

# The Vox

Volume LVIV  
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Marion High School



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# Boycott banning of backpacks

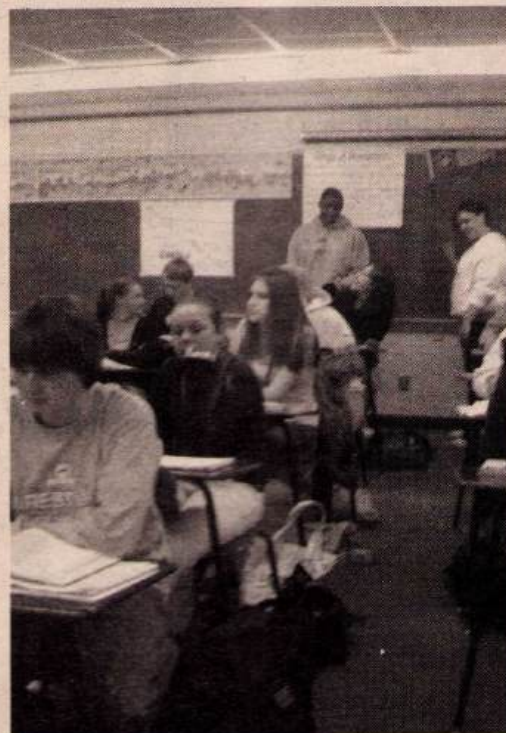
As many know, the halls of MHS are filled with lockers that rarely get used. There are many reasons students avoid using lockers, but next year carrying your backpack from room to room may not be an option. Students may be forced to memorize combos and use the undersized lockers. We feel that bringing our bags to class is a right and shouldn't be taken away.

Keeping our books and other school supplies in our lockers while keeping our book bags out of the classroom would get rid of clutter in between desks, but is restricting students from leaving their bags at the foot of their desk worth the problems it would create? First of all, having to travel from hallway to hallway in between classes would be a great inconvenience for many students. For instance, if the majority of your classes were down by the art rooms, but your locker was located at the other end of the school by Mr. Bates room, you would be forced to walk back and forth across the entire school in between classes. The additional confusion in the hallways would also be an issue, leaving everyone rushing from classroom to classroom. Most likely, more tardies would be given, making students leave class to get a tardy pass from the office. The rush and clumps of people in the hallways would add up to nothing but chaos.

Also, due to block scheduling, many teachers allow extra time to work on homework or work from other classes. Without our bags, all of our other homework wouldn't be as easily accessible. This would make more problems because students would have to be excused from class in order to keep busy without disturbing other students who are working. With our bags right at our side it's easy to use our extra time given in class by pulling out a book, other homework, or even crayons to keep busy with. Although some teachers don't like bags brought into the classroom because it adds extra untidiness beneath desk and tables, it can be more of a positive thing than a negative. Students are already notorious for forgetting homework assignments, books, or even pencils, but by having a backpack with you in class it make it easier to bring needed supplies, and therefore nothing would be forgotten. Lockers

would just provide another place to lose homework, supplies, and books. Teachers would then have to provide more hall passes and time would be taken away from learning. Lockers might also get very messy and dirty not only with papers and pens, but with food and drinks. Would teachers be willing to take even more time from class to provide much needed locker clean outs? Many teachers think removing bags from classrooms would add to the classrooms but in reality it would be subtracting precious learning time.

Therefore, banning backpacks in classrooms would not benefit the learning area, but instead create an unneeded hassle, making it less convenient not only for students, but for teachers as well.



## speaking OUT

"It's a complete joke because then you'd have to use your locker and you'd be late more."

- Katelyn Ferris, '10

"I'd hate it because it's more convenient to carry your bag then have to go out of your way to your locker."

- Jordan Condon, '09

"I dislike it because the lockers are too small and we don't have enough time to get from place to place."

- Jake Roelfs, '09

"I think it's stupid because you'd have to go to your lockers all the time."

- Katie Barkdoll, '08

"They should worry about bigger issues."

- Owen Kane, '07

Students in Mr. Raymond's class are prepared for anything with their bags at the feet of their desk. Even with the book bags in the classroom the aisle is still left with plenty of room for walking.

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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.



# Parking problems persist at MHS

By: Jordan Garrettson

Among many controversial issues at Marion High School is the parking situation. In the past few years this problem has received more attention as the enrollment of students at MHS has increased rapidly. Consequently, more and more parking spots have been required. But that's where the problem lies: more parking spots have NOT been created. Of course, there have been many different propositions for fixing the situation, but which is best?

While it's a very difficult decision to make as far as what action should be taken, the pros and cons of possible solutions can be taken into account to help arrive at a final conclusion. Currently, the parking situation is said to be a problem, but if you really look into it, it's only an inconvenience at this point. While it may be difficult finding a parking spot, it is certainly far from impossible at the same time. However, next year, this will most definitely change. With an extremely large freshmen class turning into sophomores (the year most obtain their driver's license), more and more parking spaces will be necessary. Of course, there are many different ways to approach this conflict. If you're a senior, you might just say, "Make the sophomores walk!" While this might make the upperclassmen content, unfortunately, it doesn't satisfy the majority.

One fairly obvious solution seems to be to either create another parking lot, or expand upon the ones that are already in place. Behind the high school, right near the back parking lot

there is a decent amount of field space to expand the lot with more spaces, although it wouldn't be nearly efficient enough to completely solve the problem. Near the tennis courts there is also room to expand on the small parking lot, but even combined with the expansion of the back parking lot, it wouldn't completely rectify the situation. (It would help, however, if people were to go into this direction for a solution, this would provide a great amount of help towards fixing the situation.) Then again, the expansion or creation of parking lots might not be very plausible depending on the school's financial status.

Another method of correcting the situation that has received some attention, at least from students, is a sort of age-type system to determine who receives parking passes. It seems like a good idea as the majority of privileges in high school and among teenagers increase as age does, although it may be quite difficult to implement. (One may not receive a parking pass, and, instead, a new student that is older does receive one. Many students might disagree if this is how such a situation would be handled, especially if they were to be the one involved in it who didn't receive the parking pass.) A problem may also arise if say, an older sophomore and a younger junior both apply for the pass. Although very unlikely, the sophomore may possibly be older than the junior, and therefore, receive a pass before they do.

Parking passes could also be given out by simply a first-come first-serve basis. This is another solution, although it maybe not nearly as fair as the other two. It at least seems to

be plausible and wouldn't be too difficult to put into place, as a similar method is already being used. However, this method will create more and more of a problem as more students gain the ability to drive at the school. Obviously, there could be a sense of confusion as well as far as how many passes should be dealt out. You could give out an unlimited amount of passes, but they would prove to be quite useless, as a parking spot is only so useful when it's available.

