



May 23rd, 2018
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Go to page 15 to find out more about the new Red Nation leaders and who will bring in excitement into the student section next year!



Want to learn about the new band Bulletproof Misfits? Read about it on page four!

Wheels for summer feels

Driving around town can be a fun way to pass the time in the summer, but being safe should be a priority.

By: Hope Faley @hopefaley21

Growing up in a place like Marion, Iowa, activities to do are highly limited, because of that a common activity is driving around. Blasting the best music and finding exciting adventures behind the wheel with a group of someone's closest friends is going to lead to making memories that will last a lifetime.

Sophie Willette, '19, is someone who finds herself driving around a lot whether alone or surrounded by her friends. Willette claims to be a fairly safe driver, never texting and driving, and she makes all her friends put seatbelts on before she starts driving, but like any other driver she still has had close calls. "I had very recently gotten my new car and I was driving down 22nd street," Willette said. "There was another driver who was going to turn on to 22nd and he was so close to hitting me I had to drive up on someone's lawn to avoid getting hit, I was so scared I was going to get hit and I was in my brand new car," Willette added.

She often takes roads like East Post and Mount Vernon road, also the back streets around Linn-Mar High School. "I usually drive around to talk to friends, pass time until we find something else to do, and listen to music," Willette said, her go to album recently has been the new Post Malone album, and other songs in the hip hop/rap genre, she also adds country into the mix during the summer months. Willette and her friends will switch who

drives to allow other people to relax without driving, and gas usually isn't a problem because of this since they are changing cars. If she drives long distance then her friends will offer, but Willette enjoys driving so it often it isn't a bother. "I drive around by myself all the time, I usually like to just listen to music and relax, it's really the only time I can be completely alone so it's nice," Willette said. Most of the time Willette likes to drive, but it depends on her mood, if she just wants to listen to the music or relax, she will ask her friends to drive.

Willette does not live in town, so she often finds herself driving around just because she needs to get into town. While Willette has fun driving and thinks that it is the best time to be able to talk with friends without distractions, she would rather chill at someone's house. For Willette, the main precautions she takes, is to pay more attention to the road than the conversation. "Just because you're having fun, doesn't mean you can let your guard down," Willette said. Willette definitely sees herself as a safe driver, and finds it crucial to stop at stop signs and stay off her phone.

Willette and her friends are all at the age to drive, so finding someone to drive, isn't as hard as it would be for freshmen like Azya Pope, 21. Pope relies on her older friends to drive her and their other mutual friends around for fun.

"I'd rather be the passenger, because if you're the driver you have to focus on not killing the passengers," Pope said. Pope and her friends often drive at night due to their not being anything better to do, and it is fun. While Pope prefers the passenger seat, Colby Roskop, 20, always loves being the driver.

"I get to do what I want when I'm the driver," Roskop said.

Roskop drives around almost every day, usually with friends at night time.

"I really enjoy it because it's a great stress reliever," Roskop said. "I drive around 10th street, and stay in that general area," Roskop added.

With summer approaching, the roads will be full of teens driving around all over town, the sound of stereos blasting all different kinds of music will fill the town, and the time spent in the car will be time well spent before students return back to school in the fall.

"Just because you're having fun, doesn't mean you can let your guard down."
- Sophie Willette, junior



Photo by: Hope Faley

Sophie Willette, '19, adjusts the volume on her radio before going on a drive after school.

8 tips to staying safe on the road:

1st tip

Maintain the car's capacity based on the amount of seatbelts in the car.

2nd tip

Remember that the owner of the car is the one that gets to call the shots. Respect their decision if they do not or cannot give someone a ride somewhere.

3rd tip

As a passenger, don't cause obnoxious distractions to the driver. Jamming to music and talking is reasonable, but screaming, sticking your head out the window, or attempting to show the driver something on a phone is putting everyone in the car at risk.

4th tip

As a driver, stay off the phone, if there is a passenger in the car have them read the text out loud, change the song, or respond to someone, if there is not someone, pull over into a parking lot or the side of the road.

5th tip

No cop no stop may give someone a rush but getting in a severe crash is going to give someone way more than a rush.

6th tip

Watch out for motorcyclists. Cars are so much heavier than motorcycles; one hit and the cyclist's life is at risk. Always check blind spots, lanes, and pay extra attention to a cyclist when you see one.

7th tip

Always watch out for others when turning, stopping at a stop sign, or switching lanes. Cars may seem like they come out of nowhere, but if you pay attention you may be able to spot them.

8th tip

When at a stop sign at the same time as someone else, be safe and allow the other driver to go ahead first to prevent the chances of getting in a crash.

What's happening around the school?



Photo by: Luke Kasner

Summer Williams and Logan Bruns, both '19, perform a song at the Marion's Finest.



Photo by: Sophie Reider

Miranda Beik, '19, gets the ball from the opposing team at a home game.



Photo by: Hope Faley

Kayba Laube, '20, participates in a game during a school pep rally.

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The drama epidemic: why high school needs to change

Drama can end up taking over a school and it needs to be stopped.

Stay in your own lane

By: Amy Noble @Amy_Noble12

Staying in your own lane is a term that is used in both driving and also in life. And it seems that in both contexts, it's difficult for some. Some people while driving can't keep in the yellow lines and some people can't keep their noses out of other people's business. If it has nothing to do with you, THEN STAY OUT OF IT. All that does is add drama and problems with the people it involves.

Something that starts out small can all of the sudden blow up into some big ordeal that could have been completely avoided if some nosy Nelly would have just stayed out of it. Because once Nosy Nelly hears it she'll pass it on to Snoopy Sal who will tell Big Mouth Betty and all of the sudden something small, like "Oh no, Sally Sue got in a fender bender," into "Sally Sue smashed into the back of the president because she was trying to eat

a walking taco while driving and she dripped guac on her pants." Ridiculous, right? Minor things can get blown up into some absurd tale when people who are completely irrelevant to the situation get involved in it.

