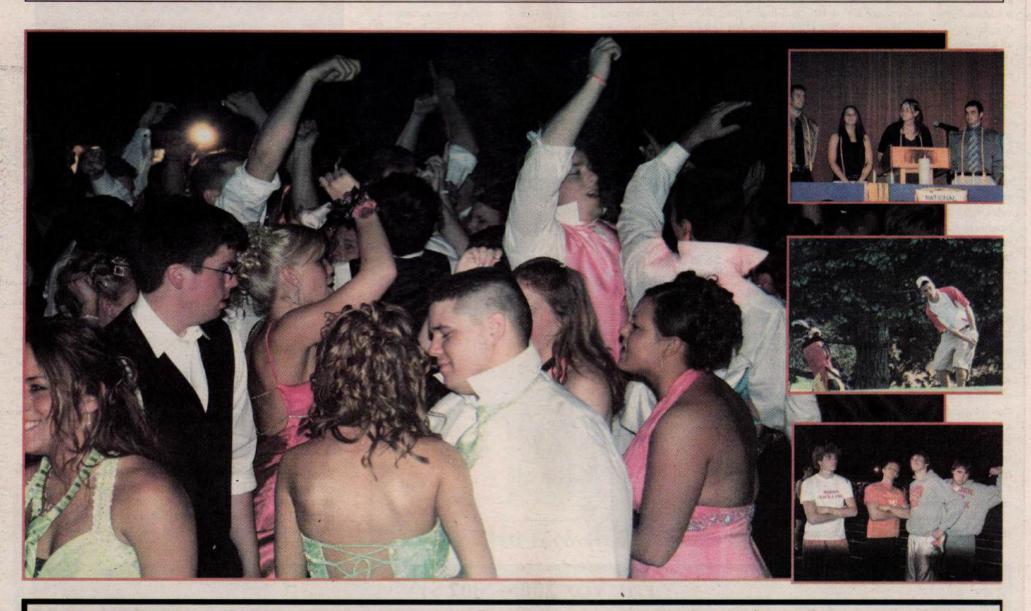
The VOX

Volume LVIV Issue #6 May 23, 2007

Marion High School





Senior Reflection

One seniors reflectoin on the last 12 years See page 8 and 9



Must List

Top Ten things you'll want to have on summer vacation See page 13



Genocide in Darfur

World News: Read about issues that need our help See page 7

Layer overload at Marion

Summer is well on its way and like many other schools, Marion High School has a dress code that is most certain to give you pit stains. The dress code is mainly put in place to keep students dressed appropriate and to help eliminate unneeded distractions. Not that the dress code is a bad thing (because we all know both girls and boys can get a little pit scandalous with their outfit choices, but there is always room for improvement especially when it comes to satisfying hundreds of teenagers.

The dress code consists of a long list of rules that describes what students can and cannot wear. The MHS dress code states: all undergarments must be covered and clothing may not feature writing or symbols that promote drugs, alcohol, sex, profanity, gangs, violence or any other message that

is disruptive to the educational process. These rules make sense and are put in place to keep students as safe and comfortable as possible. However, not all of the rules make as much sense, namely the banning of ALL headwear. How big of a distraction can a hat or bandana really be? Another rule that seems questionable would be that tops must have at least one inch straps on each shoulder. Is measuring a one-inch strap really worth it when all it does is cover barely any of our shoulder?

If the dress code helps keep you safe and comfortable then what is so wrong with it? In our student handbook it explains that the dress code is put in place to prevent health or safety hazards as well as to prevent any distractions from the educational process. Since when did bare shoulders become a problem? As long as certain body parts aren't being exposed, it would seem that wearing a tube top should be allowed. Or how does a bandana restrict students from learning, especially if it is used mainly to keep hair out of one's face or cover up a bad hair day that could possibly distract students to the point of laughter? Once again, the dress code isn't a bad thing, but it seems it does have some flaws that need to be tweaked.

There are many different ways we could change the dress code, one would be to discuss the issue with members of our very own student council. By mentioning the issue they could possibly take it to the administrators and maybe we would be allowed to create our own dress code with supervision of a higher power. Or maybe even a compromise could be considered. For instance, a "Casual Friday" could be put in place where students would be able to wear hats and girls would be able to wear their favorite sundress

Instead of continuing to complain and whine about the dress code, we need to put and end to it or at least try to clean it up a bit. By changing or at least compromising on a new set of rules we could eliminate a barrier that is keeping many teens from being happy.



How does the dress code effect you?

I believe the dress code is a bit crazy. A dress code is needed and we should have one, but on hot summer days, with no AC, we shouldn't get yelled at for wearing a tank top that may not be 1 or 2 inches wide.

-Chelsea Meyer, '09

I feel that the dress code is appropriate and many students are pushing it with what they wear.

-Courtney Roth, '08

You should be able to wear what you want.

-Jay Hagen, '08

I think a dress code is essential because there are some people who shouldn't wear some things, but I don't think it's a huge problem right now. I'm okay with it.

-Alex Dean, 'oo

Sophmore, Besty Ryan, is forced to wear a cardigan sweater over her sun dress. Wearing this sweater is manditory due to the width of her strap. This sweater is most likely to make her very hot and uncomfortable due to the muggy classrooms.

Marion High School 675 S. 15th Street Marion, Iowa 52302

THE VOX 2006-2007 STAFF

Executive Editor: Chelsey Banes Photo Editor: Matt Barnd Ads Editor: Nicole Pratt Sports Editor: Jordan Garretson Opinion Editor: Patrick Tiernan Feature Editor: Sam Rinehart

Reporters: Kristy Bell, Ryan Brunner, Lindsey Cayton, Kyle Hacker, Carly Huffman, Sam Kiburz, Jenna Koppedryer, Tabitha Scott. Advisor: Sarah Bentley

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.

Bye, bye beef, and hello veggies

By: Kristy Bell

As you all have heard, the school has recently cut out the salad bar due to lack of sales. As you all have seen [at lunch], it looks as if there's definitely not a lack of sales at the salad

bar, by the number of students who are almost always in line waiting to get a salad. Having that salad bar was a great alternative for vegetarians (and let's not forget, the occasional dieter). Already, as it is, there's hardly anything served that's meatless. Now another one of the

few options has been tossed away, but do not think that we don't appreciate the effort made by our lunch ladies to have prepared salads, wrapped up and ready to go. However, there are never enough of those to feed all the vegetarians and other kids who want a salad.

There are always those days when there's no snack shack, and no salad bar, and just some kind of chicken sandwich or Sloppy Joe. Then we spend a good dollar (if we have that kind of money) at the vending machine that won't even help fill us up. It's hard to focus in class on an empty, raging, growling stomach. Trust me, I've had many of those days throughout the entire school year when I was relying on the shack to open, or I was thinking the salad bar would be available, and it wasn't.

"Our school does well to

address holidays, and we

we fail to provide for other

students' chosen lifestyles."