So, I ask you not to change your mind and take your stand on the matter, but simply encourage you to remain open-minded to all solutions. While neither of these measures may be the correct answer to the parking problem, an even more legitimate solution may be obtained by further development or combining of any of these ideas. At this time, however, the problem seems to simply remain a slight inconvenience for the drivers of MHS. Once it develops into more of an issue is the time that it may receive much more consideration, but for now you should enjoy the peacefulness of the current parking compared to what could become of it next year as enrollment continues to rise.



Marion High School's full parking lot.

## Prom spending survey (averages):

Cost of dress/tux.....\$165

Cost of limo.....\$134

Cost of dinner/couple...\$30

Cost of flowers.....\$24

Cost of pictures.....\$37

Cost of hair-do.....\$40

Total anticipated cost..\$318

By: Kristy Bell

Prom is said to be one of the greatest nights in your high school existence. Ladies get to buy a one-of-a-kind dress, with shoes to go along. One might even throw in a tiara! Girls get their nails, hair, and makeup perfected. Then they will be on their way to enjoying a night of fine dining, a ride in a limo, and a great time dancing the night away. It sounds like a nice fairytale, but ladies forget to mention exactly how much this fairytale costs. The price for a dress, shoes, hair, nails, makeup, food, limo, and admission can really add up.

Why spend hundreds of dollars on one night when you could use that money for something more practical, like a car? You could also save the money towards a college fund. If you don't have the money to spend on this one night, there are many alternatives that can help you save.

Instead of buying a dress at David's Bridal or Hopes, why not buy your dress at a department store where prices are lower? If you're tight on money try

**"Why spend hundreds of dollars on one night, when you can use it for something more practical?"**

Davidsprom.com, a great site to go to if you want to win a dress and get accessories. No one is going to be able to tell exactly where you got your

dress from unless you tell them. Another option is to make your own dress.

Did you know they give out scholarships for stuff like that? Go to FastWeb.com and you can find out what kind of dress you can make to get a scholarship. To eliminate hair and makeup cost, turn to teen magazines. They always have makeup

and hair ideas around prom time. You could be inspired to create a look of your own. Honestly, no one is going to be able to tell if you are wearing the same shoes you wore to homecoming. They will be hiding under your dress anyway. Lastly, when it comes to admission cost, there's nothing we can really do about that, but in reality it's not that much.

Don't skip out on prom because the prices are overwhelming. Just remember that you don't have to spend hundreds of dollars to have fun and look great.



## Dedicated practice

By: Sam Kiburz

Westfield Tennis Club is where you can find Lindsay Cayton, '09, almost every day of the week. "It's my second home," said Lindsay. Cayton has been playing the game of tennis for the past twelve years of her life and you can tell this by the skills, and the emotion that is given off when she plays.

When some one is playing tennis on ESPN, the grunts the veterans give off as they hit the ball or serve the ball. The grunts are the equivalent of the all they got with there serves or returning a tough serve. "I only have distinct grunt when I'm really fatigued or it's been a long day of match play," Lindsay replied.

Lindsay plays tennis every day of the week in the summer. She's such a competitive person that loves playing tennis all year round. She also loves to always be in a tournament during the weekend and practicing tennis all throughout the week. Some might wonder why she does it so much. The real reason why she practices the sport so much isn't just to win, "It keeps me in shape, and I love a challenge, and when I'm playing in the summer and I'm working my butt off, my competitive spirit comes out and I just take it out on my competition."

All tennis players have one favorite match, and Cayton's was when she was playing against Maquoketa's number one player in the singles semi-final round at districts, with the outcome determining who went to state. The match lasted three and a half hours, and emotion was streaming out of both players, and Lindsay came out on top. "My Dad and sister, Kelly, were watching and cheering me on the whole time and calling my mom every ten minutes to tell her what was going on." Lindsay was so excited about the win, she started crying, knowing that she was going to state as a freshman and the fact that she just made history. "I wasn't sure I had really made history yet, but when my dad told me that I did and then I freaked out even more than I had before."



Lindsay Cayton '09 made history by going to state as a freshman.

## Sophomore anxiety

By: Kyle Hacker

Every spring sophomores all around the school run from teacher to teacher with little half sheets of yellow paper, begging for a positive review. For anyone not familiar with National Honor Society this would seem like a very weird sophomore initiation. This frantic exercise in stressing out underclassmen serves a higher purpose than just entertaining the upperclassmen; it also weeds out the unqualified wannabes from the established academic elite.

Many students have tried

and failed to enter this prestigious. This leads to a highly hectic situation for the appli-



Natalie Ryther '07 was stressed about getting in to NHS.

cants. One student affected by this stress was Natalie Ryther, '07. She felt the pressure when she measured herself against the other applicants.

"I didn't know how I'd

match up, but with teacher evaluations and my involvements they let me in." When she finally got accepted, she realized all her worrying was for naught. "As long as you're a good decision maker and have good character AND are involved, you'll probably get in," declared Natalie. "If you truly think you deserve to get into NHS, you shouldn't be nervous about it." So sophomores, relax, there's no need to worry. In the words of Paul McCartney, "Let it be."

## Cheer and dance results

**VARSITY FOOTBALL:** Jenna D'hooge, Erin Harrity, Shelbi Hudgins, Ali Holub, Hannah Kaczinski, Kelsey Labs, Jennifer Link, Nicole Pratt, Brooke Ransier, Tabitha Scott.

**JV FOOTBALL:** Haley Cloven, Karina Kiene, Hanna Madren, Kathleen Neff, Tori Pratt, Courtney Rodgers, Liz Smiley, Cheyenne Stalnaker.

**VARSITY FALL DANCE:** Katie Barkdoll, Kellie Barkdoll, Katie Dahl, Melanie Kemmann, Rachel Millis, Jordan Morris, Jackie Noble, Andrea Oldfield.

**JV FALL DANCE:** Randah Espey, Ashley Heald, Jacque Kroemer, Alyssa Larson, Kayla Rethwisch, Olivia VanDerMillen.

**VARSITY BASKETBALL:** Chelsey Banes, Chelsea Burhite, Jenna D'hooge, Erin Harrity, Shelbi Hudgins, Ali Holub, Jennifer Link, Paige Plagman, Nicole Pratt, Brittney Railsback, Brooke Ransier, Tabitha Scott, Alicia Spurgin.

**JV BASKETBALL:** Haley Cloven, Phelisha Constantini, Karina Kiene, Nikki Kline, Hanna Madren, Kathleen Neff, Kortnie Nelson, Markel Schwennelar, Liz Smiley, Cheyenne Stalnaker.

