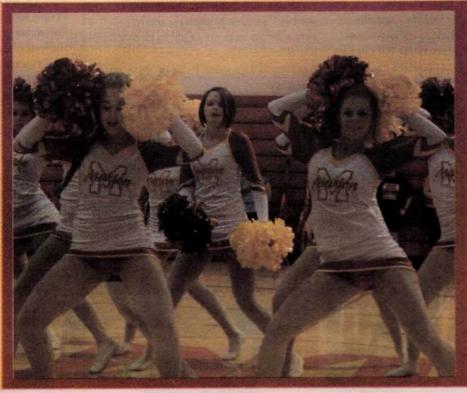


Equality is 2 something rarely talked about these days, especially the area of feminism. We need to change that.

Bailey I. Nelson.
sophomore is engaged! She and her flance face questions about their impromptu decision.



Jessie Ellerby, Madi Baxa, Sophia Kabance, all '18, and Lyndsey Wheeler, '19, perform with the rest of The Marion Poms Team for the school at a pep rally on September 18th.

# The high school experience

Knapp and Thomas explain how four years of high school can really change a person.

By: Amery Bruce @AmeryBruce

Freshman year and senior year are two totally different things. Someone goes from being the nervous freshman who timidly trudges down the hall and has to sit near the back of the student section, to the prideful senior who is leaning up against the metal fence in front of the bleachers helping to lead the chants with nearly four years of experience under their belt. Everything changes, whether it's the friends someone has or the difficulty of the classes going up, and with these changes comes a new set of fears.

Maddie Knapp is one of the freshmen that are experiencing their list of firsts. For some, the introduction to high school can be scary. It is a new building, and usually the first experience of having so much contact with other grades. She was nervous, but Knapp felt prepared and ready for the change. "I knew a lot of upperclassmen, and got advice from them," she stated. She had made a lot of upperclassmen friends through softball during the summer, so it wasn't hard for her to transition into high school.

Having an older brother who is a senior also helped Knapp rest her nerves about the year. He has the experience, and his figure looms over those who dare to threaten his baby sister. "I protect her because I love her and don't want her to get hurt," Ben Knapp, senior, said.

Others might be uncomfortable with their older siblings being their guardian, but she is grateful for the support. "Ben and his friends are like my personal bodyguards," she laughed.

One of the main problems for

freshmen is learning to branch out, and try new things. It's not easy to join a club or activity that someone has never tried, but senior Alyssa Thomas promises it is a good idea, "I wouldn't of met all the good people I did without trying new things." Thomas had attempted tennis, and decided to take a shot at track as well. Even if someone

doesn't have any current friends in the extracurricular activity they decided to test out, they should still join. Branching out proved to be a good thing for her, and will for anyone else who decides to do it.

The fears and struggles of high school change as someone goes through it. To begin with, it isn't uncommon to want to fit in and stick with the same group one started with, but as they mature throughout the four years this fear becomes less and less haunting. "I learned that you have to keep going no matter what," Thomas said. Some friends will stay, and others will grow apart, but there are always opportunities to make new ones to add to the old ones.

As much as other people have affected Thomas, she has made an impact on others as well. Kenzie Redmond, sophomore, comments on the influence Thomas has had on her during her years playing volleyball, "She brings experience to the team because she is a four year starter."

Instead of being worried about fitting in, seniors are more worried about where they're going to college. Whether they are going far away, or close to home, leaving high school for a brand new beginning can be just as nerve wracking. They're leaving friends and family behind to pursue whatever major they have chosen, in order to become whatever career they deemed worthy to go into.

It may seem crazy that things could change so drastically from year to year, but it's true. The four years spent surrounded by the white walls of the high school fly by. Things are going to change, but usually it's for the better.

# Doggin' with Dexter

-Commentary-

Six years ago, I met my best friend. At this time, I was unaware of what he would mean to me but now I can't imagine life without him. A 60 pound beagle (yes, he is very overweight) turned out to be the coolest little guy to take naps with, have adventures with, watch TV with, and, I admit, to



By: Lexi Morgan @Lexi\_Morgan17

talk to sometimes, even if that makes me weird. Six years ago, my dog, Dexter, changed my life for the better, although it did not seem like it at the time.

Dexter was a terror, a devil, a monster of a puppy. He could not be contained, and when I say puppy, I mean for about the first three years of his life. This dog would chew everything, and I mean everything. Wires, gum, chapstick, shoes, the couch, it was out of control. Not only that, but Dexter barked at everyone. It was not pleasant. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, he barked and barked, at every little sound. His hearing was out of this world. For awhile, I actually thought he could have a super power. His behavior didn't end there.

Six years I have had this dog, that's 2,190 days. I'm not even kidding, 1,000 of those days I spent chasing after him! If you know me at all, I absolutely hate running, and I had to sprint like 12 miles to catch this beast. I'm not going to lie, I hated him at this point. I chased after this demon dog, hating him a little more with every step I took. Dying with every breath that escaped my lungs. Crying from the ruthless pains in my sides. Running halfway across my neighborhood felt like halfway across the country. How could I love something that made me run this much? Although, thinking about this later, maybe he was just giving me some much needed motivation to get off the couch.

Since those dark days, we have moved into a new house with a well fenced in backyard and somehow are more skilled at keeping him within the confines of this house. Or maybe he has just mellowed out a little bit. But honestly, I still hold that anger inside of me from the days when I had to chase him around my neighborhood, out of breath, out of shape, and out of hope.

The moral of the story here is never let a dog with a high powered nose and a friendly attitude even close to a door because they will escape. I promise, even if someone enjoys running, luring in a dog is not easy and eventually they will just have to tackle their dog and end up limping home. There is no winning for the human in this scenario. Remember to never, ever, let the dogs out.

Ben Knapp, '16, tries to get revenge on sister Maddie Knapp, '19, after she dumped glitter down his back.

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# M-block taking over MHS

M-block is introduced, whether it is welcomed or not.

By: Lexi Morgan @Lexi\_Morgan17

All throughout middle school, we were told how life in high school was going to be different. Mainly because of the "huge" amounts of responsibility that would be bestowed upon our arrival, and of course the preparation for college. However, it seems like at every turn those who once told us these things are just contradicting everything they told us. The newest contradiction would be "M-Block".

In case anyone doesn't know, it's basically a study hall during mentor time, which we used to have once a week and is now every day. The rules include not being able to leave the classroom, with no exceptions, only being able to work on school related things and not being able to use your cell phone.

Not to be misunderstood, M-Block is actually a very smart idea for our school. It will definitely force kids who are failing to at least try for 30 minutes a day and get help even if they don't want it. Which is nice for the kids who want to get good grades but are lazy. This 30 minutes will also give all kids a time to do homework, in turn helping their grades and insuring that they actually get the work done. No more excuses about game day, work, or just being flat out too busy. Now, if students have an incredibly hectic after school schedule, they can get their homework done in 30 minutes, and we should have no problems. There are many pros to M-Block, and it will most likely have a very positive impact on our

However, as students, some of us are having a hard time seeing it through the administration's eyes. Many people have taken their thoughts to Twitter to express how they feel about M-Block, and it is not good. People have been calling it prison and lock down. At least in prison, there's a toilet in the cell. During M-block we aren't allowed to go anywhere, including using the restroom. Even in first grade we were allowed to go to the bathroom. Yet, now when we're 14-18 years old, we suddenly are getting privileges taken away. It is hazy on why we can't leave the classroom, and it seems a little extreme. When asked, teachers have really given no answer as to why students are being so closely monitored and contained inside their mentors. If it's a study hall, then why is it being taken so seriously?

Overall, M-Block should be a great addition to Marion High School. Even if it is a little, well, forceful. Whether students agree with it or not, it's a thing. So, either jump on the boat or struggle to stay afloat, either way we're setting sail and M-Block is happening.

### M Block: prison or paradise? Students weigh in on the new schedule



"I like it and I don't like it because I can't leave, but it also gives me a break from the rest of the day".

-Ashley Hilzendager, 19



"I don't like it because we shouldn't have to go just because other students don't do their work." -Adrianna Bolsinger, 16



"I like it because it gives you a time to do homework and catch up on things".

-Brevin Hahn, 19



"I just think for certain individuals its not worth the time".

-Brandon Tuttle, 17



I think they could be a little less strict on the bathroom issue because its a little elementary, but other than that its greaf.

—Ali Block, 17



"I feel like its just an extra study hall that I, personally, don't really need."

-Collin Zeets, 17

# 2015-16 Vox Staff

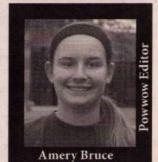
Advisor: Sarah Eicher



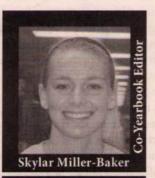


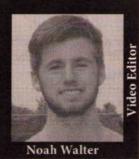


Mia Lanpe
Co-Executive Editor



Texi Morgan







#### **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 seven 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. This 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 the advisor. Turn letters in to room 24 or any staff member.

