well maybe you could use your talents and partake in Marion's Follies like Derrick VanDerMillen, '08 has done the last three years.

Follies is a type of cabaret that has been held in the auditorium at Marion since 2001. Every year there is a theme to all the acts and how they all intertwine together. This year the theme was 'All America.' "Other than the theme, this year had more singing and variety to it, but it still has jokes

and the audience could still enjoy themselves," Derrick VanDerMillen, '08 comments. Derrick is in his third

**"I love being on stage,"  
-Derrick VanDerMillen, '09**

year in Follies and his role was much bigger this year than the last, including himself in the majority of the 25 skits. "I love being on stage and Follies gives me a chance to show some of my personal strengths through writing scripts, cracking jokes, and singing," adds Derrick.

Everyone knows he loves

to be on stage because when he comes to the parts where he has to improvise, he does it very smoothly. Derrick explains, "Some parts I intended to be funny, and others I didn't mean for them to be funny, but people laughed so I just rolled with it." Sometimes you must 'roll with it' because it's just like a variety show, you really can't anticipate what happens next. There is a lot of practice involved with Follies, but it gets hard when you have to practice to have a stranger come up from the audience. As an actor/actress you don't know what they will say, or how they will act. It maybe hard to improvise,

but Derrick thinks of it differently, "When I can involve friends and audience members into the skits is when I have the most fun." There are ways Derrick, and others, can look past the most difficult parts of practice though, "Being with friends is a reason why I enjoy participating in Follies."

This years production of Follies was a success, almost selling out in both shows. Either getting in a good laugh, or being touched by a beautiful voice, mostly everyone who attended Follies got their moneys worth. Will you be that special performance that everyone remembers next year?

# Food Network: Tasty Entertainment

By: Matt Barnd

-Commentary-

The Food Network is one of the fastest growing cable networks. Increasing immensely in popularity (and rightfully so) over the last several years, the Food Network provides a vast array of entertainment options ranging from travel, to reality, to competition. However, it is often overlooked as a source for leisurely activity. This should not be the case.

Shows on the Food Network cover a variety of topics. Travel shows such as "40 Dollars a Day," "Road Tasted," and "Feasting on Asphalt," provide good tips for how and where to get food among other things in specific cities and areas all around the world. Competition shows including "Iron Chef," "Iron Chef America,"



Nineteen of the Food Network's most prominent stars pose for a picture. Included in the picture are Rachel Ray (middle of first row), Al Roker (middle of second row), Emeril Legassi (right middle) and Alton Brown (top right).

and many others are also very entertaining. There are also the 'standard' cooking shows, but most have an added element or specialty pertaining to the particular

cook or chef who hosts their respective show. "30 Minute Meals," "Emeril Live," and "Everyday Italian" are a few of the most popular.

Perhaps the best show on

the food network is "Good Eats" with host Alton Brown. This program can best be described as 'cooking with science' but it doesn't deliver the boring connotation you would expect from this description. Each episode presents one particular food, item which is covered very extensively. It packs very interesting cooking tips and methods and neatly intertwines them into a comical and laid back atmosphere which makes for a very entertaining and enlightening show.

The time you spend watching the Food Network will be well worth it. Next time your flipping through channels and can't find anything to watch, give the Food Network a try. It's almost certain that you will find a program that fits your liking.

## Top Ten Food Network Shows (According to Matt Barnd)

1. Good Eats
2. Iron Chef America
3. Emeril Live
4. 30 Minute Meals
5. Paula's Home Cooking
6. Everyday Italian
7. Feasting on Asphalt
8. 40 Dollars a Day
9. Ace of Cakes
10. Unwrapped



# American Idol is more than just a T.V. show

By: Jenna Koppedryer

When it comes to T.V. shows everyone has their favorites. Among the many reality shows, MHS students enjoy American Idol. Whether they like it for the horrible wanna-bes or the hilarious outtakes, it has always been a favorite for many people. The humor isn't the only part of the show people like, for sophomore Joseph Smith, it's the amazing talent and potential idols he likes.

"I love American Idol, it's my favorite show" said Joseph. Joseph plans to be one

of the contestants someday. He doesn't just want to be a contestant he wants to be the "American idol". "I've have sung my entire life and have

**"I love American Idol, it's my favorite show."**  
-Joseph Smith, '09

always loved it." commented Joseph.

Having sung his entire life this is one of the things that Joseph has in common with many of the contestants. Another thing that he has in common with many of

the contestants is how he has watched American Idol since the beginning. "I have loved and watched American Idol since the beginning" Joseph remarked.

But Joseph doesn't just love the American Idols he also just looks up to them. "American Idol is my inspiration to keep singing and eventually become famous." said Joseph.

For Joseph American Idol isn't just a show it is also a motivator and an inspiration to keep on singing. Joseph gives this show two thumbs up, way, way, up.



Joseph Smith, '09, sings during the Fall Musical. Joe has sung his entire life and hopes to one day become the next "American Idol."