It may be hard for some especially at this school where everyone hears everything. But there are two ways for one to go about handling some gossip they hear in the hall. They can either dismiss it and carry on with their day as usual or they can listen to it and tell their friends and some rando they see in the hall, causing an extreme escalation in the situation. So don't be the person that takes a small incident or story that you hear in class or in the hall and tell anyone that will listen.

Being the person that is always blabbing or getting into others business makes them not trustworthy. No one wants to confide in someone that will get tell Big Mouth Betty because they something they thought they could trust someone with has been spread through the whole school.

Staying in your lane is easy. Just don't get in other people's business or spread things people tell you.

Why do you think people can't stay out of other's business?

"I think people get in other people's business because they like the drama." - Gabby Foster, '21



"It's fun, and because reality TV is a good thing to watch, and it's like reality TV all the time at school. The drama is interesting." - Jacob Groff, '20

Infographic by: Jenna Sackett

Changing the concept of change

By: Madigan Crowley
@crowleymadigan

At any given time, something is changing. It may be something small like the weather, or much larger like moving to another country. Either way change is inevitable, but it is also very disliked by many people. It's so disliked by some that it's one of their biggest fears. Many people hear about change and automatically associate it with something unpleasant, but it actually has many benefits.

There are many benefits to change that may make it more appealing. One benefit is change forces someone out of their comfort zone which can be the scary part, but it actually can result in a positive outcome. It will allow more experiences to be made and trying something new is always beneficial. It's a way for people to figure out what they like and dislike.

The more change someone goes through the more flexible one gets. Even by changing a daily routine it can make a person more flexible in larger adaptations. It makes it easier to accept new situations that are bound to happen

in the future, and also prevents any freak out moments when unexpected things happen.

Without any change life would be plain and boring all the time. No one's routine would be any different than the last day, no eating different foods, and the temperature could stay at negative nine for the rest of one's life. In the long run life is better with change even though it may throw someone off for a little while it almost always comes out with a better outcome.

There are also ways to make changes an easier process. When someone decides to initiate a change in their life it is much easier to adapt to than if the change is avoidable. When a change is resisted it will be much harder for it to become comfortable. It's better to just accept it and start the process of being used to the change.

Instead of fearing an upcoming change embracing it is one way to deal with it. Another way to deal with a big change is to be open for communication. Communicating with others about the change and the feelings that come with it can help the coping process. It can also help get someone through the hard part of change quickly and smooth.

Change is a scary subject for many because of the uncertainty that follows it. When major things begin to change in one's life they normally don't know what the future hold. People like to know what will happen next so when the future becomes a guessing game it makes people reject the change. With change upcoming embracing it and taking it as a new experience instead of being paralyzed with fear can help show that change isn't as scary as it may seem.

Although change can be an extremely scary and unlikable thing it has many benefits to it if one decides to push through they will understand that it's not as bad as many believe.

Steps for getting through a big change

1. Recognize it
2. Accept it
3. Commit to the change
4. Take it one step at a time
5. Embrace it

Infographic made by: Madigan Crowley

When facing a big change, follow these five simple steps to make the transition less scary.

By: Jenna Sackett
@Jenna32818873

From whispers in the hallways, to "Did you hear what happened?" texts, and gossip in the locker rooms, this school, like many others, is filled with drama. It's import to know what's going on in the community, but some things are just better kept quiet, at least until the whole story is known.

More likely than not, you have told a lie or rumor about someone else. Maybe you didn't start the rumor, but you didn't check to make sure it was true, so you helped in spreading it. Rumors spread like wildfire, and high school gossip is like dry grass covered in gasoline.

A lot of students strive to be the best. Whether it's being the star player in football, getting a solo in show choir, or getting first chair in the band, it feels good to be recognized for your greatness. Most students get to the top by working hard, and practicing. However, some students find a different way to the top. They spread rumors about the higher up to make them seem worse, therefore making themselves look better by comparison.

Not only does this hurt the person who is being talked bad about, but it also hurts the person bad-mouthing them. They never really get the skill to get to the top, so they never learn their lesson.

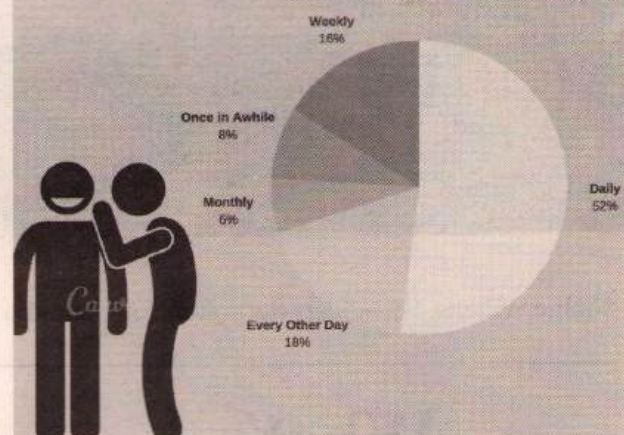
The act of ruining others reputation for personal gain is sadly, not uncommon. Everyday secrets are shared, and lies are created

to hurt or embarrass others. Humans in general are extremely judgmental, but in high school it seems to be worse. We get judged for who we love, what we wear, and how we choose to live our lives. Unless someone's choices are hurting someone, they can keep their nose in their own business. It's not just the students, it's the parents too, after all they had to learn it from somewhere.

Parents and other adults have the ability to shape the way a child thinks. Sometimes they forget this. They might say something, and forget that the child is next to them, or assume that they aren't listening. Children are almost always listening, and they look up to those they admire, most the time being their parents.

This problem is nearly impossible to get rid once its started, but that doesn't mean that it should go ignored. Rumors and gossip has just been accepted as a part of the high school experience, which is not okay. As a school, we need to work harder to fix it.

How often do you hear people spread rumors about others?



Infographic made by: Jenna Sackett

A poll was taken asking 50 MHS students on how often they hear rumors being spread.

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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 staff 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 the advisor.

Turn letters in to room 26 or any staff member.

What the @#\$%^&

Why are some words worse than others?

By: Kyle Mehlberger @KMehlberger

Swearing is a thing that most people do. Whether it be every once and a while, or in every sentence, almost everyone will end up swearing at least once in their life. So why do a lot of people act like swearing is a bad thing all the time, as if it is hurting all children that hear them?