# Unfair treatment in sports

By: Amery Bruce @AmeryBruce

There are always sports happening during the school year, whether it's a seasonal or yearround activity. These seasons can be the best of times, or unfortunately, can leave certain athletes feeling like they're not good enough.

It's not uncommon for fans to be drawn to a varsity team because everybody likes winners. People love to be cheering when their team is ahead, and sometimes that's easiest to do with the best of the best. Unfortunately, not every player can be one of these stars, but that doesn't mean they don't work just as hard.

It's easy for fans, and unfortunately coaches as well, to focus on who stands out because of their talent, and that's good, they deserve attention, but so do the people who have cheered on their team while riding the bench each year. Even if they aren't playing, they're still contributing.

Another problem happening within sports teams is people getting too much playing time. Mostly, coaches base who plays off of stats and who meshes well with the rest of the players, but this isn't always the case. Sometimes someone's last name can get them farther than their skill and dedication to the sport, which is unfair to the person who has been working hard for their spot. That's their passion that people are messing with, and their shine shouldn't be taken away.

If someone isn't a coach's favorite or isn't doing exactly what the leader of the team wants them to do doesn't mean they should be left in the shadows.

If a person has been on a team for less time than others, they still have equal talent and the right to be referred to as a team member. Whether someone joins a year later, or has been on the team since the beginning, they should still be treated with the same rights as all the others. No matter what happens, everyone is an individual and should be seen as such.

Sports should be a fun thing to partake in, not a battle of politics. Every player matters, no matter their skill. If they give dedication, then they should be given just as much dedication back from their team and their coach.

Unfair Treatment in Sports

One hundred twenty students and teachers answered if they thought there was unfair treatment in sports, such as favoritism.



The popular opinion was that there is favoritism and other unfair treatment in all sports at 96%. The other 3% said that they didn't believe there was anything wrong.

Yes No

# Equality in need of more consideration

It's time to throw the unfair treatment out the window and start living new ideals.

By: Alex Coleman, @Its\_YoPalAl

There's some sort of unspoken rule amongst social groups to steer away from certain topics. Children are expected not to converse about explicit matters, teenagers keep quiet about their religion, grown adults tend to keep their political views on the down low. Argumentative conversation starters like the LGBTQIA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual) community, abortions, and the over-sexualization of everything in today's society seem to make individuals of all ages turn their cheek when brought up in casual conversation in order to avoid confrontation. Amongst many of these issues, there's one that seems to get lost in the shadows of the world's other growing problems: equality.

While racism and same-sex marriage are often talked about in the media, the underlying issue of sexism often times get pushed to the side. Some would argue that women's rights are no longer a problem in today's world, that stereotypes for young men don't really come up as concerns, but there are facts that prove otherwise. According to white-house.gov, on average, a woman working the same full-time hours as a man is only making 78 cents to every dollar he would be making, and the rates for women of color are even less. Parents are still telling their adolescent girls that 'boys will be boys' in the face of undisciplined anger and destruction, leading both genders to believe that such behavior is okay. Until such standards are changed, everything will be the same. Can anyone say that's really what they want?

In pop culture, feminist rights are given the same amount of bad light as they are in the less glamorous world of ours. Celebrities are called uptight and rude by many if they paint

themselves as women's rights activists. Similarly, other celebrities are shamed for saying they're against feminism. Herein lies the beginning of a problem, discrediting women for trying to stand up for what they believe in, exactly what teenage girls get blamed for on a day-to-day basis. Women are taught at such a young age by the media to compare themselves, tear

down the others that stand out or tower over them with harsh criticisms in order to hide their own insecurities. This can turn into what is referred to as slut shaming, a pastime most women have partaken in at one point or another. This entails shaming another girl for the tightness of her clothing or the way in which she treats possible partners, deeming her mannerisms to be over-sexualized as it is often thought women should not be. If girls are able to turn on each other, say nasty and vicious things about one another, and ridicule fellow women for being who they decide they want to be, then how might we expect men to treat females any differently?

There are many businesses and organizations spreading the love amongst women, making the fight for equal rights less about the money and more about how we're treated. Brands like Always and Dove with viral YouTube videos on how doing things 'like a girl' means to be strong, and how embracing beauty is something one has to discover through from others are helping to shape the world into seeing that there really shouldn't be any true separation of the genders other than our anatomy. So blur the lines society has created,

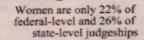
stop deeming certain activities as 'boy things', don't tell a boy he's meant to be manly when maybe his definition of the word means dressing up or wearing makeup, but above all stop shaming people for being who they want to be. Once we figure out who we are as people, what we want out of life, where we belong, then maybe we can start pointing fingers and calling people names. But really, in the end of it all, we should never stop growing, and thusly, we can never truly stop allowing one another to flourish. True equality lies within the hands of the public, and we have the ability to be a generation of people who stand together.

#### Why is feminism still relevent?











eats in Congress are

In todays media, women are depicted as sexual objects, but when they show any interest on the topic they're labeled as being 'too sexual'

Info obtained from dosomething.org

### Troublesome trends

By: Noah Walter, @Tyrannoahsaurus

Lately men have been growing their hair out to create something called a man bun that can either look wonderful or it can look like you came out of living with Bambi and all of his friends deep in the woods, or a mountain man. Other males are styling their hair similar to one famous rapper, G-Eazy. This is only okay if the male trying to go for this look knows how to properly style their hair; got to put work in to get the ladies.

Another popular trend is dying hair, and this is more popular amongst the girls. Ladies, ladies, we understand that having many different hair colors is fun but make sure to take the time to find the right one, to be set on that color, and to get it done well. One new color girls are trying out is silver. Someone must be a very unique individual to pull off this new hair color. It may be a good color, but it's just not for everyone.

Going from top to the bottom, there is a new trend in the footwear area of fashion. Now there are a new type of sandals becoming popular once again that are called Birkenstocks. These have a few names they go by other than Birkenstocks, Jesus sandals and old man shoes are two of the nicer nicknames for them. They are strapped sandals that are made of leather and have two straps with buckles on them. They work for girls in certain outfits. A male should only wear

these for comfortability not for style. This is too much of a risk and it is very hard to find a good look with these sandals.

Another trend that is not very new but is still going on is camouflage. If one is going hunting for deer or any other delicious animal this is the perfect time to wear it. But please do not wear hunting gear into a situation where you are not holding a weapon of some sort to use against the animals in nature.

Yes cowboy boots are really good on a farm, yes they are good when they are herding cattle, and yes they are good when going to the nearest saloon. If one is involved in any of these activities please do wear the most wonderful and bright cowboy boots.

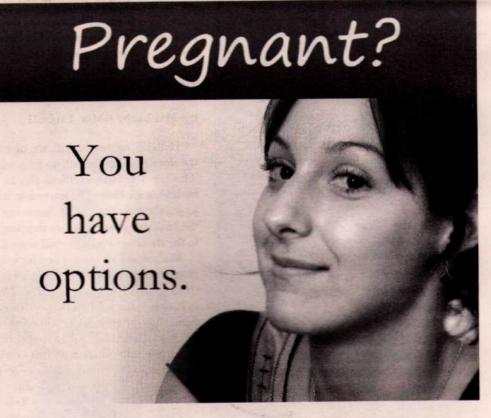
Senior year is when most of the students in that grade turn 18. At this age it is legal to get a tattoo, get some ink, some body art, whatever you want to call it. Before an 18 year old gets some ink, make sure one knows where to get it and what you want. Do not get something just because you want a tattoo. Yes it would be dope to get a dragon all the way down your arm, but it is going to be there for the rest of the time one is living.

At this time in the year males are purchasing some nicer shirts that require one to button up to close the shirt. There are some unwritten rules to these shirts. When getting dressed do not use all of these buttons. Leave at least one on the top unbuttoned, for three reasons. One is because it does not look right and is not

what the shirt is intended to look like. Two, the only time a man is supposed to button their shirt up all the way is when wearing a tie and is attending an important event. Three, if one were to button up their shirt all the way the male wearing the shirt could

not breathe or move their neck to check out all the fine ladies around him.

If one wanted to be trendy they would have to be very careful and put the time to make sure that they looked how the trend is supposed to.



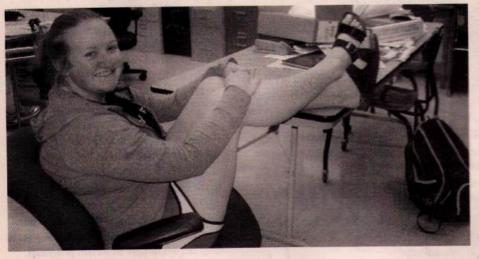
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Ellie Beghtol, '16, shows off her trendy Birkenstocks, a new footwear fav this year.