# Living in a World of Fear?

By: Jordan Garretson

A kidnapping. Possibly the worst thing a parent could ever imagine happening to their son or daughter. Disturbingly enough, juvenile kidnappings have recently started to occur more and more frequently in the United States. According to [kidsfightingchance.com](http://kidsfightingchance.com), a child is reported missing or abducted every 40 seconds, and of the 800,000 reported annually, about 69,000 of them are actually abducted. While there is no doubt that it is a tragedy that is happening more often in our country, exactly how much should the average parent worry about the possibility of it happening?

Although still a legitimate threat, the majority of us

high school students have matured enough physically to be able to defend themselves from such a thing. The threat is more dangerous for other kids, such as younger siblings. Many parents take precautions, such as day care, making sure they don't walk to or from school, or (at least not without others), or being very careful in selecting a baby sitter.

While the fact that parents are taking precautions for their children's safety may simply be relegated to a subconscious thought when arranging these things, most parents make sure these actions are taken. (However, they probably choose to not consider the possibility of their child being kidnapped or taken away from them at

all costs, it is without a doubt lingering somewhere in the back of their mind at almost all times.) But what do parents really think about their child's safety and possibility of a kidnapping? Exactly how concerned are they?

For MHS teacher and parent, Mrs. Roxanne Paulsen, it is a concern that deserves at least some level of thought and planning by all parents. "I think all parents need to have some plans in place," stated Mrs. Paulsen. As for herself, she explained, "We have developed a secret code word for my oldest son if someone should pick him up without prior knowledge from us." At the same time, she thinks we should maintain a strong balance and not spend too much time worrying. "I

believe that we can't live in a world of anxiety. There are basic things all parents can do, but some things are just not totally preventable. Your best judgment and instincts are important."

So, while it is agreed upon by most parents that some level of planning IS necessary in case such an unthinkable thing were to occur, they also agree that we can't spend all our time worrying about the worst case scenario. As long as parents devise plans with their children like Mrs. Paulsen has done for these situations, they should only worry so much, because in a world of anxiety, there is no enjoyment.



Three small children play on a swingset at Starry Elementary, which is directly across the street from Marion High School. These are children that are at the most vulnerable age, as children aged at four-eleven years old make up 50% of the abductions that take place in the United States.



Marion High School teacher and parent Mrs. Roxanne Paulsen was asked about how she felt as a parent on some kidnapping issues. "I believe all parents should have some plan in place," stated Paulsen. She explained further, "We have developed a secret code word for my oldest son if someone should pick him up without prior knowledge from us." It is definitely recommended that all parents develop something similar with their children.

## U.S. Kidnapping Facts

-The increase in missing children since 1982 is 444%

-Every 40 seconds a child is reported missing or abducted

-According to the FBI, about 300 children are kidnapped by strangers each year

-74% of children abducted are girls

-About 50% of children abducted are within the age range of 4-11 years old

-The U.S. Dept. Of Justice reports that an estimated 114,600 non-family abductions are attempted each year with about 3,200-4,600 being successful.

source: [www.eyesofamerica.org](http://www.eyesofamerica.org)



Elizabeth Ann Smart (born 1987), is a woman from Salt Lake City, Utah who was kidnapped at the age of 14 from her bedroom on June 5, 2002. She was found alive nine months later on March 12, 2003, a few miles from her home in Sandy, Utah.

Source: Wikipedia.com

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## A time to reflect

By: Patrick Tiernan

Black History Month is a time for African Americans to reflect on the great Black citizens of history. From Martin Luther King Jr. to Rosa Parks, to Jackie Robinson, there have been many who have paved the way for Blacks today and generations to come.

Janessa Lee, '07, is one of the many people who appreciate what the ground breakers of Black History have done and is happy there is a Black history month. "It's important for Blacks to know where they come from and to celebrate their involvement in the development of America," explained Janessa. "It's good for Blacks to know where we came from and to be able to identify with ourselves." Janessa takes time with her family to discuss people

and events of Black history and appreciates that there is one. "Black History Month shows that whoever started it cares about the culture," commented Janessa.

There have been many African Americans to leave their mark in American history and Janessa has been influenced by many of them. She admits T.V. show host Oprah Winfrey has inspired her a lot. "I'm inspired by the way she started with nothing and came out with everything." Artist Maya Angelo is another African American that has left her mark on Janessa as well as America. "I've been influenced by Maya Angelo's poetry. It is really inspiring," Janessa stated.

The African American however that has had the most influence on Janessa is civil rights activist Martin

Luther King Jr. "Martin Luther King Jr. influenced me because he fought for what he believed in without actually fighting. He was a great leader and it's shown all over the United States today," she said. Janessa feels that out of all African Americans in history, Martin Luther King Jr. is the most deserving of respect during Black History Month, she explained. "If it wasn't for him we would still have a lot more racial tension then we do today."

