

# THE VOX

Erin Thomanson,  
junior



Ms. Junge recaps her feelings of being let go and rehired last year. **14**

Why using the n-word should never be considered acceptable. **3**

Scarlet Spectrum marching band worked hard and marched to victory at Mt. Pleasant in September. **4**



The student section kicked off the first home football game with a white out, and threw baby powder one minute before the game started. The football team played the Washington Demons. The team fought hard and the game ended with a score of 25 to 35, Washington winning.

## Blazek proposes a ban on grinding

The junior class president voices her opinion on school dance moves.

By: Alex Coleman @AlexColeman831

For a long time now, people have discussed the new dance regulations. With the need to provide a school ID, and having to go through a process to get someone in from a different school, new rules have been a hot topic. One thing students at Marion have never needed to worry about, however, is getting kicked out of school dances for wearing something considered too short or dancing too provocatively. Mr. Semler and Mr. Zrudsky, Principal and Vice Principal, have never kicked a student out for grinding, but with a possible new rule, are they going to have to?

Heather Blazek, President of the Junior class, has people talking with her proposed ban on grinding.

"I don't technically want to ban it, but I don't think people should be doing it. It doesn't represent them as people like they should be. I guess I just think that, if their parents wouldn't want to see it, why would they do it," Blazek explained.

The point was made that it is not, in fact, only about the two people that engage of this form of dancing, it's about others around them as well. "Some of the teachers chaperon the dance, and...they see you everyday, but after the dance they're just kind of like, 'Oh I saw them grinding, that's weird'," Blazek commented.

During a dance, tensions are high. The air in the room is hot and heavy, and everyone is

moving to the beat, however, the specific way of gyrating hips onto someone else's could simply be a way to fit in.

"I think it's more of a conformity thing. I mean, I've talked to people that have said they really didn't want to grind. They only did it because their date wanted them to, or that's what everyone else was doing," Blazek said.

On top of the conformity, there's some worrying questions on Blazek's mind. If a student can't say no to a date for dancing, what can they say no to? If a student feels the need to conform past the point of their comfort level, are they always going to be that way?

"Be confident in yourself, and be able not to need to be a part of the group. If you know for a fact that you can't say no to a date and you're uncomfortable with the idea, just get a group of friends to go. If you can't stand up for yourself then you shouldn't be putting yourself into such a bad situation," Blazek said.

Although most teachers and principals are against telling students to stop grinding, Blazek would rather them do something about it. "I totally think they should do that. I think they should be able to walk up and say 'Hey, think about what you're doing.'"

Although she thinks that the inappropriate dance should not be allowed, Blazek also understands that people have to be allowed to do what they wish. "People should definitely be allowed to do what they want, I just think certain people should rethink if they're doing it because they want to, or for more petty reasons. I mean, go ahead and do whatever you want to your own body. Just realize how people are going to think of you after the fact."

With all the dress shopping, cute asks, and dinner plans being made, it's clear that the beloved Homecoming is just around the corner. This time around, there will still be a large amount of kids who bump 'n' grind, but maybe some should heed Blazek's words.



A group of students grind against each other in front of the DJ booth at the 2014 "Starry Night" Prom.

## Class clash of the floats

By: Skylar Miller-Baker @Skylarmbaker15

The graduated class of 2014 is widely known for having a four-year winning streak for their well put together homecoming floats, their hard work and dedication paying off. This year, with the class of 2014 graduated and gone, the question remains: which class will rise up and claim their victory?

Preston Murphy, a four-year homecoming float committee veteran, feels strongly about his class's float. "Obviously the seniors are going to win. We are awesome and we have the most experience out of every other class," he said.

The senior class may have the most experience out of every other class, but do they have what it takes to beat out all the other classes? Will they be able to claim the title of best homecoming floats?

Not everyone thinks so.

Mahlia Brown, a junior who has been on homecoming float committee since she was a freshman, is an example of someone who doesn't think the senior class will win. "Obviously the juniors [will win] because we had best freshman float and behind the seniors, we were the best. It was just a matter of the seniors leaving so that we could have our time to shine," she commented.

Winning best homecoming float is a huge accomplishment at MHS. It's the ability to prove which class is indeed the best class. Since the class of 2014 has left, every class seems to be fighting for their own victory and seem to think that they will be the ones to take home the gold. Every single class has its own pride about how their homecoming floats will win it all.

Nate Meister sophomore, is also very confident that his class of 2017 will win. "The sophomore class will win because we have the actual heart to win," he stated.

So which class will take home the victory? Will it be the senior class with the most experience, the junior class who has time to shine, the sophomore class that has the heart to win, or just maybe the freshmen will pull off a victory and surprise everyone.

Myles Bach is a freshman who believes his class will win because no one has seen what they have to bring to the plate yet. "The freshman will win. We are different and have a lot of cool ideas, we will win and surprise everyone."

The students of MHS will just have to wait until tomorrow night to see who pulls off the win.



The Junior Homecoming Committee shows off their 2013 float they made that almost took home the gold.

### Index:

Opinion: 2 & 3

Activities: 4 & 5

Entertainment: 6 & 7

Homecoming: 8 & 9

Senior Interviews: 10 & 11

Community: 12

Features: 13, 14, & 15

Back Page: 16



## Students affected by school starting too early

Teens face the struggle of getting up at a ridiculous time for their learning.

By: Skylar Miller-Baker @Skylarmlbaker15

It's a Monday morning at precisely seven A.M., and millions of kids are getting up to face their school day, lacking the sleep they need to get through the day. By Friday, these students are in the hole tens hours of sleep or more. By Saturday, they crash and don't get up until late because their minds and bodies are physically exhausted.

The struggle is getting up for school. According to a poll on USAtoday.com, just one out of every five adolescents get nine hours of sleep in a night. Students should get a minimum of eight hours of sleep per night. Without getting this required amount of rest, students find it hard to focus on their class work and tasks that they are required to complete during the day. Not being able to focus on their class work, students might find their grades slipping.

With school, sports, work, clubs, and other interests, students are under a lot of pressure. With a couple extra hours of sleep it could improve a student's mental and physical mindset. With a better mindset students could perform better in all their different activities and be able to make better



Bryce Valvoda, sophomore, rests his head after his math test. Students and researchers think the school day should begin later.

choices. When students don't get enough sleep their mindset can often be frayed, leading to poor life choices.

Without enough sleep at night, "USA Today News" states that students can have an increased risk for obesity, stroke, type 2 diabetes, and higher rates of automobile accidents. These are all factors that America is trying to eliminate. Who knew that letting students get a few extra hours of sleep is one of the easiest ways to help America eliminate this factor?

All of these points lead to one fact: school starts way too early. No school should start earlier than 9 A.M., so students can get their sleep and they can focus on the things they need to accomplish throughout the day. If schools were to start later, students would perform better in school and be able to get assignments done at a more effective pace.

## Dress based on rules

By: Kayla Comried @KComried

Whether it be summer, fall, winter, or spring, styles within the school are always changing. Some catch on quick, and soon everyone is sporting the newest fad, but others take time, sometimes never affecting the population as a whole. With clothing choices now a days becoming more and more bold, it leaves the students thinking that they can wear to school whatever they wish. However, Marion does have a dress code. This so called "set of rules" is not followed and quite frankly, it should either be followed or removed completely.

What is the point of having the dress code if staff isn't going to enforce the rules? Each day students come to school and see peers with half of their stomach showing, and shorts that for sure, do not reach an appropriate length, but really, these teens are not the only ones at fault. The administration and faculty who allow the students to wear this clothing are the ones to blame too. If they don't expect us, as teenagers, to follow the rules then why in the world would we follow them? Teens are notorious for wanting to rebel, and for wanting to break the rules, so if they are given an easy opportunity they are going to take advantage of it.

Another thing faulting the staff is the fact that some only enforce the rules with certain students. For example, one student walks past a staff member showing only an inch of their stomach, and the faculty member does not say anything. The next student that walks by is wearing the same shirt, but they are taller, so it shows more of their stomach, and the staff member makes them put a sweatshirt over their revealing shirt when in reality, a different student was just wearing the exact same one. This is unfair and discriminatory. If the staff members simply followed the dress code which states that students are not allowed to show their midriff, this problem would be solved.

The staff needs to enforce the rules, but in return, the students need to follow the simple set of guidelines given to them. The dress code consists of only a few items: tank tops must have straps more than an inch thick, thus banning spaghetti straps, tube tops, and strapless shirts. The other rules consist of students not being allowed to show their midriff, wear hats, show gang symbols, or any other thing that disrupts the education at MHS. These rules seem strict, but really, they are simply appropriate. School, being a setting for education and learning should not allow for distractions such as clothing choices. If these distractions are removed it allows kids to learn more effectively. This change however can not be accomplished from the students alone, it goes back to the teachers enforcing the rules.

If the teachers are not going to join together to stop the rebellion of this rule than the entire dress code should be removed. There is no point in having it if nobody follows it. This page of the student handbook is simply trash.

So with fall approaching, and new styles coming into play, everyone should re-look the dress code. Staff should begin enforcing it, and students should start to accustom to the rules that have always been in place. If the precedents aren't followed and aren't going to be followed, this part of the handbook needs to be removed because it has zero effect.

### 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's 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 in to room 22 or to any staff member.

## Attendance: why it should and shouldn't count

By: Becca Hall @Chewwbeccaa

How important is attendance? The answer is two-fold. Yes, it is important to be in class in order to learn from teachers and classmates. Like many teachers state, class time that a student missed cannot be reproduced, and often times poor attendance results in poor grades. While that is the case for some students, others do not benefit as much from class work and can learn just as much, if not more, on their own. If the student with poor attendance devotes their time to learning outside of class they may be just as successful. For some students, the classroom atmosphere is frustrating and may deter them from wanting to learn and achieve.

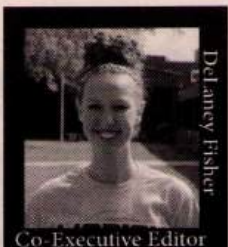
Many teachers grade students not only by their work done in class, but by their attendance too, giving students in class five or even ten points just for showing up and sitting in a desk. On one hand the points encourage students to be in class, but it also can negatively affect a student's grade even if they are getting 100% on every assignment and assessment. Students can miss class for many different reasons, for example one student may be missing classes to slack off or hang out with their

friends, while another may miss classes for serious reasons such as doctors appointments. Why should both students be penalized equally when one student has a valid reason and the other doesn't? Additionally, both of these students could spend time outside of the class they missed to learn and catch up and end up equally, or more successful, as students who attend every class.

Many argue the point that school is training kids to become successful adults, and attendance is a big part of that. If an adult constantly doesn't show up for their job, they will eventually be fired. While this is true, many people in jobs have the option to complete their work in a way that works for them, while the school system often expects all students to learn in the same way. This is obviously inefficient because there are many ways people learn.

In the end a person's effort is what matters. A student that wants to learn and is willing to put in work will be successful, while a student who does minimal and tends to slack off will not be. Why should it matter whether they were in class or not, as long as the student is learning? After all, isn't that what school is all about?

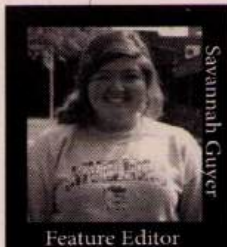
### 2014-2015 MHS Vox Staff



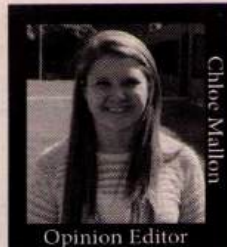
Delaney Fisher  
Co-Executive Editor



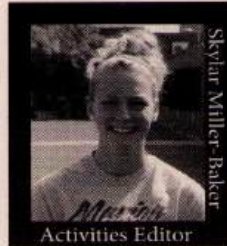
Gage Miskimen  
Co-Executive Editor



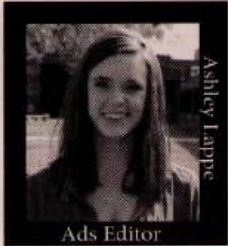
Savannah Guver  
Feature Editor



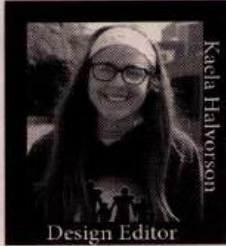
Chloe Mallon  
Opinion Editor



Skylar Miller-Baker  
Activities Editor



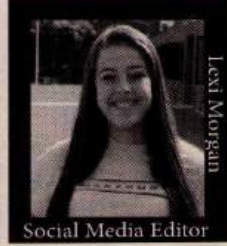
Ashley Lappe  
Ads Editor



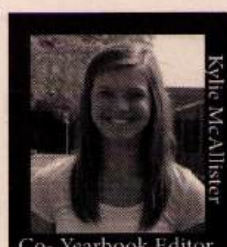
Kaia Halvorsen  
Design Editor



Alex Coleman  
Web Editor



Lexi Morgan  
Social Media Editor



Kylie McAllister  
Co-Yearbook Editor



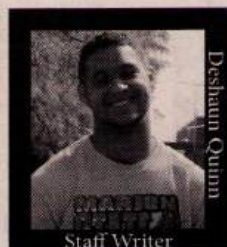
Kayla Comried  
Co-Yearbook Editor



Becca Hall  
Staff Writer



Emma Hartman  
Staff Writer



Deshaun Quinn  
Staff Writer



# Racial tensions rise due to public ignorance

Use of the n-word has changed dramatically over time, and not always for the better.