Our school does well to address holidays, and we respect other's religions by respect others' religions...But not recognizing just Christian during the holiday season. Instead of saying Merry Christmas, we say Happy Holidays! But we fail to provide for other students' chosen

> lifestyles. It is true that vegetarians can always bring their own lunch, but the school could also put in a little bit of effort to feed our fellow herbivores.

> And don't start thinking that because we like to munch on grass, that that's all we like to eat. Vegetarians have a wide option of food choices. For example: vegetarian burgers, breads, nuts, and fruits. If you ever think about trying a vegetarian or vegan lifestyle, there are great books to help you get started;

Student's Go Vegan Cookbook by Carole Raymond is a great book! It has over 135 cheap, fast, and good tasting recipes. There's everything from soups, to breakfast meals, and different ways to mish and mash your veggies and fruits. She also has a book called Student's Go Vegetarian Cookbook. The only difference is the use of dairy products and eggs. If you want to look for more books on veganism and vegetarianism try going to your local Barnes and Noble.

Leading this lifestyle really requires you to eat other healthy foods. Being vegan or vegetarian doesn't mean eating grains all day; you've got to have your veggies and fruits. Also, since meat holds a lot of iron you'll need to try supplements (kind of like daily vitamins), or eat tofu, soybeans, black beans, spinach, potatoes, raisins, or nuts. Check out vrg.org/nutrition/iron. htm for a complete list of food that contains iron.

It'd be great to have our salad bar back. We need more food to help keep us steadfast on a healthy diet. It's very crucial to be offered meals with less meat. Don't just hand us leaves and think that's enough.

Think you might be pregnant?

Birthright® can help.

Free and Confidential

Call 393-3251

800-550-4900 www.birthright.org

love Show some puppy

By: Kyle Hacker

The Humane Society of the United States provides a valuable public service for our communities by taking abused and neglected animals out of their terrible situations and finding better homes for them. But what happens to the animals that were too scared, either physically or emotionally, to be adopted? The same thing that happens to the puppies and kittens not fortunate enough to find a home: euthanasia.

I just want to put this out there · before I go any further: I, Kyle T. Hacker, am against the slaughter of adorable puppies and kittens. I know it might be an unpopular stand, but that's just the way it is. I hope your opinion of me doesn't change because of that statement.

I've been trying to figure out a way to berate the Humane Society for euthanising animals, but I can't. It's not like they're kidnapping little children's puppies so they can kill them (at least I hope

not); they're taking these animals off the streets where they can do harm and out of homes where they might as well be dead. And these are a lot of animals; one shelter in Linn County has over 950 animals at any given time. And that many animals cost a lot of money to take care of. Separate cages, handlers, veterinary care, and food take their toll, and the cost of keeping some of the larger animals alive is

crazy.

Really, the only surefire way for these animals not to be killed is to take them in yourselves. That's right, I'm playing the blame game, and now I'm blaming all puppy death on the students of Marion High School. Come on guys, what's up? Can't spare a little food off your plate to feed a puppy? What does that say about you? Gluttony kills puppies. Look, if we all help out, the problem won't seem that large. We just all need to work together.

Together we can make a difference. In the immortal words of the immortal Captain Planet: "The power is YOURS!"



Ms. Bentley adopted these two cats last September from the Friends of the Animals Humane Society in Tipton. They were very sick, but have bounced back after being in a safe, healthy home.

ACTIVITIES

Stepping his game

By: Jordan Garretson

What is the biggest stage in high school golf? Ask yourself this question, and you'll probably come up with a simple, yet largely correct answer. Most would say the state meet. This is, of course, true, but has a much bigger meaning than those two words, as well.

To golfers around the state of Iowa, like Ben Cranny, '08, the state meet is not just a competition at a higher level, but it is the culmination of hard work from a full season of hard work in

practice, as well as the final part of the roller coaster ride that may or may not have been indicative of one's success over the course of that year. Besides the great thrill of competition, there is the excitement you get from the general buzz that is hovering around the event itself. But is there some added pressure on the competitors?

"The magnitude of the event and the fact that there's more people watching adds pressure, but it also makes it more exciting and fun," explains Cranny.

"I use my experience from being at state the last two years as motivation to get back there again," Cranny commented. And as far as his performance has gone over the course of this season? "I've been playing pretty well, I just need to put it all together at the same time."

Cranny certainly has the tools to do so, "I've been playing for the last 11 years, although I started becoming more seriously involved when I was 13." Cranny's hard work has paid off thus far, allowing him to qualify for

the state meet in his first two years of high school competition, including a 20th-place finish last year as a sophomore. Cranny's aspirations for his performance this year don't fall far from that level of excellence, either.

"I want to get back to the state meet and place in the top 20 again," Cranny said with confidence. While the latter may be quite a lofty goal, if Cranny's past success and his sense of determination is any indication, it should prove to be quite achievable for him.



Ben Cranny, '08, prepares to make a put during a duel with Vinton at Gardner Golf Course in Marion. Ben was the #1 golfer on the boys' team in his third year on Varsity.

Building a tradition

By: Jenna Koppedryer

In past years, when someone thought of Marion boys tennis, they usually didn't think of determination,

strength, and total domination, because of their pasts perfor-

mances, but for the be

but for the boy's tennis team these are the characteristics that led them to a undefeated, 9 and 0 season, the first time ever in the MHS boy's tennis program.

Boys tennis has gone under total reconstruction the last two years. In the 2005 season the boys had a record of 1 and 8. Obviously, unsatisfied with the season, the team decided it was time for a change. The very next year the boys broke the most wins in a single season with a 6 and

2 record. "It was really exciting to win so many meets," explained Jason Scott, '07, "we improved a lot over the season."

great sea-

son the year

before, this

year's team

had high

standards

"It was really exciting to win so many meets. We improved a lot over the season."

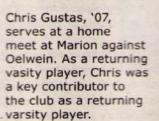
-Jason Scott, '09 to meet. "It

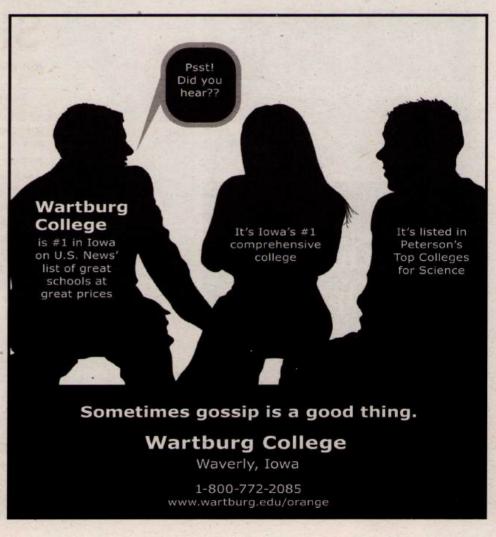
was really nerve-racking knowing that we had so much to live up to," said Jason. But meeting the standards for this year's tennis team was no problem. "We did a lot better than I thought we were going to in the beginning," Jason commented.