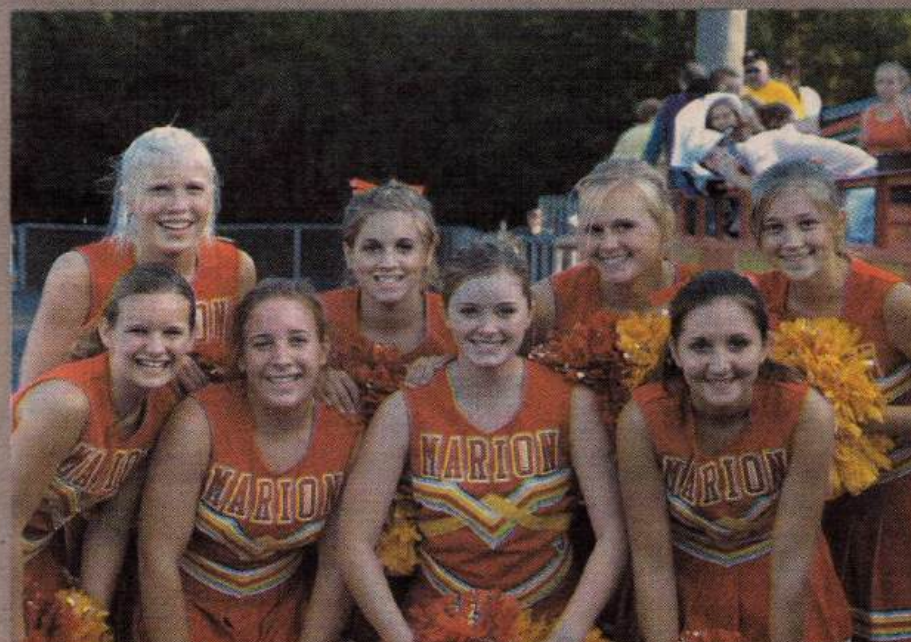
**VARSITY WRESTLING:** Chelsea Cimaglia, Hannah Kaczinski, Rian McGlynn, Sarah Morris, Shawna VanMeighem, Sammy Vest.

**JV WRESTLING:** JoAnna Forkner, Julia Kane, Erin Peiffer, Courtney Rodgers, Justina Spear.

**VARSITY WINTER DANCE:** Katie Barkdoll, Kellie Barkdoll, Katie Dahl, Melanie Kemmann, Rachel Millis, Jackie Noble, Andrea Oldfield. **JV Winter Dance:** Randah Espey, Ashley Heald, Jacque Kroemer, Alyssa Larson, Kayla Rethwisch, Olivia VanDerMillen.

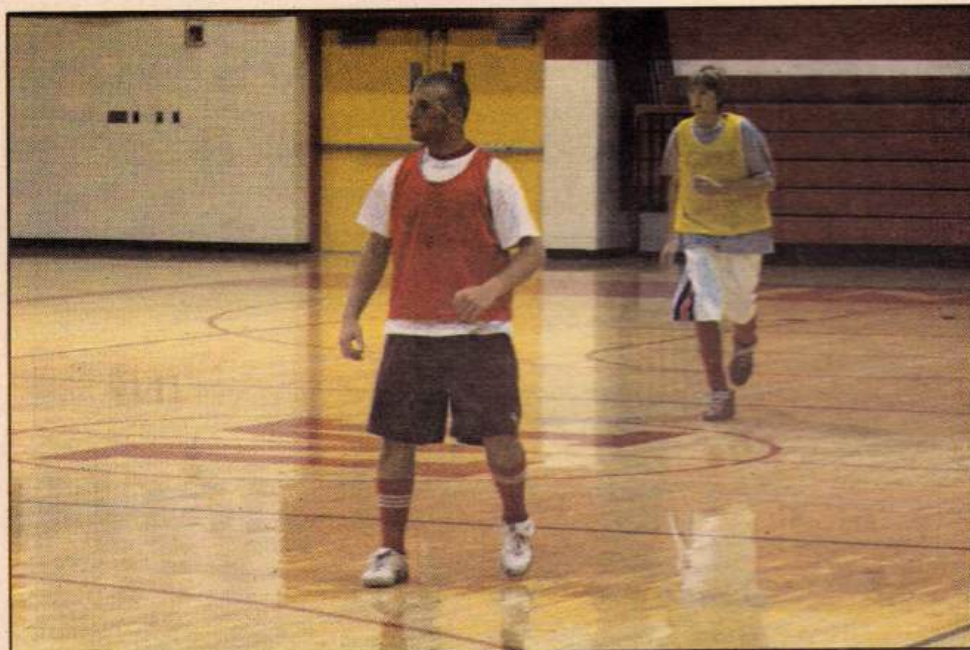
**COMPETITION:** Chelsey Banes, Jenna D'hooge, Erin Harrity, Ali Holub, Shelbi Hudgins, Karina Kiene, Kelsey Labs, Jennifer Link, Nicole Pratt, Brooke Ransier, Tabitha Scott, Alicia Spurgin.

**ALTERNATES:** Brittney Railsback, Courtney Rodgers, Sammy Vest.



The '06-'07 JV football cheerleading squad, all of whom will be cheering on the varsity squad next year.





Jordan Kruger, '07, is one of the senior leaders for the boys varsity and JV teams. If you go to a game you can always here him from the sideline giving encouragement. They're inside in the red gym because of the sudden cold. For the indoor practices they have to wear indoor soccer shoes or whatever they can come up with when practice starts.

## Bouncing back

By: Sam Rinehart

Every year, a new class of students files into Marion High School. Everyone always talks about all the new students and the bigger class sizes invading our school, but does anyone realize what a big role the graduated students still have at our school?

The boys' soccer team lost six starting players to the last graduating class. "We have lost a lot of good players the last few years, but now we have a new team that will work hard," Senior Jordan Kruger explains.

This new team will consist of many underclassmen

who will have a chance to show their talent. Sometimes people worry that younger players will just slack off because they are on varsity, but Jordan thinks differently. "I

**"I am looking forward to playing with new people and hopefully making good memories with and for my younger teammates."**  
-Jordan Kruger, '07

think the younger players will step up and take the needed positions because the team is going to need leadership after this season." Though

the team lost many key players from last season they still have five seniors.

Even though the soccer team may lack experience, they do possess senior leadership. "I am looking forward to playing with new people and hopefully making good memories with and for my younger teammates," Jordan and the other seniors really try to get to know their teammates. "We have team dinners and that really helps to bond the team better." Jordan added. They may be a young team, but they have senior leaders that have great potential to guide this team to a successful season.

## Building a new team

By: Tabitha Scott

With the season finally starting and meets beginning, the girls' track team has a lot to look forward to. The team consists of 38 girls, all who have a lot to bring to the team. Sarah Morris, an MHS junior, shares a little bit about how the season is going so far. "Our team is very good and this season is going to be amazing. Though we have a lot of strong competition, it's still going to be fun."