# Censorship of school spirit

-Commentary-

Student sections are made to have fun, pump up the crowd, and intimidate the other team in order to maintain the home field advantage. In high school, the student section is a big part of life and can either be the best time or it can be miserable.



By: Noah Walter @Tyrannoahsaurus

At every high school there is a school representative in front of the students to make sure they don't chant or do anything too harsh. This is a great thing to stop any inappropriate acts that students may do, but it

may be censoring the students a little too much. In order to keep the home field advantage they must intimidate the other team and get into their heads. Not only do they have to get into the other team's head, but they have to enforce their power to the officials and make them think twice about making a call against us.

Yes sometimes students may go a little too far in their game day antics, but this is high school, we watch PG-13 movies and do PG-13 things because we are of age so we should be able to chant age appropriate things.

Simple things like "Nuts and bolts, nuts and bolts, we got screwed" or "Butter fingers", are not allowed to be chanted at games. Students aren't even allowed to yell about bad calls at the referee sometimes.

In the past the student section has had one special fan chosen at random to do push ups in the crowd. This year it is no longer a thing. Now yes it may be dangerous, but why did we allow it in years past if we aren't going to be allowed to do it this year at football games?

The crowd is suppressed to only 4 or 5 chants that are to the administrators liking. They are forced to repeat multiple times in a game. This makes it less enjoyable and fans cannot get as hyped during the game

The representatives are doing their jobs correctly and do a great job, but they should let the student section say a little more to enhance the experience of going to and playing at these high school football games.

# Oldenkamp marches into new band season

New band director Charles Oldenkamp steps onto the scene with a few tricks up his sleeve.

By: Kasi Rupert @KasiBelleRupert

Music is a driving force in many people's lives. The pounding energy of a marching band's sound on a football field gets spectators excited for the long night ahead. With so many band performances in a season, it's important to know who is behind the instrumental magic. Mr. Charles Oldenkamp, the new band director, is the person that will keep the band's high reputation

Oldenkamp has been teaching fifth through twelfth grade band for nine years in the George-Little Rock and Western Dubuque school districts, and is a firm believer in the power of music. "Music impacts my life, and when something impacts you that much, you want to share it," explained Oldenkamp. His favorite part of teaching is helping students expand their horizon of music knowledge. "It's great to help students experience new pieces," he commented.

He also enjoys working with the same group of students for a long period of time, so he can see them grow as musicians. "It's nice to work with students over four years. They can start at a novice level, then they're teaching it to other students," described Oldenkamp. Though he enjoys teaching, there are some challenges that he has to overcome in a new school, and the first one is marching band season.

In any class, it can be difficult to adjust to a new group of students. "Learning the logistics of what they're used to and meeting in the middle is important," said Oldenkamp. However, this particular class contains one hundred and sixteen students. "Learning the names of one hundred sixteen people is a challenge," voiced Oldenkamp. Many students appreciate his effort to create mutual understanding with them.

Clayton Kwater, senior marching band member, feels that Oldenkamp is a great addition to the music program. "Enthusiasm, expertise, and a love of music is what I get from him," described Kwater. Oldenkamp is just as ecstatic for the start of the marching band's competition season as any of the students. "They're going to be really strong...We have a lot of time to refine and make things better," stated Oldenkamp.

He feels that the freshmen are doing well under the pressure of marching band. "They're doing a really good job and listening well," said Oldenkamp. Sharaden Boggs, freshman marching band member, believes that he is a fantastic leader. "Mr. Oldenkamp is a good teacher who connects well with the freshman because we are all new. He understands that we are still learning," Boggs voiced. A teacher that connects well with students is great for the students' learning.

Oldenkamp already sees the amazing potential of the band students. "All of the students are looking for responsibilities. It's never 'Okay, that's good enough,' it's 'Okay, we will do better," he mentioned. Responsibility among students is a rare and wonderful sight for any teacher. There is also a very close bond in the band students that Oldenkamp enjoys. "It's nice to see how people are willing to work together," expressed

He has several things that he'd like to accomplish this year, including helping individual students to find their strength. "I want to show them how high of a standard they can hold themselves to," said Oldenkamp. The band is in for an exciting new school year, where music will surely lead them to success.



Mr. Oldenkamp, band director, conducts the marching band inside due to a storm outside during 3rd block.

as the year goes

on and be able to

see those statistical

improvements".

-Haley Dullea, 16

# Dullea dives and digs her way to success

By: Mia Laube @Mia\_Laube21

With her eye on the ball, she dives on the floor and digs the ball up for a save. This may seem like a difficult play to make, but for Haley Dullea, senior, it is a pass she must make a lot. She is one of the back row players that are stepping up to the challenge this volleyball season.

Multiple senior leaders and back row players graduated last year, leaving big shoes to fill. "It's pretty cool to be able to [step into the role] and know that even though they're gone, we're still going to be okay," Dullea said with a confident smile. She, and others, have had to adjust to their brand new responsibilities on the

Two

practice, and they participated preseason tournaments to ensure that they were prepared.

Coach Paulsen has been working hard to prepare the players for success. "She's really thrown me into some positions that made me think a lot "I want to get better

more," Dullea observed, "and that kind of got me more used to the game. Being able to play full-time sometimes is a bigger deal."

The coaching staff is dealing with a completely different back row after having the same libero for four years. "It is different

but exciting at the same time. It's an opportunity for someone else to learn how to be a leader that didn't have the chance

The coaches are asking a lot of each girl. Some front row players are also being shifted to play back row as well. "We are asking other players to play a different role. In the past, many of our front row girls didn't play all the way around. This year, we have four of them that are working on this. In the past, these girls only played back row when they were serving," Paulsen elaborated.

Dullea also must shoulder the weight of being a senior leader on the team, though she is excited to be in that position. "It's kind of cool to know that people look up to you in the program," she stated. She is taking the added pressure in stride, as are many of the other team members.

Dullea and the other seniors have earned that respect after being dedicated to volleyball for many years. "I've been playing since fifth grade for club, so seven years," she reflected on her volleyball career.

She hopes all of her playing time has prepared her for her very last season.

"I played libero in club season so it's not a huge adjustment to make. Just getting used to my teammates is a big thing," Dullea added. The team is learning to play with each other and getting into a rhythm.

Having a close-knit team off of the court is also an important factor

for success. Dullea said of her team, "I'm pretty close friends with a lot of my teammates, and we hang out off of the court." And together they hope to go far.

One of the team goals is to return to the state tournament. "We really want to go back and make our mark on state," she said determinedly, a goal that apparently is shared among the other players on the team. The changes that are being made are happening to aid this goal.

Dullea also has individual goals. "I'd just like to be a better player by the end of the season. I want to get better as the year goes on and be able to see those statistical improvements," she concluded.

The team depends on each individual to make great passes, sets, and hits so every play is productive. The ball takes its path to the setter for the kill, and Dullea has completed yet another routine pass to help her team play to its full potential.



Haley Dullea, '16, plays in one of her first games back from a concussion.

from last season and before," Paulsen explained. many others seniors graduated, leaving the team with a few holes. were large contributors on the court, but that has not stopped this year's

# Grawe lends some helping hands

The Marion football team gains new manager and inspiration this year.

By: Noah Walter @Tyrannoahsaurus

There are a lot of positions on a football team, but one that is not recognized as much as others is the manager position. The manager gets the water, the equipment at practice, anything the team needs. JD Grawe, sophomore, plays at this position.

This is his first year at the manager position. "I help out the team with whatever they need. If they need motivation I give it to them and I break them down after practice," explained Grawe, "I got an idea from the University of Wisconsin. You play for the team, not just the name on the back of their jersey."

Being a manager means he spends a lot of time with the players and coaches. "I've built some relationships with some of the players. They've got my back and I've got theirs," said Grawe. There are a lot of good things that come with the job. "I hang out with lots of good people. There is so much I could do as a manager. I just love the game," stated Grawe.

JD doesn't just motivate the team, he gets the crowd into the game as well, "I just raise my hands up and see if they get louder," explained Grawe. For him, the position as manager has been great, but not something he first thought to do. "Originally I was going to play,



Head coach Tony Perkins and JD Grawe, '18, hold the team's lucky helmet before practice. This is Grawe's first year as football manager.

but I've never played so instead I decided to be the Manager," said Grawe.

The manager position is very important on a football team, and Marion football has JD Grawe on their side.

## Cross country girls run farther for equality

By: Skylar Miller-Baker @Skylarmbaker15

As the cross country season comes to a full sprint, the girls get geared up for all the coming meets they will run in. Although many of the girls have competed in cross country meets before, this year they will have to run a longer distance during their meets. This change is something that the girls will have to get used to from here on out, even if they are for or against the change.

The girls used to run a 4k, which is two and a half miles, but this year they will have to run a 5k. A 5k is considered to be 3.1 miles. The distance increase wasn't a huge one, but it is a change the cross country team will have to face. Terri Keeney, the new assistant coach for the cross country team, is thrilled with the new distance change and thinks the girls are ready to take on the challenge. "If they ran in the summer and they train like the coaches tell them to they can definitely handle the distance increase," Keeney stated.