The boys started off with a great win over South Tama 8 to 1. From there they just couldn't stop, with eight more wins and a third place finish at WaMaC, the boy's tennis team was unstoppable.

The team did much more than meet their standards, they crushed them, and they plan to keep it that way for seasons to come.







5 ACTIVITIES

Fun in the sun

By: Linsey Cayton

After having an above average softball season last year, many players hope to have an even better one this

year. A lot of girls go out every year go out for softball. Some play on Varsity and others play on the Freshmen/Sophomore team. Everyone on the team and coaching staff al-

ways has high expectations for the team this summer, especially sophomore shortstop, Shelby Perkins.

"We have a lot of great players coming back this year, which will really help us a lot.

We all have improved greatly in the past year. I really think this will be a strong season because all of us have a lot of experience and that always helps when in tough situa-

> tions in games." said Shelby.

All the players on the team have many different ideas of what the season highlights

expect the team

state tournament

what will be the

for the Indians

Shelby Perkins, '09 are. "Last years' campout was defi-

> nitely the highlight for me! The team went out and got a bunch of food, invented a game called "Balls In," and told a bunch of stories to each other, and also played "Phase 10." My sister and a bunch of other older players scared us

that night! They came with war paint on their faces and threw water balloons at us!" laughed Shelby.

Shelby has reflected on this past season and thinks that this year, they will do great things. She says, "I'm really looking forward to playing Xavier. They are always a tough team, but whenever we play teams that are hard to beat, it forces us to step up and really show how hard we've worked and practiced. Good competition really helps us to play

With experienced players returning this season, this summer promises to be even greater than the season last

Track State Qualifiers

Ian Lebeau- 100. Nate Wiley- 4x400, 400. Allen Riesner- 4x400. Andrew Kelly-4x400. Michael Dhooge- 4x400. Kyle Rogers- Shuttle hurdle

relay, 400 hurdles, 110 high Alec Kiburz-Shuttle hurdle

Riley Odean- Shuttle hurdle

Corey Kramer- Shuttle hurdle

Josh Ster-Discus. Drew Clark- Shot put, Discus, Nathan Nissen- 3200.

Jacqueline Kane- 4x400, Sprin Medley, 400.

Kelsey Labs- 4x400, Shuttle hurdle relay, 400 hurdles.

Rachel Smith- 4x800, 1500. Ali Holub- Shuttle hurdle relay Chelsea Burhite-4x800, 800. Monica Kelly-4x400, 800. Brittney Thomas- 4x400, Sprint Medley.

Shelbi Hudgins- Shuttle hurdle

Shelby Perkins-Sprint Medley. Morgan Paige-Sprint Medley Maggie Murphy- 4x800-Sadie Magnifico-4x800. Joanna Forkner- Shuttle hurdle



110 High Hurdles



Jacqueline Kane, '08 400 Meter Dash



Nathan Nissen, '07 3200 Meter Run



Ian Lebeau, '08 100 Meter Dash



Rachel N. Smith, '08 4X800 Relay

Lala is no belly-itcher By: Jordan Garretson

The 2006 Indians Baseball season can only-be described as nothing short of spectacular all because the team reached the state tournament for the first time in Marion history.

What are the expectations for a season after one in which the accomplishments were unparalleled by any past Marion baseball team? For start-

ers, many to get back?

"I love being at the to reach the field and being with the again. But guys. It's just a great experience over the key this year summer." -Patrick Lala, '08

One of these keys, as usual, will be pitching. Will the starters be consistent enough? Will the Indians' pitching be deep enough? Hoping to answer some of these questions is Patrick Lala, '08.

Patrick, who started at second base last season in addition to pitching, has high goals for the team. "I have a lot of personal goals, but they all feed off of how well the team does. I want to win the Metro Tournament, finishin the top three of the WaMaC, and make it back to state," said Patrick.

Patrick certainly has the talent to help the team accomplish these goals, but how have the intangible aspects of his game

developed over the past year?

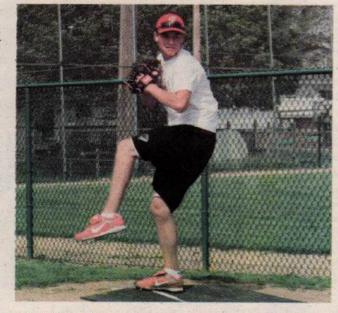
"Your composure grows every year as you play, but I think I learned how to pitch to hitters last year. I learned a lot of baseball knowledge from the seniors, too." A little motivation never hurts, either.

"My favorite thing about last season was the experience we had at state, far above all," Patrick explained. Although getting back to state will definitely prove to be easier said than done, Patrick is prepared to handle the grind of the '07 season. And while some dislike that grind, Patrick relishes it.

"Once the Metro Tourney starts, it seems like you have games everyday. But I love being at the field and being with the guys. It's just a great experience overthe summer," stated Patrick. Although Patrick enjoys the games, it is still tough to deal with sometimes.

"The toughest thing about last season was probably just dealing with the adversity and hanging in there with the tough schedule we play," Patrick said.

Just like last season, the Indians should be plenty battletested by the time the post-season arrives, but Patrick feels the team will be able to do big things. "We have a great team, and I think we can go above and beyond what we did last year," added Patrick. But only time will tell if Lala's ambitious words can be turned into a reality by the Indians.



Patrick Lala, '08, works on his pitching mechanics during practice after school. Patrick pitched varsity last year as a sophomore along with starting at second base.

Portable entertainment

By: Pat Tiernan

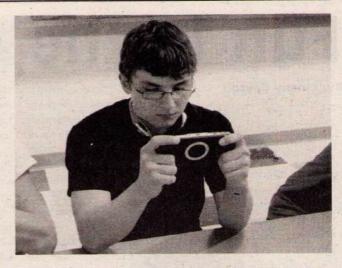
The Playstation Portable, better known as the PSP, has been around for a couple years now, but the number of features, like its popularity, is always growing. When the PSP came out in 2005 it cost \$250 and had four basic functions: game play, video play, music, and Internet. The PSP still holds these same four basic functions, but with the help of system updates each function has been greatly improved. From more types of files being accepted, to the ability for RSS feeds, to actual console improvements like music visualizers and soon an attachable camera, the PSP has come a long way. When it came out, the PSP was ground breaking, with major console-like graphics in a handheld package. Now, with the new features, it's very understandable why you see more and more PSPs in students' hands around Marion High School.

The best feature of the PSP is game play. With hundreds of games to choose from, you're sure to find a game of your liking at prices which are lower than that of the Xbox 360 and

Playsation 3. PSP has major game titles like Madden, NBA Live, Final Fantasy, and Grand Theft Anto, but also includes special games only for the PSP. The graphics of the games are excellent if you think about the size of the gadget you're playing with, and way better than graphics from a Gameboy. Of course, the best aspect of the PSP is its portability and its ability to handle big time games on the go, which is very revolutionary.

