



Check out p. 8-9 to learn about the past of homecoming

The Voice of the Marion Indians

# THE VOX

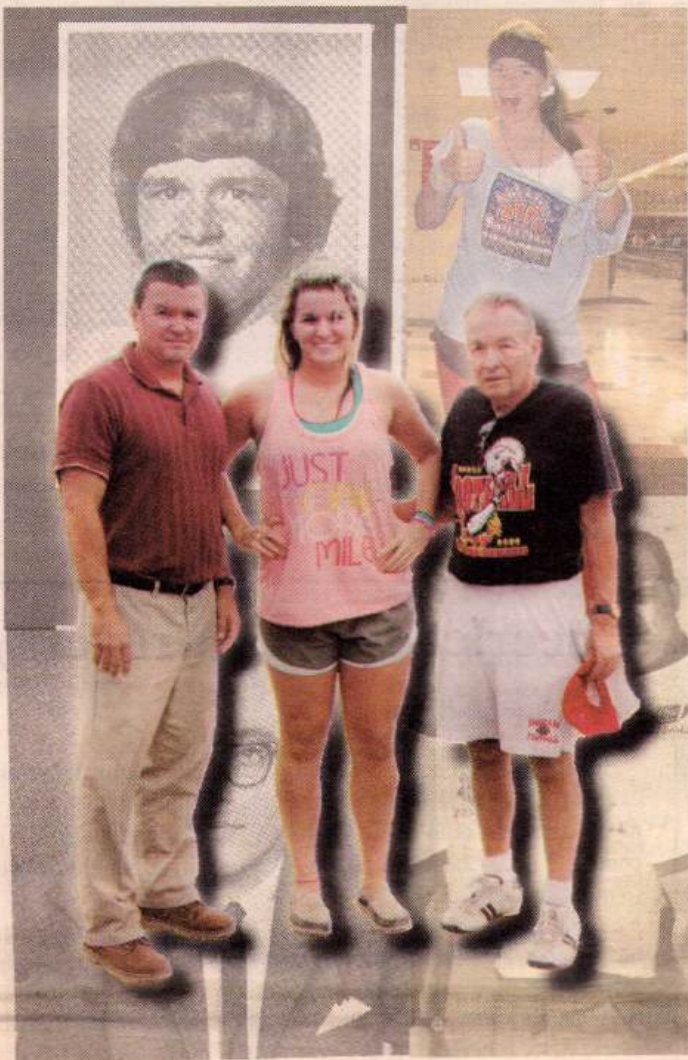
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Check out p. 12 to find out more about the 10th St. construction

## THREE GENERATIONS OF HOMECOMING



Tony, Paige, and Larry Perkins all have a connection with Marion High School teaching, coaching, and being a student.

Mr. Perkins has a daughter who attends MHS. Paige Perkins, sophomore, is involved in year-round softball, basketball, and soccer in the spring to get in shape for summer softball. Paige has gone to Marion her whole life. To Paige, homecoming means a time to show school spirit. "...and have a time to hang out with friends in a setting with no influences, like drugs or alcohol," stated Paige. Homecoming has always been an exciting time of the year for her.

Paige also has two older sisters who previously attended Marion. "Even since my sisters, went it's become a lot more casual. It used to be kind of like prom, with big puffy, expensive dresses," said Paige. She said the school wasn't as unified then and there weren't as big as groups as there used to be.

Homecoming to the Perkins family is big. And celebrating school spirit and getting involved is a part of MHS.

Tony Perkins, Larry Perkins, and Paige Perkins relate Homecoming to previous years at Marion.

By: Alice Dixon [Staff Writer]

As he sat down and took a look back at his years at Marion. 34 years ago, he didn't seem to regret anything. He thought about all of the good times he had with his friends, inside jokes, spending time at sporting events, and even spending time getting ready for homecoming.

Mr. Perkins, science teacher and football coach here at Marion High School, took a look back at his years at Marion. This will be his 12th year as a teacher here and he has been enjoying it. He has also taught Physical Education.

Mr. Perkins went to high school from 1976-1980 and was a four-sport athlete playing football, basketball, baseball, and track. He went to homecoming all four years of high school and enjoyed it. "...it was a special time of the year for graduates to reconnect," said Perkins.

When he attended school here, homecoming week was different. They didn't have the parade and there wasn't as many activities as there are now. They also had an "awesome bonfire" in the parking lot. "We still had the burning of the 'M', but it was about 20 times bigger than the little alphabet 'M' we have today," laughed Perkins. They still crowned king and queen and had theme week with about the same themes as we do today.

To Mr. Perkins homecoming means bringing together the graduates, reconnecting and the football game! "...my favorite part was the football game and I didn't have a least favorite part," stated Perkins.

Mr. Perkins father, Larry Perkins, started teaching at Marion 49 years ago, from 1961-1997. Even as a teacher, he took place in homecoming. To him homecoming gives a chance for alumni and friends to see the school and football team. "...it's a big event. Win the football game first, celebrate after," stated Larry.

## Their first and our last

Commentary

Homecoming! It's a time to scream for the Varsity boys as they play late into the night at the Friday game. A time to get glamorous, try out a new updo and take a special someone out for dinner before dancing the night away. It is a time for showing school spirit, laughing, enjoying the firsts, the lasts, and everything in-between. Homecoming is the fall high school highlight.

It goes so much farther than winning the game, having the best float, or even being crowned the king or queen. Homecoming is about school spirit, friends, good times and making memories that will last a lifetime. Fifty years from now when students look back these will be the things they remember. The moments shared with friends and peers, putting aside differences and just being a team. This will be the first and last Homecoming for some of students here. The freshman will experience their first high school dance, and for the seniors it will be their last. It's crazy how fast October 2nd will be here. Yelling for the boys at the game, storming the field after the team victory, staying up late with friends and spending all Saturday getting primped and ready for the dance. Then heading off to the dinner with best friends, then heading off to the dance, hanging out together afterwards. All these things are what make Homecoming amazing and special to each and every person here at MHS.

While this is an awesome time in the life of the students, it can also be stressful and crazy. Some advice: freshmen, don't stress over: dinner, a date or even clothes. Stay positive and keep smiling. For the sophomores and the juniors, enjoy the moment, it isn't the first or last but it's still special. Lastly for the seniors, it's the last year, the last time to give everything a chance. Go to the games, go to the dances, the musicals, do it all, get involved in everything, this is the last time the class of 2011 will be together, make it mean something. So here's to Homecoming. LETS GO INDIANS!!!!



By: Emily Palmer [Web Editor]

## Pumping up the crowd gets games exciting for students

By: Carey Durns [Features Editor]

As the players get ready for their big game, the crowd gets settled in and start to yell and scream. Students in the front begin to yell as loud as they can to the students behind them to get them pumped for the game. They sometimes wear unusual outfits and that also gets the student section going.



Dan Van Gorp, senior

One of those students that the kids riled up is Dan Van Gorp, senior. He is a big sports fan and attends as

many high school games as possible, including the away games. Getting the students pumped at each game is something that he loves to do. Dan said, "...that's my main goal." When it's his responsibility to pump up the students, he has to be supportive of the wins and losses, and he doesn't really like the negative side of the game. Dan commented, "losing is never fun." No matter what the outcome of the game is, he is here for the team.

As he supports the team and tries to focus on being an energetic person for the students, he and his friends have been thinking of different things to have fun with. Dan explained, "We're still working some new stuff in. We'll see how it goes." Varieties of chants make the school look good, because it shows that we are supportive and we like

to have fun at the games.

Getting students to have fun at the games and to get them all involved can be hard at times, but for Dan, it seems to be easy and motivations help him a lot. "It's part of my job. I got handed down the flag and wave sign from last year and it's a lot of fun," Dan pronounced. "It's fun to be wild, and it keeps others into the game," he added.

Being wild and having a good time is a great thing. It will make you remember your high school year for many years to come.



Dan Van Gorp, senior, explains to Jordan Rausch, senior, about the volleyball game against Waterloo Columbus.

Dan ended, "...senior year is a big year and I'm trying to have as much fun and make it as memorable as possible."

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## Overspending on homecoming; how much is too much?

While freshman and sophomores spend excessive amounts on homecoming dresses and shoes, juniors and seniors look to save money

By Logan Tichy [Ads Editor]

Spending \$100 on a homecoming dress is tolerable; when people start looking into spending \$150 or more, that's just ridiculous! Spending more money doesn't always mean more happiness.

Why would someone spend \$150 on a dress that they will wear for only six hours? That doesn't make any sense. Spending too much money on a dress may end in getting mixed reviews from others.

There are girls in this high school that spend up to \$200 on dresses, plus the jewelry and shoes will get them over \$250. That is an ungodly amount of money for six hours of happiness. Meanwhile, the guys only have to spend around \$75 max.

Typically, the girls who tend to spend the most money are freshman and sophomores. Most of them don't have to worry about buying a prom dress like the juniors and seniors have to. They get to feel glamorous for one night, and they feel like it's their time to shine.

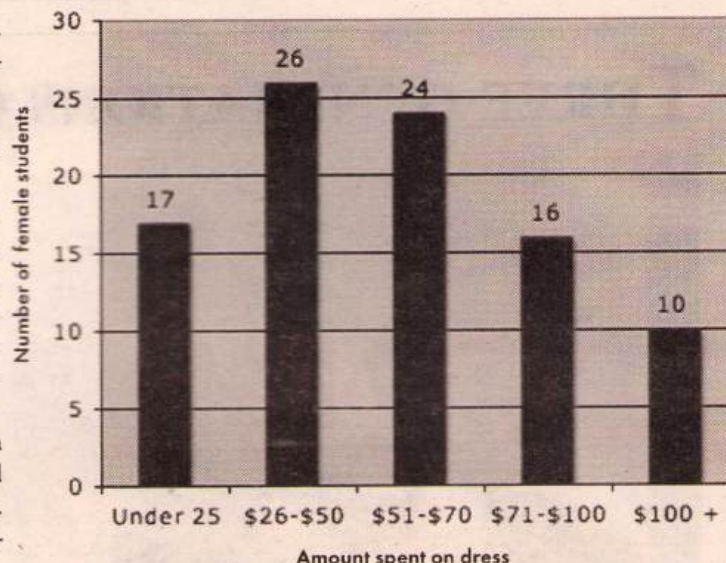
Some people think that dinner for homecoming

is supposed to be this big huge expensive ordeal. Osaka and Biaggi's are not the best places to be going to. Heading to Olive Garden or Ruby Tuesday's, much cheaper places, is just fine. Some people even go to Taco Bell with their friends and spend \$7 on their meals.

Corsages are not necessary, unless you are dating the person. Then they are usually needed. Yes, there is a pretty flower your date gets to wear for a night, but in the end it's just going to die. Also, getting a boutonniere and a corsage will cost anywhere from \$23 on up, and that's just for a basic package that doesn't even go on the wrist.

There are some good things about spending a lot on homecoming, like getting to feel pretty and getting to have the spotlight on you for one night. Girls are also able to show-off their dress and answer questions about their dress.

Overspending on homecoming is a big topic that upperclassmen talk about. Anyone can still have a good time just spending a small amount on a dress and going to Taco Bell with your friends.



The graph above shows how much girls spend on their homecoming dress. Out of 100 people surveyed almost all of the freshmen spend 75\$ plus.

## Internet; students take it to the extreme

By Emily Palmer [Web Editor]

The red bubble pops up on the page, another message to read on Facebook chat. Surfing for new shoes, checking movie times and updating all the many statuses. The clock is ticking by, and the homework still isn't done, but she will totally do it later. Much later.