Not only is Keeney ecstatic, but so are some of the girls on the team. Madison Bach, senior,



Madison Bach, '16, runs against her opponent for the lead in the race.

is a very avid runner and has been running cross throughout all of her high school career. Cross country is one of the things that she loves to do, and she is very good at it. The new distance increase is very thrilling for her because running is what she loves to do. "I love it! The long distance suits me way better," Bach exclaimed with a ecstatic tone to her voice.

There are still some girls on the who team don't really like the distance increase. Lindsey Miller, sophomore, is not as enthusiastic with the distance increase as most are. "I don't like the distance increase, I don't like to run. I like to be apart of the team, so I guess if that means I have to run longer I will," Miller explained.

Although most of the girls, boys and coaches on the cross team might view the new distance increase in a positive light does not mean that everybody else does. "There are mixed feelings. To some it doesn't really matter and then those who don't like to run don't want to run more. Overall the new distance has been very accepted throughout the team. I haven't heard the boys say anything," Keeney elaborated on the support the new change has received.

The new distance change might seem to be a

spur of the moment type deal, but the truth is Iowa was one of the last states to make this change. The new distance change will also help with the girls on the team who plan to run in college. They will have an easier transition than most because at the college level they do run more." Keeney stated.

As the girls get warmed up and prepared for their meets during the season, they also have to mentally prepare themselves for the longer distance they will have to run during their meets. The distance increase wasn't enormous, but it is enough to be mentally straining and also mentally rewarding. Although they can have only one thing on their mind when they are mentally preparing and that is, to run their heart out and do they best, without worry of the new distance increase.

# Fewer leaders, same spirit

By: Kasi Rupert @kasibellerupert

Cheerleaders are often the well-known faces in any high school. However, in a school where there are so many prominent activities that are appreciated, it's often difficult to give every activity the glory it deserves. At MHS, the leaders of cheer have dwindled down to four people. Although it may appear to be a fallback for the team, Makayla Hinton, a senior cheerleader, has other ideas about how a cheerleading team should be.

"In middle school, we had a lot of people that tried out, but in high school we had to choose," explained Hinton. When previous cheerleaders had other activities to try, they did, but Hinton was dedicated to staying on the team because she loved it from the beginning.

"My sister was a big influence, and I have always been involved in the cheer atmosphere," Hinton reminisced. Cheerleading continues to be an important part of her high school career. Since cheerleading impacted Hinton so much, she wishes nothing more than to make the underclassmen feel the same way.

Like she lifts up crowds at football games, Hinton wants to encourage new cheerleaders to do their best on the team. She stated, "I like being able to help [underclassmen] out with any questions they have about cheer." Hinton anticipates that the abundance of younger cheerleaders spells out success for the team's future. "It'll have a huge effect when they're older because they'll have a lot more experience," she predicted.

Calista Dittmer, sophomore cheerleader, believes that the senior cheerleaders can be a bit choosy, but assist the team well. She politely said, "The seniors are nice...and usually try to include everyone, but sometimes they call seniority when choosing spirit days and positions for stunts." Seniors do automatically end up getting privileges because they're older, but that's how it is with almost everything in high school.

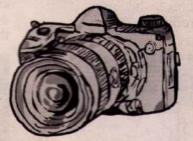
Many peers could assume that the ranks of cheer are very hierarchical, but that is not the case in this team. "We don't really look at what grade we're in; we all work as one and try not to separate people," Hinton responded. It's important for the team to work well together, no matter what grade they're in. Hinton is excited to see how the cheerleaders develop their skills.

She voiced, "[I hope] that they'll all achieve their own dream in cheer, and they all have a standard for what they want." There will be days she longs to be with the team in the future. "[I'll miss] all the memories, all the people that have been in it with me throughout my life, and all the coaches," Hinton disclosed. The team has plenty of time to improve their cheering abilities. Overall, the Marion cheerleading team has nowhere to go but up, literally.



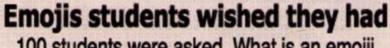
Makayla Hinton, senior, poses near the top of the cheerleading pyramid during a pep rally in the Red Gym.

# Hall's Photo



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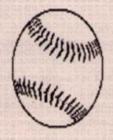
www.hallsphoto.com



100 students were asked, What is an emojii you wished you had?







2.MALEANATOMY, 12%

1.MIDDLEFINGER, 57%



3.ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES, 8%

4.VOLLEYBALL, 7%

5.SOFTBALL,5%

6.THROWINGUPFACE, 4%

7.PICTUREOF YOURSELF, 2%





By: Baylea Bruce @Baylea\_Marie

# TOP TEN SCARIEST MOVIES BY RATINGS What to watch this halloween







#10. The Exorcism of Emily Rose

#9. Sinister

#8. Annabelle







#7. Dead Silence

#6. Insidious

#5. Rosemary's Baby







#4. The Shining #3. The Blair Witch Project #2. The Conjuring

#1. The Exorcist

Easily the most well known movie of the horror genre. The Exorcist has plagued the minds of its watchers since the beginning of its reign. A story about a young girl becoming possessed by a strange entity, a young priest dealing with his mother's terminal illness, and an older priest who seems to be the one who understands the importance of the riddance of this demonic enemy.



Delicious apple crisp recipe to use for the 2015 autumn season

By: Kasi Rupert @KasiBelleRupert



Step 1: set oven to a temperature of 350 degrees, allowing it to preheat while preparing the rest of the ingredients.



Step 2: Grease an 8 x 8 baking dish with any regular non-stick cooking spray. Set aside once evenly covered.



Step 3: Layer as many sliced apples as will fit into the pan and sprinkle ground cinnamon over them. Pour a half cup of water over them.



Step 4: Combine one stick of butter and one cup of white sugar in a bowl. Mix until creamy, then stir in a three-fourth cup of flour and a one-fourth cup of oats



Step 5: Crumble the mixture over the apples and put into the now preheated oven. Bake for forty minutes or until brown



Result: a delicious desert to share with friends and family! This is a great and easy way to make the fall season a bit sweeter.

# Dance moves for this year's Homecoming

Scan the QR codes with your phone to check out videos of these students busting a move.

By: Noah Walter @Tyrannoahsaurus

#### How to initiate the Nae Nae...



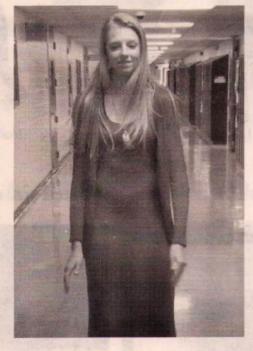
Kaydence DeWoody, '17, gives a step by step on how to Nae Nae, the glorified wave, at a pro level.

## How to whip like a professional



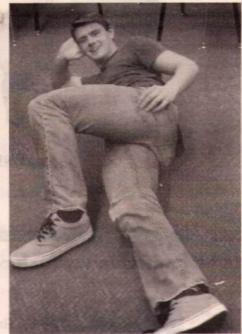
Spencer Keeton, '17, shows how to properly hit that whip. The name says it all.

## How to execute The Quan perfectly



Isabella Sade, '17, demonstrates how to hit The Quan, aka getting down and low and swinging your arms, at the dance.

### How to break dance fresh off the street



Alex Gaffney, '16, shows off his break dancing skills. Clear the floor and get spinning.



# A star is BØRNS

-Commentary-

For many artists, a new beginning consists of obscure music that doesn't grace the radio or albums no one ever listens to. There's always been some sort of comfort for me in discovering these artists, ones no one has ever heard of. It has always con-



By: Alex Coleman @Its\_YoPalAl

fused me to an extent, the fact that people waste their time on nothing but the artists society tells them to listen to, the ones that are on the radio and headlining on iTunes Charts. If this is all you listen to wonderful, I'm happy you're dipping your feet into the massive pool that is the music world in any way, but sometimes there are hidden masterpieces behind the curtains, underneath the glitz and glamour of Hollywood's big shots.

For both me and some of my closest friends, finding new music is sort of a pastime for us, and we like sending each other texts back and forth of this new song or band that we've accidentally stumbled upon via too much digging. One of these artists has been loved by everyone I've played their music for-the sweet, soothing voice of Garrett Borns is nothing short of mesmerizing. Better known by his stage name, BØRNS has been making music in the cut throat industry for a regrettably short amount of time, only having signed to a record label a few years ago. Since then he's released an EP entitled Candy, the four song record holding its own amongst the genre of Indie Pop. Each of his songs has a very aesthetically pleasing sound, the tunes different from one another yet similar in that the album flows

Outside of music, BØRNS practically grew up as a creative prodigy. At the age of ten he was putting on his own magic show, in seventh grade he went on to win the National Scholastic Art Award with an \$8,000 scholarship to Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids against many high school seniors, and at twenty he's left with an array of musical talents.