The other three features aren't quite what you would get from function specific electronics, but when you put them all together with the price, it's the way to go. On the plus side of the video and music is the quality of playback. Videos are a tiny step below television quality and music is basically flawless. On the downside, actually getting the music and movies can be very tricky without a Media Manager, and certain types of files cannot be played.

Internet is the worst feature, or better yet, the least best. Wireless Internet is needed for it to work and upload speeds are slower than your PC. However, if your computer is in use, the PSP is a better option than just waiting around.



Greg Dean, '09 plays his Playstation Portable at lunch. One of the best aspects of the PSP is it's ability to be played almost anywhere.

With a \$170 price tag for the core system and \$20 for stugames, the PSP is a gadget that, though relatively old in the electronics world, will amaze the new owner.



The Ex delivers laughs

By: Carly Huffman

In the huge flock of summer movie previews I saw in the past few months, *The Ex*'s stood out for one reason: Jason Bateman. My boy-

friend and I are huge fans of the prematurecancelled show Arrested Development, in which Bateman stars. We'd watch pretty much anything he did, but The Ex looked funny on it's own. Zach Braff stars as Tom, a man who is

forced to move to Ohio with his wife (played by Amanda Peet) 'and newborn baby, and take a job at his fatherin-law's advertising firm. His new wheelchair-bound co-worker, Chip (Bateman), soon starts trying to sabotage Tom's marriage and career. Tom tries unsuccessfully to convince everyone



that Chip is pure evil.

The Ex is full of exactly the kind of laughs you'd expect. The overall effect and storyline is comparable to You, Me, and Dupree. The fact that my boyfriend and I are huge movie nerds affected our outlook on the final product. It made us laugh more than enough for us to

call it a 'good comedy' but we dissected storyline about an hour afterwords and found enough plot holes to make cheese. If you can get past the problems in continuity and the irrelevant unimportant side-stories, you

will leave the theater with a smile on your face.



Indulge in The Bell Jar

By Kristy Bell

Sylvia Plath's novel, The Bell Jar, is truly a masterpiece. If you've ever seen the movie Sylvia, based on the author's life, you can see throughout this book how her writing reflects her dark nature. The events in this book relate closely to the events that happened to Plath in the summer of 1950. Esther Greenwood, a college student, won a writing contest and got to be a guest editor at a woman's magazine in New York with other women. While she's there she meets famous people, receives free gifts from magazines, and enjoys free fine dining. She is pressured all throughout this book by society and what they expect from her. She is pressured by sex, and staying pure until marriage. She feels that she has to be perfect, perky, and happy,



when deep down she isn't feeling happy at all. After returning home for the rest of the summer she has a nervous breakdown because of all this pressure, and tries to commit suicide. She is found in her basement a few days later from an overdose of sleeping pills. Then admitted into a hospital, she starts making steps toward sanity after a smooth and short recovery.

If you're looking for an indulging read, this is the book for you. Don't stop at this book, though. After her suicide [in February of '63] her diaries were published. Two of them are The Journals of Sylvia Plath, and Unabridged Journals of Sylvia Plath. You will be drawn into Sylvia's world as if it were your own. A battle of depression and anger that you constantly fought, but never could conquer.



Genocide in Darfur

By: Ryan Brunner

In early 2003, in the African country of Sudan, a government-backed militia called the Janjaweed launched an attack against two rebel groups: the Sudanese Liberation Army (SLA) and the Justice Equality Movement (JEM).

However, the Janjaweed didn't just attack the rebels. They destroyed everything in their paths, killing indiscriminately, annihilating rebels and innocent civilians

According to SaveDarfur. org, over the four years that the Janjaweed have been in action, they have killed over 400 thousand people. It is the most devastating campaign of rape and slaughter since the Rwandan Genocide of 1994. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres, has declared the Darfur conflict "the largest and most complex humanitarian problem on the globe."

According to SaveDarfur. org, The Bush administration has recognized these

atrocities as genocide, or the Janjaweed. Their inability systematic destruction by a government (in whole or in part) of a certain religious or ethnic group. Aside from as murder, the Janjaweed have destroyed millions of lives. According to SaveDarfur. org, there are over 2 million refugees in Darfur, Chad, and other countries, and

almost 4 million people reliant on international aid.

Sadly, the international aid has trouble even surviving there. Fourteen aid workers

have been killed in Darfur in the last six months. Many more have been attacked and threatened, and being unarmed, are often unsure how to handle the situation (Gazette, April 30). The rebel groups claim

to be trying to compel the Sudanese government to confront underdevelopment in the Darfur region, but are unable to fight as one. According to SaveDarfur.org. JEM and SLA fight as much with each other as with the

to unite for the good of the people is a great, if not fatal.

On July 30, 2004, the UN Security Council demanded that the Sudanese government disarm the Janjaweed, but the Janjaweed are still armed, dangerous, and more than willing to commit evil,

inhuman acts.

In May 2006

the rebels, Janja-

weed, and Suda-

nese government

signed the Darfur

Peace Agreement.

The UN has declared Darfur "the largest and most complex humanitarian conflict on the globe."

However, dead-Jines were ignored, and the rape and murder began again, greater than ever before.

On August 31, 2006, the UN authorized a strong peacekeeping force to go into Darfur. But the Sudanese government stated that they would view the force as an invasion, and the next day launched a strong offensive into Darfur.

Most high school students are unaware of the Darfur genocide. When asked about it, most kids at Marion responded by asking what it is. Hopefully, this story will help to raise awareness to the cause.

If you want to help with the campaign for international action in Darfur, go to SaveDarfur.org. There, you can learn about the genocide and what the people of the world can do to help spur the UN into decisive action. You can donate to the cause. or sign a petition for international intervention. Anything that you can do to help save the people of Darfur will make a difference.

Strong international intervention is the only thing that can save the innocent people in Darfur. Despite what Sudan says, the UN must press harder. If no impression can be made, definitive military action must be taken immediately, for those who will die soon if no one comes to help, and for those who have already died. If we don't help, the children of Darfur have only starvation, torture, and suffering to look forward to for the remainder of their innocent lives.



Darfur is a region in western Sudan, bordering Chad. Darfur is comprised of three separate regions: Janub Darfur, Shamal Darfur, and Gharb Darfur.



There are many refugee camps in Chad and Darfur. The Janjaweed have forced over 2 million people into refugee camps. Refugees have also fled to free nations planet-wide, including the United States of

What do YOU think we should do?



"Kill all the Janjaweeds! Kill them all!"

-Jordan Ramelsburg, '10

"We shouldn't send troops over there, just aid." -Hannah Kinney, '10





"We shouldn't send troops over there, it would just be another Iraq."