For the girls, the roughest part of the season is over. That would be pre-season. This is the time before the actual season starts where they go through long, tough workouts to prepare them for what's in store for the regular season. "Pre-season is really tough because track is just starting and you're trying to figure out

what you're going to be running [or throwing] and what you're good at," shares Sarah. Actual practices started for the girls during spring break. While most students were out

**"I enjoy working with this group. They're good students, good people, and everyone is working hard at being a good track and field athlete, no matter how much talent they do or don't possess..."**  
- Coach Ferguson

getting tans and having fun, these girls were working hard and building a team. "Getting up early wasn't fun, but the hard work we all put into it will definitely pay off at the

end of the season." They ran hills, did ladders, and went over the necessary instructions on how to use starting blocks and how to hand off the batons to each other during relays. The experienced girls helped out the newer and younger runners with many of these important elements to improve their team.

Coach Marc Ferguson sees the strength and ability in this team too. He responded, "I enjoy working with this group. They're good students, good people, and everyone is working hard at being a good track and field athlete, no matter how much talent they do or don't possess. I look forward to the experience everyday." The girls are off to a good start, but still have a ways to go to accomplish their team goal of winning WaMaC.



Freshman Joanna Forkner flies over the second to last hurdle in the shuttle hurdle relay at the Cascade invitational. Forkner is the second leg in the relay.



Alyssa Biery, '10, Throws the shot put during her competition phase of the track meet. This is her third year doing shot put.



Morgan Paige, '10, heaves over the bar during the high jump competition that began at 4:30. She consistently jumps around 4'10".



Maggie Murphy, '10, hands to baton off to Sarah Morris, '08, is the fourth leg in the relay and a leader of the underclassmen relay against stiff competition.



## Downtown secret

By: Sam Kiburz

As one walks through downtown Marion, the diversity of all the stores that are available to you are popping up everywhere. They are all-different but make the place we call home just a little bit better. To Sarah Rosenburger, '10, it's her mom's second home because she runs and owns the store called Cornerstone, Hearthstone, gifts and supplies. The store was a family affair. Sarah states, "My dad did all of the work outside, he worked really hard and it took him about a year." He picked everything from the color of the building to making it a totally different place.



"Cornerstone, Hearthstone, Gifts and Supplies," is the secret of downtown. It's a secret to Marion High School because not everyone knows about it but it could help you or your family finish a project at your house.

ping off the building onto the sidewalk on Seventh

Avenue. Now the shop is a cream/terracotta color that attracts bystanders from a mile away. The windows are bordered with fancy, green, and red trim.

The store is for the creative artistic person. If you're in need for decorating or just need supplies for a project your doing, than "Cornerstone, Hearthstone, Gifts and Supplies" is the place for you. It's located on the corner of Sev-

enth Ave. and Tenth Street.

## A terribly good book

By: Ryan Brunner

What are the Iowa High School Book Awards? "Basically, it's a group of books chosen by High School students as books that are good for High School students," Mrs. Cowger, one of the school librarians, explains.

The books, approximately a dozen of them, are announced every spring. Next February, any student that has read two or more of the nominated books can vote on a winner.

*A Great and Terrible Beauty*, by Libba Bray, was announced as the winner of the Iowa High School Book Award for the 2006-2007 school year on March 15th. This year, 22 schools participated in the contest, with 268 students voting

statewide.

*A Great and Terrible Beauty* is a Victorian fantasy about a girl, Gemma Doyle, who traveled from India to England to study at the same school as her mom. She is

the useless wives of rich men.

But Gemma is even more different than she realized. She finds that she has visions of the future, visions that a mysterious young man keeps telling her she shouldn't be having. To top it all off, she finds that her mother had a deep connection to a shadowy group called the Order.

It sounds like a book to read if you're ever looking for one for a class or (heaven forbid) you just want to read a book.

Next year's books will be chosen in August, and among the nominees are books such as *Eldest*, by Christopher Paolini, and *Maximum Ride*, by James Patterson.

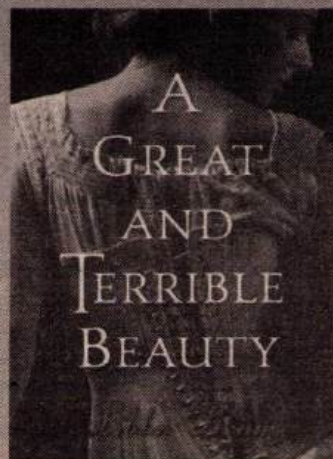


Image obtained from Google.com

greeted by girls nothing like her, girls that are being groomed and shaped to be

## Meet The Robinsons in Disney 3-D

By: Carly Huffman

*Meet The Robinsons* (rated G) opens with a sad scene of a blonde infant boy being abandoned on the doorstep of the Sixth Street Orphanage in the middle of a dark, stormy night. Nurtured by the loving orphanage owner, Mildred, this boy grows to become Lewis, a very bright twelve-year-old, and a budding inventor. He is desperate to be adopted, but every couple that meets him is put off by his genius and affinity for inventing crazy contraptions that rarely work the way they're meant to. In an attempt to recall his earliest memories of his biological mother, (the only person who ever wanted him) he invents a "brain scanner." Once it is perfected, he decides to exhibit it at his school's science fair.

An energetic boy named Wilbur Robinson shows up to warn Lewis that a mysterious man in a bowler hat would be sabotaging his invention in an attempt to steal it. Lewis ignores the warning, and, of course, the brain scanner is stolen. This begins a sometimes-hilarious time-traveling ad-

venture to the future and the past, meeting the whole crazy Robinson clan, and solving the mystery of exactly who everyone is.

The characters are zany, but not annoyingly so. It's impossible to remember everyone's name, and there were some characters that I wished would have had bigger parts. The brilliant Adam West voiced one of Wilbur's uncles, but he didn't have enough screen time because there were so many characters stuffed into a one hundred and two minute movie. This made it impossible to develop the smaller characters, but the three main players are well developed.

By far the best part of this movie is the quality of the graphics. I would definitely suggest that you shell out the extra \$1.50 and see it in Disney 3-D. It's totally worth it. It made me wish that every movie was made in 3-D. The recent string of computer animated Pixar movies have all been pretty similar, but this one breaks the mold. It contains comedy for all ages; everyone from your grandparents to your little siblings will enjoy the movie. It's a family film that is truly for the whole family.



Image obtained from Google.com



# Do it for yourself

By: Jenna Koppedryer

Purity balls are becoming more and more popular among fathers and daughters in America. But what exactly is a purity ball? A purity ball can be defined many different ways, but the general idea is described like this: Fathers vow to their daughters to protect them in their choices to live pure lives. The fathers also sign a commitment to be responsible men of integrity in all areas of purity. After this has taken place, the daughters silently commit to live pure lives before God by laying down a white rose at the cross, which is supposed to symbolize their virginity. The purity ball ends with the fathers and daughters praying together about their purity of their minds, bodies, and souls for them and their future generations.

Many would agree that spending time with family and staying pure is a great thing, but some criticize these balls. Not for the father-daughter bonding or the encouragement to stay pure, but because of the control over the daughters. Many say that these girls are too young to be thinking about sex let alone signing a vow promising to remain pure until marriage.