Now, with singles coming out every few months and a riveting performance at this past summer's Lollapalooza in Chicago, BØRNS will be releasing his debut album entitled 'Dopamine' on the sixteenth of October. With familiar favorites like Electric Love and The Emotion, his fans have been anticipating this release for quite some time now. At \$6.99, it's an album worth looking into if you enjoy good vibes and soulful music. If you're still a skeptic, remember, you'll never know if you like it until you try it. There's something about proper art, something lingering that ebbs warmth into your chest at the sound, and I truly believe any music lover can appreciate the beauty that is BØRNS.

# Starbucks Favorite Fall Drinks



Salted Caramel Mocha: 59% of students prefer this chocolatey and salty drink.



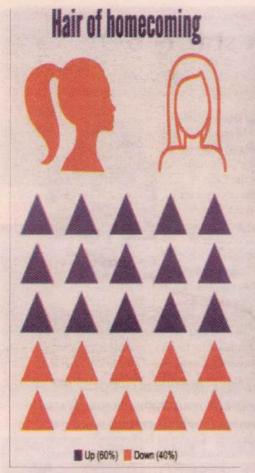
Pumpkin Spice Latte: 30% of students prefer this pumpkin drink with a pinch of spice.

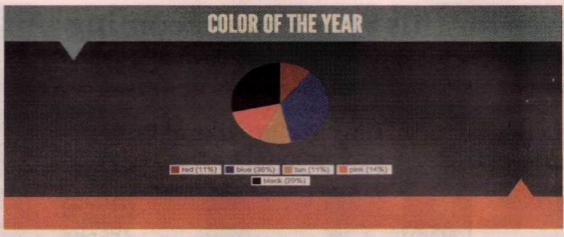


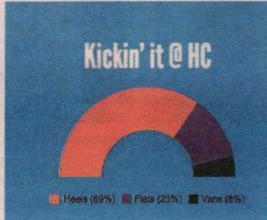
Caramel Apple Spice: 8% of students prefer the apple cider drink with caramel drizzle.

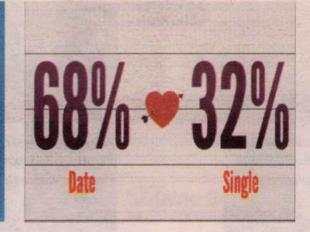


Caramel Flan Latte: 3% of students prefer this delicious fall treat with a sweet kick to it.



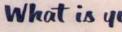












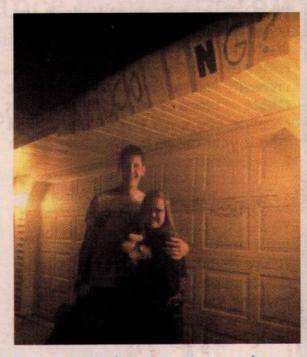




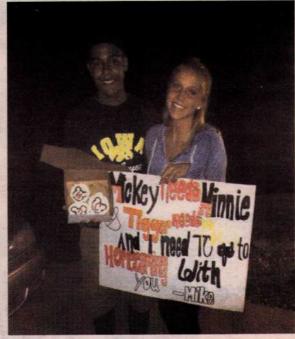




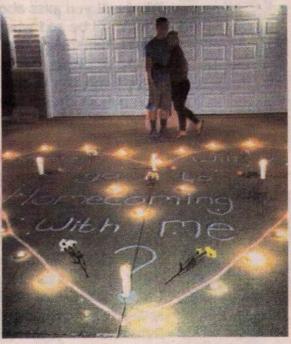




Bobby Lockhart, 18 asks Liz Fontenot, 16 to homecoming with candles in her driveway leading up to a big sign and flowers.



Sydney Stigge gets asked by Michael Duke. both 17 with some delicious cookies and a poster with a play on popular Disney charae



Isaak Hahn, 17 asks girlfriend of two years Nicole Toppin. 17. with some romantic candles, a few bouquets, and chalk in her drive way.

# HECOMING 2KIS





in favorite part about homecoming?...

he games after the rade: orange race and g of war." Parian Brandt, 17

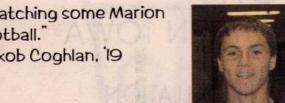


"Going to the dance and partying it up with all my friends. -Jade Carter, 16

he football game." evin Manderscheid, 18



"It gives me a chance to hit the quan." -Keanu Quinn, 16



"Playing in the football game." -Dawson Kirk, 18



"The football game and picking out the best outfits for spirit days." -Kirsten Way. 16

The quest for the perfect dress for Homecoming

Most girls can relate to the struggle of finding a dress for a dance. Whether they go online to find it or store hop, finding the perfect dress can be a

challenge.

Sophia Kabance, sophomore, and Bayley Fuller, senior, had a hard time finding their dresses this year. "I swear there are false advertisements on these sites. The first dress I got in the mail looked nothing like the picture online." Kabance said.

Even after a few dances under her belt, finding her dress was not easy. Kabance decided on the dress she picked because she wanted something simple and slimming, instead of poofy like past trends. "The dress I ordered at first was a two piece dress, which is in right now, but it just didn't fit right," she said.

a completely different experience, yet still difficult. "I had a hard time finding my dress because at first someone else wanted it so I wasn't going to get it. but I decided to anyways." Fuller commented. She

chose her dress simply because

Fuller, on the other hand, had

it was different, and that it was

Although some have complications finding their perfect outfit for the dance, not everyone has a hard time finding a dress. Chloe Jenatscheck, freshman, and Kyra Bruce. junior, got what they wanted with almost no obstacles standing in their way. "I basically

By: Lexi Morgan. @Lexi\_Morganl7 - just grabbed ten of the style I wanted and tried them on and then chose." Bruce said. She also just wanted something simple this year. I knew I wanted a black dress so that helped the process," she stated.

Jenatscheck found her dress online and knew what she wanted before she even went looking. "I didn't want to spend a lot of money on it and I found what I wanted in my price range," she said.

The struggle doesn't just affect girls, however. Some guus know how it feels to be on the search for what to wear. Myles Bach, sophomore, knows how hard it is to find clothes for dances. "I'm too tall and skinny and I just don't have enough money," he said.

Ryan Anderson, senior, disagrees. When asked if it was hard to find clothes for homecoming, he flat out said no. T can wear jeans and a shirt I already have or go to a store and buy a shirt." Anderson said. "It's pretty easy to go to a store and find any color button up shirt." Like girls, opinions vary on whether or not it actually is hard to find something to wear.

In the end, all the girls find the dress they want or something suitable enough. And guys don't really seem to care what they find, as long as they can find something. It may not be what everyone else likes or crazy expensive, but if it looks good then who cares? Even if it takes forever to find it. the perfect dress is worth it in the

Vatching some Marion otball." akob Coghlan, 19

eeing everyone all ressed up for the ance." Aakayla Beik, 16



Maria Abramo

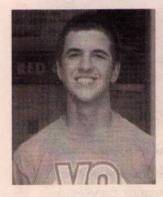
What will you miss about Marion?: The people. I'll be sad when going to Spain Future Plans?: Become a veterinarian. Quote or piece of advice: Make new friends and go out for sports. Who is your dream homecoming date?: Dylan O'Brien



Ellie Beghtol

What will you miss about Marion?: Mrs. Logan and bonding with Mr. Fish over Starbucks.

Future Plans?: Going to a four year university and getting a business degree. Quote or piece of advice: "If you're not cheating, you're not trying." -Jim Beghtol Who is your dream homecoming date?: Ryan Gosling



#### Jared Almandinger

What will you miss about Marion?: Good friends, teachers, and Troy Eden.
Future Plans?: Attend a four year college to major in environmental science.
Quote or piece of advice: "If you're ever sad, just watch Spongebob or Napoleon Dynamite and you'll feel better."
Who is your dream homecoming date?: Mr. Immerfall



#### Makayla Beik

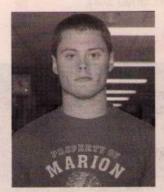
What will you miss about Marion?: The great music program.

Future Plans?: Major in biology at UNI.

Quote or piece of advice: "You can do anything you put your mind to."

Who is your dream homecoming date?:

Mark Wahlberg



#### Ryan Anderson

What will you miss about Marion?: Letting the good times roll.

Future Plans?: Iowa State then dental school Quote or piece of advice: If you like water you already like 72% of me.

Who is your dream homecoming date?: Molly McGrath



#### **Jasmine Bertram**

What will you miss about Marion?: Nothing. Future Plans?: Leaving lowa.

Quote or piece of advice: Don't fail classes. Who is your dream homecoming date?: Nobody.



#### **Madison Bach**

What will you miss about Marion?: My cross country team, all the friends I've made, and of course Mia Laube.
Future Plans?: Unsure, I'd like to run.
Quote or piece of advice: "This wasn't like High School Musical at all."
Who is your dream homecoming date?: Mia Laube



#### **Heather Blazek**

What will you miss about Marion?: The teachers.