There are those who love the Internet and all the wonders that it allows, but some raise the question, are people taking it too over the top? "Tweeting" every two seconds, or changing a status on the way to third block, where is the line drawn? Not only do people need



Kayla Brown, freshman, logs onto the computer and is also using the internet on her phone, in the library.

to take into consideration the time that is spent on the web each day but also what that time is being spent on. Waiting to see Laura's picture of her new dress or trying to find out if the senior hottie is single or not, is all the time devoted to waiting worth it? Call it old fashioned but there is a reason we have eyes, mouths for talking, using a keyboard doesn't allow conversations to evolve to deeper meanings.

It is one thing to chat with a friend or do a little shopping and a whole different thing to live by the glow of the monitor screen. Humans need sunlight, fresh air, physical socialization; none of this can be gained by planting ones self in front of the screen for hours everyday. Students lose sleep, forget about homework, become self-absorbed and lose track of the more important parts of life.

The internet is a wonderful creation, but use it with care, going overboard is just no good. People need to take care and realize that being on the Internet constantly does nothing but create more issues. The truth of the matter is that there are more important things in life than sitting in front of the screen all day everyday.

Now, she looks at her planner, reads over all the assignments she has to finish before the end of the night. With a sigh she makes her decision, clicks the red X in the corner of the screen, closes out of chat and signs off of the computer. Today she will go out with some friends, finish her homework and live her life.

## Cheerleading controversy

By Alice Dixon [Staff Writer]

By definition, a sport is an action diversion requiring physical exertion and competition. When someone thinks of a sport, common activities like football, basketball, soccer, or volleyball might come to mind. Cheerleading, on the other hand, might not come to mind so easily.

Some people might not consider cheerleading being a sport, but it requires a lot of physical strength, commitment, and hard work. Sure they might not be scoring touchdowns or goals, but they get the fans excited and they cheer throughout the whole event. Also, cheerleading is a year-round sport.

There's always someone who disagrees and believes that cheerleading isn't a sport. There always seems to be a debate on whether it is or isn't, but does it really matter? Sure, it isn't like most sports, but cheerleaders still have practices, competitions and work hard. It would be interesting to see a football player and a cheerleader swap places for a day and see if the opinion changes.

While playing in a sport they wear a uniform, have practices, competitions, team bonding, etc. Do all of those things apply for cheerleaders? Yes, and unlike some sports, cheerleading is also co-ed, although someone rarely sees a male cheerleader.

Legally, cheerleading is not a sport. According to a story on myfoxdfw.com, "A federal judge in Connecticut ruled that the activity was 'too undeveloped and disorganized' to be considered a sport under the law."

So whether someone believes cheerleading is a sport or just a group of peppy girls, still keep in mind the hard work that goes into keeping up the spirit of the fans.

## 2010-2011 Vox Staff



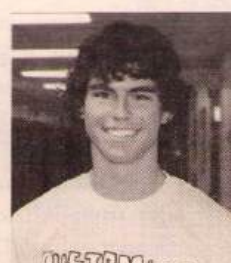
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## 2010-2011 Editorial Policy

The Vox is a public forum student-run newspaper dedicated to informing and entertaining the students of Marion High School since 1934. It is published six times a year by Tri-Co Printing Company and is distributed during the final block of the school day by the journalism staff.

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 two hundred 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 room 22 or to any staff member.



## New generation has new dance styles, rules and music

Everything about dances has changed with the new generation

By Storm Dogs [Staff Writer]

Dances have changed drastically. Today, school dances are mostly grinding, aside from slow dances. Break dancing was really popular back in the 80's. There was some grinding at school dances back then, but definitely not as much as there is today.

Dances today are mostly fist-pumpin' and seductive, especially at homecoming. This dance style is inappropriate, and it's offensive to some people while others might think it to be harmless dancing. If parents were to see their kids dancing like this, what would they think? Most of them would not be very happy. Even the parents of the kids who aren't grinding, might still be upset that their child was exposed to that kind of dancing.

However, we are in high school, and some parents and kids just put up with it because grinding to kids now is like break

dancing to people back then. Another form of dancing seen today is swaying back and forth slightly. This is usually done by people who are too shy to dance, or by a larger group of people.

In the 70's, there were certain rules for how a couple could slow dance. The couple must be an arms length apart. There were also certain parts of a song where different things could be done. The guy's hands could fully circle the girls hips after the 4th line of a song. None of those rules exist anymore. Especially since the most common type of dance seen today is highly sexual.

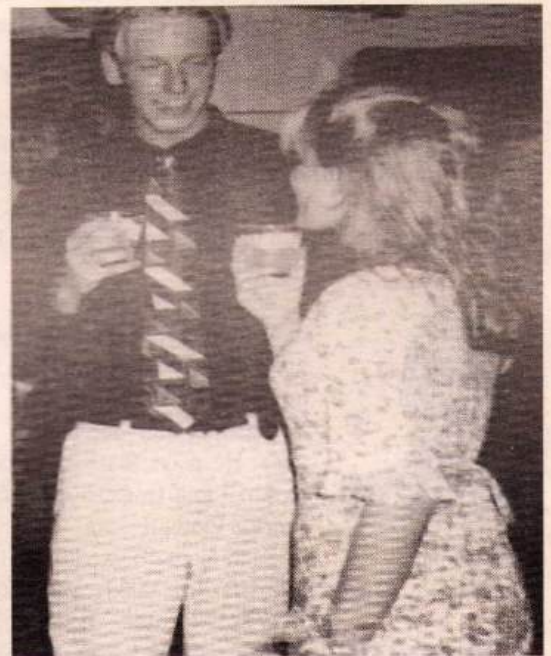
Popular bands and singers that might be danced to by teens today include, Katy Perry, B.o.B., and Drake. Bands played at dances when our parents were in high school might have been ABBA, Michael Jackson and Madonna. Bands popular in the 70's were Jefferson Starship, T Rexx, and Three Dog Night. Going even farther

back, music listened to in the 60's might have been The Rolling Stones, Chuck Berry, and The Beatles.

Throughout the years, dances change and so does the music. Some music does stick around with the next generations though. Some kids today still listen to The Beatles, Eagles, and others.

Along with music and ways of dancing, clothing has drastically changed as well. Dresses worn in the 60's and 70's were longer, usually down to the ankle and up to the collarbone. It was common to have long sleeves on dresses as well. Dresses seen today for homecoming are short with short sleeves, if any. Ways that guys dress for homecoming haven't really changed much, though.

Clearly, dances, dancing etiquette, dresses, and the kinds of music have changed with the times. They'll probably change drastically again between now and the next generation, and popular music from today will probably still be listened to by the next generation to come.



Homecoming in 1996, where clearly the ways of dress have changed for both girls and guys. In picture are past students Ryan Lantz and Christine Akers.

## Year-round school, could it be happening here?

By Jordan Hansen [Opinion Editor]

Many schools around the country are being posed with an important question, should we switch to year-round school? First of all, it's important to know what exactly year-round school is and why we would consider switching from a traditional schedule. In most formats, students would go to school for 45 days and then get a 15-day break. According to about.com the reason our schools have the ten month system is because when it was put in place, most of the United States was still dependant on agriculture, and the children were needed to work in the fields during the summer.

Even though the system may be outdated, year-round school may not be the way to fix it. There are many reasons for this. First of all, students wouldn't be able to attend many summer-camps, as they may be in school. Many schools, such as MHS, don't have complete air conditioning, making school during the summer unbearable. Even though the breaks are shorter, there is no proven research that supports the fact of year-round school being better than the ten-month system. The most important thing to many teens is the fact that it would be near impossible to get a summer job, as not very many businesses would hire someone for two weeks.

Though there are many disadvantages to year-round school, there are also a few perks to it. According to the Des Moines Register, 18 schools in Iowa, including Polk and Taylor in Cedar Rapids, use a year-round system, and in all of those

schools it has been successful. In some parts of the country there has also been a decrease in the amount of disciplinary action needed at these schools. Many other countries such as the UK, New Zealand, and Australia all use year-round school. Also, schools that are not being used are inefficient.

Most students thoughts toward year-round school is negative, which makes sense considering how many teens think. I mean, who really wants to get rid of summer to go to school? True, you get time off during other parts of the years, but overall the feeling toward it I still negative. Most people don't like to break tradition, and this would be breaking a fairly large tradition.

Another disadvantage of the 45/15 system is that many sports would have problems. For example, if no ones in school during a football game, parents and other adults in the community might not know exactly where the game would be held, cutting down on ticket and concession sales. Another problem is that athletes might not hear if there practice would change time.

Even though there are some advantages to year-round school, the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. It is important to realize that there is no conclusive evidence giving year-round school a better standing than the traditional school. Another thing that many students dislike is the simple fact that they want summer. There parents, grandparents and the rest of there family all got summer, so why shouldn't they? Many people would use this as an example of why not to change it So, for at least the time being, long live summer!

## Mentor meetings bring big change; some are still distracted

By Alice Dixon [Staff Writer]

For this 2010-2011 school year a lot of new changes have been made including a change in mentor meetings. Every Monday (or first full day of the week) there are mentoring meetings. Last year, they were usually twice a month and weren't as organized as they are this year. For this school year we now have books to use during the 25-minute period of meetings.

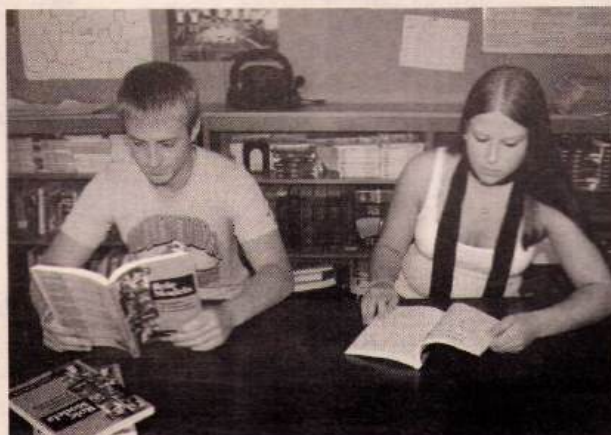
Most students at MHS don't take this seriously and some don't pay any attention at all, but the goal for the teachers at Marion is to be able to make them more interesting and not as dull as the previous years. Is it working? Most students would most likely say no.

The reason for the frequent meetings is because of our grant Mrs. Herman strived to receive. We now use books to talk about character and along with that, watch movies that portray examples of good character.

Although this portion of the day isn't necessarily exciting you don't get a grade, there is no homework and it's better than sitting in class. Spending 25 minutes of the day isn't going to hurt anyone so students might as well start paying attention and giving teachers the recognition they deserve

for trying to make school a good learning environment.

Imagine spending 180 days of the year dedicated to helping out students, some who aren't even willing to try at all. Show the teachers some respect and try to pay attention during class to make Marion a better place to be.



Vaughn Peyton and Claire Nash, both sophomores, read about having good character during mentor meetings. All classes are learning about how to build character.

## It's gone for good

Commentary

When people to go the petstore, they usually know what they want. Some go there just to buy an insignificant pet, like a fish. YUCK!

When you get home, you put it in the tank, and make sure you take care of it. But what happens a few days later? It dies, and most of the time, it's hard to figure out why.

A lot of people have problems with bringing goldfish home and not being able to keep them alive. Multiple questions arise when something like this happens, including whether they were fed right, if they had the right amount of space, or if they were shaken up too much in the bag on the way home.

Poor little fish have to suffer when they are taken from their tank at the store to when they are brought to their new home.

It doesn't always happen when kids have them, but it can also happen when older people buy fish as well.

It's probably because they are shaken up and they (the fish) get all dizzy inside and their bodies can't handle it. Little kids don't know any better, so they hold the bag and move it viciously to make them move. This makes them very confused and a lot of times it results in them passing away.

Another reason it could be, is that people don't feed them right. They may be starved, and trust me, everyone needs to eat. These delicate creatures can't take not eating, just like some people. We all love to eat, and there is nothing wrong with it.