-Cheyenne Stalnaker, '10

"The only reason we're not going in there is that there's no natural resources that we need. -Parker Brown, '10

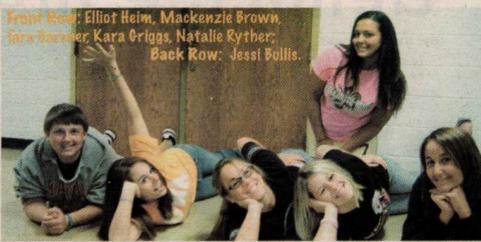


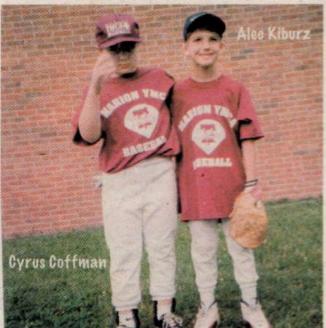


8

Senior R







Motto: The memories we've shared, the times we've had together, they will stay with us always. Goodbye is not forever.

Colors: Red and Silver Flower: Stargazer lilly

Activities:

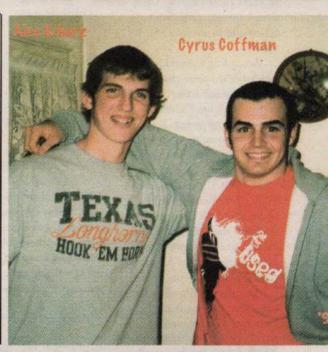
-Fall: Damn Yankees

-Spring: Merry Murders at Mountmarie Sport Achievements: Football: 9-1; Volleyball: state semi-finalist; Boys Basketball: WaMaC champions; Girls Basketball: last round of districts; Baseball: state qualifier; Boys Track: WaMaC champions.

Homecoming:

-Queen: Natalie Ryther

-King: Kevin Schuver







eflection





A senior reflection

y: Carly Huffman

Well guys, it's almost here. he time has come for us get out of here and move n. I don't know about you, it I'm ready. Over the past velve years, we have done so uch together. We've gotten fights, found best friends e thought we'd never place, complained about hool lunch, celebrated the hool Store and the Snack ack, and spent countless ours deciding on prom esses. Whether you're ing to college, the military, work, when Sunday mes, it's all over. No more ock schedules, P.E., healthy nding machines, ITEDS, awg House Football, rateful Red Basketball, arlet Spectrum Marching ind, or pie-ing Mr. Z. nere's so much we'll never rget even if we want to. rsonally, the thing I am ing to miss most about gh school is the class I'm in ht now, Journalism. It has roduced me to my passion,

d given me more practice

r my future career than I

ever could have hoped for. 4 had two of the best teachers that I have ever come across, and even though I am often late for deadlines, and complain all the time, Ms. Bentley (and Ms. Martin) mentored me and made me a better journalist. Through the constant yelling, singing, death threats, unplugging of the server, gossiping, talking about Bentley's wedding, and countless trips to the school store, this class has become about as close to family as it can. I've met best friends and arch nemeses and I wouldn't change a minute of it. I really hope everyone had at least one class that changed their life the way this one has.

I don't want to get all mushy and sentimental, but I might have to. Remember the days at Vernon when it rained and we had indoor recess? Do you even remember what it was like to have recess? Having zero outside time was one of the many changes we had to adapt to when we moved up to the high

school, along with carrying our backpacks everywhere, and having classes with actual finals. I loved high school. It taught me a lot about life. Your best friends might not stay that way, you have to respect authority or you'll get restitution, and you have to do your homework or you'll come dangerously close to failing your class. Next year, it will take a lot more effort to stay friends with people that we are used to seeing every single day (thank goodness we have Facebook), but try to keep in touch. Later, we'll laugh about all the stupid stuff we did, the two years of amazing football that were so much fun, and how, overall, we went to a school full of pretty great people. We've come a long way from our first day huddling together in the alcove by the office (which every freshman class is required to do) and if I could leave one piece of advice to the next class, it would be to take lots of pictures, because high school is over before you know it.





SENIORS

Senior interviews



Name: Andy Tielebein Main Activity: Gaining knowledge in the class-

Other Activities: Working at Hy-Vee Season Highlights: Watching Mr. Thornton drink his coffee everyday.

Best High School Memory: Watching Zach bury his face in a salad at lunch just for a milk. What Will You Miss Most About Marion: The french toast sticks. Oh yeah, a few people too

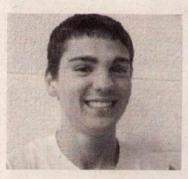
Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: "If it feels good, do it!" Future Plans: Attend Clarke College in Dubuque, and study psychology.



Name: Ali Shedek Main Activity: Soccer Other Activities: Take Charge. FBLA, NHS, CHAMPS, SODA, Art Club, NCYL, and ELP. Season Highlights: Winning in overtime against West Delaware.

Best High School Memory: When Mackenzie fell off the ski lift at Sundown and they had to stop it. Also, morphing Natalie's Aero Star into the PROM VAN!

What Will You Miss Most About Marion: My friends and teachers. Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: "Go big or go home"-Johnny Tsunami Future Plans: Attend Loras College.



Name: Marty Tope Main Activity: Basketball Other Activities: Track

Season Highlights: Beating "the dynasty" day in and day out, despite giving them leads of ten or more at practice.

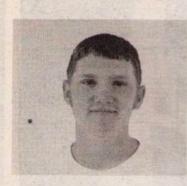
Best High School Memory: Catching three footballs at a football game, which still remains a

What Will You Miss Most About Marion: All of my basketball games and bus rides home. Making

Allen mad while singing with Levi.

Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: "An army of deer led by a lion will defeat an army of lions led by a deer."

Future Plans: Attend Mt. Mercy and play basketball.



Name: Owen Kane Main Activity: Baseball Other Activities: FBLA

Season Highlights: Going to state for the first time in school history.

Best High School Memory: When Tara jumped the fence and ran into the clothesline behind my house.

What Will You Miss Most About Marion: Getting to see my friends everyday and playing baseball.

Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: "Big things come in small packages." Future Plans: Go to Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago and major in architecture with a minor in construction management.



Name: Jessi Bullis Main Activity: Volleyball

Other Activities: Soccer, NHS, NCYL, SODA, Take Charge, CHAMPS, Student Senate, FBLA, Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, Student Ambassadors, volunteering.

Season Highlights: Making it to the state semi-finals in volleyball my senior year, the Pella volleyball team camp, volleyball sleepovers, and everyday at practice.

Best High School Memory: Going to the MOA,

St. Patrick's Day in Minneapolis with Ali, Mack, Nat, Christine, and all the weirdoes there, and third hour movie parties at Mackenzie's house.

What Will You Miss Most About Marion: My friends and most of the teachers. Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: "Be not afraid of greatness; some are born great, some achieve great, and some have greatness thrust upon them."-William Shakespeare. Be yourself and get over all of the drama.