Black History Month is truly a special time because it gives African Americans like Janessa a time to consider and think about all the great things Blacks have accomplished. From the well known, to those who aren't properly credited, Black History Month is a time for everyone to reflect.

## Marion students ref



"Black History Month is important because you to learn about the history of another culture and really appreciate what they've done for the U.S."  
-Morgan Paige, '10

"The African-American who has inspired me the most is Martin Luther King Jr. because if he didn't do what he did there would still be a lot of segregation and discrimination."

-Amry Shelby, '09



## Ethnic distribution

By: Sam Rinehart

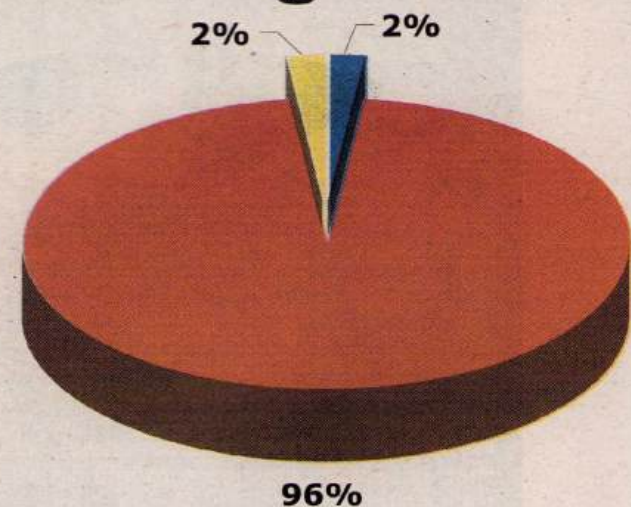
The two graphs to the right show the percentages of the Caucasian, African-American, Hispanic and any other ethnicity in the United States compared to Marion High School. The obvious difference is how much of a majority Caucasians are to both the United States and our high school. A big

shock might be that 96% of our high school is Caucasian and only 4% is of any other race. That is a 27% increase from the majority of the United States. There is also a dramatic difference between the US and MHS in regards to the ethnic population.

The reason for these drastic differences are unknown, but one may guess

that more African-Americans live in the Southern part of our country and Marion, Iowa is towards the North. Also, Hispanics probably live closer to the Mexican border because that is where they have originated from, but these are just speculations; many factors contribute to such a considerable lack of ethnic diversity in our school.

## Marion High School



## ect on cultural icons



"Thurgood Marshall influenced me the most. He paved the way for other African-Americans and showed them that they can apply themselves in other ways besides sports or show business. You can now have a higher ranked job."

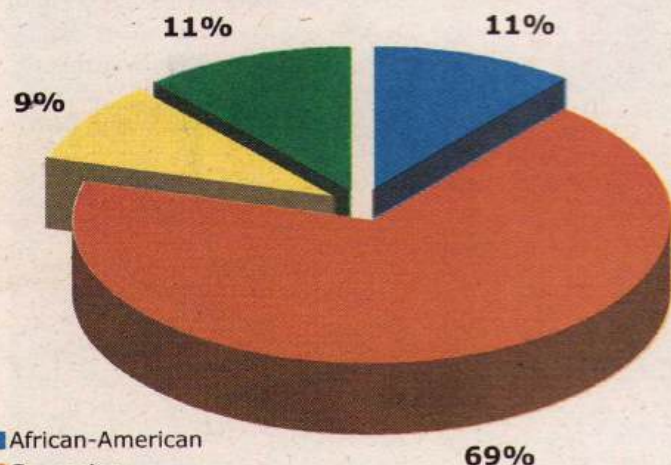
-Jon Hanna, '08

"Black history month is important to me because it shows our history to other people and keeps them informed."

-Trashon Thompson, '10



## United States



■ African-American  
■ Caucasian  
■ Other  
■ Hispanic

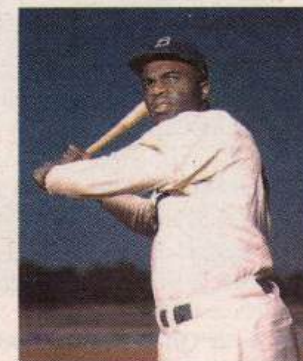
Information obtained wikipedia.org

## Four Famous Faces



George Washington Carver was a botanist that worked with agriculture. He created a mobile school to help educate farmers. Because of the racial discrimination at the time, it was atypical to have people look at Carver as a specialist. He is remembered for all the different types of vegetation he invented. Today wouldn't be the same without his experimentations.

Jackie Robinson was born January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1919 in Cairo Georgia. Jackie was the first Black Major League Baseball player. Jackie Robinson was a member of six World Series teams and in 1947 won the MLB rookie of the year award. Jackie was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962.