Many people act like swear is a bad thing, no matter the circumstances, but this makes no sense. Some swear words aren't terms that would offend a minority, or are sexual in nature, like "the s-word". The fact that the s-word cannot actually be said here shows how society views these words, as a thing the newspaper can get in trouble for using in print. Because some swear words have no racial or sexual notation, there is no logical reason that someone can't say those ones when they stub their toe or otherwise get injured.

A lot of movies also get a R-rating smacked onto them because of their frequent use of

swearing. For example, The Blair Witch Project is rated R, only for language. It seems unfair to give a movie the second highest movie rating, just because of a bunch of words and not even because of the actual plot and scenes inside the movies.

This shows how much society hates swear words no matter the usage. The movie industry is grouping movies that use frequent swear words with movies with gruesome violence and full on sex scenes, just because of some words we as a society have deemed bad.

Some people can be really strict, and get mad about people saying crap or frick, both of which barely qualify as swear words, frick especially. Saying that frick is bad because it is used to replace "the f-word", makes a ton of other words that can be used to replace that bad.

It is understandable why parents of small children say these kind of things, they don't want people to cuss around their precious little angels, because they will start saying those words as well. But shouldn't the parent at least try to teach their children to not say everything they hear? It would be better than sheltering their child from the harsh reality of the world, which is much worse than a couple of random words.

But instead of doing this, a lot of parents just through their kids on a tablet, and let them watch Youtube videos on auto play with no supervision, and yet they still wonder where their kids are hearing swear words from. Sometimes they even blame the internet, but anyone who has been on the internet knows that no matter what people do, no matter how many restrictions they apply to there internet, there will always eventually be some swearing.

The crusade against a specific set of words we as a society view as a terrible thing to say, even if the word in question has no hostile history, needs to cool off a bit.

when going through high school. Another thing to remember, as the amount of people that like someone increases so will the amount of people that dislike them. It's the hate:love ratio that often stays fairly balanced due to jealousy and rumors. However people who join lots of activities to be involved and have fun, are not leeches. If their main goal is to just join activities or sports, and they begin to gain popularity from that, that's just luck. Some people will enter high school and leave high school without ever being widely known, and they are the lucky ones.

Some people strive to be known, they strive for people to know their name even if it's bad. There are people who would spread a rumor about themselves just so people are talking about them. They will lie, backstab, and manipulate just to get to the top. Friend or foe, they will make their way up. The saddest part, is that people believe them. Nobody rarely says anything because while we are all trying to find ourselves, we pretend to all be the same and if anyone dare speak their mind, they are judged. So almost everyone keeps their mouth

The prophecy isn't true

By: Patrick Bleadorn
@p_bleadorn

Everyone knows that one crazy person. The person that has a conspiracy theory that Mark Zuckerberg is actually a robot in disguise or the guy down the street that thinks the lizard people are about to invade Earth and bring with them the end of the world as we know it. Some theories about the end of the world aren't as crazy as the weirdo's down the street is. Take for example, theories that predicted the end of the Mayan calendar meant the end of the world or that the predictions by Nostradamus are going to happen in the next decade. Let's be honest, every prediction has been wrong and they will continue to cause unnecessary havoc.

Every single year, a new prediction for the apocalypse raining down on humanity comes out. The prediction catches the attention of a few people, then it spreads to a community. That community turns into half a country's population within a matter of two days. So within a week, half the country

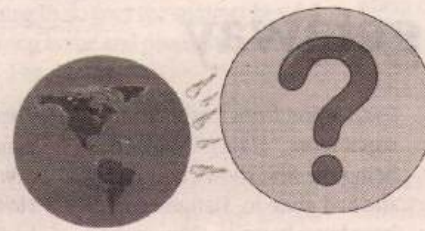
believes that unicorns are descending from the heavens to rain down deadly rainbows which will wipe out humanity in an instant. The prediction is set, and now the countdown to Armageddon begins. The days count down as slow as time passes when you stare at the clock. It finally reaches the day where unicorn hell will rain down on the people. Lo and behold, unicorns do not descend from the heavens. All that happens is some guy gets robbed in the big city and some unfortunate soul is mauled by a bear in the countryside. No Armageddon, no nothing.

It's absolutely ludicrous to think that someone can accurately predict the end of the world. Some people jump to the predictions of Nostradamus as their credibility. Others say that a being only they can understand warned them of impending doom. Well folks, Nostradamus didn't predict exact dates and anyone who claims to be the only told about the impending doom is more likely to be saying that for publicity than they are for legitimate concern for the human race. It is more likely that the world will go on a deadly night

out with an asteroid from outer space. In fact, it is even more likely that the unluckiest person in the world will win the lottery before the world ends by some fantastical prediction.

Rest assured, we are more likely to meet our doom without knowing it which is much more preferable. To avoid falling for wild predictions, do research. Research the prediction and anything related to it. If someone can just do a little research, they'll realize that the end of the world is farther off than they're told.

The latest prediction claimed that the alignment of the Sun, Moon, and Jupiter would bring the convergence of Earth and Planet X, ending the world as we know it. This never happened.

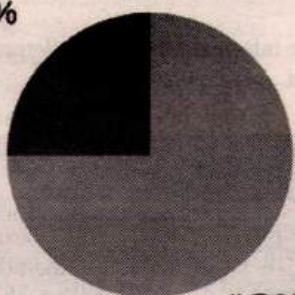


Infographic by: Patrick Bleadorn

The latest prediction claimed that the world would end on April 23rd, 2018. This prediction never came true.

Do You Swear Often?

Heck no.
25%



#@%& Yeah!
75%

Infographic by: Kyle Mehlberger

In a poll to 37 students, 75% said they swear often while 25% said they don't swear at all.