Fish die for many reasons, just like any other animal. It can be from too much stress when put into a different environment, or the lack of food. Goldfish eat a lot, and when they don't get enough, their fragile bodies can wither away and there is nothing left to them, therefore, they die. Poor things...

As long as the caretaker doesn't shake the bag, then all should be well and both the owner and the goldfish will be happy.

If someone is clueless as to how to take care of a goldfish, or any animal for that matter, they should probably be informed about what to do before investing in one.



Carey Burns,  
senior



# 4 ACTIVITIES

ZACH BORENS TALKS ABOUT BEING A SOPHOMORE ON VARSITY. CHECK OUT HIS STORY IN, "Borens tackles his way onto varsity."

## Borens tackles his way onto varsity

Zach Borens, sophomore, plays for the varsity team. Borens is a defensive tackle.

By: Alice Dixon [Staff Writer]

As he stepped out onto the field, he mentally prepared himself for a win. Although it wasn't his first time playing, he was nervous, but also excited. As he warmed up, he went through the plays in his head and got pumped up for the game.



Zach Borens, sophomore

Zach Borens, sophomore, moved to Marion earlier this year. He previously attended Ashland High School in Northern Wisconsin and moved because of his dad's new job in Iowa. He plays football, basketball, baseball and track, but his favorite sport is football.

Zach plays on varsity. He is a left and defensive tackle and his number 71. He states, "It's my favorite sport because I'm kind of a natural because of my size and a lot of my family played. And when I was little I used to watch football on Sunday's with my dad," he stated. Zach has played football since fourth grade and has loved it ever since.

Compared to his old team in Wisconsin, Zach says the team here is a lot better. "...the competition here is more fierce as a varsity player and were the same size class here as we were in Wisconsin," said Zach. He said the team here has been doing good work at practice and he thinks they have a physically strong team.

One of his favorite parts of football is winning. "I like when we run a play that goes to my side and we score. It really shows me I did a good job," exclaimed Zach. His least favorite part of football is sitting on the sidelines because he really enjoys getting to play a lot, like every other player.

Zach believes the team will do well for the rest of the season and they have a good chance at winning almost all of their games. "I think we'll be able to beat every team," stated Zach. He believes the competition here is harder than in Wisconsin.

As for his future in football, he hopes to play after high school. He's not necessarily planning on moving back to Wisconsin unless football or his job choice takes him there. "I'd like to play for a Big Ten College like Iowa or Wisconsin," elaborated Zach.

As the quarterback threw the ball to the left side Zach



Varsity football team gets ready for Western Dubuque to make a play. The boys are on defense and ready to get the gold.

blocked the defensive player to keep the opposing team from stopping them. As the team ran in for the touchdown the crowd cheered and he had a great feeling inside.



The varsity volleyball team holds hands while they prepared for the game against Benton which raised money to support breast cancer.

## Jakoubek spikes for a victory

By: Danielle Tiernan [Editor-In-Chief]

She's nervous, yet at the same time she's excited. It's the moment she's been waiting for. The moment she has been training for all summer. It's the first volleyball game of the year.

Senior Jessica Jakoubek has been playing volleyball since seventh grade. Jessica said she joined "Because it is fun to play and the girls are really sweet and hilarious." She plays on varsity and has for the past two years. On the varsity team,

Jessica plays outside hitter.

"My favorite part is the team activities or when we get really competitive during practice," she said with a smile. Also, she likes being on varsity, "[because]



Jessica Jakoubek, senior

it's more of a challenge. Her least favorite part about volleyball would be "When we don't play our game. Sometimes, we play down to the other teams level. But we're working on executing and playing even better than before," she said with a smile.

This season, Jessica has high hopes that the team will make it all the way to state. As for her personal goals she simply stated, "To

play smart and have fun!"

Although, Jessica doesn't play any other sports here at Marion, she did play on a club volleyball team for a few years. "[The difference between club and high school volleyball is] there are new girls, a new coach, and pretty much no drama," Jessica explained.

The first volleyball game went successfully; now, it seems like just yesterday that she was playing in the first game of the season.

## Running for Marion isn't new, at least to them

By: Jordan Hansen [Opinion Editor]

Running through muck, mud and sometimes water, but still finishing the race. All the conditioning and sweat that they put into workouts during the summer and on their own time. Finishing at the front is what is most important to them.

Michael Anderson and Mitch Matias, both sophomores, are enjoying this Cross season very much. "It's fun and you make lots of friends," said Mitch Matias and Michael Anderson. "Fun" isn't a word that comes to mind when most people think of running, but to them, it's a norm. However, lack of support, at least according to some of the runners, is a problem for the whole Cross Country program. "I don't think we have ever had a fan," stated Michael.

The workouts that they do might leave them gasping for air, but the team does them everyday. Their basic workout consists of a mile to two miles warm-up, a five to eight mile workout, and then a half-mile cool down. These may also be exchanged out for hill climbs or sprints. Most people would not consider this fun, yet the athletes in Cross enjoy it and keep running it every year.

It is also important to keep in shape during

the summer. "I play ultimate frisbee."

However, as with any sport there is always room for improvement. Marion finished 13th in the state, and they hope to improve on that very impressive finish. So far they have, as they are currently 6th in state. According to Mitch, The best part of Cross is, "Beating your best time." Cross doesn't have the luxury of having manicured courses, so many times the course is muddy and wet. In fact, several times last year, the courses had to be shortened because parts of the courses were flooded.

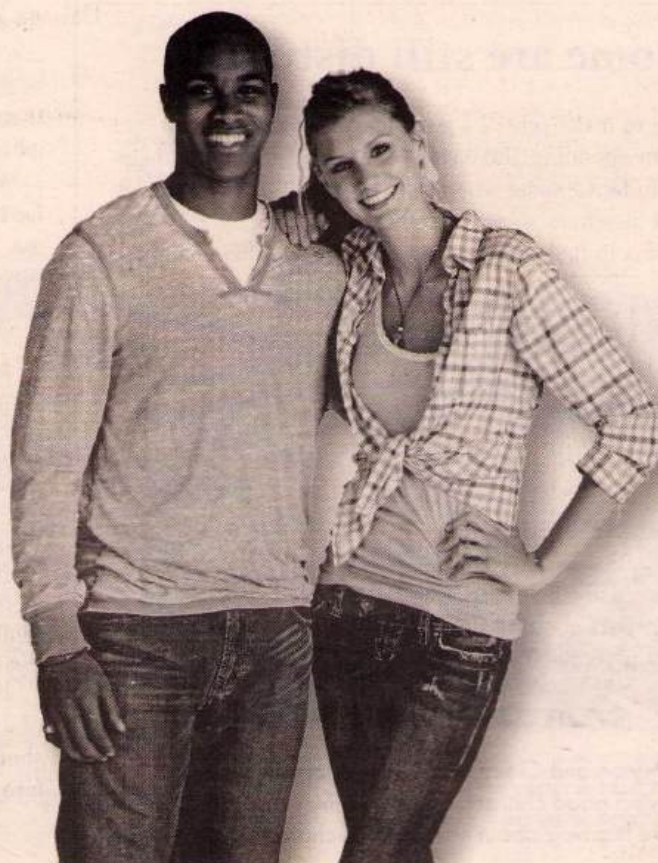
Working hard and finishing the race, that is what Cross is all about. "It gives you mental strength," said Mitch. At the end of the race, tired as can be, that might be all they can rely on.



Mitch Matias, sophomore



Michael Anderson, sophomore



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**PLATO'S**  
CLOSET



## Kinney gets ready for the upcoming homecoming year

Getting ready for this year's homecoming is a lot of hard work, but with the help of the sophomore Student Senate, it can be done.

By: Carey Burns [Feature Editor]

He sits in the classroom with everyone else as they discuss what this year's theme is going to be. He gives his ideas and the students nod their heads in agreement to his suggestion. They write down what he said and more people give their thoughts and ideas. Everyone is involved and they can't wait to put it into something special.

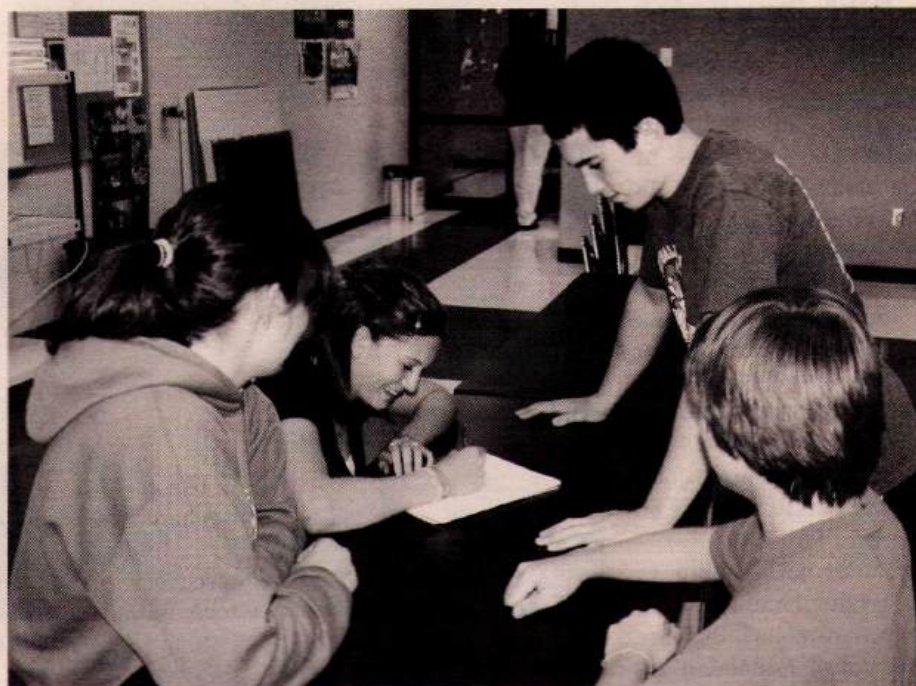
Brian Kinney, sophomore, is on this year's homecoming committee. He is also in Take Charge and enjoys both. Being one of the leaders on this committee takes a lot. They have to make sure everything is organized and ready to go. Not only that, but each person has to make sure they're doing what they can to help out and get everything done to make that Homecoming night special for everyone.

There are many people involved in planning this event. Brian said, "all of the sophomore Student Senate." Each year, that year's sophomores plan the homecoming, and every year, their ideas sprout out

and people begin to think about different things, as well as having other ideas for the rest of the year.

Many people have either high expectations or goals they want to set to make it that much better. "My expectations are high; I hope our class works closely with one another," Brian explained. "[My goals are] for the attendants to rate 2010 higher than 2009," he continued. Having higher expectations can put more pressure on the class. Having high expectations, goals and many people to help out, should help homecoming run smoothly.

The gym is all lit up; the decorations are hung high and low for the students to see. Students line up to give their tickets to teachers. They see all of the students lined up to get their picture taken and get all excited for theirs. They walk past, look around, and smile. Brian thinks to himself, a job well done.



Brian Kinney, sophomore, and members of the sophomore Student Senate, talk about homecoming plans and what's in store for the big night.

## Singing, marching, for the love of it

By: Emily Palmer [Web Editor]

Singing with the choir and playing for the band, she goes from one to the other. She wakes up early at 7 a.m. to be ready for marching band practice, and then goes to her first hour to sing with all her friends.

Senior, Kelsey Smith, is not only in choir and this year's fall musical "Into the Woods" she is also an active Concert band member, as well as a member of MHS Marching Band. Kelsey started off playing the Oboe in the FMI band way back in the fifth grade. She has been singing for along time, she elaborated, "I've been in choir since 3rd grade, so for ten years." Kelsey has always loved performing; she is also involved in dance outside of school.



Kelsey Smith, senior

"I hope that we will be able to dominate the genre called classic rock and perform it to the best of our ability."