Martin Luther was a famous American civil rights activist and political activist. In 1963, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King Jr. delivered the famous "I Have a Dream" speech. In the speech Martin talked about a future where Blacks and Whites would be equals. In 1964, he became the youngest man to win the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in promoting equal treatment of all races. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee

Rosa Parks was made famous by standing up to a bus driver on December 1, 1955. She was being forced to give up her seat to a white man, and she didn't agree to. She was soon arrested and sent to trial. Soon after this, the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It was known as the biggest mass movement against racial segregation. Rosa is remembered for her courage to stand up for her self and her race.



images obtained from [www.google.com/images](http://www.google.com/images)

# Senior Interviews



**Name:** Sariah Holder

**Main Activity:** Competitive speech

**Other Activities:** Musical Crew, Art Club, spring play, Creative Ink, free blocks!

**Season Highlights:** Sliding down the banisters at some school, during a speech competition, with Lindsey Bauer and Amanda Harden. It was so fun but I ended up having bruises all over my legs and getting banister burn. Making up stories with Amanda Roberts, Laura Sauer and Alex Skalla on the way home on the bus. I love you, Phillippe!

**Best High School Memory:** The winter when we had three or four snow days right before Christmas break. I had Mr. Wikert's algebra 1 and didn't have the oral final. It was an absolute MIRACLE. I got A's in that class, which was pretty amazing too. Walking around the creeks. Anytime I was on stage.

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** Oh jeez, the pepperoni subs. The pop machines. Talking French with Madame. The Art classes. Laughing at how crazy Mr. T could be. Having free blocks. Field biology! Being excited about early outs and days off. Speech and going to speech competitions and sitting around. Complaining about AP English. Oh, I guess I'll miss my friends too...I love you guys!

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** Trust your instinct. Nobody can make you do something you don't want to do. There is ALWAYS a way. Live fast, die young, and leave a good-looking corpse. Wear clean socks everyday. Be nice to everybody and don't burn any bridges.

**Future Plans:** Go to college somewhere I guess. I'd like to do some acting and write books or poetry. I want to make some art or take pictures. I think I might go to Europe or Australia or somewhere. I'll probably end up at Rockwell. Marriage is probably in my future too. I just don't know whom yet. I want to do something no one's ever seen yet. Something amazing...



**Name:** Courtney Heims

**Main Activity:** Basketball

**Other Activities:** Soccer, SODA, FBLA, volunteering.

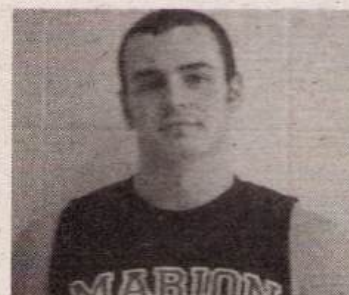
**Season Highlights:** In a soccer game against Mt. Vernon we went into double over-time and a shoot out. I was goal keep because Beaty got hurt and we won. I stopped three out of five shoots. It was glorious.

**Best High School Memory:** Hanging out with friends and going to football and basketball games all decked out and prom getting all dressed up and going out.

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** My friends, some teachers, and the events (such as fall football), and the atmosphere. The sports, the people, and the dances were tons of fun.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.

**Future Plans:** Attend a four-year college to get a degree in communications, television broadcasting, or service learning.



**Name:** Cyrus Coffman

**Main Activity:** Football

**Other Activities:** Basketball

**Season Highlights:** When I scored three touchdowns when we played Maquoketa.

**Best High School Memory:** Playing varsity football when I was a sophomore.

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** Friday nights during football season.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** Work hard and get out fast.

**Future Plans:** I am going to attend the University of Iowa and major in Engineering.



**Name:** Alec Kiburz

**Main Activity:** Football and Basketball

**Other Activities:** Track

**Season Highlights:** When I scored the only two touchdowns in the West Dubuque football game.

**Best High School Memory:** The 2006 football season and going 9-1.

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** All of my coaches.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** "Go 100% all the time." "Do work son."

**Future Plans:** Play football at a four-year school.



**Name:** Nicole Fisher

**Main Activity:** Cantorei, Concert Chorale

**Other Activities:** Volleyball Manager, Basketball Manager, SODA

**Season Highlights:** Receiving a Division I

**Best High School Memory:** First time I video taped for Gaff, Emily and I didn't pay attention and we can't live it down. It was even brought up at our banquet in front of our parents (everything that we said) and everybody kept laughing. It was even brought up recently.

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** Everything

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** Live one day at a time; it goes by too fast.

**Future Plans:** Go to Kirkwood to major in nursing and minor in early childhood education then to a four-year college to finish nursing and go pre-med.



**Name:** Derek Strait  
**Main Activity:** Football  
**Season Highlights:** 1st team All-District, 2nd team All-Metro  
**Best High School Memory:** Going 33-3 through high school and hanging out with Al during 3rd hour.  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** Friends, Football Dr. T., and Sem Dawg  
**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** Live everyday like it's your last; you never know when it's your last.  
**Future Plans:** Go to college at UNI, Kirkwood, or Iowa.