The insecurity diaries

By: Hope Faley @hopefaley21

When walking through the halls next time, everyone should pay attention to who is surrounding them. Some people may be their best friend, some they have never talked to, and some people that one has had an awkward or bad situation with and they just awkwardly ignore them, because there aren't any words to describe the last interaction. No matter someone's status with any of their surrounding peers, there are always the people that are usually the most noticeable, the people that try way too hard, also known as leeches because they latch onto popular or rich people only to gain popularity for themselves. Like a leech releases an anesthetic before biting their host so they do not feel the bite, these people will use strategies like manipulation, so people they are attempting to gain something from, do not notice. High school is full of these self absorbed but still insecure people, and something needs to change.

When someone feels insecure, especially a high schooler, they often find themselves bringing other people down to make themselves feel better. Along with this people sometimes need validation. They earn this validation from doing things like increasing their social status, and making other people like them. You know these people are insecure because nobody who believes in themselves and who they are as a person needs other people's validation that much. They also don't care about popularity. Here is the secret to high school. Popularity is the least of your worries. Colleges don't put a minimum amount of how many people followed a student on Instagram or knew their name or average amount of likes per ironic and funny tweet they put out there on their applications. They care about what activities someone is involved in, what their grades are, and their ACT scores. That's what matters. Almost everybody in high school is so caught up in trying to get by and get into a decent college or land a good job that someone's status does not matter. The saying, "It's better to have 10 dimes than 100 pennies" is something to take to heart

**Popularity
facts
everyone
should
know**

#1- Those girls everyone loves are the ones that will peak in high school

#2- If someone acts like Regina George, they're gonna get hit by a bus like her

#3- The "it" guy is probably going to get ugly after high school

Infographic By: Hope Faley

Misfits in the best way

A new band has formed within the walls of MHS, and they're already making their mark.

By: Rachel Wilkey @RachelWilkey

Music is a part of life. It's heard in everything from parties, commercials, and just walking down the street. It's away to escape the thoughts in your own head and be transported to wherever the music will take you. For some people, music is their whole life. Instead of choosing to just listen, they delve into the wonders of music. These people become music educators, critiques, and performers. Performers can be involved in anything from just singing, playing an instrument, or doing both. These performers when put together in the right mix can create extraordinary thing called a band.

Alexis Walker, sophomore, has found the perfect blend of these performers and created a band known as Bulletproof Misfits. The band includes Alexis Walker, singer, Kynzie St. John, guitarist, and Zach Triplett, drummer. Creating a band can take a scary leap of faith to get everything started, but for Walker, starting a band has always been a dream. "My dad was in a band, and I thought it was cool, so I wanted to do it too," Walker said. Combined with a love for music Walker was driven to create a band.

Kynzie St. John, freshman, fell in love with the idea of being in a band similarly to how Walker did. "My dad was also in a band, and they played all over, I'd hear them practice and watch them perform, I've always wanted to follow in his footsteps," St. John said. While it may seem as though a musical parent is the reason for wanting to be in a band, all the want is controlled by the love of music. For Zach Triplett, freshman his interest in being in a band was driven by falling in love with music at the young age of 3 years old. "I've always wanted to be in something meaningful," Triplett said.

When starting a band there will always be some difficulties. Walker describes that the most worrisome part for their band is the age. "Since we're so young we worried that we wouldn't be able to work out," Walker said. Walker is the only sophomore, and St. John and Triplett are only freshman. While it may seem as though the age will bring them down, they keep pushing as hard as they possibly can. For a band it can also be hard finding time to practice. Each member in Bulletproof Misfits has a busy schedule, so trying to finding time to get together can cause roadblocks. Another problem can be the drama that usually comes with being in a band. "We spend so much time together that sometimes we argue," Walker said. Even with small arguments and band members leaving, this band is determined to stay together until the end.

Being in a new band be nerve racking, but when broken down, it's still all about the music. While some bands dream of stardom and fame, some just want to make good music. "I just hope we can make music people can relate to, it'd be cool if we became big and famous, but it's all about making music with 3' people I love," Walker explained.

There are many things to love about being in a band whether it's for genuine love of performing, or being with the people you love on stage. "There's a moment when we're all playing, and it sounds so cool. I just make eye contact with Alexis, and it just feels awesome," St. John said. Being in a band also means spending lots of time with the people



Photo Taken by: Summer Williams

Alexis Walker '20, Zach Triplett, and Kynzie St. John, both '21, perform their debut performance at Marion's Finest.

involved. "My favorite thing about being in a band is spending quality time with people I love, just rocking out," Triplett said. This band has only one performance under their sleeve with the high school's annual variety show. While it may be their first one the band quickly anticipates their other upcoming shows.

While still being a young band, Bulletproof Misfits already has two lined up performances in July. One at the Riley Smith Youth Music Festival on July 15th in Cedar Rapids, and one at the Toddville Legion center, July 28th.

For more information follow Bulletproof Misfits on their social media.

Nebraskan getaway

By: Patrick Bleadorn
@p_bleadorn

For some people, the thing they enjoy most is singing and dancing. Those people often turn to show choir, where they can do what they enjoy more than anything else in the world. People who love show choir tend to love it with a burning passion, which leads them on a path towards doing anything and everything that will make them the best performer on the stage. One place for show choir lovers here is to go to the show choir camp hosted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln running from June 10th to June 16th. The University boasts a strong program in the arts, and the results from students going to the camp have translated into multiple appearances in finals and one grand championship for our show choir groups, New Creation and Revelation. One student, Becca Haugen, sophomore, was one of the students who benefited from the camp.

"I went to the camp the year

I was going from freshman to sophomore," Haugen said. For being the first show choir camp she had gone to, Haugen couldn't have been happier. "You make a lot of new friends from a lot of different states," said Haugen. "My favorite memory was walking back and forth to practices with counselors." However, this year is going to be different. "I'm volunteering a lot this summer for my church," said Haugen. "I would totally go back if I wasn't busy, though." Although Haugen can't go this year, it won't discourage her from being the best she can be. Another student, Bryan Crow, junior, will be going to the camp this year. "This will be my fourth year going to the camp," said Crow, "I'm excited to go because it's practically doing what I love with the people I love without the competitive factor." For Crow, the camp is top tier. "They have fantastic clinicians,

great food, and a great homecoming style dance where everyone participates."