By: DeShaun Quinn @Quinntower\_2

On January 15th, 1929, during the time when a black person was referred to as the n-word over their name, Martin Luther King was born. King devoted his life to helping the black community earn equal rights, yet in today's society, saying the n-word is cool (at least to some). Some feel there's nothing better or cooler than being called the biggest insult to the black community.

As a mixed individual, I look at this trend and ask myself, is it okay for white people to say the n-word? Well, look at it this way, is it okay to call a special-needs kid the r-word? No. Yet people still laugh at these comments and think they're funny. Comedians such as Chris Rock and Kevin Hart make jokes of the word. TV shows even do it.

I didn't grow up in the early 1900's when blacks and whites were segregated and where blacks got a different type of education than whites based on just the color of their skin. You can't blame it all on the whites, though, because blacks are just as foolish, maybe even more so.

They put in their song lyrics and call one another the n-word, yet they're the first ones to get mad when a white person says it. Sam Cooke, Coltrane, and Bob Dylan were all civil rights singers. They didn't need the usage of the n-word in their songs to express their feelings. My mom taught me that two wrongs don't make a right and to treat others how you want to be treated. Therefore, no one should use this degrading term. Ever.

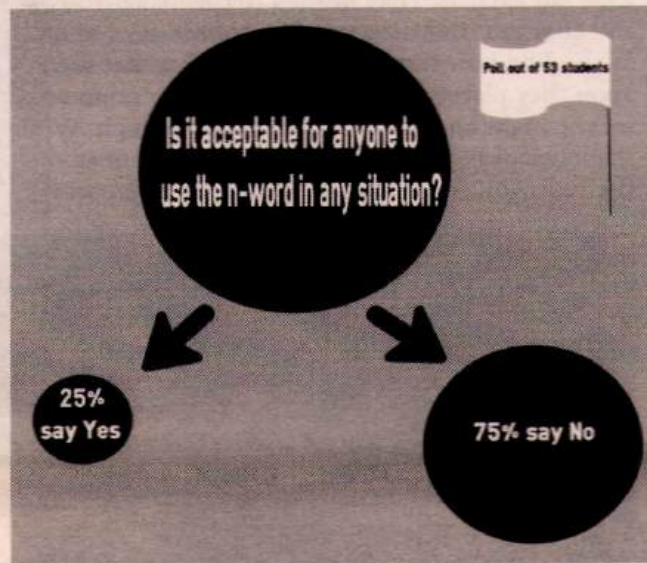
It's almost like we as a whole have forgotten all the pain and all the fighting that this word has brought to the black community. People, living people like you and I, at one time were put up on a block to be sold for human labor. They had no choice in their decision and were referred to as the n-word, yet we still use this term that was most derogatory to them. I don't see why some of us look over this expression like it's just another word and use the excuse that the way they say it means a different word. It doesn't matter if it ends with a "r" or an "a", it doesn't make the word anymore acceptable or gives anyone more right to say it.

In today's world, racism is still among us. Many

Americans take the high road and try to make it a better place, while others decide to take a different path to support a lifestyle they want to live. There are struggling neighborhoods where one-parent homes try to make a living for their kids. The rich life looks fabulous--fabulous enough for kids to drop out of high school to sell weed and carry guns. USA Today stated that two kids die a week due to unintentional shootings. Those two lives don't get a chance to exist, to create a decent life. Two kids who don't get an education and get to go to college. Two kids that won't be able to have a family all because of a bullet that leads back to a lifestyle, due to someone choosing not to take the high road.

We can all make the world a better place. Why can't we make our mark? If we all decide to stand up and become one, rather than separated by a word, then maybe two kids won't have to die each week. Maybe the n-word can be something that makes our country stronger, rather than tearing it apart.

So for those who feel the n-word is just another term to use, ask yourself again, is the n-word really worth it?



# Keeping it classy: appropriate length for dresses

By: Kaela Halvorson @kaelswhales

As people look forward to homecoming and hanging with their dates or friends, there are many problems with homecoming. This problem starts before the dance or dates are even thought of. Buying a dress. Dresses are the main thing in homecoming honestly, but people do not flaunt them like that. If people spend so much time and a good amount of money why do people proceed to not show them off. They flaunt bodies more than they show off the dress that they spend so long searching for.

As the time in high school shortens, apparently so do homecoming dresses. Each year it looks like a contest of who can wear the shortest dress. Then to make their outfits smaller, they decide to pull them up so their spandex, or skin, is showing. Body parts

are hanging out because people think it is okay to be half naked on the dance floor.

By getting a dress so short, no one is paying attention to the dress itself, they are looking at the body parts showing that aren't suppose to be showing. It is not cute to have butt checks out on the dance floor, or other body parts falling out because the dress is either too small or they have it pulled up way too far. Unnecessary body parts falling out of dresses because they think it's cute? Well news-flash, it is a big nasty turn off. Cover those body parts. Pulling up dresses shows a lot more skin than needed and to be honest, it makes them look trashy. This year Marion, let's keep it classy and keep the dresses down. Outfits need to have their moment in the spotlight to show how beautiful they are, represent Marion in a modest dress this year. If

outsiders were to watch a Marion dance, they would be so disgusted with how people are dressed.

Outfits are made to cover body parts and people do not understand that. People can not see the dresses, and get distracted by other parts on the body instead of how pretty the outfits really are. If someone were to see another school doing this at dances, they would be all grossed out, but why? We do it as well. Marion is our school so let's show less skin and more smiles at homecoming. Flaunt Marion in a good way. Why would someone want to represent Marion in such an inappropriate fashion?

# Hallway of horror

-Commentary-

Cell phones. The savior of our generation, the knife into the heart of our communication, and for many of us, our best friend.

We've all done it, and personally this happened to me the other day. I had left school for lunch and when I got back, there was still a few minutes before the bell sounded, releasing the bodies of students to fourth block. I was walking down the hall solo, and nobody was in sight. I thought I was the only one. Until, that is, I saw another person at the opposite end. I immediately identified them as someone I could not simply walk past. I knew that as I approached, and passed them, I would have to seem preoccupied.



By: Kayla Comried @KComried

I couldn't risk making eye contact in fear that their eyes would bore directly into the depths of my soul, but I also couldn't simply walk with my eyes closed because we all know, that's probably not safe, and quite frankly, it's strange. I also realized that I could not say hi due to the risk of forgetting how to speak and grunting as they passed me. I didn't know what to do, and at this moment, we were reaching a territory that was too close for comfort. I yanked out my Galaxy S3 and quickly opened my messaging app, as if the student could see what I was doing. As I passed them, my brain began to celebrate. I had done it. I walked past a student, typing random letters into my phone, resulting in how much awkwardness? Oh yeah, none. But, as I continued to celebrate this glorious feat, and thank my bffl, Galaxy, I realized just how dumb I probably looked.

Seriously, think about how many of us do that. Every time you pass someone in the hallway, and pull out your phone to type random things they probably do the same. Like for real, can we even trust that anyone we are passing is actually typing real things? Probably not because no one is even that cool to always be texting someone in the hallway anyways. This trick is now the oldest in the book, and so, I have prepared for you... New Ideas to Avoid Awkwardness in the Hall.

Idea number one: Tie your shoes. No one is going to question the fact that your shoelaces came untied so this idea is 100% fail proof. It also allows for you to get lower, and you know what that means. If you were to accidentally look up, you would only be making eye contact with somebody's shin. No soul boring and no pain.

Idea number two: Take a drink. This idea is a little more difficult, because you need a beverage, but it works. As the person walks by, if timed correctly, you could be in the middle of a tilt back. Thus directing your eyesight to the ceiling, and not on the target. This idea, although equally intelligent as the first, is a little more dangerous. Many things could go wrong. For instance, you could spill on yourself, which would be extremely embarrassing, or you could choke, forcing the person you are trying to avoid to put their attention on you.

Idea number three: This idea is by far the craziest one, but, if everyone begins to follow it, this will become the social norm. As you are walking in the hallway and see someone you can't bear to acknowledge... keep walking and acknowledge them. Crazy, I know. This idea seems as though it came from the mind of a psycho, but in reality, if we all just walked in the hallway, and didn't make every situation an awkward one, life would be so much better. We could go on, in complete freedom, never having to again frantically search for some random stupid thing to busy ourselves with in the hall, we could just simply walk and wave.

**Select Construction & Concrete**

**James Hoth**  
General Contractor

319-377-3984 Construction  
319-373-1098 Concrete  
319-447-1020 Fax



## Misadventures of Misky

-Commentary-

My pre-teen to teenage years have been full of awkward and uncomfortable moments. These misadventures are a continuation of my childhood traumas that have shaped me into the person I am today. One of the most uncomfortable situations I can think of is when it's your birthday and you get to decide where to go out to eat for your birthday dinner and



Gage Miskimen,  
Executive Editor

you're so excited to just eat food and celebrate another year of living. The waitress comes up and asks the usual waitress questions and all of a sudden your dad decides to just spice up the evening and tells the waitress a pretty casual conversation starter, "It's my son's birthday today." Bad move Dad. Bad move.

Everyone knows what happens next.

First of all I picked Cici's for my birthday, because I really just wanted mac and cheese pizza. That's all I have to say about that and I don't even know why I feel the need to defend my choice of restaurant but I do. Anyways, my dad, being my dad told them it was my birthday. "Great" I think. "I'm going to have to sit through this awkwardness but I've been in this situation before so it's fine. I'll power through it." Oh no, that's not how that went whatsoever. Cici's takes it to the extreme of birthday songs. Not only do they pull the majority of their staff to sing to you, they stop the whole dinner service and even get the other customers involved. Mind you, I was twelve years old that day, not very self-confident and still chubby. I was scared out of my mind when they announced my name to the whole building. Then they threw the curve ball and made me stand on my chair! THEY MADE ME STAND ON MY CHAIR! "Oh god, it can't get any worse than this." I thought. But it did. It got worse than that. They proceed to bring out this little cone like we use for gym class and then forced me to place it upon my head. My face was the brightest shade of scarlet and I felt myself sweating. My heart was beating so rapidly, I thought I was about to go into cardiac arrest. I looked around the room and everyone's smiling faces were singing to me. But they were these fake, annoyed smiles like when you see someone in public that you didn't want to and you're just like, "Oh. Hey, I didn't see you there. How are you?" but you actually did see them and you were just avoiding their presence.

Obviously, I came out okay, but I still haven't fully forgiven my father. Thanks Dad.

## The journey to war with the football team

An in-depth look into the weekly war waged underneath the Friday night lights.

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17

Every Friday night the varsity football team steps out on the field and goes to war. There are some battles that result in loss, and some that result in triumph, but nobody really knows what the football team does to prepare for these games. Nobody really knows how they forget about everything else and focus on that one game. Nobody really knows what's in their hearts before they step out on the field and represent MHS. Until now.

Before the matchup against Solon, the varsity boys started off their evening with some stretching, they ran the offense, and listened to what their coaches had to say. Once on the bus they were pretty quiet, because they didn't want to lose concentration. They all sipped their pre-game Gatorade and listened to music from their Beats. Coach Perkins ran over plays on a paper and talked to Captain, Eli Frazier, senior, about how the night would go. Some of the players stared aimlessly ahead of them, while others leaned up against the cool glass window with their eyes shut.