Future Plans?: Study studio art, photography, and business.

Quote or piece of advice: "Do your homework."

Who is your dream homecoming date?: Ellie Conzett



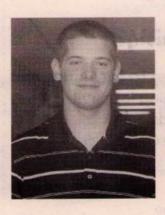
#### **Courtney Bates**

What will you miss about Marion?: Overall friendly environment.

Future Plans?: Four year college for teaching English

Quote or piece of advice: "Get involved, enjoy the time you have, don't rush growing up."

Who is your dream homecoming date?: Nobody



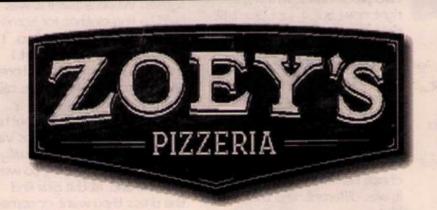
#### **Hunter Blazek**

What will you miss about Marion?: Good times with friends.

Future Plans?: U.S. Army.

Quote or piece of advice: "Trucks ain't the only thing I'm rolling."

Who is your dream homecoming date?: Sage Evans.



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#### Meckenzie Bohland

What will you miss about Marion?: Performing with my friends.

Future Plans?: Attend NIACC for physical

Quote or piece of advice: "No." -Rosa

Who is your dream homecoming date?: Josh Groban



#### Richelle Brunner

What will you miss about Marion?: Not much. Future Plans?: Get masters in architecture at Kansas State University.

Quote or piece of advice: "Decide to do things today instead of waiting for tomorrow, because eventually you realize that tomorrow will never come but today is always here." Who is your dream homecoming date?: He would probably look like Zach Efron.



#### Paige Brandenburg

What will you miss about Marion?: Nothing. Future Plans?: Kirkwood for one year and then go to lowa State.

Quote or piece of advice: The more college classes you take, you have less classes you have to take in high school because they have higher credit

Who is your dream homecoming date?: I don't go to school dances.



#### **Taylor Bruns**

What will you miss about Marion?: Seeing so many wonderful people everyday. Future Plans?: UNI to major in early childhood education.

Quote or piece of advice: Spend your time wisely.

Who is your dream homecoming date?: No need for a date, just a good group of friends.



#### Shelby Brewer

What will you miss about Marion?: A few people.

Future Plans?: Go into music education at UNL.

Quote or piece of advice: "Go to get out." Who is your dream homecoming date?:



#### Hallie Buck

What will you miss about Marion?: My teachers.

Future Plans?: Go to Kirkwood for two years and then lowa State.

Quote or piece of advice: Follow your

Who is your dream homecoming date?: N/A.



#### Mahlia Brown

What will you miss about Marion?: All of my friends and show choir.

Future Plans?: Become a psychiatrist or musical therapist at UNI.

Quote or piece of advice: "How is the sky the limit if there's footprints on the moon?" Who is your dream homecoming date?: Robert Downey Jr.



# Pregnant?



Need someone to talk to?

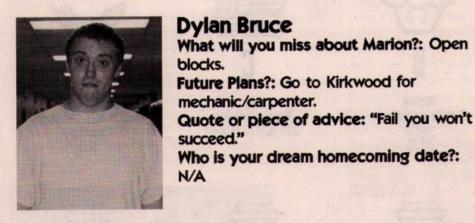
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Classes held at Marion Christian Church School year sessions completed in 2 1/2 weeks

Summer sessions completed in 2 weeks

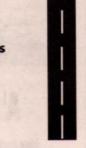
Drivers Education Classes

mechanic/carpenter.

N/A

See website for complete listing of sessions







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# Top 5 Places to Eat for Homecoming

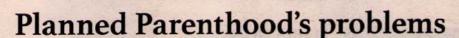
1. Granite City 28% 2. Olive Garden 25%

3. Biaggis

100 students were asked: Where would you suggest people go to eat for Homecoming?

4. Cheddars 10%

> 5. I-Hop 8%



Students and Planned Parenthood workers share opinions.

"I think Planned

Parenthood) should be shut

down, morally. Even if the

controversy isn't true they

aren't going about things in

the right way".

-Morgan Swanger, 17

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17

Whether someone has heard about the Planned Parenthood debacle going on in the news right now or not, it's happening. There are many rumors spreading around about Planned Parenthood and what's really going on behind closed doors.

Many people believe that Planned Parenthood has been lying about helping women. Many people are spreading rumors about Planned Parenthood selling fetuses. Obviously this is a huge thing to claim, but as of now there is no serious talk about defunding and shutting down Planned Parenthood.

There are many different opinions on this issue, and some of them are very interesting to listen to.

Erin Thomason, senior, feels very strongly on this issue. She thinks Planned Parenthood has done nothing wrong and they should not be defunded. "I think that the videos that were leaked were unproven accusations," Thomason stated. "Planned Parenthood provides an endless amount of services to women and families, and abortion only accounts for about 3% of those

services."

Morgan Swanger, junior, feels quite differently about this issue. Swanger has not heard much about this issue, but from what she has heard she believes Planned Parenthood performing any kind of abortion is extremely wrong. "I think if they

actually 'cared' about the fetus, they shouldn't of gotten rid of it in the first place," Swanger stated.
"I think [Planned Parenthood] should be shut down, morally. Even if the controversy isn't true they aren't going about things in the right way. Adoption is a better way to go about things. If abortion is a part of the choice, the conse-

quences are part of it, no matter what the situation."

Sara Sedlacek from Planned Parenthood, thinks that these rumors are ridiculous and completely untrue. Sedlacek doesn't think that anything will come out of it because nobody has any proof from these videos

At this point nobody is really sure what is going on with Planned Parenthood.

There are so many rumors going around and there is ultimately no proof at currently.

# Planned Parenthood rumors: true or untrue?

#### TRUE

17% of students think they are true



UNTRUE

83% of students think they are untrue

## Where to get pumpkin treats this fall

Lexi's letter grade for all things pumpkin this fall season.

By: Lexi Morgan @Lexi\_Morgan17



B

Perkins Pempkin cream cheese mulfin \$2.59

> Starbucks Sm \$4.55 Med \$5.30 Lg \$5.82

line Carrier



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i,

Sm \$2.99 Med \$3.20 Lg \$4.27



Red Pemph SS

# Meet your 2015 Homecoming Court

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17

## Heather Blazek

@Heatherblazek

## Haley Dullea

@lildullea1

## Danielle Dunne

@Danielledunne33

# Skylar Miller-Baker

@ skylarmbaker15

## Katie Serbousek

@katie\_serbo



Activities: Fall play, track, musical, show choir, jazz choir, cross country manager Job: Free-lance photographer Fun fact: I can roll my tongue. Future plans: Go to college and study art, business, and photography Feelings about court: It's and honor and exciting!



Activities: Band, NHS, ODIM, win with wellness, take charge, FAST, volleyball, and softball Job: AirFx

Fun fact: My dream when I was a kid was to be 6'5"...I'm only 5'4".

Future plans: St. Ambrose for biology and psychology. Feelings about court: I'm excited to represent my class.



Activities: Basketball, take charge, NHS, Student Senate,

Job: Bed Bath and Beyond Fun fact: I love to hit the

Quan. Future plans: 4-year college. Feelings about court: Surprised and appreciative.



Activities: Track and Field, **Journalism** Job: N/A

Fun fact: Moved to Iowa from Michigan in 8th grade. Future: Run track and study exercise science.

Feelings about court: Very honored and thankful, it'll be a lot of fun!



Activities: Volleyball, track, dance Job: N/A Fun fact: I went to Paris Future plans: Go to college to dance and go into the medical

Feelings about court: I feel so thankful to be on court.

# Jacob

@Jacob\_Deeter

# Alex Gaffney

@GaffneyAlex

Gage

@KrayfishKray

Activities: Footballl and

Job: Kids Inc. at Bowman

Fun fact: I am known as

Future plans: Probably going

Feelings about court: Very

baseball.

Woods

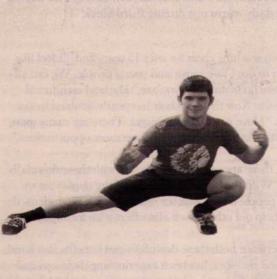
Krayfish.

into the trades.

Jacob Tyler Manderscheid VanWey

@Jmanderscheid

@16tyvanw

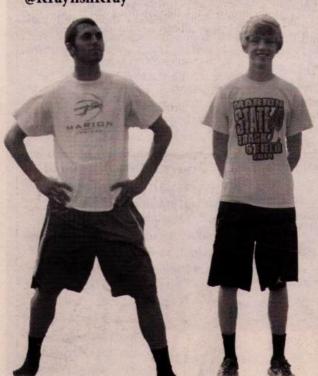


Activities: Football, track, Activities: Football, golf, **Follies** Job: Cheddar's Fun fact: I once took a breakdancing class on a cruise ship

> in the Bahamas. Future plans: Go to Iowa for communications.