- Bryan Crow, junior

great food, and a great homecoming style dance where everyone participates," said Crow. However, students have to work hard before they can have fun.

Being the best she can be comes with a lot of work. At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln camp last summer, Haugen was no stranger to hard work, and other students who plan on going this year should be prepared for hard work. "Be prepared," Haugen said. "At some point in the week you'll have a break down." However, in the end the break down will be worth it. "It's worth

it though cause at the end, you'll want to do the camp all over again," said Haugen. For Haugen, show choir is an addiction. Not one of the unhealthy ones, but one that fills her with happiness. For other students planning on going this year, the camp will be sure to satisfy their show choir addiction.



Photo provided by: Austin Prier

Austin Prier '19, dives for home plate on a tag up from third base after Baylor Fish, '17 hit a sacrifice pop fly at their 2017 State match-up against Dubuque Wahlert. s

Swing batter batter swing!

By: Hope Faley @hopefaley21

With summer approaching, baseball and softball athletes are breaking in their gloves and battering up for the upcoming season of their sport. The spring sports are winding down to an end but baseball and softball season is just getting started. It starts late May and goes into early July. Marion's baseball team made it to the first round of state last year, with softball having a good season as well. While the year is getting closer to ending, baseball player Austin Prier, junior, begins preparing for the season. Prier is also involved in golf and basketball, however baseball is his favorite sport. "I've been involved in sports since I can remember, and my dad got me into them" Prier said. Prier plays center field and pitcher, and has always played that position. Center field is the defensive position between right field and left field, and pitching is when you throw the ball from the pitcher's mound to the batter, with a goal of retiring the batter.

"Our team is pretty close, we all fit well together," Prier said. Prier predicts they will be returning to state and win WaMaC, Prier also thinks in order to accomplish this, the team just needs to play how they always play. As Prier is

preparing for his baseball season, Mikayla Glovik, freshmen, is preparing for her second year in high school softball. Glovik is involved in volleyball as well. Glovik has played sports since 6th grade and originally got involved in softball because her sister, Megan Glovik, played it.

"Sometimes it is hard because when some of the team mates are checked out and not putting their full effort out, the rest of the team usually follows," Glovik said. Glovik predicts this season is going to be better than last year, but overall it will be a season of learning. In order to do this Glovik says the team needs to communicate and not get involved in drama.

"I've played with some of the girls before, the returning players are all pretty close, and the incoming freshmen are also close with each other, while returners and freshmen like each other, the team has not become as close as they will be yet" Glovik said. Practices for Glovik have been tough because she is currently resting a back injury and has not been able to practice, however when she returns she will go back to pitching like before.

Summer isn't the only thing students are counting down school days for, for baseball and softball athletes, the season is something they are excited to get going.

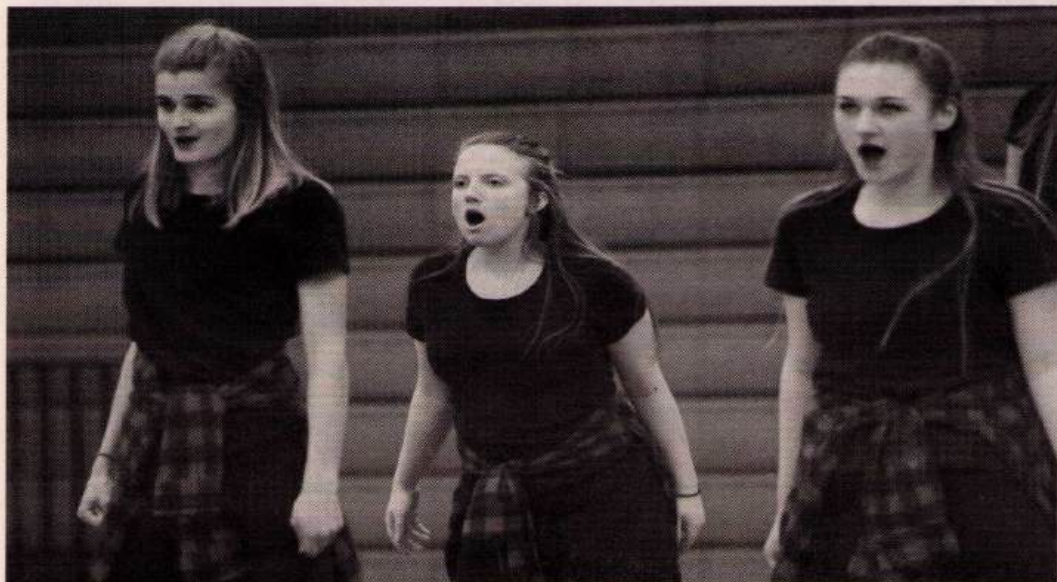


Photo by: Patrick Bleadorn

Becca Haugen, '20, sings Virtuoso, with other members of the show choir, at New Creation's performance at the Winter Pep Rally.

Pushing through the end of the year

With the school year wrapping up it's important to stick with it.

By: Jacob Shaffer @JacobShaffer_18

The school year isn't almost at end, but before the year comes to a close, the worst week of all still lies ahead; finals week. Some less determined students may catch a bad case of senioritis and not care what happens to their grade, but other students are more determined to push through to the end of the year, finishing it as strongly as they started it by not letting their grades and GPA slip.

Gunnar Lacy, sophomore, is one of the students pushing through to the end of the school year. Lacy has had a clear goal set for his grades since first quarter "My goal is to maintain a 4.0 GPA, I've done it all other quarters, and it's really my goal for all of high school," Lacy said. There will be obstacles before Lacy can fulfill his goals, like being motivated enough to do homework when he gets home.

His goal may be difficult to achieve, but Lacy plans on how he is going to accomplish this goal other than devoting most of his time to school, or the time that he has. "Sleep is a big thing, getting enough sleep is a big part, and coffee in the

morning. If I don't get coffee in the morning I can't function," Lacy said. While Lacy may have plans to better achieve his goal, he has plenty of motivation to get good grades in all his classes and stay determined to not let his grade slip.