-Kelsey Smith, Senior

Kelsey loves both band and choir equally, "...Marching band is like one big party, there is a lot of goofing around, but work still gets accomplished." Her choir life is much the same. She is in both Vocal Varietas, the schools Jazz Choir, and Concert Chorale. She explained, "the best

part is getting to hangout with your friends everyday while still doing something that you love and having fun!" She can't pick favorites because it is a toss up.

Kelsey has a few goals to accomplish her senior year. She explained, "I hope that for choir this year that we will be able to achieve a division 1 rating at contest once again this year." She also has a goal for Band, "I hope that we will be able to dominate the genre called classic rock and perform it to the best of our ability." Classic Rock is the bands theme this year.

Sometimes life for Kelsey being in both choir and band is hard. She has to balance both activities and planning things out is important, especially when she is also involved in the Fall Musical.

Kelsey got the part as Jack's mother, which she has hinted will have a dramatic ending.

Not only is Kelsey playing in the band and choir, but she also dances in her free time outside of school. Dancing has always been something she has loved. She has always put in 100% in all of her musical areas. Her last year will be no different.

Her alarm is going off, it's time to get up for practice, she knows that all her hard work will pay off in the end. It is her last year to give her all, she is excited to work with her friends for one last time.

## Musical's heading "Into the Woods"

By: Logan Tichy [Ad. Editor]

During musical practice Mr. Ballou instructs his performers on what to do. Trying to perfect Into the Woods.

This musical is a very well known which combines five man fairy tales. Rapunzel, Jack and the Beanstalk, Cinderella, Little Red Ridinghood and Baker and his Wife, who want to have a child. "This play is very different from other musicals. Many of the other musicals have two or three main characters. In Into the Woods there are seven to eight main characters, but everyone has a good part," says Mr. Ballou.

In this play the family of the Baker and his Wife want to have a child, but they have been cursed by a witch who makes them perform tasks that involve the characters from above.

They have to bring a white cow as white as milk to the witch, retrieve a red cape as red as blood, hair that is as yellow as corn. After failing these tasks

many times they finally accomplish the tasks. Which in return broke the spell.

Once they feel the glory of overcoming their obstacles they soon realize the downfall to their greediness.

They hear about the needing of their community to come together to fight the wife of a giant Jack who has been killed. She has decided to come



Mr. Ballou, Vocal music director

back for revenge when she finds out that her husband has been killed.

Find out what happens to the community and if they learned their lesson about greediness, come watch Into the Woods on Nov. 4, 5, 6 in the

Rapunzel...Deirdre Scanlon  
Cinderella...Ella Ward  
Jack...Ryan Watters  
Jack's Mother...Kelsey Smith  
Step Mother...Jacque Kroemer  
Little Red...Paige Boche  
Witch...Paige Satterly  
Baker... Stephen Ster  
Baker's Wife...Avery Thomason

Auditorium. Tickets will be \$5 for students and senior citizens. \$6 for adults. and \$7 at the door. "Be Careful what you wish for."

## A first year of dancing for senior, Alicia Livingston

By: Tyler Janzen [Activities Editor]

She sat in the student section and heard the music turn on. Her attention was directed at the middle of the field. She was ready to sit back and watch the Marion dance team represent our school, but she was wishing that she would have went out for the team.



Alicia Livingston, senior

Alicia Livingston, senior, recently joined the school's dance team and said it is a lot of fun. "It's my senior year and I just want to have fun, and dance has always looked fun," she laughed. Talking about how she thinks the

season will go Alicia said, "It should go really well because we have a lot of good dancers on our Varsity team." She said the Junior Varsity team is doing good too and that the team as a whole are working together to get even better.

Alicia said a lot of good things that dance brings, "We only have practice once a week so I can still do everything I want to do plus be in dance," she said. According to her, the only bad part about dance is the nervousness in the bottom of your stomach you feel right before you perform in front of people. Alicia shares that dance brings a lot more good in her life than bad and she loves participating in the sport.

She said that this year's dance team were in the Marion Swamp Fox parade in downtown Marion. That day they also participated in a car wash to help raise some money.

Alicia also said that they are hosting a dance for the younger kids at Vernon. The team does a lot for the high school and the district as a whole.

Alicia feels and recommends that if anyone wants to try out for dance that they shouldn't let anyone hold them back and just try out. "It's fun, good exercise, and it doesn't take a lot of time from your schedule so you can work and see friends and family." She adds, "I'm glad that I went out. Just because you never have done something before doesn't mean you can't because your in high school, you can still try something new out." She's happy that she participated in the team and hopes to see more girls trying out.

Alicia steps out on the field this time not watching but performing herself. Her and the whole team are prepared to do their dance they have been practicing for the school. She has performance jitters but it never stops her from performing and doing a great representation of the school.



TAYLOR SWIFT HAS A NEW CD COMING OUT IN NOVEMBER. READ ABOUT IT IN, "SWIFT'S ALBUM...IS SURE TO BE A SWEET SUCCESS"

## Homecoming, what's hot and what's not

Homecoming is just around the corner, find out what to wear for homecoming and what not to wear

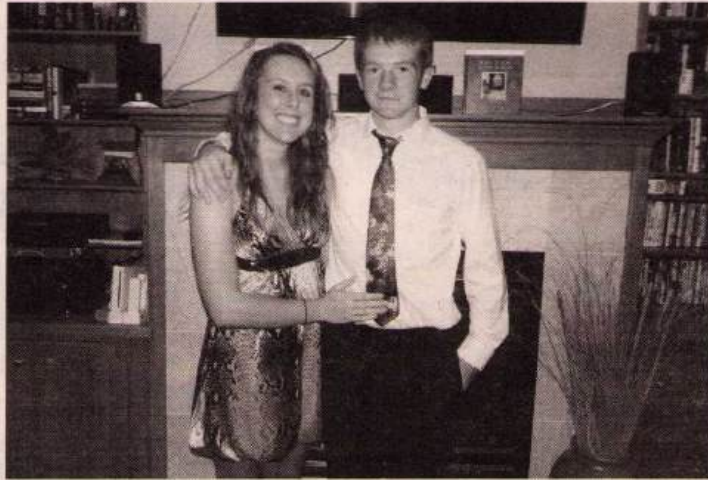
By: Danielle Tiernan [Editor-In-Chief]

This year for Homecoming, many dresses are in style. One shouldered, strapless, and spaghetti straps are just some of the styles of dresses. As for colors, dark colors are always popular for homecoming, because homecoming is turning the fall season and a lot of people wear darker colors during fall. Also, short or long causal dresses are in for homecoming, long formal dresses should be reserved for prom.

Dark colors like brown, dark blue, blue, and even white are colors that are cute for Homecoming, especially for fall. This season, the one-shouldered dress is a must. It looks cute on anyone, and looks great on anybody type. Strapless dresses are also really cute and in this year. Also, the classic halter dress, and the dress with spaghetti

straps are cute. Dresses with ruffles or tight dresses with the pockets on the side or on the front are

the dance, all they need is to make sure they look cute when they take group pictures.



Stephanie Loesel, senior, and Tristan Beghtol, sophomore, show off the latest looks for homecoming this year.

in this year. Pair that with cute gladiator shoes, high heels, or some flats, and you're good to go! It doesn't matter what shoes a person wears, because most likely they will take them off at

As for guys, a nice polo or sweater vest is the way to go; pair that with any dress pants, and guys, you are good to go! As for shoes, wear some nice black dress shoes to match go with your outfit. It makes the outfit look much more classier then if they were to wear tennis shoes. For homecoming, the style is usually casual, but not as fancy as prom. Guys, save the colored tuxedos, hats, and canes for prom it doesn't fit in very well with the style of homecoming. The classic black or white tuxedo with the colored tie, to match their date's dress is usually reserved for prom.

Girls, save the big poofy, long dresses for Prom in the spring. It doesn't matter what people end up wearing, as long as at the end of the night they had fun and made it a night to remember!

## Swift's album *Speak Now* is sure to be a sweet success

By: Danielle Tiernan [Editor-In-Chief]

Last November, Taylor Swift came out with her sophomore album *Fearless* in 2008, which sold an impressive 592,000 copies in the first week, and eventually went on to go 6x platinum, just in the United States. It was on top of the Billboard 200 for 11 non-consecutive weeks, and the Billboard Top Country Albums for 35 non-consecutive weeks. Plus, all of her singles like "You Belong with Me", "Love Story", and "White Horse" shot to number one on the iTunes charts. At only 20 years old, Swift also became the youngest star to win the Grammy for Best New Album. Taylor's first CD *Taylor Swift*, which was released October 24th, 2006. It sold 39,000 copies in the first week, and stayed on top of the Top Country Albums for eight consecutive weeks.

Taylor sings country music, which is sometimes qualified as pop music also. Her songs are very relatable. She sings about break ups, falling in love, or being in love, and she even has songs about relationships with

best friends. When a person listens to Taylor's music, they can usually relate to at least one, if not most of her songs. She writes her songs, so that way they are relatable. Her songs are about personal situations she has been through.

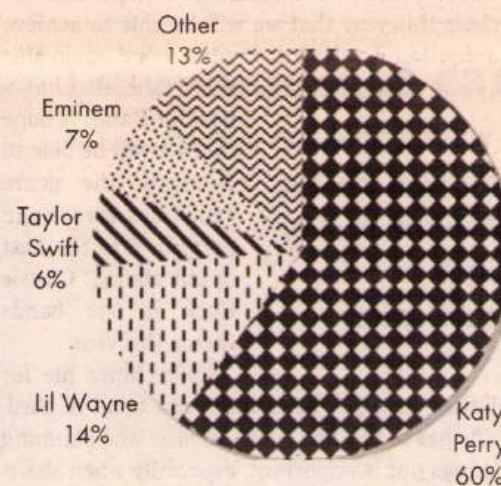
With her highly anticipated third album *Speak Now* coming out Tuesday, October 25th, it's set to be just as big of a release. According to [rollingstone.com](http://rollingstone.com) Taylor said this album is like her diary, she's been writing for about two years on this album. She said the album would have 14 tracks on it, which she wrote without the help of co-writers. The first single off of *Speak Now*, is "Mine", Taylor said it's about her tendency to run away from love. According to an article on [billboard.com](http://billboard.com) by Ed Christman, Taylor's CD could sell about a million copies in the first week. The last album to do that was Lil Wayne's 2008 CD *The Carter III*.

After the huge success of *Fearless* in 2008, Taylor is hoping to have an even bigger success with *Speak Now*. Make sure to check it out when it hits store shelves or iTunes when it's released.



Taylor Swift's second CD *Fearless* has sold over six million copies, just in the United States alone. Her new CD *Speak Now* is expected to do even better than that. *Speak Now* is available in stores everywhere October 25th. Images obtained from the official Taylor Swift website, [taylorswift.com](http://taylorswift.com).

## Marion student's favorite music artists



## Two new exciting shows on NBC this fall

By: Storm Dogs [Staff Writer]

to tune in on these dates and check out all the new shows!

This fall, there are at least four new shows airing on NBC. These shows include humor, suspense, and people coming together to rebuild schools. Every viewer should find something they like in at least one of these new TV shows, since there are so many different aspects covered.

One new show, "The Event" premiered September 20th at 8p.m. "The Event" is a show about a man named Sean Walker. Sean investigates the disappearance of his girlfriend. While investigating her random disappearance, he stumbles upon what could be the biggest cover-up in U.S. history. Not even the newly elected president. This should be a very suspenseful show, especially after they reveal the big cover-up.

"Chase" is also on NBC premiered September 20th at 9p.m., immediately following "The Event". "Chase" is about Annie Frost, a U.S. Marshal that tracks down criminals on the run with her team. This show should also be suspenseful. NBC has a great lineup of new shows. Be sure

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## Improved technology gives new opportunity

Jared Huhndorf shares what the 3D simulator has to offer and why he was so interested in giving the program a try.