After arriving at the field, the players were nervous but excited. They headed to the locker rooms and changed into the rest of their uniforms, and focused on how they were going to play that night. Soon they played music, which got them pumped for the night and got their energy levels high. While the music was playing some nodded their head to the beat while others laid down. Some even prayed.

Once the music was off, senior Hayden Meister, quarterback and wide receiver, talked to the others about what they were going to do to win and how to do it. "I'm sick of hearing how tough this is, let's take it. Let's win," Meister said. One player made the sound of a heartbeat while Hayden talked to them.

The boys then all took a knee as soon as Perkins walked into the room. "This ain't a song, it's a heartbeat. Your heartbeat. The buddy standing next to you's heartbeat," Perkins told his team, "There comes a time when you grow up. It comes from your heart. Get knocked down, get up, get knocked down twice, get up twice."

After the pep talks the boys all ran out onto the field for their warm-up. It was plainly apparent that Perkins' speech really made them excited and pumped.

When they all came together one last time before starting the game, Perkins told them, "You gotta persevere, you gotta stand tall. Look at the buddy standing next to you. Believe in the buddy standing next to you. Tell them, I went to war for you because I believe in you."

Although this particular game against Solon didn't go the way the team was expecting, they worked together as a team and fought. They did go to war.

Frazier said after the game, "The chemistry with this team is the best I've ever had at my time at Marion. It's a lot better than I thought, too."

He was upset about the loss, but he knew they worked hard and he wasn't upset with his team. "We have made so much progress this year, we've taken the extra step. We go back we go forward, and so on," Frazier said with a smile.

The football boys have obviously had a very hard-working season and their team gets better every day because of the committed team members. Each of the players on the team put in time and effort so they can be better and represent Marion.

Eli Frazier, senior  
pours water on his  
head during the Marion  
vs Solon game.



## Scarlet's new debut

By: Emma Hartman @Steal\_Your\_Hart

Drum Majors get in position, Color Guard ready the flags, trumpets sound, and drum roll, please. It's marching band season.

Marion High School's marching band, Scarlet Spectrum, had its season debut at the Indian's first home football game in September. Performing "The Music of Dmitri Shostakovich," the band's compilation is classical Russian songs which have a raw and gritty, yet beautiful, sound.

Mr. Chad Allard, band director at MHS for the past nine years, has high hopes for the season. "I'm excited for the band because it gets better and grows everyday," commented Allard.

Students prepare for the season by attending a six day band camp prior to school starting, they practice every day and rehearse together on Monday nights.

"If someone really wants to excel at an instrument, they need to practice 30 minutes to an hour a day at home," said Allard. Commitment is not the only trait required to help a band succeed. Punctuality and working together as a team joins the marching band together as a "big family."

Band President, Riley Peters, senior, knows a thing or two about the qualities it takes to make a band succeed, as he has been a part of it for four years. "The band is getting a lot done and is improving a lot," he said.

Scarlet Spectrum had a competition at Mt. Pleasant on Saturday, September 20th. The band truly "marched to victory," placing 1st in 3A, walking away with Best Drum Line, Best Horn Line, and Best Drum Majors. This is horn line's 2nd year for Best Horn Line and drum line's 3rd year for Best Drum Line. And to top that, the band placed 3rd overall out of all the bands that played on Saturday!

To see a Division 1 band play some classical tunes, Scarlet Spectrum performs at every home football game!



Part of the Scarlet Spectrum rehearses during band.

# RightWay

## Driver Education Inc.

Cedar Valley Christian School, Cedar Rapids

Open classes:

CV9- Nov 10- Nov 22

CV10- Dec 20- Jan 3

CV11- Dec 20- Jan 3

Call (319) 350-1733

2015 classes will be listed on our website in November



## Seniors switch from volleyball to cross

Draeger and Pitstick tell why they made the sport swap their senior year.

By: Ashley Lappe @frappelappe

Athletics are a big part of high school and many people participate in them. Whether it be football, softball, soccer, or even archery, being a part of a sports team is a good way to meet new people and have fun. It can be difficult to decide which sport to be a part of, especially since MHS offers over 14 athletic opportunities for boys and girls.

Many students that take the opportunity to join multiple sports face the difficult decision on whether to continue playing the ones they had previously played or to quit those to join new ones.

Sydney Pitstick and Jamie Draeger, both seniors, were faced with the problem of having to choose whether to continue playing volleyball, as they had in the past, or make the switch to another activity.

Both Pitstick and Draeger made the decision to participate in cross country instead of volleyball, along with a few other girls.

They both have their reasons for changing sports, "I didn't like how volleyball was going and I felt my hard work would pay off more in cross and I knew there would be a lot less drama in cross country! I just wanted to end my senior year on a good note," Draeger stated.

For Pitstick it was more about making new

friends and becoming part of the team. "A lot of my friends were in cross country and they always talked about how much fun they had," she said. "They are also one big family and do a lot of team bonding. My favorite part about cross country is being with the people who are out for it. It isn't a cliquey group of people and we all really get along. Everyone cheers everybody on no matter how slow they are; I am super slow."

With every sport or activity there are things people like and there are things that people don't like. Draeger and Pitstick felt they would fit in better in cross country so they made the change.

Abby Phillips, also a senior, has played for the volleyball team her whole high school career and can't help but wonder what made them want to switch sports, "I love volleyball so much and I love my team beyond compare so I'm not sure, but I bet they had good reason to," she commented. "I think they need to do what makes them happy".

Both Draeger and Pitstick have a great amount



Jamie Draeger, senior, runs during cross country practice. She left the volleyball team to run cross for her senior year.

of support coming from their new cross country team and also from their old volleyball team.

## Growth moves choir to auditorium

By: DeLaney Fisher  
@DeLaney\_Fisher

Perfect pitches, heavenly harmonies, and beautiful ballads are all signs of a choir rehearsal, and each can be



Ariel Carter, senior

heard floating through the choir room doors in Marion High School. At least that has been the case in years past.

This year, however, the choir will be taking permanent residence

in the auditorium due to an influx in participants. There are fifty more students in choir than are legally allowed to be in the choir room at one time. Ariel Carter, senior, helps weigh the pros and cons of having this new practice space.

Carter has been a part of choir since the second grade and said, "I joined because in second grade it was the cool thing to do". She stuck with it and even added her church's worship team to the mix. "I decided to stay in choir because I enjoy the environment- everyone enjoys music as much as I do, and I'm happy there", Carter stated.

This being her senior year, Carter is excited to have such a large choir. "25% of the student body is involved in choir this year", Carter commented. Mr. Jonathan Dyrlund also added, "This year there are 145 students in choir, compared to last year's 115". The large numbers not only affect practice space, but also add to the overall performance of the choir. "I like having a large choir because we are louder which really improves the music because we can be louder on the loud parts and quieter on the soft parts and that makes our performances more dramatic and powerful. Overall, it improves our sound and our appearance", Carter explained. Mr. Dyrlund also likes the large numbers

and said, "We will always be looking for more students to join choir no matter how many we already have". Carter also likes the variety that having a bigger choir brings. "There a lot more diversity of activities [outside of choir], and skill sets", said Carter.

The auditorium has a few advantages over the choir room. Not only did the choir outgrow the room, but they also outgrew the risers. The extra bodies also brought extra heat. During the first few weeks of school, the auditorium's air conditioning was a huge bonus!

There are unfortunately some downfalls of practicing in the new space. "There are no folder slots anymore, so it forces students to be more responsible and remember to bring their folders to class, but it also results in a lot of people forgetting their stuff", explained Carter. It is quite a ways to get to the auditorium from the old room. "There are a lot more tardies this year which upsets some people", Carter commented. Practicing in the auditorium also prevents the choir from getting a feel for how their concerts will go. "The choir room is very similar to the gym, but the auditorium is extremely different. The acoustics in the auditorium aren't very good which makes it hard for us to unify our sound because you can only hear yourself singing. We also have no shape; we have to stand in blocks", stated Carter.

Overall, Carter feels neutral about the change in practice space. She said, "Yes, I like it because we actually fit and it's cool, but I don't like it because of the poor acoustics and the lack of unification it results in".

Colton Thompson, freshman, has a similar opinion to Carter's. He is mostly indifferent to the choir's new place of practice. Thompson is in Mrs. Doyle's third block, and can hear the choir practicing across the hall through the auditorium doors. "It isn't a big deal to hear them, and it doesn't distract me", Thompson commented.

The choir will continue to make improvements and adjust to their new practice space.

## Anime adventures with Williams

By: Lexi Morgan @Lexi\_Morgan17

Anime is something students at Marion High School are not very familiar with. Anime is a style of Japanese film and television animation. Most students may not be aware, but there is a student-run Anime Club right here at MHS. The leaders are Zachariah Williams, senior, Jennifer Null and Bailey Dunbar, both juniors. There are about 7-8 people in the club and they meet in Mr. Immerfall's room every Tuesday.

Williams describes their meetings as a place to hang out and talk about Anime. They also watch Anime series. Right now, they are on season 1 of Bleach. After they watch it, they discuss what they have watched. "My favorite Manga is Soul Eater and my favorite show is Akame Ga Kiru," Williams said. Also his favorite character is Ichigo Kurosake from the show Bleach.

Williams became interested in Anime when he was little. His mom had a rule he had to learn three languages besides English, so he decided one of them would be Japanese. His mom then brought home some Anime shows, and he fell in love. He now only watches three shows and they're all Anime. Manga is what Anime comic books are

called.

The club will also be doing some fundraising to reach their goal of going to Anime Iowa this year. Anime Iowa is a convention ran by the non-profit MindBridge Foundation. At the convention, there are Anime screenings, video games, an art auction, guest panels, cosplay, and many other events. They need sixty dollars per person, per night. There will also need to be adult supervision "I think we will need around a thousand dollars to go," Williams noted.

Anime Club means a lot to the members involved. "Anime club is a place for people to connect and talk about Anime," Null went on to say. "It's nice to have people who understand Anime." Anime Club is a great place for students who have an interest in Anime. If students have an interest in Anime, talk to a club member or show up to a meeting.



Zach Williams, senior

# Fire Painting



1045 S 15th st. Marion IA, 52302

(319) 447-0475

Paint and paper hanging



## "The Maze Runner" review

Suspenseful and intense, "The Maze Runner" doesn't disappoint.

By: Chloe Mallon @chhhloe17

Everyone knows about the new teen thriller movie, "The Maze Runner", which was a number one book before it became a number one movie. The film was released into movie theaters on September 19th, 2014. When the book, by James Dashner, came out in 2009 it blew many American's minds away. Now they have managed to make a movie about the popular story, and some are saying the movie is even better than the book.

The story starts off with Thomas, a teenage boy, who wakes up in a box not remembering anything. He has no idea where he is or even what his name is. When he gets out of the box he is greeted by numerous other teenage boys. These other teenage boys tell him that the same thing happened to all of them, they woke up in the same box and didn't remember anything. They tell him that a new boy comes every month.

Thomas, immensely confused, wonders about where they are at. They are basically trapped in a grassy area with large stone walls surrounding them. There is one crack between two of the walls, and Thomas is determined to go through it. The boys tell him not to, because everyone who has results in death, but Thomas doesn't want to listen to the boys. He decides to go through and defeat the odds, proving to

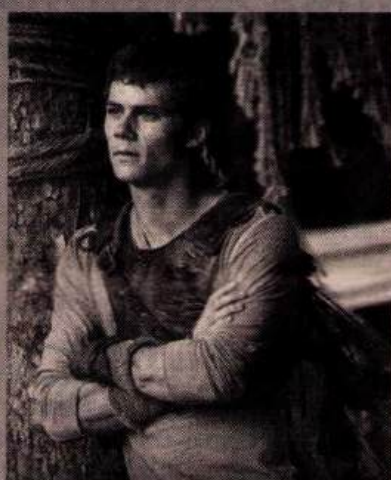
the other boys that he is different and more brave than them. After many things begin to change with Thomas's arrival, a girl named Teresa shows up in the box following a note saying that she will be the last one to ever show up.

Many of the boys are not thrilled about Thomas's arrival to their home, but some of the boys are. Thomas changes the whole area, but is it for the good or the

bad? Will the girl cause even more trouble?