Though many of the girls that attend are usually around the age of menstruation there are others that are well under the age of ten and they will all take the vow of purity, even girls as young as young as four will take this vow.

**"When teens who took the purity vow were surveyed it turned out that 88 percent of the girls went on to have premarital sex and over half of them began having sex within the next three years."**

But what exactly is the vow of purity? For some this may be a promise that they plan to keep, but many others may not fully understand the commitment they are making not only to themselves, but also to their family, friends, and to God. How can you expect a four-year-old to grasp what their getting into when kids our age can't fully understand what they are getting into.

When teens who took the purity vow were surveyed it turned out that 88 percent of the girls went on to have premarital sex and over half of them began having sex within the next three years, according to findings of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health and Glamour magazine.

On the other hand, teen pregnancy rates have gone down. But it may not all be from teens staying abstinent. Teens are also using more effective ways to make sure they aren't getting pregnant, like taking the birth control. And just because teen pregnancy rates have gone down doesn't mean that STD rates haven't gone up.

Many say that having your kids take a virginity pledge is just setting them up for failure. Others say that by taking this pledge, you set your kids up for success. Either way, sex is a big deal, especially around our age group, and if your going to take a pledge, take it for yourself not for your dad or mom or anyone else, do it for you.



A girl and her father dancing at a purity ball.



A young girl and some of the speakers at the event getting food.



Many young girls and their fathers dancing at a purity ball

## 5 facts about purity

1. Purity balls are Christian organizations that promotes abstinent lifestyles to reduce STD's, unwanted pregnancies, and emotional damage.
2. They discuss all different topics concerning sex, ranging from consequences, to rewards if you wait, and how to stay committed to your vow.
3. Fathers also make a commitment at this event. They vow that they will protect their daughter(s) in their choice for purity, and lead a pure lifestyle as well.
4. Girls of any age can attend a purity ball.
5. The price to attend usually is between \$70.00 and \$90.00

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## Rising anxiety

By: Jenna Koppedryer

Prom is only three days away and most of you are making your final touches on what you're going to wear that special night. Getting your nails done, confirming your reservations, and calculating the money you have left is pretty much all you have left to do, right? Well not for senior, Courtney Heims, '07.

Courtney started looking for prom dresses in the beginning of January, but even though Courtney had four months to shop, the anxiety of prom still got to her. "I was so nervous I wasn't going to find a dress that I loved, let alone

liked," said Courtney. It took Courtney at least six different stores until she finally decided on the perfect dress.

But just because Courtney had a dress doesn't mean that the stress of prom went away. "I wanted to go all out this year since it is my senior year, but at the same time I didn't want to spend too much money." Like many people going to prom, Courtney had to watch her budget to make sure she wasn't spending too much money. "I had to have a price range before I started to shop to make sure I didn't go over my budget," Courtney explained.

Even after Courtney had gotten all of her shopping

out of the way, stress was still there. "I was so worried I wasn't going to get my reservation in on time and they weren't going to have room for us," Courtney said. But now that prom is only a few days away, Courtney has all of her plans set and ready to go. "I can't wait until prom! I'm so excited to get all dressed up and pretty," Courtney said excitedly.

The stresses of prom are nerve-racking, and the tension only grows until that special day where it will all be worth it, and all you'll have to worry about is if the DJ is going to play your favorite song.













Courtney Heims, '07, looks at prom dresses at Von Maur. Courtney looked at several different places before finding her perfect dress.

## Prom essentials

### GIRLS:

-  Pretty dress
-  Tiara (to show your princess side)
-  Up-do or down-do (something unique)
-  Nails and toes all done up
-  Matching shoes and purse
-  Make-up and glitter
-  Camera, for those priceless pics
-  California tan
-  Extra hairspray (just in case)
-  Glimmering Glam (aka jewelry)

### BOYS:

-  Sweet tux
-  Reservations set in place
-  Wicked ride
-  Gas in the tank
-  Money (and lots of it)
-  Fresh shaven (no five o'clock shadow)
-  Shiny shoes
-  Mix of your favorite songs (for the car ride)
-  After prom party plans
-  Lucious smell of your favorite cologne

## Going

By: Jenna Koppedryer

Senior year is usually the year that most students go all out for prom. It's the year where you spend all the money you've saved up in months just to make sure you are going to look your best when you get out on the dance floor and pull off all your dance moves that no one has seen before. On the other hand though, there are also many students who spend at most 50 dollars. This would be the description of someone

500 and

401-

301-

201-

101-

51-

0



# parations

9

## against the grain

senior Christine Mikkola, '07.

Since Christine was just going to have fun she decided to go to Gown Town

Christine wasn't too worried about what she was going to look like for prom, she was just going to have fun with her friends and enjoy

her last prom at Marion High School. Since she was just going to have fun at prom Christine decided to go to Gown Town held in the mall

by Z102.9 with hundreds of free dresses donated by other

girls who didn't want them anymore.

But when she arrived at Gown Town it was nothing like she expected.

"The first thing I saw when I got to Gown

Town was a mob of girls waiting to get in." Christine decided since she was already there she might as well join the fun. "I was pretty much

not able to move [it was so packed]." commented Christine.

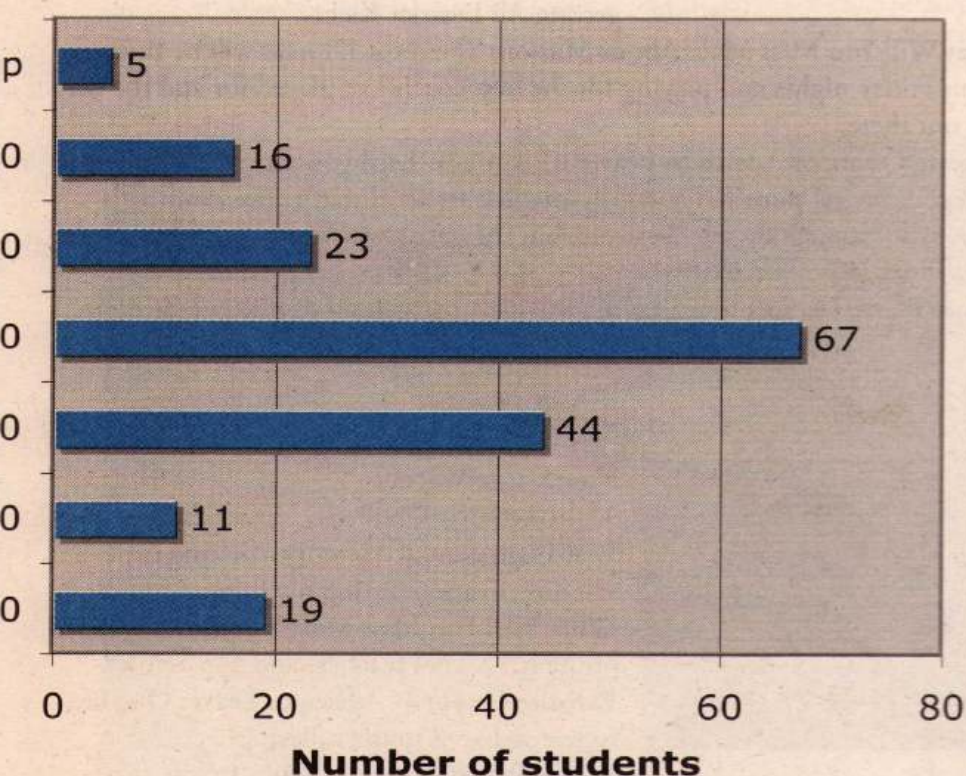
It only took a couple racks of dresses and fighting off some girls to finally find the dress she wanted.