**Name:** Sean Robinson  
**Main Activity:** Theatre  
**Other Activities:** Cross Country, Track, Speech, NHS, Creative Ink, Choir, Thespians, FBLA, SODA  
**Season Highlights:** Lead roll in musical, "Damn Yankees"  
**Best High School Memory:** Band/Choir Trip  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** My friends and the activities associated with them.  
**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** Its okay to eat fish, because they don't have any feelings.  
**Future Plans:** University of Iowa, get into their Fine Arts program.




**Name:** Allen Reisner  
**Main Activity:** Football  
**Other Activities:** Basketball, Track  
**Season Highlights:** Being named 1st team all state.  
**Best High School Memory:** Hanging out with Derek during 3rd hour and playing WWE with Barbaro and Schuver  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** Playing more than one sport.  
**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** Remember we only have 1 Earth, so recycle.  
**Future Plans:** Attend the University of Iowa and play football.



**Name:** Colleen Curtis  
**Main Activity:** Wrestling Cheerleading  
**Other Activities:** SODA, band, football cheerleading and the competition squad.  
**Season Highlights:** Districts!  
**Best High School Memory:** Cheering at state wrestling last year and cheering for playoffs this year.  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** The people and the positive attitudes!  
**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** No fear, No limits.  
**Future Plans:** Attend a four year college.



**Name:** Matt Ehr  
**Main Activity:** Football  
**Other Activities:** Bowling  
**Season Highlights:** Becoming the bowling captain  
**Best High School Memory:** Playing Halo 2 with all my friends.  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** I will mostly miss my friends.  
**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** Silence is golden, but duct tape is silver.  
**Future Plans:** National Guard and college.



# Mr. Beans

## It's All Good

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 6:30 AM - 8:00 PM

Breakfast  
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 Monday - Friday  
 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

# Which grade is better?



Name that Tune



Who's smarter?



Riddler



Six Legged Race



Magic Shoes

**By: Jordan Garretson**

They say a lot changes between your freshman and senior years throughout high school. This would seem to be true in the sense of maturity and intelligence, as well as creating your own independent identity. However, rarely is it actually looked into further than that. This occasion was one of those rare occurrences when it was actually investigated. Would it be proven true, or not?

The Vox Staff created a contest pitting a team of six seniors against a team of six freshmen. The senior team was composed of Tara Carsner, Darcy DeLong, Alec Kiburz, Nate Pickering, Katie Schultz, and Luke Walters. The freshman team was made up by Nick Cran-

ny, Joe Davis, Brittany Fish, Ben Holub, Amanda Peterson, and Taylor Yirkovsky. The contest was split into five separate competitions, with the team that won the most competitions winning the entire contest. The five competitions include a six-legged race, a game of "Name That Tune," and a quiz of nine questions such as "What is the mascot of Drake University?" and "What kind of trees lose their leaves in the winter?"

In the end, the senior team came out the victor, winning all competitions except for the six-legged race. Interestingly enough, both teams missed the question "What is the largest city (population) in the Western Hemisphere?" Nonetheless, the seniors missed no other questions on

the quiz while the freshmen also incorrectly answered the question "What kind of tree loses their leaves in the winter?" incorrectly citing Coniferous trees over Deciduous trees.

Senior Luke Walters was named the "MVP" as voted on by members of the Vox Staff.

So, while adding more proof to the maturity and intelligence theory of freshmen versus seniors, it is really up to yourself to decide after you've completed high school. One can ask, did I grow by a substantial amount as a person and as an individual? And if you answer yes, you know that you experience in high school, was a worth while one.

## Q & A with the MVP: Luke Walters

**Q. How does it feel to be MVP?**

**A. "It's a great honor to be MVP of the first annual senior vs freshmen challenge."**

**Q. How did it feel to dominate the freshman?**

**A. "It feels good to beat the freshmen because that grade seems really cocky and we need to set them in their place."**

**Q. How do you feel about the challenge over all?**

**A. "It was a good challenge we weren't expecting all that stuff. It was a good 'cultural' challenge."**

**Q. How do you feel the seniors did over all as a team?**

**A. "I contributed a lot. We all got answers right. It was a team game."**

## The winners



The winners: Alec Kiburz, Tara Carsner, Nate Pickering, Katie Shultz, Darcy DeLong, Luke Walters

## The losers



The losers: Nick Cranny, Brittany Fish, Joe Davis, Ben Holub, Amanda Peterson, Taylor Yirkovsky

# Top 10 Worst Pick-up Lines

By: Sam Rinehart

183 students were polled on their favorite post-valentine's day pick-up lines and the results are...

10.

If I rearranged the alphabet I'd put U and I together.

1.

If you were a booger I'd pick you first.

9.

My name is Justin, Justincredible.

8.

Is your dad a thief?

Because he must have stolen the sparkle from the sky and put them in your eyes.

7.

If you were a new sandwich at McDonalds, you'd be called the McGorgeous.