Find out what happens in this crazy story starring Dylan O'Brien as Thomas and Aml Ameen as Teresa. What will happen to all these boys and this

one girl? Why were they put here? There's only one way to find out, go watch "The Maze Runner!"



Lead actor Dylan O'Brien, who plays Thomas, contemplates going into the maze.

### Movie Info

Rating: PG 13

run time: 113 min

Release date: September 19th

Rotten tomatoes rating: 5.9/10

Chloe's rating: 8.5/10

## Homecoming: do's and don'ts

By: Deshaun Quinn  
@Quinntower\_2

Every year boys and girls look forward to a certain dance all MHS students know as homecoming. It's the time girls spend hours on end looking for homecoming dresses and guys look for cute ways to ask their dates to the dance. But what is a dance without rules? Every student can attend homecoming, but they must follow a set of rules. People attending must pay for their tickets prior to the dance. When they buy their tickets they will be put on the checklist that will be used on the night of the dance to check them in. For students who are bringing dates from other schools they have a couple more steps.

If a student brings a date from a different school, they must have their date fill out an information sheet for Mr. Semler. The sheet consists of the their date's name, grade, address and a signature from their school principal approving that they may attend. Once the sheet has been filled out the student's date will be able to attend the dance. Dancers will be able to buy tickets until the Thursday prior to the dance. The age

range of the dance is 9th grades all the way up to anyone under the age of 21. Anyone one who doesn't fall within these requirements will not be allowed to attend the dance. At the door, Participants must show a student ID to prove that they attend the school that is putting on the dance.

Students bringing a guest must also be checked off the list, along with their date, and show their ID.

The dance will run from 8:00-11:00 p.m. Students will have to remain inside during the dance, any student who leaves will not be allowed back in. Six adult staff members will be chaperoning the dance along with them will be two Marion policeman. Student's items can be stored in the office for the length of the dance, to keep them safe. An adult volunteer will be present to check in and check out student's items so none can get stolen. Access to any other area besides where the dance is being held, will not be permitted.

The dance is planned to occur on October 11th, the day after the homecoming parade and game. If you plan to go, get your tickets while they last before the Thursday comes.

## What does everyone prefer to eat?

100 students were polled and asked which food they would enjoy to eat between two choices.

By: Kylie McAllister @smileeyyykylie

70% McDonald's vs. Burger King 30%

86% Oreos vs. Chips Ahoy 14%

70% Subway vs. Jimmy John's 30%

88% Panera vs. Bruegger's 22%

90% Pancheros vs. Chipotle 10%

58% Pepsi vs. Coke 42%

82% Starbucks vs. Coffeesmiths 18%



WILDWOOD  
FLOORS  
OF EASTERN IOWA

Andy Eicher  
President and Owner

865 Woodland Dr.  
Robins, IA 52328

Mobile: 319-431-3632

Andy@WildwoodFloorsInc.com  
www.WildwoodFloorsInc.com

Custom Design, Installation & Refinishing



## Alex and Sierra release their debut album

The X-factor competitors release their first ever pop album for the world to enjoy.

By: Ashley Lappe @frappelappe

The unmistakable feeling of standing in center stage in front of millions of people knowing you are with the one person you love. This is a feeling most people do not know about and have never experienced, but Alex Kinsey and Sierra Deaton know all about it.

Alex and Sierra are an American pop duo that competed on the third and final season of X-factor USA, under the mentoring of Simon Cowell. The couple met in college at the University of Central Florida. They began their journey in New Orleans, Louisiana, where they tried out for the American singing competition. They made an unexpected choice on their song, but really surprised the judges and the crowd with their twist on Britney Spears' "Toxic".

Alex and Sierra went through the competition putting their own special spins on popular pop songs such as "Blurred Lines" by Robin Thicke, "Gravity" by Sara Bareilles, "Little Talks" by Of Monsters and Men, and

"Say My Name" by Destiny's Child.

The duo showed off their unique vocals and amazing chemistry throughout the entire competition. This earned them many fans and followers and also helped them become the first group to ever win the competition in X-factor USA history.

Over one year after the competition ended, Alex and Sierra released their first song, "Scarecrow", of their new album All About Us. It was released to iTunes on June 23rd, 2014 and within the first week it sold over 30,000 copies. Since then they have released three more songs: "Just Kids" on August 4th, 2014, "Bumper Cars" on August 24th, and on September 4th they released their fourth single "Here We Go" which became number

four on the iTunes singles chart.

Their music, though classified as pop, adds an indie and folk-like twist to the songs they sing. This makes their music different than the songs most pop listeners are used to hearing.



Alex and Sierra's new album, All About Us, portrays the connection between the duo.

## 17 and stranded

-Commentary-

Being seventeen-and-five-months-old, not having a license is more than slightly frustrating. As many teenagers can attest to, getting that vital legal document is essential to living the free life everyone under the age of eighteen strives for. The privilege of having your own car gets you on your own schedule and you are put as captain on the ship of life. So when you're carless, you're basically freedomless, with no choice of how or where you get anywhere because basically, you take anything you can possibly get. Obviously your main choice of carpooling is your family, and luckily for me, my father happens to be my very own Alfred. Yea, Batman puns.



By: Savannah Guyer @SavannahMGuyer

Every morning, my brothers and I shuffle out to our swagger wagon, my sasquatch brother taking shotgun because he "can't fit" anywhere else and Graham and I sliding uncomfortably into the back seats. That's another thing, when you have to get rides from everyone else you never get the good spots. Like, ever. Unless it's just you and your mom, which isn't even cool if it's your mom. Because there you are, held hostage in the passenger seat, listening to her sing at the top of her lungs to some Jefferson Starship song from roughly eighty years ago and then tugging your hand out of her grasp when a tear-jerking Journey ballad comes on the radio next.

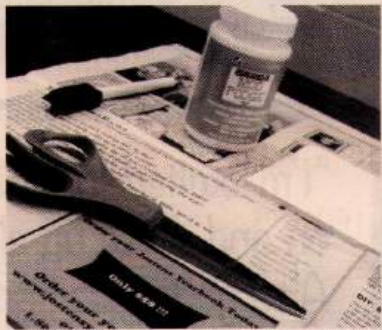
So anyways, we're now on our mundane routine of getting to school when my dad decides to change things up a little. He sends our little van wheezing past the high school where he usually stops and drops me off first. Not thinking much of it, I stay silent in my place in the backseat. The boys are quickly dropped off, my dad barely proceeding to slow down to 25 MPH as we bypass the school and send the boys rolling out of our croaking vehicle. Now, it's just me and my dad. I decide to keep quiet, letting my dad nod along contently to Dan Patrick or whoever. Scrolling through the Twitter-sphere, I find this hilarious picture of Kim Kardashian crying and proceed to burst into laughter. A shocked gasp pulls my attention away from my cellular device long enough to notice that my dad has grown pale, his pupils shrunken in shock as he watches me. I watch, fascinated, as fear settles over his features, like Dracula himself had just poofed into the back of his minivan. All color drains from his face as he continues to stare at me in disbelief. "Oh, Sav, I must've forgot to drop you off." He laughs nervously, eying me as if I am going to leap into the front seat and attack him.

This was, in a word, hilarious. Did he possibly believe that he had dropped me off at school and I just mystically repeated into my seat again? Maybe he thought I had somehow pulled a Frodo Baggins, slid on a little gold ring, and camped out back there invisibly, waiting to reveal myself until the last possible second for kicks and giggles.

Long story short, not having your license sucks. Whether it's surviving the horrid ordeals of being stuck in the back of a vehicle between a car seat and your beef jerky smelling brother, having your hand squeezed to death by your mother in the passenger seat, or even your own father forgetting you're with him, there is always something more satisfying about having your own set of wheels.

## DIY: how to transfer a photograph onto a tile

By: Emma Hartman @Steal\_Your\_Hart



### Step Number One

Supplies needed:

- hard work surface
- 4x4 tile
- Mod Podge
- Paint brush
- Photo or image of choice
- Scissors
- Newspaper



Step Number Two

Once all of the supplies are gathered, place newspaper over the work area, covering the whole space. This will prevent any spills or mess ups from staining the surface.



### Step Number Three

Carefully, cut the chosen photograph or image to desired size. You can also cut multiple photos if you would like to make a collage-type picture. Either way will work fine!

Step Number Four

Apply Mod Podge to the entire tile, making sure to spread evenly. Then, put the picture(s) down on top of the Mod Podge. Adjust the pictures quickly. Allow to dry completely. Enjoy.

## Rainbow Rowell's latest and greatest concoction

By: Alex Coleman @AlexColeman831

Rainbow Rowell is an up and coming writer in the teen fiction world. Her first book was "Eleanor and Park", a story about an awkward teenage boy and the gaudy love of his life. This has been a big hit within its genre. Her second book was "Fangirl", the story of a set of twins, a crazy roommate, and the crazy roommates boyfriend-but-not-really has more and more people asking 'who is this author?'. With the third novel from Rainbow Rowell, entitled "Landline", will this bring even more attention?

Rowell writes strictly about romance, but writes about it in a not so classical way. The way she pens her stories are both intriguing, and amusing. Her first book, "Eleanor and Park", tells the story of two teenagers unlucky in love, facing a number of physical and emotional obstacles. Her second book, "Fangirl" gives a look into the life a college student/writer, who's trying to decide if she actually likes her roommates 'boyfriend'. With the latest novel, however, Rowell has completely left the teenage kisses and 'I love you's' behind. Or has she?

"Landline" is a story about Georgie and Neil McCool, a married couple whose wedlock is in jeopardy. Georgie is a scriptwriter for a comedy show on TV, but all her and her partner Seth want is their own

show. They finally get the opportunity, but the head honcho of the network wants everything done in ten days. Two days after Christmas, where Georgie is supposed to be at her Mother-in-Law's with her husband and two daughters, she reluctantly decides to stay home, chasing down her dream with a promise of a second Christmas. Once she watches her family go, she knew she made a mistake. Seth has to fight to keep her attention during writing sessions, Georgie's mind is just elsewhere.

Late one night, Georgie stops by her mom's for a quick visit, and finds herself crawling towards her old room and into bed. First, she decides to call Neil, so she fishes her old, yellow telephone from her closet. She calls Neil, and speaks not only to him, but to his father who's been dead for years. The call leaves an eerie feeling in her stomach. She later discovers that the phone is a way to contact the Neil from the past, the Neil from when they were dating and before they were married. This is it! This is her opportunity to fix her marriage before anything goes wrong. But, Seth is so good to her, everyone thought her and Seth would end up together. Should she try to fix what's broken? Or stop it from happening in the first place? Read Rainbow Rowell's latest novel to find out how Georgie decides between her husband, her coworker, and her own happiness.



## You gonna be gettin' down to these sick beats

What do MHS students want to hear at this year's dance?



## What's for dinner?

Olive Garden



Granite City



Irish Democrat



Lone Star



Ryan's



Butcher Block



Texas Road House



Biagi's



Napoli's



White Star



Out of 100 MHS students, people voted where to go for Homecoming dinner



= 2 people

What  
part of  
Home-  
com-  
ing  
are  
you  
most  
excit-  
ed for?



"I've been excited about it for a long time, who doesn't want to get all dolled up and dance all night?"  
-Sophia Kabance, freshman



"I'm excited to get my on and dress up all far Also getting to hang o my girlfriend."  
-Elliot Kruser, freshman



"I'm excited for decorating the float and the dance. Also going out to dinner with my friends."  
-Morgan Swanger, sophomore



"I'm excited for getting tures done and hangi with my friends all ni  
-Bryce Valvoda, soph



"I'm excited because the night of the Homecoming dance is mine and Luis' two year anniversary."  
-Shelby Brewer, junior



"I'm excited to dance w my friends, I guess. It's Homecoming, it isn't a super exciting."  
-William Randall, junior



"I'm not excited because the show choir camp dance in Nebraska is just way better than anything we do."  
-Jenna Floyd, senior



"I'm excited for the pep and all of the games. A going to the dance of c eating before and such."  
-Noah Walter, senior



# First and last homecomings

Kaela Halvorson @kaelswhales

Homecoming is right around the corner. While it is a new journey for freshmen, it is the ending path for seniors. New traditions and long lasting ones are coming together for this year's Homecoming.

To start off this school year, we have many people who this will either be the first or last Homecoming of their high school career.