Christine may not be the typical senior girl, wanting every single detail in order and stressing out about the little things, but unlike many of the girls who are going to prom, she had some fun in the process.



Christine Mikkola, '07

### How much did you spend?



"The most stressful thing about prom is listening to all the girls whine about their dresses."

-Andrew Tyne, '07

"I'm most excited to go to Perkins at 6 a.m. after post prom."

-Kiley Remington, '08



"The best part about prom is the streamers and balloons."

-Ryan Immerfall, '08

"The hardest thing to plan for prom is dinner depending on how picky your date is or the couple you go with are."

-Brooke Hingten, '08





# Senior Interviews



**Name:** Jarrett Hugg  
**Main Activity:** Play and recording for the Power of Cheese.  
**Other Activities:** Choir and speech  
**Season Highlights:** Follies, I got to perform a song I wrote.  
**Best High School Memory:** Freshman year when I could spend time with my sister Jena.  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:**

My friends and some of the teachers.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** Live your life by the moment. Because if you let yourself focus on the past or future too much, you might miss something.

**Future Plans:** Studying Japanese at the University of Iowa. Finishing my first two albums for the Power of Cheese.



**Name:** Tess Anderson  
**Other Activities:** Art club...um...that might be it  
**Best High School Memory:** Climbing up into the storage space in the ceramics room with Brittney Railsback and hiding from Mr. Thorton.  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** How easy it is along with the cool teachers and friends.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** "Who controls the past controls the future; who controls the present controls the past."

**Future Plans:** LEAVE IOWA!



**Name:** Nate Wiley  
**Main Activity:** Track  
**Other Activities:** Football, Basketball  
**Season Highlights:** When I win state track this year.  
**Best High School Memory:** Transferring from Vinton to Marion.  
**Future Plans:** Go to college and run track. Major in Engineering.



**Name:** Sara Wirtner  
**Season Highlights:** Football games.  
**Best High School Memory:** Spring break senior year.  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** The people and teachers  
**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** High school goes by very fast so make every moment worth it.

**Future Plans:** Attend Kirkwood then transfer to Iowa.



**Name:** Luke Walters  
**Main Activity:** Football  
**Season Highlights:** Getting the monkey off my back when beating Mt. Vernon this year, I've had on since last season when I missed a game winning field goal. It went away when I kicked that first field goal against Mt. Vernon.  
**Best High School Memory:** Going undefeated in the regular season in football and getting All District Kicker.

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** The most I'll miss will be suiting up on Friday nights and playing for the best coach I've played for and the best fans out there.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** It's not how hard you can punch. It's how hard you can get punched and keep moving forward that's how winning is done. Also, somebody may beat me, but they are going to have to bleed to do it.

**Future Plans:** Go to a four year school, kick and get my degree in education.



**Name:** Eric Wagner  
**Main Activity:** Choir  
**Best High School Memory:** Getting my standing ovation during my solo.  
**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** All of the really cool teachers and Mr. Semler.  
**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** One life to live so live it to the fullest.  
**Future Plans:** American Idol





**Name:** Michael Girdner

**Main Activity:** Tennis

**Other Activities:** Baseball, Band, FCA

**Season Highlights:** Winning my first match 6-0

**Best High School Memory:** Junior year, Corey and I went to the kernels opening day game at noon. It was a fantastic experience.

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

I will miss having front row seats to sporting events, student section, and seeing my friends everyday.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** "Comon" "Nice Jacket" My advice would be to make sure you try your best and try new things.

**Future Plans:** Attend Iowa State University to major in architecture.



**Name:** Christine Mikkola

**Main Activity:** Soccer

**Other Activities:** Winter Dance, Softball, Take Charge, SODA, FBLA, NHS, CHAMPS, NCYL

**Best High School Memory:** Going to Minnesota with my friends over spring break and going to a dance club, a.k.a, an Irish band concert with middle-aged weirdos.

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** Fab Four!

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** "An apple a day keeps the doctor away" and "Practice makes perfect, but nobody's perfect, so why practice?"

**Future Plans:** Go to UNI and major in biology.



**Name:** Kristin Daniel

**Other Activities:** Football Manager, Wrestling Manager, SODA

**Season Highlights:** Wrestling-Dodgeball in practice where Kyle Rogers brought out the inner ninja in everyone after presenting himself as the Red Ninja.

**Best High School Memory:** Field Biology

with Perk, looking for crawdads and fish shocking.

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** Seeing all my friends and having class with them everyday.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** We immortalize those we remember.

**Future Plans:** General education at Kirkwood, transfer to ISU.



**Name:** B.J. The Jackhammer Goldsberry

**Main Activity:** Being the Jackhammer

**Other Activities:** Football, Fareway, Guitar Hero (shirts and pants optional)

**Season Highlights:** Winning the District title, only calling people by their "actual" names on rare occasions.

**Best High School Memory:** Getting the name of The Jackhammer, on January 22, 2006. Putting my head on the table and slapping my

fist on the desk, calling everybody "Guy."

**What Will You Miss Most About Marion:** My brothers and all the babes, especially Texas Coach.

**Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave:** "Don't be a guy." Steven is a normal guy. Don't be like Steven. Remember, there is only one Jackhammer, but there can be many Jackhammer fans.

**Future Plans:** Continuing on the legacy of the Jackhammer at Coe College.



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# A night to remember for a lifetime

By: Lindsay Cayton

People look at Prom in many different ways. For some, it's a reason to get dressed up like princes and princesses. For others, it's the last night everybody will be together as one unit, before graduation. But for one couple, it's going to be a night to remember.

Senior, Phillip Roth, and Cori Boel, sophomore, have been dating for almost a year and a half. This isn't their first year of going to prom. They also went to prom and post-prom together last year as well.

For Cori, this will be a night with her prince charming. "Getting dressed up and seeing all of my friends dressed up is what I'm looking forward to most. I'm also excited to go out to eat with a few friends. Not too many though, because if you go

in a big group, people just sit there and stare at you," said Cori.

For Phillip, it's going to be a night with his princess, post-prom, hanging out with friends, and it will also be his last prom as a student of Marion High School. "I'm looking forward to post-prom and hanging out after post-prom the most."