By: Hannah Miller [Design Editor]

He boots up the computer and waits patiently as it starts up. Once it is up and running, he starts the program that he just learned all about at the conference. He can't wait to try it out and see if it really is as great as it looks to be. He can't wait to make things and create anything he wants with his new program.

Jared Huhndorf, junior, is one of the two students at Marion that are doing the new 3D simulator that Mr. Raymond has. The other is Peter Rethwisch, sophomore. Jared went to a conference in July called VREP which stands for Virtual Reality Education Pathfinder.

This conference was a fun time for Jared. He really enjoyed it the experience. "The conference was awesome because they just let us do what we wanted. They pretty much just let us mess around on the program," he expressed. This conference was a great time for Jared to learn how to do everything in a fun environment. He would recommend anyone that wants to do this program go to the conference.

The conference was to learn the basics about the 3D simulator. The 3D simulator that is available to students is on a laptop computer. People can even download this software on their computer for free, but by going to the conference it lets people learn more about how to use it and what to do in a more in depth way. "You basically can make anything you want. There is not really a single thing you can and can't do," he explained. This program lets students make anything they want, even their own world if they wanted.

This program lets students see what it is like to do engineering. That is why Jared decided he wanted to do it, "...it looks good on college applications and it interested me and I wanted to learn more about it," he expressed. Colleges really like to see things like this on peoples applications. It gives you a step above the rest of the people applying to the same college as you are. It also lets students decide if this is something



Jared Huhndorf, junior, sits at a computer and thinks about what he is going to design with the program as the computer loads and he can start the 3D simulator.

they are interested in and thinking about majoring in college.

The 3D simulator is a great way for people to see if it's a career path that they want to take. Jared feels this program is a great way to learn more about it. "Its basically if you want to go into the computer or software engineering field it like starts you out on the path to that," he explained. He would suggest that anyone interested in computer or software engineering should try this program. Also, if you are just interested in learning more about it you should think about trying this program like Jared has done.

Mr. Raymond is the teacher that is helping and helped start this program at Marion High School. He will be setting up a computer in one of the rooms that will have this program on it according to Jared. Jared is very interested in this program and feels that if anyone else is, they should try it. "Its awesome," he says, "[people] should definitely do it because it's fun and interesting, if your into that sort of thing." The 3D simulator is a very good way to learn more about engineering and should be something that anyone that is interested in those fields try out.

The new world he just made sits in front of him. He is content with the outcome after a couple of long hours at work. He finally closes out of the program and shuts down the computer. He can't wait to do it again and make something even better. Every time he is learning something new and is starting to learn all about being an computer or software engineer.

## Oh, the lives of celebs

Commentary

Over the summer, many things happened in the world of celebrities. Lindsay went to jail, got out of jail, and went to rehab. Mel Gibson, well, nothing good happened to him. Celebrities got married, divorced, and arrested.

The most recent celeb to get arrested was none other than Paris Hilton. She was arrested with her boyfriend, Cy Waits, in Las Vegas for possession of cocaine. It was found in her purse, but she claims it wasn't hers, the purse wasn't hers, and the best excuse: she thought it was gum! Maybe it's just me, but cocaine and gum probably don't look very much alike. This isn't her first time getting busted for a drug related charges either. In fact, it's her third, and that's just this year. Thankfully, right after her arrest, she was able to tweet about it (note my sarcasm). Not only was arrested, her boyfriend Cy was also arrested and charged with a DUI.

As for Lindsay Lohan, there's a really good possibility she's going back to jail. Recently, she failed a court ordered drug test, testing positive for cocaine. This past August she was released from jail after serving 14 of her 90-day sentence for violated her probation. After she was released from jail, she went immediately to UCLA Medical Center to begin her rehab treatment. There, she only served 23 days of the 90 she was sentenced. If this happened to a person who wasn't a celebrity they would serve the full sentence, no questions asked. So why was she released early? Did she actually get the help she needed? Well considering her recently failed drug test, I'm going to have to go with no. Which is sad, because obviously she has a real addiction, which she needs help for.

Celebrities live a very different life than we do, but just because they are well known, doesn't mean that they get a free pass for doing something bad. Sometimes, unfortunately they do though. Which ultimately is a loss for them because they're losing out on learning a good lesson because then they think they can just get away with anything, which isn't right. Many teenagers look up to celebrities, and if they see that celebrities are doing it, then they will most likely think it's all right for them to do it also.



By: Danielle Tiernan  
[Editor-in-Chief]

## Returning in 2011, the big storm

Hannah Miller [Design Editor]

Downs Expo.

The word is out. The date, place, and time are all set. Night Storm has arrived again for all the teenagers in town that want to dance the night away.

This is the new big hit coming into town. It is basically a nightclub for teenagers. It brings teenagers of all ages together to dance. Anyone from the ages of 14 to 19 are welcome to this dance party at Hawkeye

This dance club comes around every so often and is now 14 dollars per person. The last time it came out was September 18 and the next time its coming is in 2011. The set date is to be determined. To get in, you must have proof of age and grade. It starts at 8 and ends at 11. This is a place for teenagers to dance and get crazy in a secure location.

Night Storm has many

different types of things to enhance the experience such as snow machines, bubbles, confetti cannons, toilet paper guns, laser light shows, and multi-leveled dance floor. They also have many different kinds of theme nights.

Night Storm is a fun place for young people dance and meet all kinds of people. It's a fun place for kids to dance the night away. Night Storm is coming, are you ready?

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# 100 years of



**1910-** Homecoming is said to have started up. The exact date is unknown but at this time three schools, Baylor, Illinois, and Missouri Universities had started his tradition. (from active.com)

**1931-** Marion's first Homecoming

**1982:** The first p  
was in the yearbook  
the face by student

**1930-** Homecoming court was introduced. Its around this time that Homecoming queen and king were picked based on individual qualities. (from active.com)

**1944-** The score of the Marion football game was 38-7 in a game against Vinton. Also, the first recorded Queen was crowned. It was Jo Anna Dumbolton.



# Homecoming...



By: Hannah Miller [Design Editor]

Years come and go, a hundred to be exact, and Homecoming is still a tradition seen in almost every school around the country. Homecoming is seen as a time in high school where everyone comes together and is like one big family. It's where everyone gets ready for the big game, the dance, the pep rallies, and the floats at the parades. Homecoming is a big part of the school year and it's where everyone shows their school spirit.

Homecoming is a tradition that is very big in the football season. It is actually the reason Homecoming started. The exact date that homecoming started is unknown, but it is thought to have started in the 1910s. It is said to have started according to active.com by Michael Crampton at the universities Baylor, Illinois, and Missouri. They started Homecoming because they felt that the schools need to have more school pride. This tradition has definitely created much more pride within schools all around the country.

Homecoming is a big tradition that has many small traditions occurring during it. All the small traditions during Homecoming are as important as the main ones. They form together to make this electric atmosphere that brings the student body together and bring school spirit into the halls and town. The universities all had a football game, the focus point of homecoming, rallies, parades, speeches, and of course a dance. Much hasn't changed from 1910. Homecoming has followed the same idea and has had the same activities as years pass.

Spirit week is where the cheerleaders pick themes for each day. In the past there has been a twin day, superhero day, mix-match day, 80's day, and of course the Friday of the game is Red and Gold day. This week brings the school together and helps get everyone pumped up for the big game. A lot of students here are Marion get involved in spirit week and it shows how much pride Marion has. Marion's Homecoming has always been a memorable time. The activities at Marion High School have always been close to the same.

Every year we do the pie in the face, water balloons or orange relay like last year, spirit week, float contest, and burning of the M. These activities are traditions here at Marion that have been the same all the way back to the first homecoming in 1931.

The Homecoming football game was the reason and is still the reason for Homecoming. It's one of the biggest games of the season. Everyone comes to it. It is still the big event that everyone gets crazy dressed in school colors and comes out to cheer together for their school, but to the girls now its all about the dance.

The dance is almost as big as the game now. Girls and guys get all dolled up and spend much more money then they did back in the early days of homecoming. The dances are still after the game, but as years pass it seems that the Homecoming dance is starting to become the main event. The dance and the football game are the two big events and will probably stay that way for some time.

Homecoming is seen as a celebration. A time to bring the school together with spirit week, parades, pep rallies, and finally the big game and dance. Even though the traditions are starting to change a little from the first Homecoming back in the 1910s, people need to remember the reason they started, to bring the school together and show school pride.

Homecoming is about going crazy with spirit and supporting the schools team and should continue to stay that way for another hundred years. Homecoming is about hundred years of traditions, hundred years of school spirit and pride and it looks to be staying around for sometime. Hopefully in another hundred years Homecoming will still have the football game, rallies, parades, speeches, and dance that all make Homecoming what it is now and what it was in the 1910s.

re of pie in the face  
r. Shaffer got pied in  
Svec.

**2000:** Seniors for the third year in a row painted the hill on the football field after burning of the M. They also tee-peed Mr. Perkin's house.

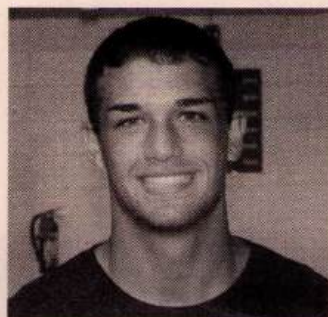
**2010-** Homecoming game against CPU. The game is Red and Gold.

**1994:** Underclassmen for the Homecoming court were eliminated. It was now just seniors.

**2009-** Homecoming game against Anamosa. The score was 62-12.



# 10 SENIOR INTERVIEWS



## Dusty Albaugh:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "All of the sports, friends & most of my teachers. Mr. Semler's raps during lunch, also walking the halls during class."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "My hunger isn't for success, it's for excellence. Because when you attain excellence, success just naturally follows."

**Plans for the future?:** "Go to college, get a job & get a life."



## Amber Anderson:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "My friends, Fergie, & Schultz. School store too."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Stay away from the DRAMA!"

**Plans for the future?:** "In September of 2011, I'm moving to Indianapolis where I'll be starting my 3-year program at the Art Institute on October 4, 2011."



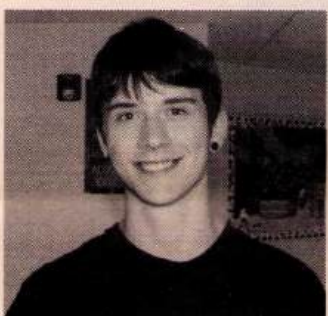
## Franceseca Barbieri:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"I haven't been here for long, but I think I'll miss most of the people I've met."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Dream as you'll live forever, live as you'll die today."

**Plans for the future?:** "Go to the University & study languages or International Economics."



## Jeremiah Bednarowicz:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Mostly I'm going to miss the great teachers on staff."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Make the most of your time here, it comes & goes way to quick."

**Plans for the future?:** "Mostly work. I just want to save up a bunch of money for my future!"



## Rachel Bennett:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Speech, Choir, & most of all, my great friends."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Don't take things too seriously."

**Plans for the future?:** "Major in Secondary English Education."



## Haley Berry:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Everything! But mostly all my amazing friends & all the memories we've created throughout the years...late night sleepovers & date night with Debbie! :)"

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Find out who YOU truly are...& keep it that way. Don't let anything or anyone change you. :)"

**Plans for the future?:** "I'm planning to go to U.N.I to study psychology & Journalism. & I wanna be happy of course!)"



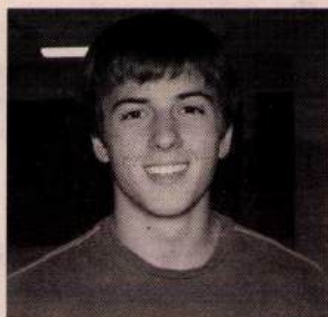
## Allie Boteler:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Seeing my friends everyday & definitely the easy/laid back atmosphere."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Expect nothing & appreciate everything."