Jess Ellerby, freshman, is going to be one of the many first Homecoming attendees. As a freshman, she doesn't yet know the feeling of getting ready for homecoming, but she is still excited. "Yeah, I'm excited because everyone says it's fun," said Ellerby.

There are positives and negatives to Homecoming and Ellerby has already heard about them. "I heard that everyone is up and around the whole time and that it is fun."

The negatives are usually the post dance when

nobody wants to leave and everyone is sweaty. This will be the kickoff to her first year high school dance, and set the standards for the ones after.

As for Cody Alberts, senior, this most likely will be his last Homecoming. "Sure I'm excited, it's my senior year," he explained.

As a senior, Alberts has clearly been through this process before. "The best parts are being around all of my friends," Alberts said.

As senior year comes closer to the end, Alberts only has three dances left. He hopes that they will all work out.

Even as a senior, there are still downsides to the whole ordeal. "My least favorite part is dressing up and pictures," said Alberts.

Beginnings and ending are exciting, sad, and maybe even scary. One thing is for sure, the Homecoming dance is going to be a unique experience for both newbies and veterans.

## What's 'in style' for Homecoming 2k14?

Madison Wilson, sophomore, shows off her white and sparkled strap dress, a popular style for this year's dance.



Cap sleeve and chevron print are in for the fall season.



Though less comfortable, heels are the classic choice for a dance.



This coral, one-strap, high-low dress has many elements of this year's fall fashion.



A girl can never go wrong with a classic royal blue dress with a flowing skirt.



Cecilia Pitstick, sophomore, sports the very popular blue color for this year's Homecoming dance.



Melanie Noble, sophomore, shows off the popular hot pink color, paired with draping and some jewels.



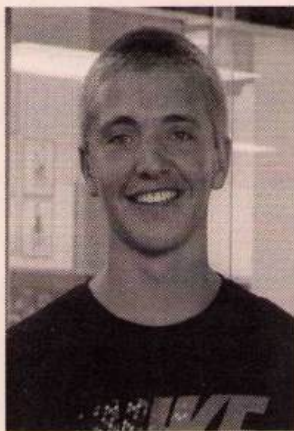
Flats are a comfortable and cute shoe for the dance.



Converse are a comfortable alternative to the super dressy shoes.







**Name:** Cody Alberts  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Hayden Meister, and pokemon battles with Isiah and Gage.  
**Plans for the future?** Kirkwood.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** You gotta risk it for the biscuit.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Carter Stigge's house.



**Name:** Danielle Bittner  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** The teachers.  
**Plans for the future?** Starting off at Kirkwood.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Get involved.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Nothing.



**Name:** Jordan Anderson  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Conversations with Weisinger.  
**Plans for the future?** College life.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** You only go through high school once, so have as much fun as possible.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Last Homecoming with Holdyn.



**Name:** Jordan Bliss  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Mrs. Logan, Mrs. Thilges, Sheala.  
**Plans for the future?** Carelsons for massage, then Kirkwood for Physical Therapy Assistant.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the playing the game.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Sophomore year when I went to Washington's Homecoming.



**Name:** Justin Arebaugh  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** I'm going to miss swimming and wearing Speedos.  
**Plans for the future?** Train dolphins or get older.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Ask for forgiveness, never permission. 100 or 0.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** I got chocolate milk after one. That was pretty cool?



**Name:** Miranda Bowen  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** The time we get out.  
**Plans for the future?** Pharmacist.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Do your homework.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Don't have a Homecoming memory.



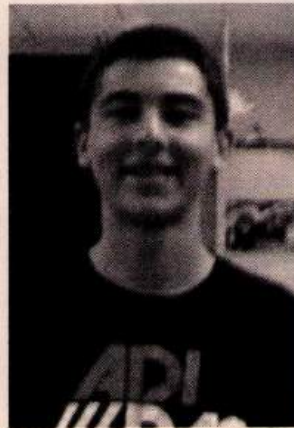
**Name:** Nathan Baldwin  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** I'm going to miss all of the smiling faces that I get to see in choir everyday. I am also going to miss one of the grayest and most inspirational teachers ever, Mr. Dyrland!!  
**Plans for the future?** I plan to attend Luther college and get my Bachelor's in Music Education and hope to find a job after college in the Cedar Rapids area.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Freshman year, because it was my first dance.



**Name:** Brandan Bradley  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Nothing.  
**Plans for the future?** Autocollision.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** None.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Nothing.



**Name:** Jensen Beard  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Completion points, football/basketball games, soccer, friends  
**Plans for the future?** Major in Education at University of Iowa.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Make friends that will stay with you past high school.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Senior year Homecoming, best group and date ever.



**Name:** Trenton Brandenburg  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Some teachers and kids I won't see again.  
**Plans for the future?** Kirkwood for two years then Iowa State for engineering.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Try hard in school because in the end it really matters and will help you get scholarships.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** I'm going for the first time this year.



**Name:** Nick Berry  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Freuhling's.  
**Plans for the future?** Once I get out of the Army, become cop in Cedar Rapids.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Don't be afraid to fail.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** I've never been to Homecoming.



**Name:** Austin Brown  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Sports, teachers, and almost every student.  
**Plans for the future?** Go to Iowa, political science.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** "Find something you love and pour your heart in it."  
 -Tony Perkins  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Chanting "Daddy's money" after the seniors won "best float".





**Name:** Chase Bruns  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** The friends who aren't coming with me along with the activities and coaches.  
**Plans for the future?** Undecided, try to get into broadcasting.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Don't forget about your day ones.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** When a couple of coaches and teachers dressed up like a biker, construction worker, Indian, and a cop and sang YMCA.



**Name:** Benjamin Clark  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Ms. Dostal.  
**Plans for the future?** Law enforcement.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Truth shall set you free.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Didn't go.



**Name:** Bonnie Burnell  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** I'm going to miss the teachers. Ones I have become close to are Logan, Thilges, and Trilk.  
**Plans for the future?** I plan on becoming a veterinarian.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** "You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore," Christopher Columbus.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** My sophomore year, just being able to dress up and see my boyfriend all handsome.



**Name:** Jenny Clayvon  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** I am going to miss my friends and some of the teachers.  
**Plans for the future?** I want to go to Capri College and after college, I want to become a cosmetologist.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** None.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** I have no answer for this.



**Name:** William Byers  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** I haven't decided yet.  
**Plans for the future?** Go to college, hopefully play soccer.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** "Just because you read a quote off the internet does not mean they said that," Mark Twain.  
 When in calculus, do not call the teacher Mr. Derivative, even accidentally.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Junior year pictures in Jacob Deeter's garage.



**Name:** Kayla Comried  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** All my friends and the "family feeling" we have at Marion.  
**Plans for the future?** Attend the University of Iowa for pre-med and eventually go to physical therapy school.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Never waste a single moment on drama or other stupid things because it all goes crazy fast.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** It's from my sophomore year when I did the orange race with my friends.



**Name:** John Carstensen  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** My friends and teachers.  
**Plans for the future?** Go to college and play baseball or football.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Hand work in early and it will pay off in the end.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Winning the Benton game last year.



**Name:** Skylar Cook  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** The friends I've accumulated and telling jokes to anyone willing to listen.  
**Plans for the future?** Go to Kirkwood for a couple of years, then transfer to the University of Iowa.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Subscribe to me on YouTube.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** The football games.



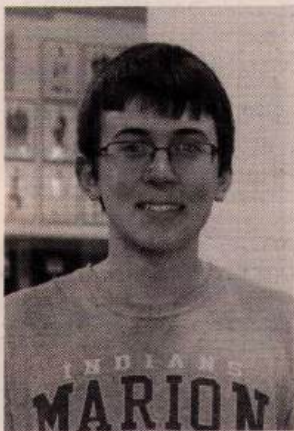
**Name:** Ariel Carter  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** I will miss the people, not specific people, but people I spent my life growing up with...  
**Plans for the future?** Become a pharmacist and then deliver medication and health services to third world countries...  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** My freshman year, Riley Peters and Jacob Davila wore a trash bag over their homecoming attire at Napoli's.



**Name:** Avery Cook-Draves  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Mr. Semler, Mr. Kettmann, Mrs. Logan, and friends.  
**Plans for the future?** Go to Hawkeye Community College for two years then transfer to Upper Iowa for nursing.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** To give anything but your best is to sacrifice the gift.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** When my dress broke freshman year and Marlie Neff, Brianna Dunkel and Zoey McDonald had to help me try to fix it in the bathroom.



**Name:** Danica Chalstrom  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** Drumline and my band family.  
**Plans for the future?** Either attend Iowa State or UNI.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Be yourself. Enough said.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Pep assemblies and hanging out with friends after the dance.



**Name:** Nick Culver  
**What are you going to miss about Marion?** School pride.  
**Plans for the future?** Major in architecture.  
**Quote or piece of advice?** Don't let a lot of work make you give up.  
**What is your favorite Homecoming memory?** Arriving in a limo to my junior year Homecoming dance.



## The origins of Halloween

Everyone knows about the common Halloween traditions, but where do they come from?

By: DeLaney Fisher  
@DeLaney\_Fisher

Ghosts, ghouls, and goblins are just a few things associated with modern Halloween, but how did it all get started? According to History.com and dumdumpops.com, the first celebrations can be traced back to the ancient Celts.

They celebrated Samhain, which marked the end of the harvest and beginning of winter: Nothing too horrifying. It got its scary twist from their belief that when the seasons change, they provide a bridge from the land of the living to the world of the dead. Halloween also gets its colors from these Celtic beliefs. Black represents the darkness of the dead, and orange is a color of the harvest in fall.

One of the most fun traditions of Halloween comes from Ireland, however. The Irish used to hollow out turnips and place candles inside of them to ward off haunted spirits. Their turnips may have been less creative, but they paved the way for all the jack-

o'-lanterns that can be seen shining up and down every street on October 31st each year.

As the years progressed, so did the idea of Halloween, and its traditions. The Catholic Church later made Halloween a religious celebration. It was called All Hallow's Eve because it was on the eve of All Saint's Day. That also explains where it got its name. Halloween. All Hallow's Eve. Kind of similar.

Europeans brought their customs and traditions when they immigrated to America. One of their traditions was to put out bowls of food on the front step of their house. They believed that when the ghosts roamed at night that they would be too occupied and distracted by eating the food that they wouldn't enter the house and haunt the family. They also believed wearing masks would help them avoid being recognized by ghosts. These are the earliest forms of what blossomed into getting all dressed up in costumes and trick or treating from door to door.

In the 1920's, after European

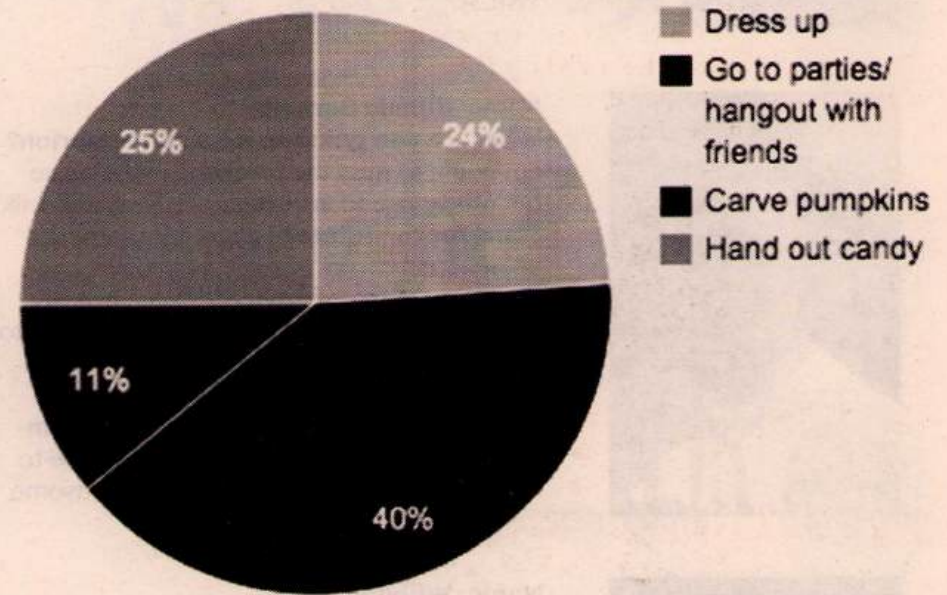
customs became increasingly seen throughout the U.S., many TV shows began to popularize modern Halloween. They showed characters dressed up while trick or treating which caused trick or treating to skyrocket among children.