Most of Lacy's motivation to finish the school year strong comes from the thought of failing. "I'm really afraid of failing, so that in itself is motivation enough to not fail," Lacy said. If Lacy's grades did slip right at the end of the year, he would not only be letting himself down, but other people in his life as well. "I grew up in a house where good grades were expected, so if I fail I know what's expected of me. It will be hard on me, and hard on my parents," Lacy said. Lacy's mindset and goals reflect on his friends and the people he surrounds himself with. "Most of my friends have the same goals as me, I try to surround myself with people who have simi-

lar goals," Lacy said.

With finals week approaching and the end of the school year in sight, some students may be tempted to just give up and not care what happens to their grades, more than happy to fail certain classes. Not every student wants to fail in school, and while it may be easier to just give up, some students just need a little extra motivation and determination to push through to the end of the year.

"Sleep is a big thing, getting enough sleep is a big part, and coffee in the morning. If I don't get coffee in the morning I can't function."

- Gunnar Lacy, sophomore

How do you plan on getting through the last week of school?



"Just going through it like any other week."

-Parker Waddington '20

"Keep thinking about summer."

-Xavier Papesh '21



"Same as I always do, it's just another week."

-Jace Dougherty, 19



Senior snapshots

By: Rachel Wilkey @RachelWilkey

As the summer begins to close in and the air begins to electrify with summer nostalgia, school begins to wind down. This means freshmen become sophomores, sophomores become juniors, seniors prepare for college, and juniors begin to taste the feeling of being the reigning seniors. Along with being seniors comes the tasks as well like: where to go to college, grad party planning, and senior pictures.

Senior pictures can be a terrifying, messy burden, but for Ashley Hilzendager, junior, it brings much excitement. Hilzendager is more than happy to be a senior because senior year means getting out. "I'm ready for it be over and it hasn't even started yet," Hilzendager joked.

Trying to find the perfect place, perfect outfit, and perfect photographer can be stressful, but it's easily done with a little planning. Hilzendager, who is a photographer herself, describes her perfect picture spots are city scenery, like Cedar Rapids, and other big cities. When the constant cloud of fashion looms over today's youth it's important to look clean and pristine in senior photos. "Stick to neutral colored clothing, backgrounds are usually colorful, and always stick to something that expresses your personality," Hilzendager explains. Finding the perfect photographer is an important piece to senior photos. Seniors don't want extreme prices, but still want high quality pictures. Hilzendager's method is slightly out of ordinary, for she has 3 separate people taking her senior photos. "Mary Mathis is my main photographer because she is a true professional, Heather Blazek is taking secondary photos, and my best friend Chloe Feilmeier is just taking some throughout the

summer," Hilzendager said. The reasoning for so many photographers is variety, different photographers means different outfits, hair, and makeup. Giving Hilzendager a large variety of photos to choose from.

Chloe Feilmeier, senior, is taking some of Hilzendager's photos, and she knows just how important they are. "The most important part is the feeling in the moment with yourself because in a way it's an outcome of your years. You can look and see who you were," Feilmeier said.

Planning for senior photos is something that people must prepare for. "You plan for the best senior pics by drinking lots of water to keep your skin clear, and planning your outfits and destinations ahead of time," Hilzendager said. Feilmeier has already taken her senior photos, and has many great memories from her own. "My favorite part is going around town and opening new ideas, and spots for pictures. It's like an adventure," Feilmeier said.


While Hilzendager may have everything planned out, for upcoming seniors it may sound difficult, or even scary thinking about how, or when senior pictures are gonna get done. Maybe they have a friend, a planned photographer, or just a parent doing them it's important to stay organized by having separate folders to place senior pictures. For the upcoming Seniors who are unsure of their senior pictures, they can contact Hilzendager for advice, or even as a photographer. "I do senior pictures, family, scenery, and really whatever," Hilzendager said. You can contact Hilzendager through her Instagram: @ashleyhilzendager.

While senior year as a whole sounds like freedom, and terror, it's easy to get swept away in the impending tasks that come and go with it. The most important thing is stay organized, relax, and smile for the camera.

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Need-to-watch movies

A list of movies everyone needs to watch before heading to college.

By: Sophie Reider @sophdispenser

Movies are a huge part of pop culture. And let's face it: it's hard to get every reference thrown out. There are some movies, though, that everyone needs to see, especially before going to college. Here is a list of the important ones, and a short summary.

Forrest Gump- Life is like a box of chocolates.
Mean Girls- Stop trying to make "fetch" happen

Dodgeball- If you can dodge a wrench you can dodge a ball

Dirty dancing- the most famous quote doesn't make any sense

Star Wars- Pew Pew

Sandlot- You're killin' me, Smalls!

Anchorman- Will Ferrell but with a mustache

Ferris Bueller's Day Off- Chicago can be fun sometimes

Definitely Maybe- Sometimes love doesn't work out

Monty Python and the Holy Grail- grab your coconuts

The Princess Bride- Death cannot stop true love, only delay it for a while

Wizard of Oz- There is no place like home

Napoleon Dynamite- I see you're drinking 1%, is that because you think you're fat?

Ghostbusters- you will never look at marshmallows the same way

Back to the Future- Great Scott!

Easy A- lying, but for a good cause?

500 Days of Summer- why are you making me not like Zoey Deschanel?

Clueless- Popular girls with personalities

Top Gun- I feel the need, the need for speed

Legally Blonde- you got into Harvard? What? Like it's hard?

Inception- What just happened

Interstellar- WAIT WHAT JUST HAPPENED

The pursuit of happiness- you will cry

Perks of being a wallflower- you will cry a lot

She's the Man- soccer is cool, Channing Tatum is cooler

16 Candles- Please never forget a persons birthday

10 Things I Hate About You- I don't hate you, not even a little, not at all

Goonies- Goonies never say die!