Some people think that once they leave high school, they don't want to come back for prom the next year. But Phillip is different. "If Cori and I are still together next year, I will definitely come back for her junior prom next year."

Though it's expensive, more than it probably should be, for Phillip and Cori it will be a night of fun, friends, and wonderful memories that could last a lifetime.



When looking for a tuxedo, guys are faced with many tough decisions. Everything from the tie to the shoes is a whole set of completely customizable options. Most guys have the girl they are escorting pick, while others trust their own fashion instincts to guide them.

## What are you wearing?

By: Kyle Hacker

When it comes to prom, color coordination is key. For every matching couple there is pair wearing dark orange and light blue. Coordinating outfits is no small task. It requires communication, compromise, and understanding, the last two being, as anyone who has had to escort a young woman to a formal dance can tell you, quite a rare occurrence indeed. And while some guys may think that they can wear whatever they want, they are eventually set straight by their girls. But most couples make it through this dark and agonizing time with fabulous results. And since there is already an article about them on this page, let's see what the couple in this article are wearing. . .



**Phillip Roth**

Phil will be sporting a white and pink tuxedo to prom. He will be wearing a pink tie with white dots in order to tie the outfit together.



**Cori Boel**

Cori will be escorted by Phillip wearing a elegant pink dress. She will, like most girls, be having her hair styled before prom.

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# Top 10

## Things to do on a rainy day

According to Sam Rinehart

### 1 Watch a movie

1. *The Break-Up*
2. *Mean Girls*
3. *The Notebook*
4. *Saw Series*
5. *The Goonies*
6. *She's the Man*
7. *Finding Nemo*
8. *The Ringer*
9. *Monster-In-Law*
10. *Remember the Titans*

### 2 Talk/text on the phone



### 3 Get on facebook/online



### 4 Play games

1. Monopoly
2. LIFE
3. Disney Scene-It
4. Apples to Apples
5. Uno
6. Guess Who
7. Guitar Hero II
8. Scrabble
9. DDR
10. Cards

### 5 Go Shopping



### 6 Watch your favorite T.V. show

1. *Grey's Anatomy*
2. *Good Eats*
3. *Dawson's Creek*
4. *American Idol*
5. *Laguna Beach*
6. *October Road*
7. *Deal or No Deal*
8. *Family Guy*
9. *24*
10. *Scrubs*

### 7 Workout



Patrick Lala, '08



Alyssa White, '07

### 8 Hang with friends



Derrick VanDerMillen, '08  
Josh Ster, '08

### 9 Read a book

1. *The DaVinci Code*
2. *The Harry Potter Series*
3. *Stop Laughing At Me*
4. *The Gaurdian*
5. *MONSTER*
6. *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*
7. *The Breaking Point*
8. *The Kite Runner*
9. *Aimee*
10. *The Bridges of Madison County*

### 10 Play in the rain





## A Day in the Life

By: Carly Huffman

Most people know Kelsey Labs as the tall, perpetually smiling, blonde cheerleader who walks down the halls laughing with her friends. But there is a lot more to know about this sophomore four sport athlete's daily schedule.

She's a busy girl, but she doesn't get an early start to fit it all in. She'll wake up at 7:30 or 8:00, get dressed and eat breakfast then head to school, where she usually arrives just as the bell is ringing. "I don't think it's necessary to get to school early because there's nothing to do and it's boring," she says. She also mentioned that there is never any parking spots, which I'm sure we can all relate to. After sprinting to the classroom, "I like to text during class" she admits, laughing.

After school you can find Kelsey at track practice, which she says is "going well. I'm getting everything accomplished that I wanted to." During the rest of the year she also participates in football cheerleading, competition cheerleading, and basketball.

Her weekends consist of hanging out with her crazy friends and eating her favorite food, popcorn. She also works at Tomaso's and likes to travel when she has free time.

So the next time you see Kelsey, ask her what time she arrived at school that day, and don't be surprised if it's later than expected.

### Fun Facts about Kelsey

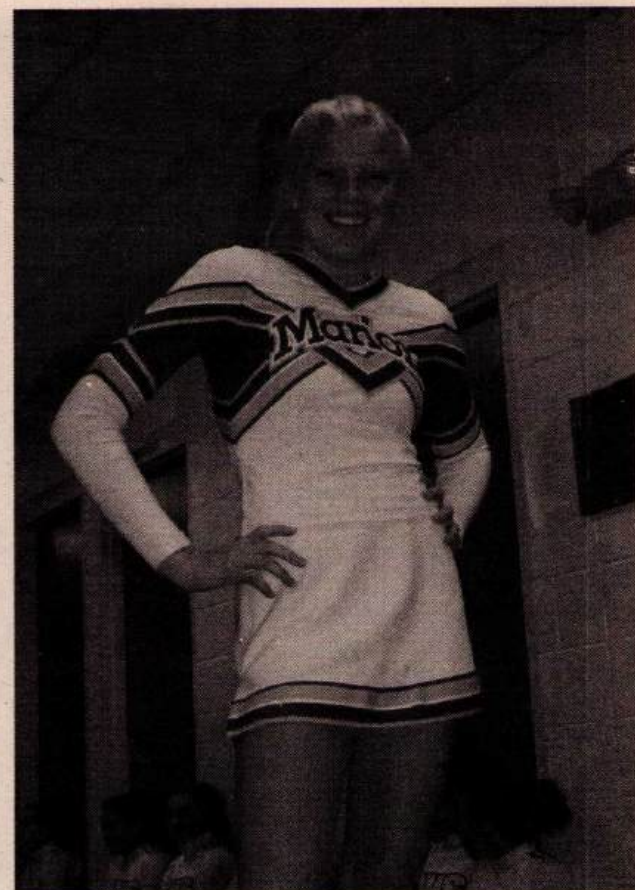
**Favorite Color: Pink or Blue**

**Favorite Food: Popcorn**

**Favorite Sport: Track**

**Favorite Animal: Cat**

**Favorite Holiday: Christmas**



Kelsey Labs '09, at a Prairie cheer competition.

## Backpack Attack

By: Pat Tiernan

Students at MHS have been wearing backpacks for years and years, but what if students weren't allowed to? There's been rumor around school that for safety reasons, backpacks will not be allowed in classrooms next year. One Marion High School teacher who is for the proposed plan is Spanish teacher Abby Reginetter. Ms. Reginetter commented, "I like the idea of not letting backpacks in class. They cause a lot of distractions such as cell phones, food, and drinks."

Ms. Reginetter feels backpacks aren't needed and if made illegal, good things would follow. "There's not enough room for walking between desks, it's dangerous. Also, if students didn't wear bags it wouldn't be so strenuous on their backs," Ms. Reginetter remarked.

Of course, there's bound to be negative effects from the change, but Ms. Reginetter believes that in the long run it's worth it. Ms. Reginetter commented, "It might take some time for students to adjust, but it could actually teach students to become more organized if they have to remember things for each class."