During World War II, from 1942 through 1947, trick or treating came to an abrupt halt. Kids were no longer allowed to take part in the fun tradition

due to sugar rationing for the war.

Today, Halloween is the second most successful commercialized holiday (Christmas is number one), and the U.S. alone has over \$2 billion dollars in candy sales each year!

Costumes, trick or treating, jack-o'-lanterns, and the October 31st parties all stem from the ancient Celtic celebration of the changing of the seasons from fall to winter, and Irish fallacies.



Out of 100 students, 25 preferred to hand out candy, 24 liked to dress up, 11 preferred to carve pumpkins, and 40 liked to go to parties on Halloween.

## Brand new stores in the corridor

By: Deshaun Quinn @QuinnTower\_2

Cedar Rapids is getting new stores left and right from the new restaurant named Cheddar's to a brand new Chipotle. Now they have decided to add even more. With the destruction of Kmart, Red Wing Shoes, Video Games Etc, Cost Cutters, and even Chuck E. Cheese's, the space has been remodeled into four new major stores. The new stores will give Cedar Rapids a fresh unique look.

The list starts off with Hobby Lobby. It offers products under various categories, such as arts, crafts, picture framing, and jewelry making. The company is from Oklahoma, and has over 570 stores in the United States, one more store in Cedar Rapids can't hurt. The store offers hobbies for the general pub-

lic to participate in such as water color painting, to decorating basics, and even flower and cake decorating. People who don't seem appealed by the classes can buy their own crafts and take them home, so they can do it on their own.

Next on the list is HomeGoods owned by the TJX Companies. From Massachusetts, the store will contain a lot of household items that you can use in your house for decoration and other purposes. From rugs to furniture to bath products and even decorations, the store will please anyone's wants and needs. Having 415 stores nationwide this will be the first store anywhere in Iowa. HomeGoods main goal is to make every inch of your home happier.

Greensboro, N.C. based, The

Fresh Market is a store that offers a lot of products that many people in the Cedar Rapids area would find delicious. They offer gourmet organic fruits and vegetables along with many other foods, while presenting the look of a supermarket. The store focuses on healthy, but tasty foods. They provide a huge deli section, whole bean coffees, a wine department, and a supply of high quality seafood and meats. This store opened on October 1st.

Last but not least, Shoe Carnival.

The family retail shoe store will have both name brand and private named shoes for their customers to choose from. The store even has neon lights, and upbeat tempos. In the store they have contests between the customers to make their experience there more enjoyable.

Good or bad, Cedar Rapids is trying to become more exciting and fun-filled. With four new stores Cedar Rapids it has opened up a new chance to better its community.

## Haunted house prices and info

By: Lexi Morgan @Lexi\_Morgan17

### Scream Acres

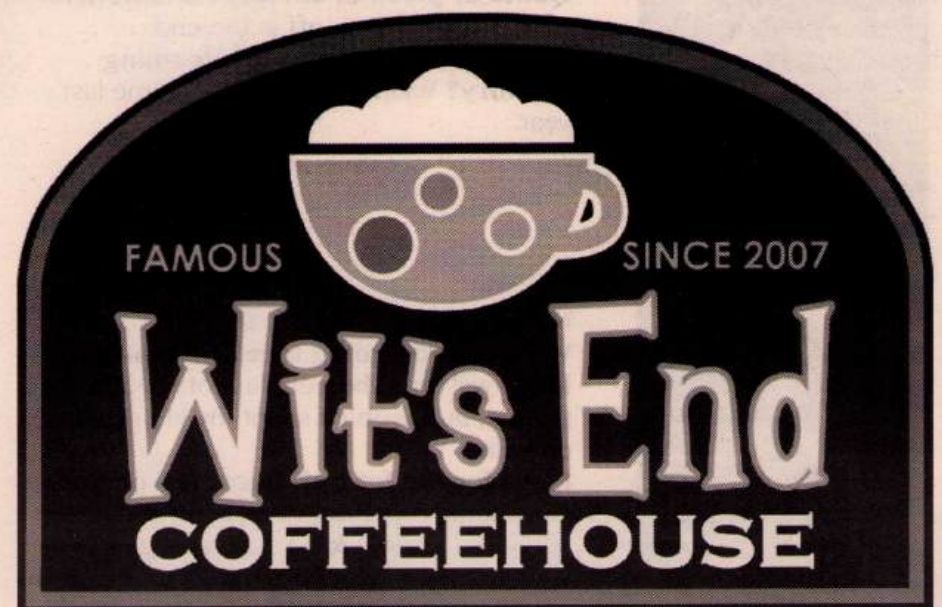
Price: \$20  
Opening Date: October 4, open every Friday and Saturday in October.  
Location: 3260 69th St, Atkins

### Circle of Ash

Price: \$13  
Opening Date: September 27, open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
Location: 412 7th Ave SE Cedar Rapids

### Heart of Darkness

Price: \$20  
Opening Date: October 4, open every Friday and Saturday  
Location: 5111 Osage Road Waterloo, IA



Excellent espresso (and homemade pastries) in an eclectic environment.

(we have hot chocolate, Italian sodas and smoothies, too!)

630 10th Street • Marion  
573-2277

Mon 7 am to noon

Tues-Sat 7 am to 2 pm



[www.witsendcoffeehouse.com](http://www.witsendcoffeehouse.com)



## Hooper hopes for a successful season

Everyone in New Creation Show Choir puts in a lot of hard work to create the show.

By: Kylie McAllister @smileeyyykylie

The lights shine bright on his eyes and the crowd cheers as the band behind him begins to play. He feels the nerves and is anxious to begin the show.

Nick Hooper, freshman, is in New Creation Show Choir and absolutely loves it. Hooper especially likes the dance aspect of it more than the singing. He doesn't feel that he is better at dancing compared to singing, it is just something he enjoys more. The show choir prac-

tices every Monday. "I practice every weekday after school for about an hour on my own," added Hooper. Having something to practice and distract him from life is great. Show choir can help release stress while having fun with friends. The social aspect of choir is something that Hooper enjoys. He started show choir in eighth grade because his friends encouraged him to and now he is still in it with his friends. Show choir has allowed them to become closer to one another because of the many hours they spend together.

New Creation started learning their show in July and it has Being Alive, That's Life, Dead Come to Life, Alive, Livin' on a prayer, and Alive medley. Hooper feels that overall show choir has made his life "better and happier," Hooper stated. Hooper does feel anxious before going on stage but feels confident while performing. Putting together singing and dancing as a group is hard work and Hooper hopes to continue to improve his skills.

The social aspect and escape from life are some things that Hooper finds in show choir. He has been able to improve his life because of it. So next time someone sees New Creation Show Choir they will know all of the hard work that each member has contributed and that it has affected each of their lives in some way.



Nick Hooper, freshman, and the rest of New Creation Show Choir practice on Monday nights.

## Pearson creates candles and profits peak

By: Gage Miskimen @GageMisky

While most teenagers work part time jobs in fast food or retail and have to schedule events around their work schedule for the week, Emily Pearson, senior, owns her own business and setting her own schedule is one of the many perks that comes along with the responsibility.

Pearson owns a candle making business called Candle Barn. She acquired this business from jumping through the window of opportunity, "A lady who works for my mom owned it. She moved to Arizona so I bought it with my college fund money," Pearson stated. Owning a business is not the most typical thing for someone in high school and it comes with extra responsibilities that normal part-time jobs



Emily Pearson, senior

don't have and Pearson has to deal with the financial aspect of her job as well, "I have to worry about taxes and liability. I have insurance for all that. Like, if a candle burned down a house, then someone can't sue me. I have help from my mom and grandpa," Pearson said. Along with the financial responsibility, there are some other hardships as well, "At times it's challenging. There's time where you get no rest and it can be exhausting but other times it's simple," Pearson is also a football manager which can add to the lack of rest, "Sometimes, because of football games, I only get four hours of sleep and I get up early and have to make candles," Pearson stated.

But Pearson isn't alone in this process. Her family plays a role in helping out as well. "My mom helps me make candles too sometimes. She thinks it's relaxing to do it. My whole family also helps out with coming up with names for the candles and then I make the

final decision," said Pearson. There are some interesting names as well including what Pearson says is one of the most popular scents, "Monkey Farts" which has a banana and citrus scent. "Monkey Farts" is only one of the 75 plus scents Candle Barn has to offer along with "Nuts about you" and "Man cave".

Her packed schedule really pays off though and Pearson definitely sees profit, "Some weekends I can make up to \$1500. In certain seasons, I'm making more because I'm busy. I've really increased profit since I first started." But after high school, Pearson plans on attending the University of Northern Iowa and she does have a plan for her business while at college, "We're going to try to make a bunch of candles in the summer. We're going to stock up and I'll try to come home on weekends and help out my mom," Pearson said. Pearson said that she wants to study business or dental at UNI and that it depends on her business, "If this rockets, I don't want to be a dental hygienist," Pearson explained.

Having a job as a teenager can be a fun thing or a stressful thing or even just a boring thing to have, but Pearson took a very unique and innovative route in the choice of a teenage job which even has the potential to expand into something bigger and on top of that, it seems that it's something her family can bond over. With creativity, anything is possible.

## Facing fantasy football

By: Becca Hall @ChewwBeccaa

Many think of football as just one game. They know about the players on the field, dressed in their helmets and jerseys, but few know about the players on the computer instead, who use mouse pads instead of shoulder pads. Fantasy football is a growing activity for those who follow the NFL closely and wish to get a bit more competitive and involved. For Isiah Michaca, senior, this is his first year on a fantasy football league. He and a group of friends decided that it sounded like a fun way to make watching football more interactive. "My friends all got me in it, it's the first year playing for all of us."

All the players in their league are not only friends, but real life football players. A common topic among the group is football: any new information about teams or individual players is exciting news to the group.

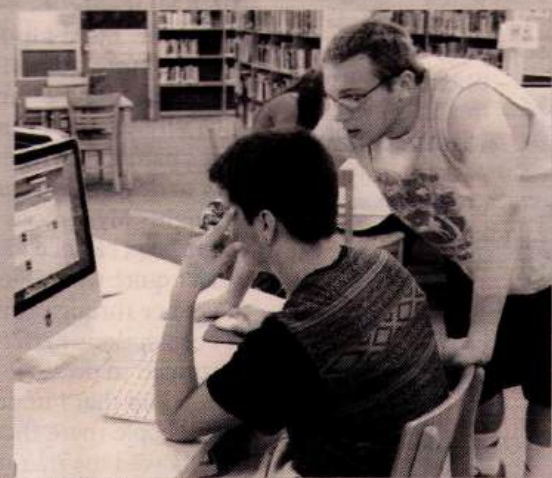
Each of them lead their own team and compete against each other. "First we had a draft and we picked each round so I picked the best available player at each time," Michaca explained.

"His strategy was to pick newer players because 'maybe rookies can be really good compared to some older players,' and also said, 'I don't really like the people I drafted they just give me points.'"

When game day starts, Michaca checks his stats frequently, "at least every 15 minutes." Michaca's team earns points based on how his players are doing, the more they catch or throw passes, gain yards, get a touchdown or anything else, the more points for his team. "The first week I lost to Chase" Michaca said, "My players aren't doing so well."

Michaca and his friends are learning the ropes of fantasy football, but they are still enjoying it. "It's fun when you get good, but it can be stressful at the same time," he said. This year Michaca expects to be average, "not the best but not the worst." They are thinking about adding a little extra incentive to win by betting, "We don't have any bets yet; but I'm going to try to talk them into it."

Michaca's close friend, Chase Bruns, also enjoys the excitement of the game. "I've never done it before this year and we all made a little league and it's pretty fun" said Bruns, "I assume we all plan to continue our league in the future to keep in touch." The group of football players enjoy having an extra way to socialize while using their knowledge of the game for a little friendly competition.



Isiah Michaca and Chase Bruns, both seniors, check out their fantasy football teams in the Media Center.

120 35th St. Marion,  
IA, 52302

**Delaney Concrete  
Contractor**

Call (319) 363-6970

flatwork-walls-concrete  
removal-decorative-  
concrete replacement



## Junge's shocking loss and epic return

Ms. Paige Junge reflects on being pink-slipped at the end of last year.