6.

Did it hurt when you fell from heaven?

5.

Excuse me, do you have your phone number, I seem to have lost

4.

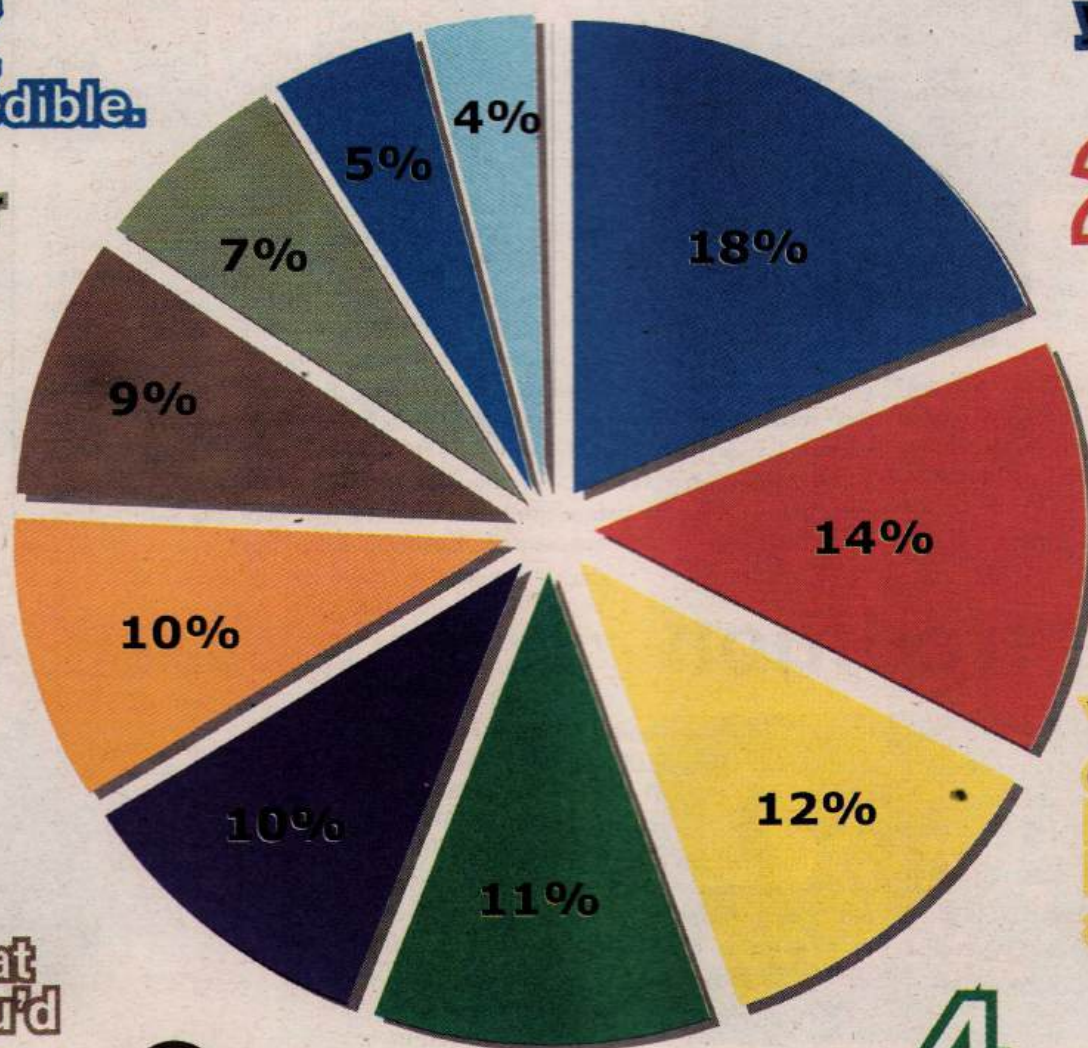
You know I'm not this tall, I'm just sitting on my wallet.

3.

You must be an overdue library book because you have fine written all over you.

2.

Girl, you gotta be tired cuz you been running through my mind all day.



# Marion's work-a-holic

By: Pat Tiernan

The majority of the students at MHS work inside a building. Many students wouldn't even consider working outside during the blistering, cold winter and steamy, hot summer. One student, though, who does not take the traditional approach to raking in cash is sophomore, Riley Odean.

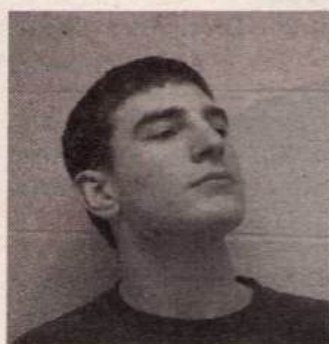
Riley has a job delivering papers for the *Gazette* and has to wake up predawn everyday of the week. Riley delivers papers until six o'clock a.m. and then either sleeps or finishes his homework. After school, Riley will go to basketball practice, come home, eat, and then sleep until 2:30 a.m. when his insane work schedule starts again.