The main reason the rule is being considered, of course, is for student safety because of fire hazard and Ms. Reginetter feels some minor organizational disadvantages shouldn't stop it from being put into place. Ms. Reginetter stated, "Students can always borrow a pen or pencil and it would be a small thing to overcome for the safety of our students."

So, as explained by Ms. Reginetter, the positive outcomes of not allowing backpacks in classrooms would outweigh the negative effects and be for the better of MHS students.





# Calorie burning entertainment

By: Ryan Brunner

"Imagine half a dozen people jumping up and down, and moving their feet as fast as they possibly can to pop and techno music. Imagine another six people or so, standing by the wall watching, while simultaneously talking about anything that pops into their heads. Imagine all of this mayhem in Mr. Bates' room.

You've just imagined DDR club.

DDR, or Dance Dance Revolution, is a video game involving a pressure-sensitive mat, arrows flying up a screen to Japanese techno music, and a dancer jump-

ing up and down on the mat. "There are levels from beginner to heavy, or expert," Kelsey Rhodes, '10 explained. "When you finish the dance, you get graded from AAA to E, which means you failed the song."

In early March, a group of students including Kelsey, Alana Gosnell, and Ashley Timp decided to get together to play DDR. They got permission to use the choir room, and eventually made their way to Mr. Bates' room, where the DDR Club now plays every day after school.

"The only obstacles we really ran into was when and

where to have it, and how to get all the equipment here," said Kelsey. Unfortunately, Kelsey has run into some obstacles of her own: she has not been able to go to DDR Club since it started, because of track and the spring play.

Since the club started, several more people have joined, including Shawn Stampka, Michell Huff, Greg Chittick, and Zahra Al-Yassiri. "I do it for the challenge, its actually a workout," said Michell.

Whether it's for the dancing, the challenge, the workout, or some other reason, you should look into DDR Club if you need something to do after school.



Zahra Al-Yassiri, '10 (far left), and Derek Lochner, '12 (far right) play Dance Dance Revolution as Michell Huff, '10 (middle) watches.

A car that races at Hawkeye Downs zooms by. Chris Cole used to help out with this Winnermark car but now works with driver Griffin McGrath.



## Fast pace practice

By: Patrick Tiernan

Real world experience can greatly help a student prepare for his or her future. Jobs are the most common way for high schoolers, but one student volunteers at a race track as cars zoom by at speeds of more than a 100 mph. This intimidating event is a normal scene for MHS junior Chris Cole. Chris is a member of driver Griffin McGrath's crew and helps the driver out at Hawkeye Downs.

At races, Chris gets real-world training in what he wants to go to college for, mechanical engineering, and practice for his preferred occupation, a NASCAR crew chief. Chris greatly enjoys what he does and commented, "The fact that they drive so close at high speeds makes it interesting." Chris does

various things including changing tires, taking tire pressure, changing shocks and springs.

Chris helped out almost every week last year and is going to travel with McGrath to states including Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Though he doesn't receive pay, Chris explains, "They pay for my pit pass and hotel fees." On the days where Chris is traveling he can work up to 15 hours and when he's at Hawkeye Downs, up to 7 hours. This may seem like a lot but Chris elaborates, "I've grown to love it."

Chris got the rare opportunity to work the pit crew of a professional driver through his brother in law. Chris's brother-in-law is roommates with the crew chief of Griffin McGrath and got him the job. Chris is grateful for

the opportunity and, "I've been influenced a lot by my brother-in-law to get into racing because he basically hooked me up with the job."

Though Chris currently doesn't partake in any actual racing, that could change, "I've never raced before, but we have a Hornet car that I might race this year." His experience from helping out at a big time race of Griffin McGrath could help Chris come a dominant force.

So whether it's fifteen years from now in his job as a NASCAR crew chief, five years from now while he's studying to be a mechanical engineer, one year from now as he races his Hornet car, or the present just having fun, Chris Cole will continue to work the pit crew of Griffin McGrath and enjoy, "Just being a part of it."



Chris Cole, '08 holds a trophy with crew chief Rusty Shadder and driver Scott Wennermark.

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# Future college opportunities

By: Jordan Garretson

Graduation time means many different things for high school seniors each and every year. Many emotions are stirred up annually at this time; whether they are feelings of sadness, excitement, or nervousness. Either way, it is unanimous that all seniors share an intense feeling of anticipation, although the reasons may differ for each individual. Some are just tired of high school, while others are looking forward to getting away from home. Then again, there are still those who are simply excited for

new opportunities and experiences, instead of the same old routine each day.

For most seniors it is a fairly balanced situation, as far as regret versus excitement, although their excitement for college might tip the scales more towards the direction of the pure excitement. For Marion senior Andrew Reynolds, this is an accurate description of his feelings in a snapshot. Reynolds, set to graduate this spring with the majority of his grade, will be starting in the fall at Iowa State University. The Ames-based institution should prove to

be a great fit for Reynolds, who plans on studying mechanical, industrial, or constructional engineering. In addition to the school's engineering program, which is considered one of the best in the country.

"I wanted to get out of Cedar Rapids, and I really liked the campus," explained Andrew. Objective A was definitely accomplished, as Ames lies on the other side of the state. His second reason was a personal preference, his liking of the campus. As he departs from his old stomping grounds of Marion in the fall, Reynolds says he

will miss some things, but his feelings of excitement definitely seem to outweigh the feelings of remorse.

"Being out on my own will be really fun, but I'm going to miss the fact that I won't see my friends everyday like I do in high school," says Reynolds about what he considers to be the main negative aspect of leaving high school. Then again, there are pros to leaving high school as well as cons to going to college, as Reynolds also explained, "The best thing about being done with high school will be not having to do the same thing everyday, but college is

going to be a lot harder than high school."

One thing is for sure for Reynolds' near-future, college should be a very new experience for him, as it is for all students departing for secondary education each and every fall. Despite whatever departing seniors will be looking forward to, and whatever they will miss about our nostalgic feelings from our old high school days, one thing is for sure for the rest of us as well; whatever life brings us all after high school, it is sure to be full of new opportunities and experiences.



Reynolds, a senior at Marion this year, will attend college at Iowa State University next fall. "I wanted to get out of Cedar Rapids, and I really liked the campus," explained Reynolds regarding his decision on going to ISU. Location and personal preference of the campus are just two different things that students must consider in their college decision process.



## Facts About Iowa State:

-Iowa State's campus is based in Ames, Iowa

-It is a public university of science & technology

-26,700 students are enrolled there

-22,000 of which are undergraduates

-Its faculty consists of 1,750 members

-Home to the World's first electronic digital computing device; the Atanasoff-Berry Computer

-It's best known for its degree programs in science, engineering, and agriculture

-It has been coeducational since its establishment in 1856


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Picture: Google.com

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