By: Savannah Guyer @SavannahMGuyer

"It was like having the love of your life break up with you," Ms. Junge stated, eyes downcast as she traced a finger over her desk absentmindedly. Junge is referring to the end of last year's drama, which evoked budget cuts for the district, resulting in the possibility of four teachers losing their jobs. This is the English teacher's second year at Marion High School, but it wasn't meant to be to begin with.

The end of May and the beginning of June set Junge's world into a tailspin, she had received a notice entailing the details of her being let go. Junge lost her job due to a seniority rule, or something she likes to refer to as being "RIF"ed, getting let go because of a reduction in force. Other schools tend to have a different way of doing things, "Other districts use a formula that includes a mix of seniority, evaluations, and certifications to find who stays and who goes. 'I think that's more fair,' Junge stated. Even though Junge's opinion favors what other places of education may do, she still sees the point of Marion's method, "I understand why Marion goes by seniority. It doesn't hurt anyone's feelings and makes the process quite easier," Junge went on to add.

So after getting over the initial heartbreak, the

young educator began packing, "When I was cleaning out my room I had to take lots of breaks because I would get emotional. This job means the world to me and the thought that I wouldn't be able to do it anymore was heart-breaking," Junge explained. Then she went onto her next order of business, finding a new job, "I applied at other places- I actually applied at every position available. But while I was doing so, I kept thinking, 'This is great, but it's not Marion.'," Junge went on to say.

Now Junge is back to her original position at Marion due to teachers and associates finding new jobs and opening up room for the teachers that were intended to be cut. While Junge is elated to be back, the budget scare of last year makes her a little concerned for the new people here this time around, "Last year it literally came down to hours, so this year I am nervous for the people around me and for the teachers that have started their jobs after me," Junge remarked.

With no clear indication of what the 2014 through 2015 school year will bring to the district of Marion,



Ms. Paige Junge looks up discussion topics on Vietnam to question her 4A general class on during third block.

Junge is very happy to be back, regardless of what happened in May, "It feels, in one word, amazing to be back. I am not going to take it for granted. I am going to do everything possible to show I am worthy of this position," Junge stated.

While there is no hint of what this year entails for Marion's students and teachers, it is clear that Ms. Junge is intent on making the best out of it.

## Rael's steady road to self-recovery

By: Savannah Guyer @SavannahMGuyer

The thin material of clothing covers the slight mars of her skin, the smile placed on her face concealing the healing scars of her past. Sheala Rael, junior, is no stranger to the concept of self harm. She herself has endured self-inflicted pain, and the extended wrath of her depression is something most people would never admit to experiencing. "I want my story to help others, people should always know that they are not alone in what they are going through," Rael commented.

The MHS soccer player's troubles began in her freshman year when her then best friend decided they no longer wished to be acquainted with her. The rumors and stories spread after their parting became too much for her to bare. "I lost all my friends. I felt



Sheala Rael, junior

really alone," Rael stated.

With all of Rael's friends now out of the picture, she began to realize that this feeling went deeper than what she had first assumed. This overwhelming feeling of loneliness quickly adapted to a lack of emotion of a different degree, "It's like you're feeling everything but because you're feeling everything, you're not feeling anything at all," Rael clarified, "I was really alone and when you're alone all you really have is yourself and your thoughts. I was full of negative thoughts and feelings all the time, and

that turned to self hatred."

One of Rael's darkest moments occurred over the summer of her freshman year, bringing her depression to a new level. "I was sitting alone in my room listening to 'Iris' by the GooGoo Dolls. The part, 'Yeah, you bleed just to know you're alive,' came and it hit me. It hit me that I was screaming out but no one was listening. I wasn't being heard. And that made me think what would happen if I suddenly vanished, would anyone notice?" Rael explained.

With this horrifying moment behind her, Rael realized she needed to tell someone. "I told my dance coach and this girl I met, Alex. Then my parents found out," Rael commented.

With her secret now spilt, the teenager's parents gave her some ideas on how to deal with what she was going through. "My options were to get better or get help," Rael added. The ultimatum wasn't quite what Rael was looking for to get her through this tough period, "Those options didn't help because I continued to do so. It wasn't until Alex showed up that I understood that there were people there that cared about me. She showed me that it was just a bad day, not a bad life," Rael went on to say.

Rael has been self-harm free for five months, and she doesn't want her tale to go to waste. "I just want other people to see my story and just know that you can get over depression and that they are never alone. It's okay to let people in and let people be there for you," Rael advised.

Whether it's seeking professional help from a doctor or just letting someone know how you're feeling, depression can be conquered, and Sheala Rael's tale reflects that.

## New teachers move up from VMS

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17



Mrs. Madonna Putnam, student support level 1 teacher



Mrs. Kiley Chihak, special education teacher

Last year's budget cuts caused a few teachers to lose their jobs. It was a tragic time for these teachers who were moved to a different position where they can still teach in the Marion district. Some of the luckier teachers got rehired or may have gotten moved to a different school, grade or subject.

One of the teachers that got moved to a different school was Mrs. Kiley Chihak. Chihak was moved from Vernon Middle School to the high school. Chihak teaches special education and loves working with the kids. "I thought it would be a harder adjustment than it actually was," Chihak commented, "Everyone at the high school is super welcoming and friendly," Chihak was glad once she made the adjustment because at the middle school a lot more work went into special education program. "I also like the high school because middle schoolers smell and the kids are more mellow once they reach high school," Chihak pointed out. "The only downside of the high school is no air conditioning," said Chihak. Chihak is very happy to be at the high school, and if she were offered the choice to go back to the middle school she would choose to stay right where she is now.

Mrs. Madonna Putnam, student support level 1 teacher, was also moved from the middle school to the high school. Although Putnam has taught at the high school before, but it was still an adjustment for her. "I like the high school because the teachers here

do more bonding, where at the middle school I only talked to the seventh grade team," Putnam said. "All the teachers are my second family here," Putnam commented. "I like things about both, but if I were offered to move back I would probably just stay where I am now," Putnam likes how at the middle school students bought into working hard and focusing on subjects, while at the high school there are many subjects and sometimes students just want to pass classes.

Although Chihak and Putnam liked the middle school, they both enjoy the high school a lot. Both teachers took the move really well and moved up. At first the adjustment may have been tough, but they got through it and love coming to the high school everyday to teach the wonderful kids at Marion High School.

# ZIO JOHNO'S

SPAGHETTI HOUSE

The Hometown Taste of Italy

**HALF PRICE PIZZA TUESDAY!!!**  
**ANY SIZE PIZZA OR CALZONE HALF OFF**

755 7th Ave, Marion, IA 52302

**(319) 373-2400**

[ziojohnsononline.com](http://ziojohnsononline.com)

Mon. - Thurs. 11:00am - 9:30pm

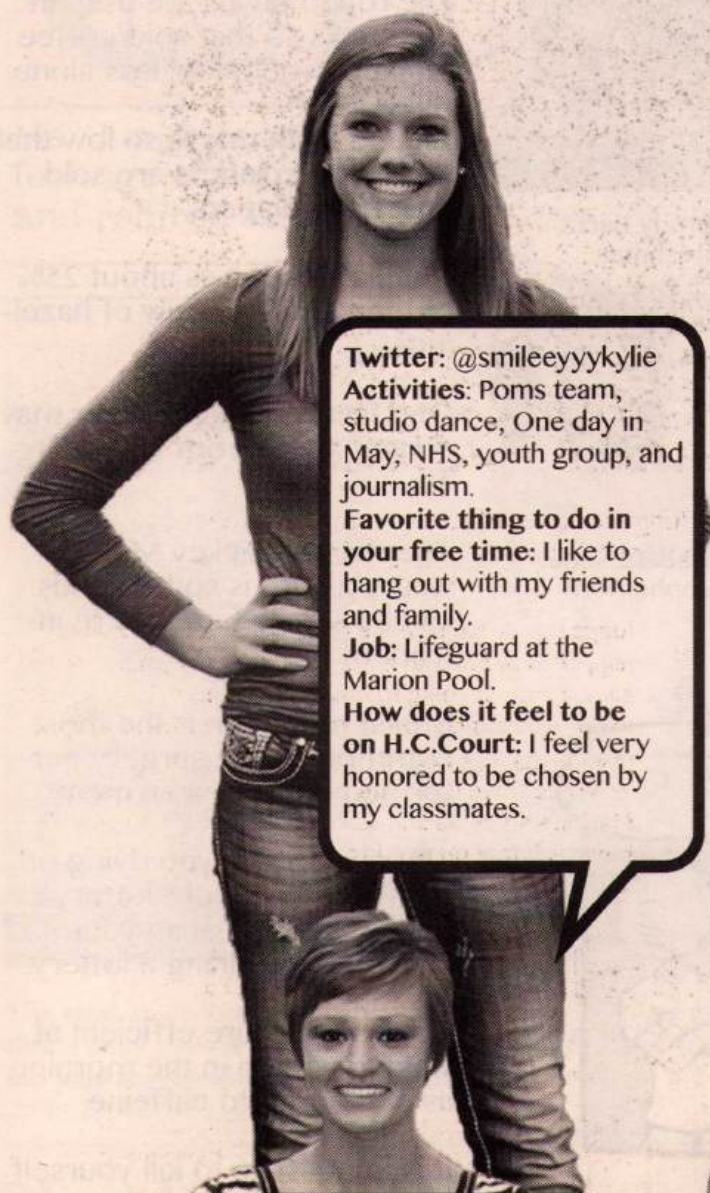
Fri. & Sat. 11:00am - 10:30pm

Sunday 11:00am - 9:00pm

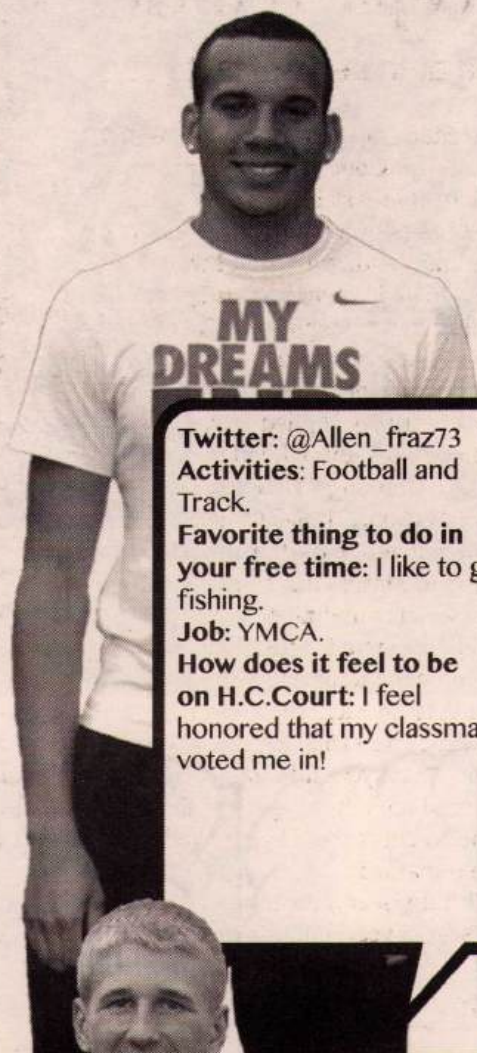


# Meet the Homecoming Court

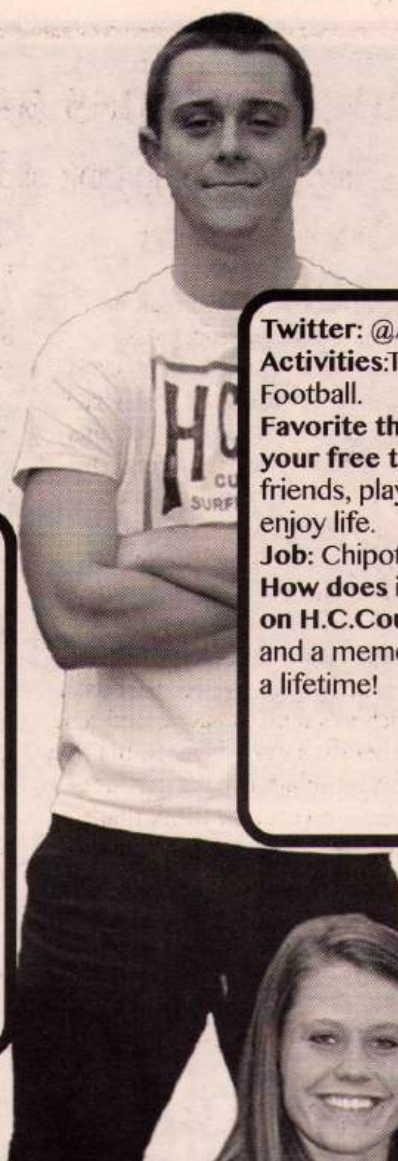
By: Kaela Halvorson @kaelswhales



**Twitter:** @smileeyyykylie  
**Activities:** Poms team, studio dance, One day in May, NHS, youth group, and journalism.  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** I like to hang out with my friends and family.  
**Job:** Lifeguard at the Marion Pool.  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** I feel very honored to be chosen by my classmates.