**Plans for the future?:** "I hope to get into Mercy/St. Luke's school of Radiology after I finish my classes needed to get it."



## Kaleb Bozorgzadeh:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Track Season, Friday night football & Scout Morehouse."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Kaleb Bozorgze-bla-ble? You have to be stupid with a name like that." -Mr. Weisinger

**Plans for the future?:** "Four years at U. of Iowa Engineering, then move to Colorado to work at SPC. Buy a nice apartment in Denver with a view of the mountains. Party Hearty."



## Casey Burns:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "... my friends & teachers who've helped me through everything. The games & everything that I was able to be in."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Never give up on something, no matter how hard you have to try."

**Plans for the future?:** "...to model & act in California. Major in Film Directing, & minor in screen writing & photography."



## Audreana Capps:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "All my friends; the good times just being ourselves. The goofy kids that always made you laugh no matter what."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Stay in school & do your best."

**Plans for the future?:** "I'm going to Kirkwood to their horse program & going to be a trainer."



## Michael Carter:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Playing on the football team, team dinner & hanging out with my friends."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Quit millin' around," Coach Weisinger

**Plans for the future?:** "Go to a 4-year University."



## Trevor Chalstrom:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Friends & school dances."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Don't get caught up in all the drama, who cares what people think."

**Plans for the future?:** "Two years at Kirkwood. Four at Iowa State for Engineering."



## Andrew Charipar:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "All of my friends, some of the teachers, football games, sacred 8, baseball, bonfires, Call of Duty all-nighters..."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes, you're on your own..."

**Plans for the future?:** "Attend University of Iowa & get my masters in Marketing & Minor in Accounting. Be the next Top Chef...retire at 50. Get married. Have 5 kids..."



## Kylie Cimaglia:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Playing in the drum line. Being on the soccer team & being with my friends everyday."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "If you worry about what might, and wonder what might've been, you will ignore what is."

**Plans for the future?:** "Go to K-wood then transfer to ISU."





## Kyle Clark:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "My friends & my favorite teachers."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Fall seven times, stand up eight."

**Plans for the future?:** "I have three basic plans; Law, Chiropractor, or Air Force."



## Joseph Cruse:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Field Biology with Perkins."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Do a good job."

**Plans for the future?:** "Work & have fun."



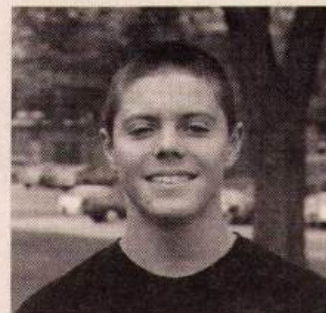
## Debbie Classon:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Having Danielle tell me what's for lunch everyday, crusing the Ave, woods class, & having last minute sleepovers & date night with Haley. :)"

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Life's too short to be anything but happy, so enjoy the little things & laugh a lot. :)"

**Plans for the future?:** "Attend Iowa & major in psychology."



## Steven Dalton:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "... Funny moments & the good times with my friends."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "My dad once told me, 'Don't try to do great things in life. Just do well in the things you do.'"

**Plans for the future?:** "Continue my military career.. Retire after about 15-20 years then move onto being a meteorologist...that's my dream since I was a kid."



## Jean-Baptiste Collet:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "The school pride."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Who cares what people think."

**Plans for the future?:** "Finish my school in Germany."



## Tessa Davis:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Friday night football games."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Give a hoot, don't pollute."

**Plans for the future?:** "Kirkwood & then transfer to Missouri State for Captive Wildlife Zoology."



## Kalyn Collins:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "My teachers & talking with my friends."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Today is going to be a good day," Trevor Chalmstrom

**Plans for the future?:** "To go to Kirkwood & study animal biology."



## Taylor Derby:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Going to all of the dances & sporting events & rushing the field..."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "You just have to live life to the fullest..."

**Plans for the future?:** "Attend Coe or Loras & Major in Spanish & Optometry."



## Ian Conner:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Seeing my friends everyday, all the great teachers & obviously the fantastic school lunches."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Only after disaster can we be resurrected," Tyler Durden, *Fight Club*

**Plans for the future?:** "College most likely to become an engineer."



## Bryle Dabling:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "All of my friends & the ladies."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "Hello miss lady :)."

**Plans for the future?:** "I'm going to do work."



## Kayla Cook:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:** "I will miss my friends. I love high school & will miss coming."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "My advice is to stay in school."

**Plans for the future?:** "I want to be a photographer."



## Dylan Cronk:

**What are you going to miss most about Marion?:**

"Rocking out to Welcome Home in the locker room with the team. Messing around in Mrs. Fowler's room after school with Jon Heitland."

**Quote or piece of advice?:** "The truth is stranger than fiction."

**Plans for the future?:** "Going to college, possibly Iowa to become a lawyer"

## Duck Drop Fundraiser

Thursday Septmeber 30th at 5 p.m.

At Thomas Park

Purchase tickets at all of the lunch cycles,  
Vernon Middle School,  
or Guppy's On-The-Go Marion location.

## A Buck a Duck.

1st Prize: \$200 gas card from Guppy's on the Go.

2nd Prize- Pizza Party at Tomaso's for 4 to 6 people...includes pizza and soda's.

3rd Prize- Car Care Cleaning for 1 month at Guppy's To Go- Value of \$40.





## Road construction causes problems in the Metro area

Stop signs, roads are closed, construction is around every corner

By: Jordan Hansen [Opinion Editor]

Forget about Elm Street, it's a complete nightmare driving down 29th street near Linn-Mar High School. The road construction that was supposed to be done in the summer has taken much longer than expected, and has caused lots of inconvenience to not just Linn-Mar students, but to many other people heading to that area.

According to The Gazette, the project was to take 120 days, but during the summer only 60 days could be completed because of rain. So, as with many construction projects, it was delayed. Of course, with delays come multitudes of problems, and trying to get people to detour around a major construction site isn't the easiest thing to do. In fact, the detour goes right through a mostly residential area that is not at all used to the volume of traffic it is receiving.

The fact that Linn-Mar is building a new football stadium isn't helping matters at all. That large construction project is making matters more complicated as the large trucks and other equipment that are needed to work on the stadium are attempting to get into the work area as other traffic is trying to get through.

When it's completed, it will make it much easier to drive in that area with the addition of turning lanes onto some of the roads and other lanes to Linn-Mar High School and their new football field. Until then however, it is causing large problems for Linn-Mar and Marion students alike.

Another area that has caused even more problems is the intersection of 7th Ave and Collin's Road. This area has been under-construction since before summer, and

the large project still isn't done.

Many problems have arisen from this project. For example, many businesses have their entrances to their stores blocked because of the construction project. The businesses have also been hurt from the decrease in traffic. Another problem is that the turning lanes have changed several times since the projects inception. This has caused drivers to wildly change lanes and become a hazard to everyone else driving. However, when the project is done, it will feature more turning lanes, making navigation much easier.

Even though construction in many areas is a hassle, many areas need the construction badly. Parts of First Ave are also under-construction. This has been a hassle to many drivers on there way downtown. This construction started about the same time as the other two projects, and hopefully will be done soon.

Recently, construction in downtown Marion was completed. The project replaced several stoplights that had become old and outdated. The new stoplights have a feature which now tells you how long it will be until the lights change. This, along with some other



A view of the road construction looking down 29th street in Marion near Linn-Mar.

changes, has made it much easier and safer to drive through Marion. It also makes it safer for younger students on there way to school.

Overall, the construction will be helpful in the end, but people need to be vigilant for other drivers not understanding the construction. The more people pay attention, the less accidents there will be.

Even though the road construction is a hassle to some, it will make all three roads better with the addition of turning lanes, better stoplights, and overall better roads. Most of the work will likely come either to a halt or be finished as winter approaches. The work that is not finished by then will pick up again next spring. The never-ending circle of road construction will keep spinning in the Metro Area.

## Drive; texting back can wait

By: Emily Palmer [Web Editor]

It is common knowledge that as of July 1st drivers are no longer allowed to use any form of electronic handheld devices. This simply means no talking and most definitely NO texting. For now, these actions are against the law.

What does this mean for Marion and other surrounding high school students? Well for starters if a minor of those with restricted licenses are caught texting or talking while behind the wheel they could face a \$30.00 fine or possibly lose their beloved license. Now, imagine that the teen seriously injured someone, which would cost him or her fine up to \$1,000.

Not to alarm the general public, and to give everyone time to get used to these new laws the state has given, there will be a one year grace period where police will issue warnings before giving out any fines.

So what is allowed and what is considered breaking these new laws? Reading a text message is allowed, but sending

one is not. After this "education" period of one year if a teen is caught texting or talking by a police officer they can be fined and there is a chance of possibly having their license suspended.

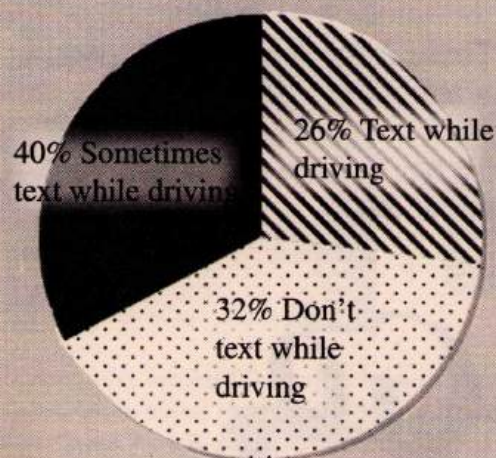
So, what happens to Ma and Pop if they're texting while driving to the grocery store or work? They basically suffer the same consequences as their children. Adults with a full license have to follow these texting laws with an exception. Since they're considered more experienced than their children or any teen driving on the streets, and are allowed to use their phones to make calls with no penalties.

The police will be watching for these offenses and will be issuing warnings. Just because they will not yet be giving out fines doesn't mean people can keep breaking these rules. After the one-year mark everyone is fair game and can be fined if the police see a cell phone in hand while operating a vehicle. So, practice now and be aware of the things going on around on the streets and in the cars out there.

### Texting in the car

When asked in a random pole during B. lunch students elaborated their textitng habits.

Texting while driving is illegal for everyone. Adults with a full license can talk on the phone while driving but no one is allowed to text while behind the wheel of a car.



## New red-light cameras cause concern

By: Logan Tichy [Ad. Editor]

We have all seen the new stop lights that have been put in by the City of Marion. These stop lights are not the normal stop lights, they have red light cameras. That way if you speed threw the red light they will be able to send you a ticket to your house.

The city says that it's going to help with people who speed threw the stop lights and will also help catch car accidents that have occurred, like in the case of a Cedar Rapids teenager's car stalled in the middle of the intersection. When she got her car started a car ran threw the intersection smashing into her car. By the cameras they were able to identify who caused the crash and who would get the ticket.

If you get slapped with a ticket

regarding speeding through a red light, don't be alarmed when you open it and see \$45 to \$150 fine.

While the city will be sending you a picture of your self speeding through the intersection with the fine, it will not be going onto your personal record. It will be waived as soon as your pay your fine.

Speeding cameras are used all over the USA. There are currently 11 other states that use the red light cameras for safety purposes.

Good advice would be to pay attention while driving so as not to unexpectedly run a red light and receive a red light ticket in your mail box the next day. If a ticket does arrive, though, it's best to just accept your fate and pay that fine!

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...It's about learning to drive  
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Go to [StreetSmartsDriversEd.com](http://StreetSmartsDriversEd.com) to register and view other class locations!  
We are fully licensed by the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa Department of Transportation.



## Friendships that last forever from all around the World

Brandon Peiffer has housed many exchange students and shares how the experience has helped open his eyes to new experiences.

By: Tylar Jansen [Activities Editor]



Brandon Peiffer, junior

He is at the airport with welcoming signs. He's very nervous but excited. It is his first foreign exchange student and he is ready for all of the experiences and new friend.