Future Plans: Attend Wartburg College and play volleyball.



Name: Nate Pickering Main Activity: Soccer Other Activities: SODA, Take Charge, FBLA. Season Highlights: Clinics I put on daily during

Best High School Memory: There's just too many. I've had a lot of fun, near death experiences. What Will You Miss Most About Marion: Seeing my friends and going crazy at football games. Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: "That's what she said." Don't worry about the past or future,

live in the moment and make the most out of everyday.

Future Plans: Attend Wartburg to major in something in business, and play soccer.

SENIORS



Name: Tyler Hilleshiem Main Activity: Football Other Activities: Baseball

Season Highlights: Not a lot since I broke my leg. Best High School Memory: Hanging out with my friends.

What Will You Miss Most About Marion: Being with my friends.

Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: Live everyday like it's your last.

Future Plans: Go to Coe College and play football and baseball and major in business.



Name: Mackenzie Brown Main Activity: Golf

Other Activities: Volleyball, Student Senate, NCYL, NHS, CHAMPS, ELP, SODA, and FBLA.

Season Highlights: Beating ONE team at Crandic Best High School Memory: Going to Mall of America, hanging out with the fab four, and the summer before our junior year.

What Will You Miss Most About Marion: Not being able to see my friends everyday,

Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: When the going gets tough, the tough gets going.

Future Plans: Attend Iowa and major in nursing.



Name: Andrew Reynolds Main Activity: Golf

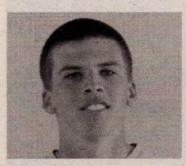
Other Activities: Take Charge, NHS, and SODA. Season Highlights: Improving a lot from last year and winning at Edgewood.

Best High School Memory: Getting yelled at during halftime of a football game because I yelled at some freshman during a band performance. I think those were the first words Dr. Thomas has ever said to me. State golf was awesome, too.

What Will You Miss Most About Marion: Seeing my friends all the time.

Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: Don't do drugs.

Future Plans: Dominating Iowa State with Ruby and Cam, all while studying engineering.



Name: Jordan Ruby Main Activity: Golf Other Activities: none

Season Highlights: Shooting a 78 at Maquoketa Best High School Memory: State golf the last two years was awesome.

What Will You Miss Most About Marion: Golf, and being around all my friends everyday.

Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: "Go on, be a tiger."

Future Plans: Attend ISU for engineering.



Name: Diana Arnold Main Activity: Speech

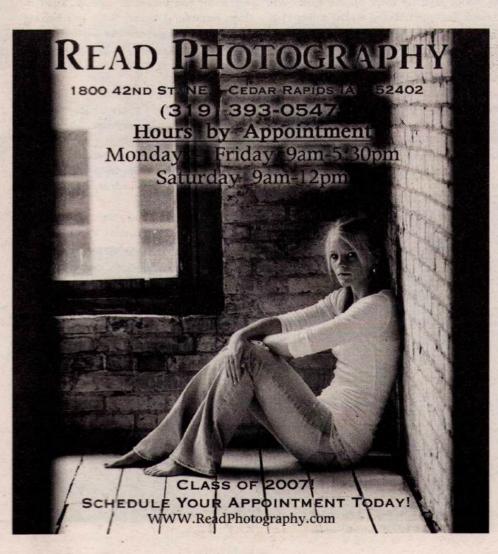
Other Activities: Choir (Concert, Chorale, Cantorie), Fall Musical, Spring Play, Follies, Creative Ink, SODA, and volunteering.

Season Highlights: When I got All-State for the second time.

Best High School Memory: When we have down time and I get to goof off with my friends.

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

Favorite Quote or Advice to Leave: "Get involved...OR ELSE."
Future Plans: I want to be an English teacher, so watch out Mr. Bates!



The nation's finest

By: Ryan Brunner

The University of Chicago is one of the greatest universities on the planet. The school has 79 Nobel Prize winners associated with it as faculty, students, or researchers. The average high school GPA of freshmen at The University of Chicago is 3.89, and only 38% of applicants are admitted. In the 2007-2008 school year, one of those admitted students is our very own Will Larsen, a senior.

"I chose the University of Chicago because it's an elite university with many of the nation's best academic programs," Will stated.

Although he was looking into some Ivy League schools, The University of Chicago is still pretty high up there on the scale. Will was accepted into Chicago on December 15th. "Before I got into Chicago, I was really into Columbia. Brown was good too. But once I got into Chicago early, I knew that was where I wanted to go," said Will.

Aside from being one of the nation's top universities, The University of Chicago is located in a city that is well known for its wide mosaic of cultures and lifestyles, something that Will is really looking forward to. "I'm pretty pumped to have all that Chicago has for entertainment."

Tuition at The University of Chicago costs about \$33,000 a year, which is way above most

peoples' price ranges. However, Will did \$35,000 in need-based grants, so, as he joked, "I suppose I'll take that."

Will plays the saxophone and is in speech,



Will Larsen, '07

among other acitivities. He plans on doing music and theatre at Chicago, and perhaps intramural soccer. What he's looking forward to the most about Chicago, however, are the people. "The Chicago student body is known as being a bit...different," he

Will hasn't really decided what he is going to major in. "I declared international studies, but I'm not really sure. I know that I'm pretty open to changing my mind, so I'm not going to make any predictions."

Whatever Will does, he is bound to do well; we all wish him luck at one of the nation's top schools.

A hopeful recovery

By: Lindsay Cayton

As many of you know, a very unfortunate event happened to a great teacher here at Marion.

weekend. Last Mrs. Wikert was in a serious horse back riding accident. She had to go to the University Hospital in Iowa City, and was, and still is, in very critical condition. After she got out of a long surgery, her body has been getting better slowly each day.

If any of you have taken one of Mrs. Wikert's classes. you would know that she does wish the best for you and your future.

Now we should return the favor and keep her in our hopes and prayers the rest of the year.

> Now we should return help, we can reach this goal. the favor and keep her in our hopes and prayers the rest of the year. Some teachers and students have already given time and money to the

Wikert family to help them through such a terrible time.

This week, in every second-block class, we will be having a coin collection to

> help raise money. Even if you haven't had Mrs. Wikert as a teacher yet, please help our fellow comrade. The goal is to reach a thousand dollars. With everyone's

Please remember to keep Mrs. Wikert in your thoughts because with great support, great things can happen.

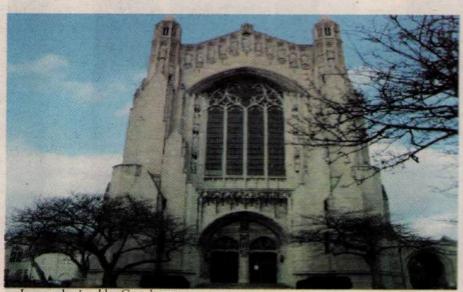


Image obtained by Google.com

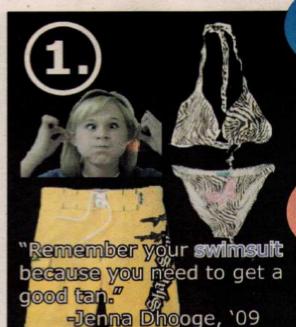


FEATURES

May 23, 2007



Things to Take to the Beach By: Sam Rinehart



Title bright and sunny, and sunglasses are fashionable." -Alicia Spurgin, '08

3.