Feelings about court: Relieved that my Linn-Mar girlfriend who's on court doesn't have that over me.

Kray



Activities: Cross country, basketball, track, baseball, Take Charge, Win with Wellness, NHS, NCYL. Job: Granite City Fun fact: I look like Ellen

Future plans: attend a 4-year college or Kirkwood.

Feelings about court: I am very thankful and surprised!

Activities: Choir, show choir, NHS, tennis, jazz choir, Student Senate, NCYL, musical Job: Unpaid intern at Antioch Christian Church. Fun fact: I skipped first

Future plans: Go to Ozark Christian College for preach-

Feelings about court: I am honored and a little surprised.

take charge, NHS, ODIM, fastworks Job: Hy-Vee Fun fact: I'm bad at dancing but I like to dance anyway. Future plans: St. Ambrose or Clarke University for exercise

science and physical therapy.

Feelings about court: It feels

# A new year and a new superintendent

Mr. Chris Dyer enters into a new school year with high expectations and goals

By: Mia Laube, @Mia\_Laube21

As he goes about a normal day, one man is responsible for hundreds of teachers and students, still managing to do it with a smile. Our school district recently had its superintendent, Sarah Pinion, retire. Mr. Chris Dyer is the new sheriff in town, and he traveled to Marion all the way from Pennsylvania.



Mr. Chris Dyer, Superintendent

Before he took on a life of education, he was in the military, traveling to places like Kentucky and Virginia. He also has traveled overseas, and even worked in the Pentagon. "The majority of my other assignments were with the Pentagon, where as an army officer, I worked in several intriguing jobs. One was a military assistant in the Secretary of Defense's office," he stated. He also trained other officers to

go into the army at one point.

He started a new career path, however, when his children got older, explaining, "My kids twisted my arm a little bit and I got out of the army, and that's how I came to be a teacher." He endured quite a lot of schooling to prepare himself for education, saying that, "Schooling never stops. It goes on forever."

Marion is not the first superintendent job Dyer has taken, but he is already enjoying it. "I can appreciate the

size of Marion being ideal for the kids. You get to know everybody, and at the same time it's not so small that you can't have your own identity," he said. Marion certainly is not the largest school district he has worked in after one with twelve thousand kids in Virginia and others in multiple different states.

Dyer's wife is originally from Iowa City, and she is one of the reasons he moved into this area. "She's really excited about being here. I'm really excited about being here," he stated in an easygoing manner. This makes Marion a great fit for his family, even if he is not from the area himself.

Overall, he appears enthusiastic about various aspects of the community. "I like being around the educational environment. I think Marion is very focused, and they're really prideful about who they are," he stated. "I'm in a very value-based community that wants all kids to be successful." He hopes to keep those good things going.

There are many duties that come with running a

school district, and it's definitely not easy. "There's several pages of duties and responsibilities," Dyer offered, "The most interesting one is probably to make sure that the environment is safe; that the school is well-maintained." He takes a lot of time to make sure all of the schools are properly facilitated, and the kids are his main focus.

Principal Greg Semler thinks Dyer has transitioned smoothly and is a good fit for Marion. "I think he has

great vision. He is a person who is extremely committed to the education of every student," Semler expressed. He believes that Dyer has done a good job in his first few months already.

When it comes time to relax, Dyer still enjoys being involved in school activities. Whether it be sports, music, or art, he is very involved. "I like being at the functions that [students] are at. It's more relaxed than the classroom," he commented. He and his wife also enjoy walking, listening to music uptown on Thursdays, and spending time with their

children.

"I like being around

the educational

environment. I think

Marion is very

focused, and theire

really prideful about

who they are,"

- Chris Dyer,

Superintendent

Dyer truly has been through an interesting walk of life. He has experienced the military, lived in many different places, and been an educator. Now he graces the halls of the school district, bettering the lives of students in his focused and soft-spoken manner.

As he exits the building each day, he knows he has done his part to improve life for each and every student.

# Only sixteen with a shiny new ring

By: Baylea Bruce, @Baylea\_Marie

When thinking about the future, high school students often times think of college, ACT scores, or hoping that somehow they will get their lives together. These plans can be scary and take a lot of work. Students agendas quickly become filled with college visits, tests, or internships. Bailey Nelson, junior, is busy with all of these things, except for one very different task. She is preparing for a wedding.

Nelson is engaged to her boyfriend of about five months, Dallas Miell. While they may have only been official for a short time, the two have known each other for a long time. "At first I didn't know if I should do it because I'm sixteen but he's a good person. I've known him for a while and he has his life set," explained Nelson. "Why let the best thing that's ever happened to you get away," commented Miell about proposing so soon. Nelson and her fiancé got engaged in the beginning of August but have made no major plans yet.

One would think that a bride-to-be would immediately get into wedding mode. For Nelson however, there is still a while before she walks down the aisle. "I'm ready to make a commitment but not ready to start planning a wedding. I'd rather wait until I was 20 and out of high school. Engaged to me means more like 'I'm going to stick with you' not married. It reminds me more of a

promise ring," explained Nelson. She won't be doing any wedding planning until she's out of high school and wants to go to Mount Mercy for college. In no way does she want or think this marriage will affect her plans for the future. Even though Nelson won't be putting on a white dress anytime soon, she still wants the support and approval of her friends and family.

One of the major things Nelson worried about was how her family and friends would react to this news. "At first my mom said no but I talked to her and she said that I was taking a big step so I needed to be careful. She thinks I should wait but she also thinks it's a good idea because I'm engaged to my best friend. She thinks it will workout," commented Nelson. Miell's family had a much similar reaction, "My mom and two brothers support me and that's all I care about," noted Miell. Nelson has mostly received congratulatory comments and feels even more confident with the support from her family.

Just like anything any high schooler does, Nelson is worried about the reaction she may receive from her friends and classmates once she goes more public with her announcement. "I'm worried that people will make fun of me. Once I get the ring I think people will be like, 'you're engaged? Your 16," expressed Nelson. While Nelson worries about the opinions, this is her decision. "Other people's opinions

matter but if I want to be with him for the rest of my life I will," stated Nelson. Miell too is excited about making the commitment, "I love it. I'm going to marry this girl" stated Miell. Nelson feels confident in whatever her future holds and is sure she chose the right person to support her along the way.



When people come together to create art. and express themselves through music, the result can fall no note less than astonishing. The people who are apart of this group take pride in what they can produce with the simple changes in pitch of their voices. This group of choir kids is able to make such sounds because of the huge number of people they have, and the different types of talent they can bring to the table. With the choir here at Marion, the group can expect some big changes.

Choir members stand and harmonize together during their daily warm ups during third block.

Jonathan Dyrland

is the choir teacher, and he has been teaching choir for over 13 years and. "I feel like teaching choir was what I was born to do, I love music and young people. We can all come together to create art and unite no matter who you are," Dyrland committed with an upbeat tone rising in his voice. Now that the choir has nearly doubled in size, Dyrland couldn't be more ecstatic. "I love it, wish it was bigger. There are many more students making music, being creative and they are able to have more opportunities," Dyrland stated.

As the choir continues to grow, there are some downfalls, but with these downfalls comes with some bigger benefits, "With the bigger choir some of the music that we do will sound better, but with 166 people it's difficult for one teacher. The students do a really nice job of stepping up to help out others, so it also offers a leadership role as well." Dyrland elaborated.

Some participants in choir experience both these downfalls and benefits first hand. Ellie Conzett, senior and active choir member, has been experiencing these ups and downs of a bigger choir for a while now, "There's a lot more people and talent, but then there's always people talking and it's hard to learn things," Conzett expressed. Also with the growing choir Dyrland has been experiencing some stress. "I get pretty worn out. I get especially stressed out when I get behind," Dyrland stated.

Not only is Dyrland ecstatic about the bigger choir, but so are the students. "The students have a lot of pride and they are very excited to be a part of it." Dyrland said. Even people outside the school have been noticing the music department. "The community has given us a good buzz, we have been asked to go to more and more competitions and were on the radar now which is amazing." Dyrland stated with a stupendous smile spreading across his face.

Sherryl Paige, math teacher, is someone who isn't that involved in choir, but still thinks the increase is a huge deal. "It represents that we have a very strong music department and more people want to get involved. Although we do need to learn how to the manage it," Paige stated.

"In a perfect world I will see every student in MHS," Dyrland commented on the wish for not only the choir, but also just the music department to grow. As Dyrland continues to teach choir, he will look out at his students with the feeling of pride, hopefulness and excitement. Then he will look out and see more and more. New faces that decided to take the step and be apart of the bigger and better choir.



Bailey Nelson, '17 show off her new engagement ring to a classmate Ceci Pitstick, '17.