This has been Riley's schedule since the beginning of the year and he's earned some serious cash. Along with working every weekday,

Riley delivers 340 papers in the two-day span of the weekend and can make \$150. Even though Riley works hard all week and probably "deserves" the weekend off, he explains, "The weekend

is when I can make the most money." Riley is careful with his money but isn't afraid to spend it. "It's important to have a job, so I can pay for the things I want. I can pay

for the things I want now so I don't have to worry about them later." One of those "things" Riley is talking about is his lawn equipment.



Riley Odean, '09

Lawn equipment? Yes, that's right. Hard-working Riley uses his own lawn equipment for his very own lawn mowing business. During the summer, Riley mows lawns Tuesday, Thursday, and sometimes on weekends. Riley mows over 30 lawns every week and made over

\$7000 this previous summer cutting grass. "I got the idea to mow lawns when my neighbor asked me to mow their lawn. I did such a good job he kept asking and asking me and it branched from there," recollected Riley. Money from mowing lawns allowed Riley to purchase his very own fishing boat and fishing equipment.

Riley puts these well-earned fishing items to use when he participates in fishing tournaments. In his spare time, which Riley explains is, "Whenever it won't interfere with school, sports, or mowing lawns" Riley is a dominant fisherman. Riley is ranked third in the state of Iowa for 15-18 year olds and won three tournaments on the Mississippi River. Yet

another income supply, Riley earns money for himself when he places high in tournaments.

Along with the sport of fishing Riley participates in football, basketball, and track and is successful in all three. Whether it's delivering papers, mowing lawns, catching fish, or playing the sport of the season, Riley Odean always has something to do.

## Riley Facts

- Ranked 3rd in state for 15-18 year olds fishing division
- Won three fishing tournaments on the Mississippi River
- Played Tight End for the Sophomore Football team.
- Mows over 30 lawns a week during the summer
- Wakes up at 2:45 A.M. during the winter on weekdays to deliver papers
- Delivers 160 newspapers in the Marion area every day
- Bought his own truck and boat
- Made over \$7,000 last summer
- Is a three sport athlete

# Continuing tradition

By: Jenna Koppedryer

When people think of extra curricular activities many think of sports. But when Emily Shaw, '09, thinks of extra curricular activities she thinks of belly dancing.

Emily started belly dancing two years ago and has kept with it. But for Emily belly dancing is more than just an activity. For Emily it is a tradition. "My grandmother used to belly dance," Emily stated. Emily's grandmother didn't just start the tradition though she has also kept it living. "My grand-

mother [teaches me] and she bought me an instructed video."

But belly dancing isn't

**"[Belly dancing] gives me more confidence and a way to be different."**

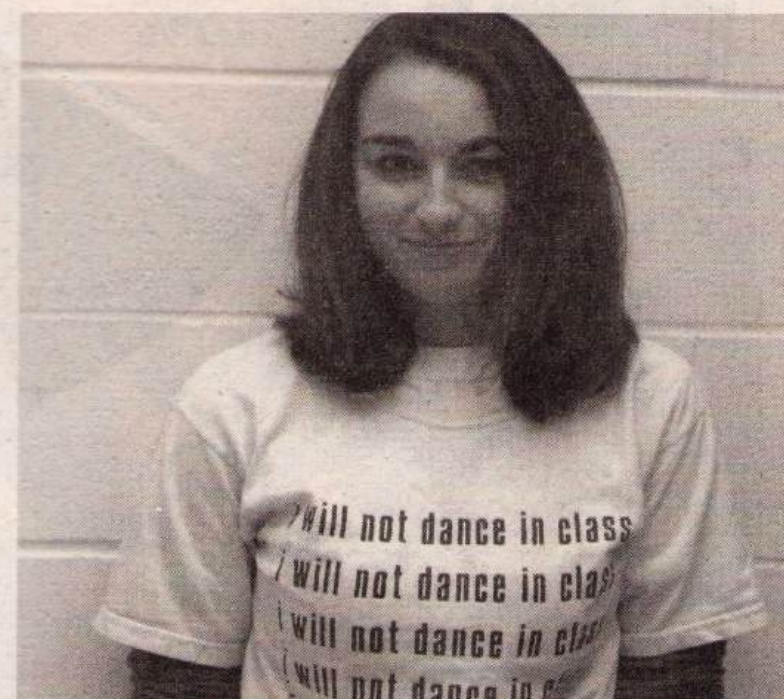
-Emily Shaw, '09

all fun and games. It also requires a lot of physical demands. "[You have to be] flexible and you have to be able to move your hips and

have a lot of muscle control." Emily said. But flexibility isn't the only thing that has changed Emily it has also made her thinner and has changed her emotionally too. "[Belly dancing] gives me more self confidence and a way to be different."