"You should use sunscreen so you don't burn and get sun cancer -Riley Quinn, '08



Morgan Paige, 110



5.

"I can lay on a beach towel, watch the sun

go down, and have a romande nicht." -Andrew Tyne, '07





"You need your camera so you can take sweet pictures and then put them on facebook."

-Taylor Yirkovsky, 10



Tyou need cute clothes to impress the boys when you go to the beach." -Jorden Monds, '09





"I'd probably need to text, with my phone, the people that weren't at the beach." -Corey Nathem, '08

"You'd need drinks to stay hydrated in the hot sun." -Nick Granny, 110



A fresh look

By: Sam Rinehart

Have you ever met someone who strives to be different? Ivy Jeffords is one of those people.

You may see Ivy walking around listening to music, "I live between my headphones," Ivy comments. She always has her headphones on jamming to her favorite music, usually rock.

Ivy does also wear unique clothing. "I wear whatever I feel like looks good," Ivy smiled. She doesn't care what other people think of her.

You can't usually ask someone if they have a favorite pet, because they most likely only have one dog, or one cat, or even a tank of fish. Ivy has almost every pet possible. "I have three dogs, two bald rats, three cats, a blind fish, I used to have birds, my hermit crab died, and I had pigeons too," Ivy explained. Her house is very full of many many animals.



Ivy Jeffords at lunch writing a story.

Ivy has a pretty good grip on her future plans, "I'd like to go to Iowa to study politics or journalism." She enjoys to write for fun with short stories or in her journal.

Explaining a person can be pretty difficult so I asked Ivy to explains herself.

Not just an ordinary person

By: Ivy Jeffords

When I was asked if I would like to write a story in the school newspaper about what a normal day would be like for me, I was shocked. I had never really considered myself as a particularly interesting person, and nothing I did during a normal day was extraordinary or unique. After about a day of wondering what on Earth I was going to write about, I decided to take a good look at what I did during the day that was really interesting, and this is what I came up with.

My day begins at about 5:30 in the morning, when I get up and let our three dogs, Rachel, Sebastian, and Marie into the backyard. Before they even go outside, I have to leave the house and untangle the chain in the backyard that they have inevitably wrapped around the lawn chairs the day before. Then I hook them up and get to go inside to watch the morning news.

Once my mother has left for work, I start on my long journey to school. Nothing is worse than being halfway to school and having your music player die in the middle of a great song, so I always make sure that I charge my MP3 player the night before. I try to get out of the house by about 7:00, so this requires some rushing on my part, because I don't start getting ready until 6:30. Once I get to school, I head to the library to surf the net or get homework finished.

After school is over (yay!) I might walk home, but a lot of afternoons I can be found hanging out at a friend's house.

If all my friends are busy, I sometimes walk up to the Salvation Army to find some random clothes. I absolutely love the Salvation Army. You can find the most awesome things for next to no money, which is great for a teenager who's struggling to save cash. If I to work that afternoon, I will probably try to get home as quickly as possible so that I'm not late. I work at Dairy Queen, so I have to watch my afternoon snack intake, but it's definitely worth it.

The first thing that I do when I get home is to turn on music. One of the most important things in my life is music, so I can often be seen with headphones on, singing along to whatever song I'm listening to. Unfortunately, this impales my ability to hear what is going on around me. So, if you want to get my attention and I have my headphones on, good luck.

I then watch the news and go to my room and clip magazines. I have pictures from magazines all over my walls, so I am constantly cutting pictures I think are cool.

After I have gotten all my chores done and have eaten dinner, I will either watch T.V. (Go scrubs!) or just call a few of my friends until it's time to go to bed.

So, after taking a good look at my life and what I did everyday, I realized that I really wasn't as ordinary as I thought I was. Everyone does things that are unique to themselves, but sometimes it takes a little searching to find that you are different from everybody else. I hope that you can look inside yourself and find that you are different too

A Day in the Life

By: Jenna Koppedryer

A day in the life is different for every person. It can be stress-free and calming or on the other hand it can be full of excitement and activities.

For Derrick VanDerMillen, '08 the jammed packed day of activities is the kind of day he lives everyday.

Derrick is probably one of the most socially active kids in all of Marion High School. "I'm involved in a lot of things," stated Derrick, "like track, cross country, student senate, musical, spring play, choir, chamber choir, show

But how does just one high school student fit in all of these activities? "It's pretty easy when you think about it." Derrick said. "First I wake up,

choir, NHS, speech, and I think that

then play with my dog a little bit before I eat my Wheaties with sugar, then I have to drop my sister off at school. Once I'm doing that then, I go to whatever meetings I need to go to and after that I go and learn.

After I'm done learning I go and get some exercise or do something else."

So what does a kid like Derrick do in the little time that he has free? "Well, on the weekends I usually go outside and get some exercise, like play frisbee, swim in the creek, or do something else that sounds fun."

Even though Derrick is occupied much of the time and is one

of the busiest kids in the school he always makes time to just have some fun, whether it be by kicking back and relaxing or swimming in the creek and getting some exercise, he always has time to just be a normal teenage kid and have some fun.





len, '08

Foreign interest He's Fergalicious

By: Patrick Tiernan

Almost all people have a hobby or interest they enjoy. Some practice and others are involved in clubs, but how about changing schools for your interest? Jarrett Hugg, '07 is one Marion High School student who can claim this feat. He transferred to Kennedy High School his sophomore year to learn about Japanese.

Jarrett has been interested in the Japanese culture ever since he was a child. Jarrett explained, "I grew up with the Asian culture with things like playing Japanese video games and watching a lot of Kung Fu movies." Now a days Jarrett still keeps his interest alive by playing Japanese video games, talking Japanese with friends, eating sushi, and intertwining Japanese when he is writing lyrics for his band, "The Power of Cheese," which plays a variety of types of music.

Jarrett enjoys these Japanese activities, but with out

the backbone of his fascination with Japan the language they surely wouldn't be as prominent. At Kennedy there are Japanese classes levels 1-4 and Jarrett is currently taking Japanese 3. He attended Kennedy full time



Jarret Hugg, '07, is planning on attending the University of Iowa to major in Japanese.

when he was a junior, but found out he liked going to MHS and attending Japanese classes at Kennedy. Jarrett elaborated about leaving Kennedy and coming back to Marion, "At Kennedy

I felt like I had become a number instead of a student. At Marion teachers are more one on one." Jarrett's next step in his interest of the Japanese language is attending the University of Iowa next year to study Japanese.