The Dark Knight- Batman likes to brood

Young Frankenstein- Its Frankenstein

When Harry met Sally- Men and women cant be friends

Footloose- Sometimes you gotta cut loose

Indiana Jones- Who knew someone would fear snakes so much

Jurassic park- Dinosaurs are always a bad idea

Harry Potter- You're a wizard, Harry

Groundhogs day- The original time loop

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind-

Feeling bad for Jim Carry

R.E.D.- retired, extremely dangerous

E.T.- Reeces pieces are alien food

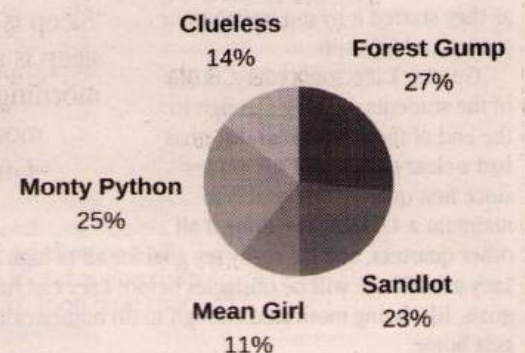
Titanic- jack definitely could have fit on that piece of wood

Finally

The Labyrinth just avoid looking at David Bowie's costume

These are just a few of the movies that will get anyone through college. Whenever you're bored during the summer, just turn on one of these, and you're bound to have fun.

Whats your Favorite Movie?



Out of the five movies on the list, Forest Gump was the most popular among students, with Monty Python and the Holy Grail as close seconds.

Songs of Summer

By: Hope Faley @hopefaley21

#1- The Nights by Avicii, a song all about living the best life, in honor of a great artist who recently passed.



#2- Lost Boys, by Ocean Park Standoff, a real good feel good, song about having fun



#3- Ho Hey, by the Lumineers, while the song is slower, it's a good song for driving around with a group of friends on a fun summer night



#4- American Teen, by Khalid, this song will leave one feeling relaxed and content with being a teenager, it reaches into all the relatable parts



#5- Everybody Talks, by Neon Trees, a throwback that leaves you singing at the top of their lungs



Summer of concerts

By: Patrick Bleadorn @p_bleadorn

Summer vacation for students is within sight. That means there's the entirety of June and July for students to enjoy their lives to the fullest. The problem is it's not easy to figure out what exactly to spend the summer doing. Going to Adventureland or Lost Island is the usual around here, but thought about less often is going to concerts. Concerts are an adrenaline inducing madhouse. Just because we live in Iowa doesn't mean that we're pushed off to the way side by artists. So to make sure everyone has a great summer, they should book their tickets for a few upcoming concerts.

One concert people should get their tickets for as soon as possible is hosted by Kesha on June 29th in Sioux City. From "TiK ToK" to "We R Who We R," Kesha has kept a strong fan base for years. For those who are part of that fan base, June 29th is the chance to see the highly regarded artist. Anyone who is not a fan of Kesha now has a chance to see a new artist and potentially have a new favorite. However, Kesha won't be the only big name artist coming to Iowa this summer.

Two bands touring together this summer are Def Leppard and Journey. Def Leppard has produced iconic hits like "Pour Some Sugar on Me" and "Rock of Ages" and ever since their hit songs joined the music world, Def Leppard has been a band that has held its fame for years. Coming with the iconic Def Leppard is Journey. From uplifting songs like "Don't Stop Believin" to songs

like "Faithfully," which will put the audience in a sad, yet optimistic trance, Journey captivated music lovers since the 1970's. Journey's "Don't Stop Believin" has stood the test of time, remaining a top song for anyone who needs a boost in confidence.

One of the biggest music festivals America has to offer, Lollapalooza, runs from August 2nd to August 5th this summer Chicago, Illinois. Kicking off the festival on the 2nd will be the band Arctic Monkeys. From hits such as "Do I Wanna Know?" to "When The Sun Goes Down," Arctic Monkeys will be sure to kick off the world renowned festival. To highlight day two is Post Malone. From feel good songs like "Congratulations" to songs that put listeners in the feels like "I Fall Apart," Post Malone will entrance listeners on the stage just as much as he does through music streaming. Taking the 3rd day by storm will be The Weekend. With "Can't Feel My Face," the audience won't be able to resist clapping to the beat, and with confidence boosters like "Starboy," The Weekend will electrify the crowd. Rounding out Lollapalooza will be Portugal. The Man. With their hit "Feel It Still," the band will be sure to cap off a line up music lovers could only dream possible.

Summer is so close, students can see it. No one wants to spend a summer doing nothing. Not many want to spend the summer doing what they did last year. If someone spends this summer doing something they've never done before, this summer can be the best one of their lives.

Upcoming concerts



Kesha will be in Sioux City, IA on June 29



Def Leppard and Journey will be in Des Moines, IA on July 23



Lollapalooza will run from August 2 to August 5 in Chicago, IL

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Infographic by: Patrick Bleadorn

This summer is looking like it is going to be a dream made in music heaven. With current and classic hits on standby, music lovers of all genres and walks of life will surely be excited for this upcoming season.



During the summer months many people choose to take trips and vacations, these are some tips and tricks to get through the long car rides and have an overall great trip.

Pack light

Packing light allows more room in the already crowded car and leaves room for souvenirs.

Bring extra cash

While on vacation you may find new souvenirs to remember the amazing trip

Be patient

The earlier you leave for the long ride the earlier you'll get to your destination

Research your destination

Knowing about your vacation spot ahead of time can help you decide what you want to do while your there

Make a list

Making a list will help prevent forgetting necessary items and will lessen the stress of packing.

Get an early start

The earlier you leave for the long ride the earlier you'll get to your destination

Plan car games

Long car rides can easily become boring but if you plan activities ahead it will make the time go by faster

Try new things

While in a new place keep an open mind and let yourself try and experience new things



By: Madigan Crowley @crowleymadigan

S'more summer fun in IA

Iowa is full of campgrounds, and each one is special in its own way.

By: Jenna Sackett @Jenna32818873

Birds chirping, firewood crackling, and the smell of roasted marshmallows is in the air. That's right, it's camping season. Iowa is seen as a flat and boring state full of corn to some people. Sure, we might not have white sand beaches and salt water oceans, but we do have some great campgrounds all around Iowa, which have different places to explore and enjoy.