Belly dancing has affected Emily in many ways physically and emotionally. Emily plans on continuing belly dancing for many more years and continue the tradition her grandmother started.

Emily Shaw, '09 wears a belly dancing themed shirt. Emily is taught belly dancing by her grandmother. Belly dancing originated in the Middle East.



# A day in the life

By: Sam Rinehart

Angelo Gains is the type of person who needs no introduction. Everyone knows him and because his laugh is so recognizable and unparalleled, anyone can tell he is close by, but has anyone seen him the last week or so?

This article was supposed to go through a day in the life of Angelo, but in the middle of the construction of this article, Angelo seemingly disappeared. The reason for his disappearance is that he is now home-schooled. In the last week our school has been a little more quiet and definitely a little less happy. Mrs. Grant agrees that our school, and her day, hasn't been the same, "It's calmer, but not as much fun. I love Angelo. He's very kind, funny and he loved people." It's true, Angelo did love people;

his lasting statement to me being, "Everyone at Marion is my friend. Now that he is home-schooled, he doesn't get to see people as much. Angelo misses being around people. He loved the students and staff at Marion," reflected Mrs. Grant.

Angelo's favorite teacher was Mr. Fish. "It makes me feel good that he says I'm his favorite teacher, but without him around, there isn't as much laughter and we miss him," Mr. Fish commented whole-heartedly. Many teachers, including Mr. Fish and Mrs. Grant, grew to have a close relationship with Angelo. "I trusted him, and I never had to discipline him because I just talked with him and remembered that he is Angelo. Angelo has a big heart and really cares, and will listen if you take the time to talk with him," Mr.

Fish explained. Mrs. Grant also took time to give details on their relationship, "I was his mentor. I helped him with anything he needed and guided him in the right direction."

As some of you may know, Mrs. Grant also bought Angelo 50 tickets for the pie-in-the-face contest. Mrs. Grant described, "He loved being apart of the student body and he's not known for his ability with music or sports so I thought that he could be apart of something."

But now that Angelo is home-schooled and doesn't come to MHS, his laugh and compatible personality will definitely be missed. Mr. Fish explains it best, "Angelo said something I will always remember and agree with, 'I am the one and only Angelo Gains,' he is exactly right."



Angelo got the chance to pie Mr. Z. at the Winter pep assembly. You could hear his laugh over the whole entire students body. The crowd was roaring.

## Angelo's Favorites

Color-	red or blue
Drink-	Mt. Dew
Food-	muffins
Car-	Pontiac GT
Career-	mechanic
Artist-	R. Kelly

## All together creative as one

By: Sam Kiburz

Creative Ink is an organization that is based on and creating outstanding poetry, illustrations, and literature. The word creative according to Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary states that, "being creative is having the power or quality of creating." All of the students that are involved in Creative Ink posses this quality of power of coming up with these ideas.

All of the students that are involved are extremely creative and do posses that power, especially junior, Alex Skalla.

All of the students that are involved get a chance to

show off their artwork to six judges, all of which obviously think that Skalla has a gift that should be recognized. The contest includes story telling and poetry.

She has almost swept the whole contest each year since she was a freshman. And has come very close each year, but this year it was her chance. Alex obviously excels in both areas and I'm sure we can plan on her still doing Creative Ink next year.

Mr. Ferguson runs this organization. He and his editor, Whitley Corrin, put together their collection of everything that they have received from students this year. Once everything is

handed in they put together a book that comes out every year in May.

All students that submit something they automatically get a free copy of this book. It comes out in May so that all of the seniors that are involved and senior that aren't get a chance to see it before they leave Marion High School.


Remember being creative means possessing the power or quality to create and if you posses this quality then this organization that is provided by MHS for you and for everyone else that is involved.

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# Blast from the past

By: Jenna Koppedryer

The pictures on the right side are teachers and staff members many of us know and can easily recognize. But

you may not be able to recognize them from their past. Pictures were collected from each staff member's past, located on the left side of the page.

Your job is to match each picture from each staff member's past and present. Also, match up each fact listed in the middle with each person.

[The answers are stated upside down at the bottom of the page.]

**A**



**I** This person worked in public relations and television before becoming a teacher.



**B** **II** This person is not a risk taker and their favorite sport is basketball.



**C**



**III** This person grew up and graduated in Illinois.



**D** **IV** This person has coached for 22 years and graduated from MHS in 1980.



## Facts about our staff

By: Jenna Koppedryer

Mrs. Jackson loves everything about her job, the working part and especially the people.

Mr. Perkins likes to teach because he thinks he can make a real difference in young people's lives.

Mr. Semler loves working with young people. "It is an honor and a privilege," says Mr. Semler. "It is a pleasure to be a part of."

Mrs. Braun likes to teach because she loves kids and literature. She also likes introducing kids to literature and loves to see the excitement kids show when they are learning and having fun.

Mr. Semler (C), Mr. Perkins (D), Mrs. Braun (I), and Mrs. Jackson (II).

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