Brandon Peiffer, junior at Marion, has housed many foreign exchange students since he has been in middle school. Brandon thinks it's an experience that many people would enjoy. "I think that anyone would enjoy housing a student from a different country," Brandon said, "the only thing that a person should do is have an open mind to new things, ideas and cultures, but everything is fun to learn about." Brandon feels that housing exchange students is one of the most eye opening experiences for any kid and their family.

Brandon's family in particular feels highly about housing the students. "My family and I love learning new languages and seeing how people live their everyday lives different than ours." Brandon added, "It's fun to try new food with them and learn

about their hobbies." Brandon said that one of his favorite sports he has learned from Denmark is a game called Handball and that he still plays it sometimes with his friends and family.

He explained that him and the exchange students still keep in touch through Facebook, e-mails and phone calls. "My family and I like to keep in touch so we can see how they are doing and hopefully get together here or maybe I could go there some day," Brandon said.

He said that he would love to travel to a different country to really experience a different culture and see how a different country's family lives. "My parents want me to stay here through all of high school so I don't miss out on anything," he said. "Right when I get the chance I would really like to travel to another country to really understand the different cultures and hobbies of different countries." Brandon said he hopes to take a year during college and study over in Europe somewhere.

He is at the airport again for the fourth time. Brandon, this time, is waving good-bye to his new friend. He knows that he will still talk to him and stay friends and one day he will be able to travel to his country to a new culture and say hello to an old friend.

"My family and I love learning new languages and seeing how people live their everyday life is different than ours."

-Brandon Peiffer, junior

## Pushing their way to the front at games

By: Tylar Jansen [Activities Editor]



Tessa Davis, senior

Getting all dressed in the color of the night. They are ready to go watch the school hopefully win in another football game. Both girls were ready to sit in the student section and help root on the Marion team.

Aubree Bowers, freshman, and Tessa Davis, senior, are two

students who like to attend Marion football home games. "I like to see all my friends," said Aubree. "[My favorite part] is seeing my friends, winning, and doing all of the student cheers with everyone," added Tessa. Both girls have opinions about the student section seating here at our home field.

Tessa being a senior, thinks the seating is a good thing. "A lot of the under class-men don't even pay full attention so they should just stay towards the back," Tessa said. Aubree responds, "I don't mind it all that much because I'm around all of my friends and grade but it does suck we're in

the back and seniors can be mean about it."

Tessa said that the worst part about it is when there are younger class men who refuse to move to the back for the seniors. "We ask them to move but they refuse and usually get angry and defensive." Aubree shared that she has never experienced this, but feels that she would move because she understands that it will be her turn to be in the front and watch the game.

About the wait, both girls agreed it's not that bad, "I understood when I was younger. It's seniority," Tessa laughed. Aubree and added, "You have to go through the journey and the experiences of waiting before it's your turn." They both agreed and said that it's for the best, so everyone will get a chance to be in the front when it's their year to shine.

"I like it because I can cheer with my grade and we get the most crazy in the front row screaming for the football team."

-Tessa Davis, senior

Tessa feels that it is awesome to finally be seated in the front of the stand. "I like it because I can cheer with my grade and we get the most crazy in the front row screaming for the football team." She hopes

younger kids understand when seniors as them to move that it's just because they have waited.

It's Friday again. Another home game. The theme is set. Aubree and Tessa are heading towards the field but they separate when they hit the student seating to help each of their grade cheer on the varsity team.

## Roberts takes on Student Senate again

By: Casey Burns [Features Editor]

She wakes up early and gets ready. Tired, and wanting to go back to bed, she walks into school for her meeting. She gets in the room and takes a seat and listens to the instructor; she's in her Student Senate Meeting.

Emily Roberts, junior, is in Student Senate and has been since freshman year. She is very involved and is excited about this year. She said, "...I hope we get a lot accomplished." Getting so many things accomplished in one year can be difficult at times, but when there is a group of about 20, it can all get done.

In the past, Emily has taken on many different roles as a leader. "I was president, vice president, treasurer and at-large office for each grade... Every meeting, I take roll, record minutes, and review last meeting's minutes to be approved. We run our meetings according to Robert's Rules of Order," Emily explained. In order for things to run smoothly, things have to be set.

Having meeting times and things planned for each meeting is something that can help out when beginning to talk. "Every first and third Wednesday, we meet at 7:45AM. The Monday before

the meeting, the executive board meets to plan the agenda," she stated. Being organized and having a solid idea of what is going to be talked about can be a good foundation for the meeting.

When in the meetings, there is a lot to talk about and a lot to plan.

"Our first duty is to plan the burning of the M, homecoming door signs, floats for the parade, decorations. We had an election to fill the open 9th grade offices, discussed bringing back student groups that were cut due to budget cuts. We have various committees, such as the character committee to boost school spirit," Emily described.

As everything comes together, Emily has a lot to think about as she writes down everything that's talked about. The last word is put in and everyone is dismissed until the next meeting.



Emily Roberts, junior

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## Barbiere fits right in at Marion

Francesca Barbiere is having a great experience in Iowa so far, plans to return

By Storm Dogs [Staff Writer]

She sat in her room, curious about what she will see in Iowa, thinking about all the friends she will make. She looked around her room, wondering if she will miss her home at all. She is packed up and ready to go to the airport in the morning, but isn't quite sure that she is mentally ready to leave just yet.

Francesca Barbiere, senior exchange student here at the high school, arrived in Marion on August 5th. Francesca is from Venice, Italy and is staying with Brandon Peiffer and his family. Although she has only been here a little over a month, she already loves it. "I really like it here, my plan is to stay here and study here," said Francesca. She plans to go home after her visit here for awhile and return back to the United States. Francesca has also been to Florida and Massachusetts.

When going to a new country, it is always scary, wondering if you will make any friends. If a person goes to a new school for a whole year, and doesn't make any friends, it could be very lonely and scary. Francesca did not have this problem at all. "I want to thank my first friends here. If it weren't for you it might have been harder. I'm having the best time of my life," Francesca expressed.

Francesca keeps in touch with friends and family back

home, and there are many different ways to do that. "I skype...Facebook, and write some letters. I send some texts, but not many because it is so expensive," explained Francesca. Marion offers a lot of sports to students. Francesca played volleyball here briefly, and then quit. "I practiced volleyball, but I quit because I want to focus on school," Francesca stated. She also wishes to be a cheerleader for basketball this coming season.

"I want to thank my first friends here, if it weren't for you it might have been harder. I'm having the best time of my life,"  
-Francesca Barbiere, '11

People travel for many different reasons. Francesca wanted to travel for many reasons of her own. "I want to learn better English and I like change," said Francesca. She wanted to stay away

from Italy for a while. "It's a good experience to grow up away from parents," she said. When traveling to a new place, whether it be a new city or a new country, a lot can be gained from the experience. "I want to change some negative sides of me [while here]," explained Francesca. Being in a new place leads to new opportunities and new learning experiences.

Leaving home is always hard, especially when someone is going to a different country. "[Leaving was hard for me, especially] the night before I left and when my



Francesca Barbiere, senior and her friend Hannah Shaffer, junior, have fun together while posing for a picture in the gym. Hannah was one of Francesca's first friends here and made it easier for her to adjust.

parents dropped me off at the airport," Francesca said. It always takes awhile to get used to new surroundings, especially when a person's parents aren't there with them.

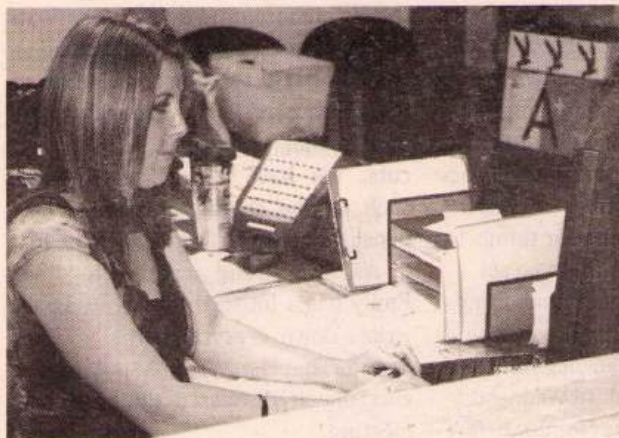
She sits in her new bedroom, in her new house, thinking about all the fun she will have with her new friends and host family. She imagines the places she'll visit while here, and the people she has yet to meet. She's never wants this experience to end. Although she misses her friends and family back home, she's nowhere near ready to go back.

## New secretary at MHS; loves her new job, eager to meet everyone

By Storm Dogs [Staff Writer]

She sat at her previous job, doing office work, thinking that she wanted a more fun and exciting job. She wondered what job that would be; she's never had a certain job in mind, just as long as it lives up to her expectations. She hopes she will find a job like that very soon.

Jackie Little is the new secretary here at Marion.



Mrs. Jackie Little, the new secretary, works on attendance and paying bills. She has a lot of work to keep her busy all through out the day. She never has any down time, but if she ever does, things can be found for her to be done.

Growing up, she attended school in Vinton and went on to college at both Hamilton and Kirkwood Colleges. She's only had this job for a little over a month and already likes everything about it. "I like [Marion High School] a lot. Everybody is great here," she explained. This job is similar to her previous one. This job and her previous one both involved plenty of office work.

At her previous job, Mrs. Little did office work too, but it was a little bit different. "I worked for a place called Mid-West Wheel. They sell truck parts," she explained. Her job here consists of a lot of different things. "[I do] everything. Attendance, pay bills, whatever Dr. Thomas tells me to do," Mrs. Little explained. Mr. Semler gives her things to do as well. There is always something that needs to be done, and if she doesn't have anything to do, Dr. Thomas or Mr. Semler will find her things to do. "As of right now, I never have any down time, it's always busy," Little said. She always has something to do, which makes her job very exciting and fast-paced.

Ever since Mrs. Little was a kid, she wanted a fun and exciting job. It didn't matter what it was, just as long as it was fun and exciting. That's why she took this job. "It sounded exciting, which is exactly what I wanted," she stated. Her job is exciting, especially since

she is always busy. Being a new secretary here, she has met a lot of new people. "I have enjoyed meeting the students and staff here," exclaimed Mrs. Little. "Marion High School seems like a fantastic place that everyone cares about," she continued. Mrs. Little has one goal she would like to accomplish while working here and that is "to have everything run smoothly."

Mrs. Little is also a mother and a wife. She lives in Central City with her husband and two children. Her husband is an assistant fire chief in Central City where they live. She has an eight year old daughter and a five year old son. Mrs. Little grew up in Vinton and moved to Marion when she got married. She then

moved to Central City with her husband and kids. She has lived in Central City for about six years. When Mrs. Little isn't working, she enjoys reading, going shopping, and going on fun vacations.

She sits at her desk, thinking about her job. It's exciting, just like she wanted. She never has down time, but she doesn't care, that makes it all the more exciting for her. She enjoys how fast paced it is and she's glad she got to meet all of the nice staff and students here. She tries to think if there could be any job better than this one.

"I have enjoyed meeting the students and staff here...MHS seems like a fantastic place that everyone cares about,"  
-Mrs. Little, Secretary

## Not your average girl

By Logan Tichy [Ad Editor]

Sitting at her desk at home she logs onto her favorite website where many of her friends are signed on. She starts chatting about the Japanese culture and what's new in Tokyo and Yokohama.

Kirsten Watkins, junior, has been following the Japanese culture for many years. In mid October, 2008, she first started to get into German music.

"I got into German music first from the channel The Fuseon television. Then it slowly turned into Japanese," said Kirsten.

When Kirsten gets home from school she logs onto her second life, a chat room where all of her friends who live in different states or even countries are at. They all chat about the types of music that has come out and the new

fashion pieces. She has around 50 online friends from all over the world.