# Stuck at MHS for too many days in the year

The senior class of 2016 will not be able to get out early like years in the past.

By: Skylar Miller-Baker @Skylarmbaker15

For many years at MHS the tradition of letting the seniors out five days earlier than the rest of the school was a long awaited reward. This was a privilege that was given only to the seniors for their dedication for staying at Marion for four years and getting their work done. For the 2016 graduates, and the classes preceding, this reward is no longer an option.

The reason why the seniors used to get out early was because the date of graduation was before the last day of school. The seniors would be graduated and have their diploma and then be expected to come back for a week of school. This year though the date of graduation falls a week later and falls after everyone in the school has gotten out for summer break. This results in the seniors not being able to get out a week earlier.

For some seniors, the fact of not being able to get out early on their graduation year has left them in anguish. Jacob Deeter, senior, has been feeling this distress ever since he found out about the change. "It makes me mad because I want to get out early and the seniors have always gotten out early," Deeter exclaimed, as an infuriating look spread across his face. As the breaking news of the change spreads to more and more seniors, the dismayed opinions of the seniors cannot be contained. Emily Wyant, senior, cannot hold back her frustration at the breaking news, saying, "I'm furious! How is that fair to us?" Wyant declared.

Although a lot of seniors believe that World War three has begun, some don't really mind the change. Jared Almandinger, senior, isn't bothered by the change. "It really doesn't bother me that much, it's been like this the past three years, so it's no change," Almandinger explained very complacently. Not only is Almandinger not very upset with the change, but Ciara Ford, senior, could care less about the change. "I really don't care as long as I graduate," Ford stated.

The whole topic about the seniors not getting out early has been debating amongst seniors and Greg Semler, principal, gives his piece on the whole topic. "It's just funny because we get to keep them longer, and I love them and will miss them," Semler told as a smile spread across his face.

This year the seniors will just have to face the fact that they are not going to be able to get out early. The matter of fact is, the new rule is here to stay, and will continue to stay for years to come. The date of graduation is going to fall after the last day of school, No matter if senior students really care about not getting out early, or don't care at all, this year the tradition of getting out one week earlier than the rest of the school is no longer an option for seniors.



"It's just kind of how the date of graduation fell on the calender this year, so it's okay. We get to have them around longer".

-Mr. Scott Immerfall,
History teacher



"I don't agree...The seniors should be allowed to get out early because our classes should be completed by then." -Alex Gaffney, 16



"I don't like it. The seniors not being able to get out early is dumb. The seniors should be able to get out early".

—Sierra Meier, 16



"I don't really care about not getting out early. Five days isn't really that much of a difference anyways". -Bobby Vanderlind, 16

### The difficulty of living abroad

By: Amery Bruce @amerybruce

It's an intense process to live abroad, and is equally as hard to up and leave family to go to another country with foreign people. The adventure can be terrifying, especially if one is close to their family, but usually worth it in the end. This is what Maria Narvaez, a foreign exchange student this year, had decided to do.

Narvaez has been living with Sheala Rael, senior, and her family, and will be continuing to do so until a year comes to pass. Her main reason for coming to America from Spain was to speak English and do so more often, but there are a few other reasons. "America is cool, and I wanted to go to prom," She laughed.

Rael has hosted exchange students in the past, one from Germany and another from Japan when she was in middle school, so she was excited to try it again. "I've enjoyed hosting in the past," She explained, "I wanted a new sister for my senior year."

In order for Narvaez to come, both parties had to go through an intense process, that both girls deemed unnecessary. Narvaez had to visit a doctor, write a six page paper about herself, and answer deep, personal questions about mental health. Rael had to go through a fifteen page online booklet, and her whole family had to undergo background checks. They had to clear any suspicion of bad intentions. "Since my dad is involved in soccer, we had to prove that we weren't trying to use her for sports," She said. They proved this was not the intent, and Narveaz was able to come live at the Rael's place.

Narvaez is enjoying her stay in her temporary home, and her favorite part of living abroad is speaking English. Her and her host have a great bond, sharing laughs and new experiences. Though Rael has no intentions of living in another country, she does enjoy hosting and would recommend that others try it.



Maria Narveaz, '16, and exchange student, playfully drags Sheala Rael, '16, down the stairs at Rael's house.

# The struggles and triumphs of being a younger sibling

By: Alex Coleman @Its\_YoPalAl

Sibling rivalry: the very definition of what is known in households with more than one child as Word War III. Sisters fighting with each other over a stolen sweater, brothers trying to be better than one another, and the younger trying to get the older of any such pairing in trouble to no end. For Sarah McGuire, a freshman here at MHS, having an older sister often meant a bit of squabbling. However,



Sarah McGuire, freshman

between the incessant bickering and the occasional stepped on feelings, there were many benefits of having an older sister. "I always wanted to hang out with Heather and her friends because I looked up to her, because she was the best. She still is a great person and I hope I end up being just as good of a person as she is," McGuire commented.

As the younger sibling of someone who graduated nearly four years ago, one would think

that people at Marion would have forgotten Heather enough not to compare the two sisters, but this has not been the case. "People assume that I'll be like my sister, which might be true in some cases, but I don't like people having a preconceived judgment of me just because of it," McGuire explained. From how Heather was with her friends to silly things like teachers that favored her, Sarah feels as though there's almost a constant comparison from those that knew her sister during her high school years. "People think that I'll end up being talkative like she was or that if the teacher who had Heather liked her, then they will like me which isn't always true," McGuire stated.

Having a sister that was so involved proved to be a chal-

lenge for Sarah, living up to people's expectations of what she should be like during her four years, "Heather played volleyball, did cheer for a few years, golf, and softball for a few years too. I'll admit I started playing volleyball because of her, but I do it now because I love it," McGuire said. Heather was also involved in the

senior group that pulled the Vaseline on the doorknobs prank, and Sarah doesn't know if she can come up with something equally as legendary to appease the idea of rivaling jokes.

For years McGuire tried to model after her sister: wear her hair the same way, act similarly, and be like Heather in any way she could manage. Now, after a bit of realizing that becoming an exact copy of someone was not the way she wanted to stand out, McGuire has begun to understand that she doesn't have to satisfy anyone but herself. "No matter how much people want me to be like Heather, I'm not. I'm my own person and no one can change that. It doesn't matter what people think of me so much as how I think of myself, and as long as you're proud of who you are, who you're working to be, or who you're going to end up being then you're doing just fine," stated McGuire. Though there are many similarities between McGuire and her older sister, she has made it her goal to detach her personality from her sister's in people's minds.

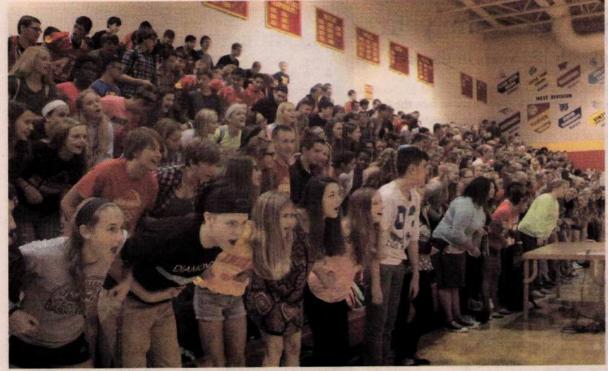
Having a sibling that attended the same school can be tough, whether or not it's at the same time or four years apart. There will always be those individuals that compare the relatives, teachers and fellow students that have a warped idea as to what they'll receive from the younger siblings. As for this, McGuire has one thing she'd like to say. "Don't let those preconceived notions define you, in the end they're just that, ideas of what people want you to be," McGuire stated.



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#### Seek & Find



Brandon Miller, junior



Kaydence DeWoody, junior

# DeWoody, junior Demi Lovato's album entitled

STORYTELLER

album entitled
Confident will be
released October
16th, while Carrie Underwood's
newest edition,
Storyteller and 5
Seconds of Summer's sophomore
record, Sounds
Good Feels Good
will both be put out
on the same day
(October 23rd).

**Fun Facts** 

Earth is hit by lightning one hundred times per second.

If you yelled for eight years, seven months, and six days you would produce enough sound energy to heat a cup of coffee.

If you put a tiny amount of liquor on a scorpion it will Instantly go crazy and sting itself to death.

Human thigh bones are stronger than concrete.

In the Philippine jungle, Yo-Yos were first used as a weapon.

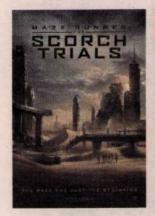
Dibble means to drink like a duck.

Termites have been known to eat through wood twice as fast when heavy metal is playing in the background.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

Fun facts obtained from http://uselessfacts.net/ and djtech.net

# **Entertainment for October**







The Scorch Trials is already in theaters, while The Martian will be released this coming Friday (October 2nd), and PAN will be out October 9th.