**Twitter:** @Allen\_fraz73  
**Activities:** Football and Track.  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** I like to go fishing.  
**Job:** YMCA.  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** I feel honored that my classmates voted me in!



**Twitter:** @AustinBrownny  
**Activities:** Track and Football.  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** Hang with friends, play sports, and enjoy life.  
**Job:** Chipotle.  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** It's a honor and a memory that will last a lifetime!



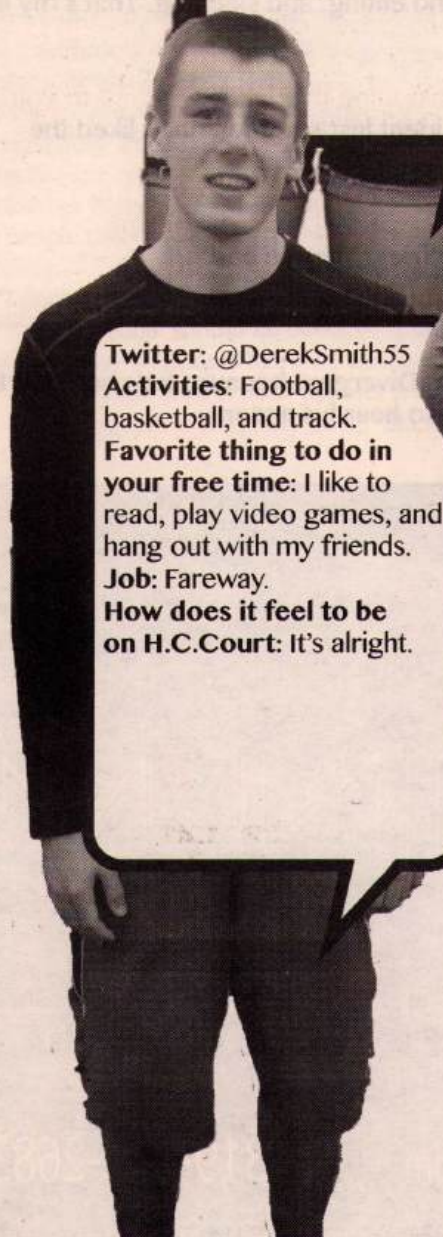
**Twitter:** @MichalynMohr  
**Activities:** Basketball and track  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** Play basketball and go boating with my family  
**Job:** Granite City  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** Shocking yet exciting!



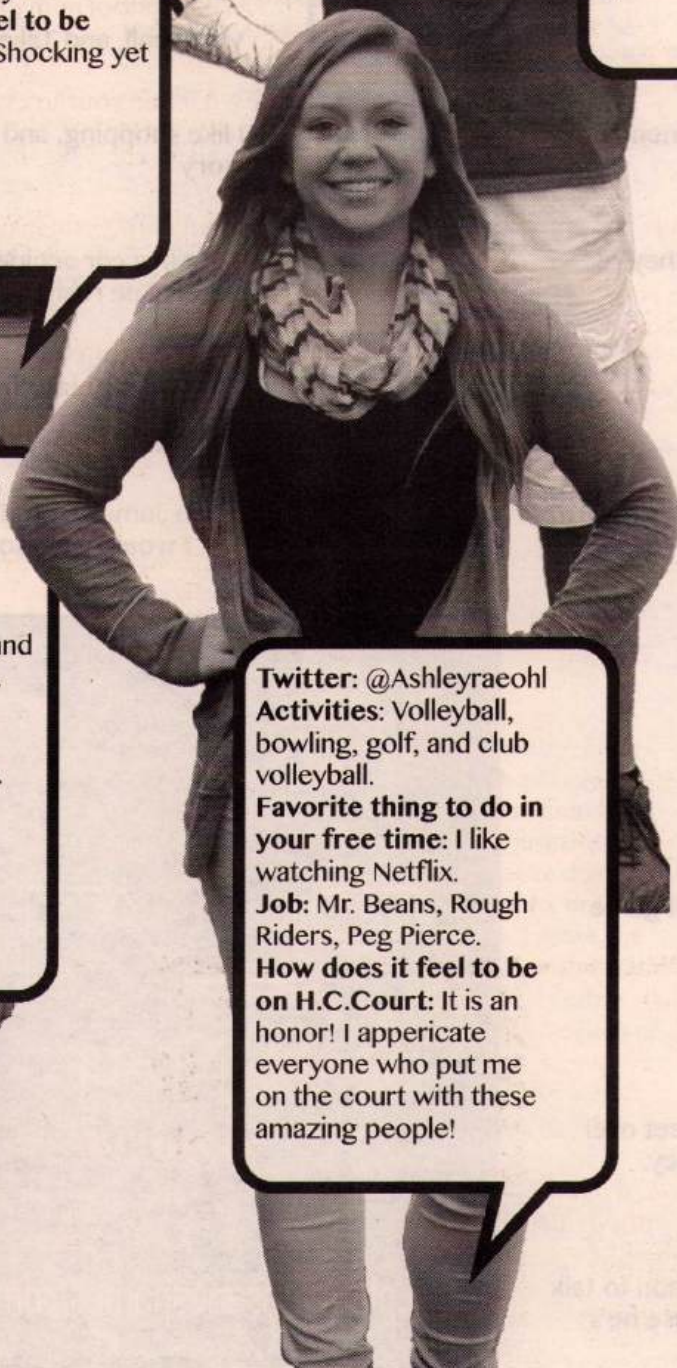
**Name:** Will Byers  
**Activities:** Cross Country and soccer.  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** Play soccer at Donnelly Park with my friends.  
**Job:** Currently unemployed, no benefits, reppin' the 6.3%.  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** I'm honored, even though I didn't expect it!



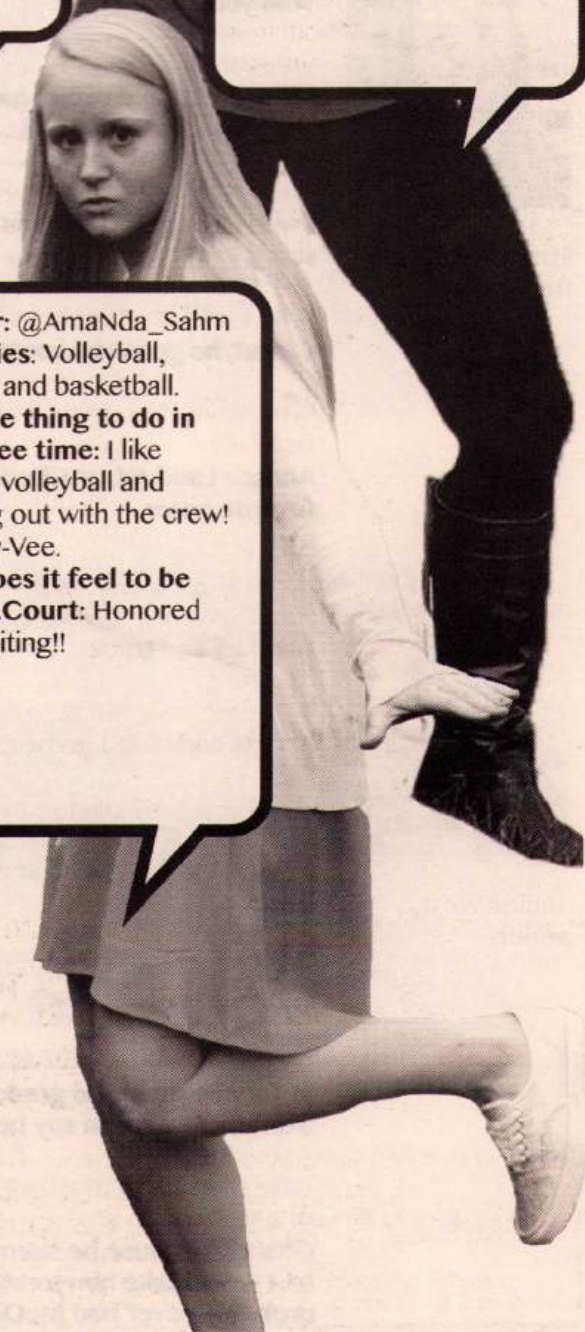
**Twitter:** @Abigailent  
**Activities:** Volleyball and soccer.  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** I like playing volleyball.  
**Job:** N/A.  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** Very surprising, yet so exciting!



**Twitter:** @DerekSmith55  
**Activities:** Football, basketball, and track.  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** I like to read, play video games, and hang out with my friends.  
**Job:** Fareway.  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** It's alright.



**Twitter:** @Ashleyraeohl  
**Activities:** Volleyball, bowling, golf, and club volleyball.  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** I like watching Netflix.  
**Job:** Mr. Beans, Rough Riders, Peg Pierce.  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** It is an honor! I appericate everyone who put me on the court with these amazing people!



**Twitter:** @AmaNda\_Sahm  
**Activities:** Volleyball, soccer, and basketball.  
**Favorite thing to do in your free time:** I like playing volleyball and hanging out with the crew!  
**Job:** Hy-Vee.  
**How does it feel to be on H.C.Court:** Honored and exciting!!





## Find the fan

Brady Bartz,  
freshmanIsabella Sade,  
sophomore

## Fun Facts

The round tables are used in Starbucks so that solo coffee drinkers would feel less alone.

Japan's birth rate is so low that more adult diapers are sold than baby diapers.

Nutella alone uses about 25% of the world's supply of hazelnuts.

One fast food hamburger may contain meat from 100 different cows.

The reason Mickey Mouse wears gloves is so his hands can be seen when they're in front of his body.

Breast reduction is the most common plastic surgery performed on American men.

The chances of you dying on the way to get your lottery tickets is higher than your chances of winning a lottery.

Apples are more efficient at waking you up in the morning as compared to caffeine.

It is impossible to kill yourself by holding your breath.

Fun facts obtained from: [sotruefacts.com](http://sotruefacts.com)



By: Andie Scott, guest cartoonist

## The people of MHS

Get to know some interesting facts and interests of a few of the students that walk the halls of Marion High School.

Emily Mershon,  
freshman

What school activities are you in?  
Volleyball.

What are your interests?  
I like to play the piano, hang out with my friends, and play sand volleyball.

What is something no one knows about you?  
I will never go on a Ferris Wheel because they're scary.

Who was your first crush?  
Cevan, he goes to Linn Mar.

Who would you most want to have dinner with, dead or alive?  
Andrea Landuyt, at Cheddar's because she's my favorite hitter.

McKenna  
Hernandez,  
sophomore

What school activities are you in?  
Volleyball, and Take Charge.

What are your interests?  
I like shopping, and eating, and sleeping. That's my life story.

What is the craziest thing that has happened to you?  
I got in a car accident last summer, and I liked the adrenaline rush.

What is something you will never do again?  
Eat sweet potato fries. They're bad.

Who would you most want to have dinner with, dead or alive?  
Theo James from Divergent because he's hot, and British. I would want to hear his accent.

Junior West,  
junior

What school activities are you in?  
Football and track.

What are your interests?  
Sports and video games.

What is the craziest thing that has happened to you?  
I threw the first pitch at a Kernal's baseball game once.

What is something no one knows about you?  
I grew up in Tennessee.

Who was your first crush?  
In Tennessee in 3rd grade. She lived a street over from me. I want to say her name was Ashley.

Who would you most want to have dinner with, dead or alive?  
Ghandi, because he seems like a cool person to talk to. I would take him to McDonald's because he's probably never had McDonald's.

PLATINUM  
Series Homes  
*This Is Living!*  
[www.platinumserieshomes.com](http://www.platinumserieshomes.com) 319-373-2683