Kirsten listens to many different songs that are Japanese. "X Japan and the GazettE are my favorite bands right now," she exclaims. The music here is completely different. In America our singers sing about drugs, sex and women. In Japan it's completely different. "The music and lyrics have meaning, they sing about love and what it means to them," said Kirsten with a smile.

Once Kirsten graduates high school she wants to attend college and learn Japanese. She would like to move to California and become a Japanese translator. "I want to move to California and help people understand what Japanese people are trying to say."

Now, as Kirsten sits down at her computer, instead of logging onto her favorite chat room she searches for houses and jobs in California. There she will attend a college that best fits her needs to help her persuade her dream.

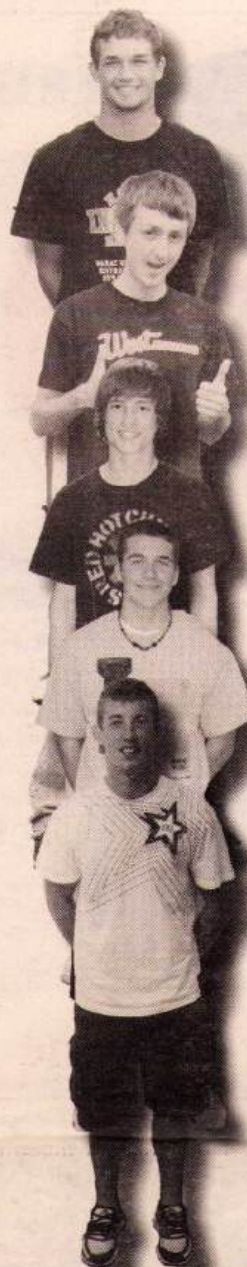


Kirsten Watkins shows what's going on in her favorite fashion magazine, J Fashion.



## New faces of the 2010 homecoming court are revealed

This year's homecoming court tells a little about themselves to help decide who should win this year's king and queen titles.



### Dusty Albaugh:

-Who is your role model? Why? "Reggie Bush, because he's best running back to ever go through college football...legally or illegally."  
-What are you involved in? "Football, basketball, track, and baseball. SODA, Take Charge, NHS, and NCYL."

### Jake Putnam:

-One word to describe you: "Spicy"  
-What is your favorite high school memory? Why? "My favorite high school memory was last year when a ton of people in my class and I worked on setting up Prom. It took a long time and was a little hectic, but it was all worth it..."

### Tyler Scott:

-Who is your role model? Why? "My old man, because he is one of the greatest influences in my life."  
-One word to describe you: Outgoing

### Kacey Semler:

-What are you involved in? "Basketball, baseball, WWW, Take Charge, NHS, SODA."  
-If you could pick a super power, what would it be? Why? "Apparition- the magical process of transportation-so I would never be late."

### Tyler Fisher:

-Who is your role model? Why? "Both my parents, because they have given me a firm backbone and always have been there to look up to when I need it most."  
-One word to describe you: Passionate

### Kylie Cimaglia:

-What are you involved in? "Soccer, drum line, winter drum line, Youth Group, volunteering."  
-What is your favorite high school memory? "Playing on the soccer team and being on the drum line."

### Debbie Clarron:

-Who is your role model? Why? "Joe, my brother, he is always there for me and is a positive influence. He's basically my best friend."  
-One word to describe you: "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious."

### Randah Epy:

-What are you involved in? "Dance, band, choir, bowling, tennis, soccer."  
-If you could pick a super power what would it be? Why? "I would like to pause time, so I can get out of bad situations."

### Taylor Houchin:

-What is your favorite high school memory? "JV Basketball 09/10, Strain and Walters. Wuddup Mannah?"  
-One word to describe you: Distracted

### Leah Smith:

-If you could pick a super power, what would it be? Why? "Mind reading so I could know what everyone's thinking."  
-Who is your role model? Why? "My mother, because she's exactly who I want to be and she's a great person."



## Advanced engineering courses a hit

By: Jordan Hansen [Opinion Editor]

This year, three classes of students get to do something that has never been done at MHS before. Every day they walk into class, they are a guinea pig for something new and exciting. Even if they don't realize it, they are making decisions on what the next generations of MHS students may or may not get to do.

Evan Smith, Sophomore, is enrolled in one of the new engineering classes that was just added to the school. This is the first year Marion has had a chance to have these classes. "I feel like a lab rat sometimes," he said. "But it's a lot of fun."



Evan Smith, sophomore

This new program, students get a chance to create and test inventions on a computer program. There are currently three classes of Intro to Engineering Students, one taught by Mr. Weisinger and two taught by

Ms. Logan. These new classes are also available to all four grades. During the summer some selected students were sent emails explaining what this class all

### Engineering Class Information

- Classes are available to all grades.
- Taught by Mr. Weisinger and Ms. Logan.
- No extra costs involved.
- If you pass the first class you are eligible for the 2nd part of the class, Principles of Engineering.
- This is the first year they have been available to anyone at this school.
- Class teaches many different parts and types of Engineering.
- Not like a regular class, most of the work is on a computer.

about. "I heard about it from an email." He said.

So far they haven't done a lot of creating inventions, "just some power-points." These new courses use math, science, and physics to turn thoughts into computer animated reality. Many students enrolled in these classes, which hopefully means that there is at least some degree of interest in the field of engineering at our school. If a student successfully completes the course, they have the option to take another class that extends the learning of the first class. This class is called Principles of Engineering and goes into more depth on the subject of engineering.

Something that many people don't realize is the fact that there are many types of engineering, such as biotechnology. They cover many of these topics in the two engineering classes.

The new classes may be new and different, but anyone who takes them just might find that a career in engineering is for them.

## Ehlinger excited to be a freshman

By: Storm Dog [Staff Writer]

She thinks about her first day of high school, what it will be like, if she'll make any new friends. She wonders if the classes will be harder, but tries not to worry about it too much.



Grace Ehlinger, freshman

Grace Ehlinger, freshman, feels that nothing is new to her in high school. When Grace was in 8th grade, she took English classes at the high school. "I don't really know why I did, the principal at Vernon just told me to," explained Grace. They only told her what classroom to go to and what she would need. She sort of new what to expect, she had two siblings that went here as well. "My brother graduated in 2000 and my sister graduated in 2009," she explained.

Since Grace had taken high school classes here before, she wasn't really scared of anything in particular coming in as a freshman. "The biggest thing I was worried about was having to fully adjust to the school, the teachers, and having a new schedule," she said. Her favorite class so far is the English class she took here in 8th grade. She has certain classes that she would like to take. "I'd like to take graphic design classes at some point," explained Grace. She's really interested in computer graphics.

There are a few differences from middle

school to high school. One thing being the mentor meetings. "They're a good idea, but they're kind of boring," stated Grace. Since mentor meetings occur on the first full day of every week, they could get kind of boring. Another thing that's different is the amount of freedom, like choosing some of your own classes. "High school doesn't really seem that different [from middle school,] the biggest difference would be the amount of freedom that you get," she proclaimed. She also thinks the amount of homework is less in high school. "It's easier too," she exclaimed.

Grace runs cross country and would like to play soccer. "I've been running cross since 7th grade," she explained. Grace hasn't ever played soccer for school, but has been playing for AYSO. Along with sports, there are extracurricular activities that a student can do as well. "I don't see myself joining anything now. I might join choir later," she said. She wants to focus on school for now. She wanted to join band in middle school, but was unable to. "I always wanted to play the tuba, I don't know why though. I'll probably never join band either," she explained.

Some people look forward to high school while others don't really care. "I was excited," exclaimed Grace. "I was mostly excited for a new step in life. Now that I'm in high school, I'm already looking forward to college," she continued.

She sits in English class, glad that she had a head start to high school. She thinks about how exciting this new step in her life will be and all the fun she will have. She begins to think about the adventures she will have in college as well.



## Isaac is an inspiration to all of us

Holly Isaac tells about the new character of the month reward and tells about how it is going to be a good impact for the whole school.

By: Tyler Janzen [Activities Editor]



Holly Isaac, Senior

Someone drops their books and another student bends over and helps pick them up. Someone else has their hands full and can't get the door open; and another kid gets it. A freshman can't find their classroom and a senior shows them the way. These are three small things that can make a big difference around our school.

Holly Isaac, senior at Marion, has recently won character student of the month. Which is a new reward the school is doing to give students who show great character traits acknowledgement for their good acts. "They give you a certificate with your name on it saying you have shown good character," shared Holly. She feels that this new reward is a great idea. "I do think it is a good idea because you feel good about your self when someone else noticed you, especially for being a good student and or person," she added.

Holly, herself, won the reward because she stopped some students who were picking on another student who was in a troubling situation. "It felt good to get a reward for just doing the right thing," Holly added. She thinks that this program will help Marion High School become even more character orientated.

She thinks that the character student of the month will help other students see that if they help others they

too can be rewarded. "I think that it will make people help others and show more character traits around the whole school," she smiled. Holly feels that if more students start to see other people being recognized for their good character traits that other students will want to become more aware of their character.

She also feels that students who might be picked on a little more often than other kids will see that there are kids who like to help out others. Holly thinks that it will make a big impact for the school.

Holly isn't a student who likes to cause trouble with other kids. She is in the hallways just minding her own business, but when a fellow student looks like they could use some help just opening their locker, Holly isn't shy to help out.

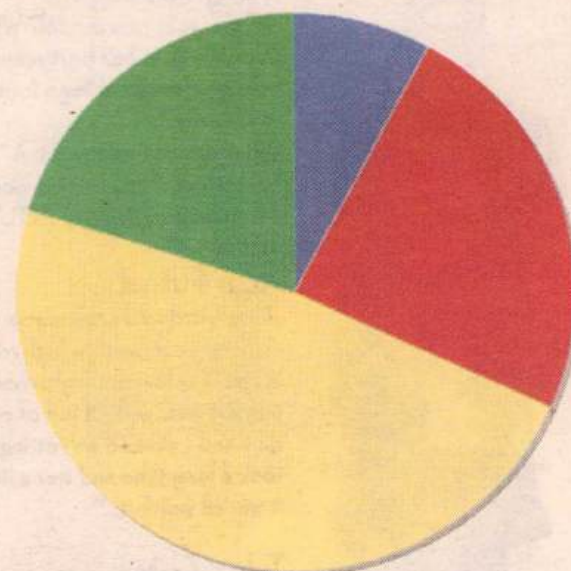
### Persons Nominated

Becky Herman  
Justice Hale  
Danielle Tiernan  
Holly Isaac  
Kristin Kramer  
Hannah Keller  
Hannah Wendling  
Colton Wolfe  
Audrey Capps  
Marsid Nuho & Jacob Davila  
Kyle Von Behren

### Action of Character

Determination  
Respect  
Respect, Responsibility  
Respect, Modesty  
Responsibility  
Integrity  
Respect  
Respect  
Integrity  
Respect, Responsibility  
Integrity

Marion students weigh in on which character trait is most important.



Respect- 8%  
Responsibility- 24%  
Honesty- 48%  
Modesty- 0%  
Integrity- 0%  
Determination- 20%

## If You Really Knew Me

Randah Espy

Age: 17

Clique: Floater fo sho

What do you think your friends think of you? I'm funny and caring. I like listening to peoples problems and helping them out.

What do you think others think of you? I would hope others would like me and think the same.

What people don't know, but should know about you? My parents got divorced when I was younger and I don't see much of my dad.

What makes you different from everyone else? I don't judge people, and I like being friends with everyone.



Ashley Iehl

Age: 14

Clique: Jock

What do you think your friends think of you? ...as an out going person, who would stop what she's doing to help someone.

What do you think others think of you? That I'm athletic, and am always going hard at whatever I am doing.

What people don't know, but should know about you? I am dyslexic and that I live on a farm.

What makes you different from everyone else? ...my attitude and the effort I put into my hobbies.



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