A college education isn't the last step for Jarrett and Japanese though. Jarrett plans on using his Japanese knowledge as an interpreter/translator and explains, "Being a Japanese translator just feels right." If his first option fails, Jarrett even has a backup as a Japanese language teacher. Another option, though not as Japanese-based, is for Jarrett to pursue his music career with his band

So whether it's eating sushi, taking classes, or preparing for the future Jarrett Hugg, will continue with his interest in Japan. From a childhood interest to a career in interpreting, Jarrett is one Marion High School student who is on his way to accomplishing a life goal.

By: Tabitha Scott

Many of you may know Marc Ferguson as a pretty laid back, easy going teacher, but thirty years ago, he was very different. He was just figuring out what to do with life and how to do it. Thirty years ago, he started teaching here at Marion High School, in room 20, and hasn't left since.

Mr. Ferguson graduated from Regis High School in 1972 and then went on to the University of Iowa, where he decided to be an English teacher his junior year. "I was just interested in their Writer's Workshop and when I saw all the different aspects of teaching English, I knew that it was something that I wanted to do," recalled Ferguson.

Since teaching here at Marion, Mr. Ferguson has accomplished and done many things. He's taught twenty different English classes and coached four very different sports. He started out as a cheerlead-

ing coach for three years, since he had a background in tumbling and was a gymnast in high school. "Coaching cheer was something different, but gymnastics had always been a big part of my life so it helped." He also played tennis in high school and pushed for a girls and boys team to be started at Marion. When this was accomplished, he became the coach for about three years, then he moved in to crosscountry for about eight years and then track, which he has been faithfully coaching for twenty-two years. "Coaching track is a lot of fun and it's nice to have coach Gaffnev-Paige next door to me teaching and next to me in coaching," stated Ferguson.

Besides athletics, Ferguson has also accomplished a lot of other things. He's published two Marion History books titled The Oxley Early Marion History and Twentieth Century Marion History, along with Mr. Immerfall, and is a volunteer coordinator for the district. From

this, he's brought the Empty Bowls program and the silver cords that seniors receive for their volunteering. But among these is one of Ferguson's most commonly known organizations: Creative Ink. "This is a fun group to work with and we all have a good time. The meetings in the mornings are nice and it's a good time to sit together and talk," says Ferg warmly.

By now, you're probably wondering why, after doing all of this, is Mr. Ferguson still teaching. The answer is simple, "I love the high school, the staff, and the community. And just being around the youth helps me stay young," he jokingly explains. Mr. Ferguson has changed a lot since teaching here; he's not as high strung, a lot smarter, more established, and confident. But, through it all, he says that he's still the same twenty-three-year-old that started working here thirty years ago.





Mr. Ferguson, has worked at Marion High School for 30 years.

10 favorites to know about Mr. Ferguson

- 1. His favorite thing about Marion is the size. Everything is perfect.
- 2. His favorite book is, The Quartz Site Trip, Strangers in Paradise Series.
- 3. His favorite sport is anything that has to do with a racquet. (Tennis, badminton etc....)
- 4. His favorite food is anything and everything that is grilled or barbecued.
- 5. His favorite part about coaching track is to see how hard all the girls work for such little recognition.
- 6. His favorite drink is orange juice.
- 7. His favorite thing about working at Marion is being with the staff and students.
- 8. His favorite restaurant is Red Lobster.
- 9. He went to Regis High School.
- 10. He attended the University of Iowa.

THE BACK PAGE May 23, 2007

Class of 2007- Future Plans

Kirkwood

Jason Albee Steven Anderson Diana Arnold Alexis Baker Ashley Beachel Austin Bolyard Josh Busenbark Nicole Chambers Daniel Chesrown Shana Christensen Elissa Cook Alexis Crane Colleen Curtis Justin Daniel Kristin Daniel Anna Doneson Nachelle Duecker Brianna Eimers Charles Ellis Jessica Hagmeier Kelly Hansen Courtney Heims Sariah Holder Hillary Hughes

Andrew Kimball Robyn Kibsgaard Jeff Madland Kavla Madren Zach McDonald Heather Loughren Megan Meeks Jennie Merrifield Johnathan Pine Kendra Pospisil Dan Rempt Jenny Ryan Kevin Schuver Kelly Simon Andrew Spurgin Derek Strait Nick Stutterheim Taylor Swenson Kiefer Tipton Gerard Tremblay Kassi Wehrle Alyssa White Adam Williams Sara Wirtner

Undecided

Ian Barker Alicia Broadwater Lisa Burns Quinton Costantini David Draves Chantell Eichorm Sarah Engle Robert Mullen Samantha Hancox Kayla Herren Mitchel Hess

Austin Jordan Tammy Newhard **Dustin Newhard** David Rempt

U of I

Lindsey Bauer Mackenzie Brown Cyrus Coffman Darcy Delong Madeline Godar Elliot Heim Carly Huffman Jarrett Hugg Brittany Ivey Allen Reisner Sean Robinson Natalie Ryther Michael Van Gorp Alicia Zanzie Tiffany Fangmann

Wartburg

Jessi Bullis Chris Gustas Kyle Hacker Nate Pickering Andrew Tyne Nate Wiley

Work

Matt Boardrow Ryan Kelly Megan Henderson **Emily Mork** Joel Tee

Kody Bellach Kyle Clefish Levi Dixon Jordan Kruger Colin Langfitt Ashley McCusker Christine Mikkola Nathan Nissen Jessica Ralston Luke Walters

ISU

Ryan Bell Austin Cudworth Michael Girnder Bryce Kvindlog Janessa S. Lee Cam Matheny Bryan Mock Cory Mohling Andrew Reynolds Jordan Ruby Bryce Satterly

Coe

Tara Carsner Nick Jared Amber Dullea Jordan Moeller B.J. Goldsberry Zeth Schau Tyler Hilleshiem Dan Whited

Military

Tony Begley/National Guard Dan Chesrown/ Marine Corp Whitley Corrin/Airforce Matt Ehr/Army Andrew Inman/Marines Jonathon Struchen/Army Eric Wagner/Marines

Mt. Mercy

Jake Cram Allison Lint Phillip Roth

Marty Tope Amber Vittitoe

Tess Anderson...South Carolina Courney Bartlett...Hamilton Angela Bys...Drake Nicole Fisher...Hamilton Kara Griggs...Simpson Amanda Grieder...Loras Amanda Harden...Unity College Kyle Jaycox...Other

Tech Micaela Kelly...Capri College Alec Kiburz...St. Ambrose Will Larsen...University of Chicago Coulter Page...Northwestern College Kelsey Scholtfeldt...Nebraska Christian College

Owen Kane...Illinois Inst. of

Katie Schultz... American Musical & Dramatic Acad. Allison Shedek...Loras Sara Teff...Hamilton Megan Thenhaus...Indian Hills Andrew Tielebein...Clarke Kris Wagner...Other