Squaw Creek Campground: Squaw Creek Campground is located at 4305 Squaw Lane in Marion. According to mycountyparks.com, the 700 acre campground has many fun activities to do, including picnicking and picture taking. There is also a large playground for the kids to play on. Squaw Creek has a shallow valley in the park, that's fun of wildflowers and plants.

Lazy Acres RV Park: Lazy Acres is different from most campgrounds near us. They have mini golf, a splash pad, multiple playgrounds, frisbee golf, a game room, and more! Another thing that is interesting about Lazy Acres is that there are "train" rides for the kids, where one of the owners drives around a lawnmower with barrel carts trailing behind it. This amazing campground is located on 5486 32nd Ave, Center Point, IA. It's a bit far away, but it's worth the drive. As if all this isn't enough, they have something in mind for the cell-phone addicted teens as well. Free WiFi! But you should definitely spend your time with nature, and stay off twitter for awhile.

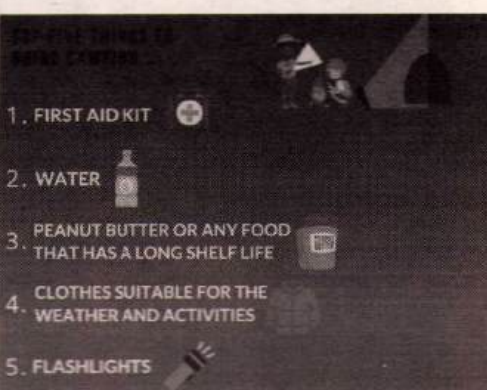
Pinicon Ridge Park Campground: Our next campground is a great place to walk, bike, and explore. From the Observation Tower to the Mary A. Lundby Memorial Bridge, Pinicon

Ridge is a beautiful place to camp. At night the bridge is lit with colorful lights, and everyone who walks on it is lit up by the dreamy glow. There is paddle boating, canoeing, and a playground to play on, as well as beautiful trails with wildlife, perfect for that artsy instagram post. This spectacular campground is located at 4729 Horseshoe Falls Rd, Central City. So it's a nice place to get away for the weekend.

Sugar Bottom Campground: Located on 2192 Mehaffey Bridge Road Northeast, Solon, IA, is Sugar Bottom Campground. Unlike the others Sugar Bottom has a lake for swimming, boating, and fishing. They also have a sand volleyball court, disc golf, and multiple playgrounds.

Linn County Conservation: Right next to Wickiup Hill is Linn County Conservation. There is trails, parks, playgrounds, geocaching, horseback riding, and fishing. Wickiup also has an observatory, shooting range, and learning center. So it's a great place to camp if you want to have a lot of different activities available.

With so many campgrounds and outdoor adventures in Iowa, there is no reason so stay inside all summer. We aren't getting any younger, so we should take the chance to explore while we still can. Plus who doesn't love a good s'more?



Being prepared for a camping trip is the key to a successful trip. Here are some things to bring that will help.

Must-have summer reads

By: Rachel Wilkey @RachelWilkey

When summer begins and the days get hotter, the free time amounts get longer. Maybe you or someone you know is an avid reader, or maybe you just need to find something to seem more intelligent while on the beach, soaking in the sunlight. There are many books you dive into, before you dive into the pool. Summer reads can be separated into certain genres, realistic fiction, sci fi, romance, fantasy, and historical fiction. Separated by genre, these are the books to read to make the summer filled with phonetic bliss.

Realistic Fiction

Realistic Fiction is just like real life, but with a little extra drama added to it, for flare. It's almost impossible to find a genuinely good realistic fiction book that won't make you cry tears of joy, or sadness. Most realistic fiction books deal with current or serious issues like mental illness, or societal problems. If this genre sounds appealing to you maybe your perfect read is *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas which deals with race issues that America still faces. If your still not over *The Fault in Our Stars*, maybe you read John Green's new novel *Turtles All the Way down*. Realistic Fiction can be the best cure if your real life is too much, or not enough.

Sci-Fi

Scientific Fiction, is a broad spectrum of books. It can be from Aliens to a utopian society. Maybe you don't know what else there is to life after reading *The Hunger Games*, or *Divergent*. Except finding a new sci fi book is not too far away. If the idea of the perfect society is your cup of tea you should read *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman. If you want the opposite and would rather read about a world that's already been ruined, read *Shatter Me* by Tahereh Mafi. Science Fiction is a large variety of futuristic, or progressive stories that could change your summer.

Romance

Romance novels, or series are the sickly sweet stories that people can't help but pick them up and drink in the words. Romance is

not for everyone, but for those who dream of forbidden love, or the daydream of the boy next door, romance might be the choice novel for you. Books like *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* by Jenny Han will be there to fulfill stereotypes of high school, while filling you bubbling teenage nostalgia. If a cheesy romance isn't something you want, reading books like *Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Rowell will give you a kick of reality mixed with young love. Romance is for those who dream of being in love, or already are.

Fantasy

Dragons, Witches, and mythical creatures. That may sound like a nerdy version of Lions, Tigers, and Bears, but it's the tell-tale signs of fantasy novels. A Fantasy novel is the wondrous imagination that blooms in people's minds from a young age. Books like *Harry Potter* and *The Percy Jackson* series are the first things aimed at kids to start a love in reading. Why? Fantasy books are the action packed stories we would never face in real life. It's experiencing the impossible without living it. A book to read for that impossible feeling is *Throne of Glass* by Sarah J. Maas, or if you want a bit more magic the book for you is *Caraval* by Stephanie Garbers. Fantasy is a blurred reality that will keep you gripping the page hanging on the edge of every word.

Historical Fiction

Historical fiction is exactly what it sounds like, a book set in a historical time with a storyline that isn't part of history. Maybe it's a story from The Civil War, or even The Civil rights movement. While Historical Fiction isn't for everyone, there are some stories that could potentially change your views of the world. Those stories are *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, a story set in World War 2 with a story that will leave you in splinters, or *Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys which will break your heart and slowly put it back together. Historical fiction can be for entertainment, but it can also be used as a tool to spark an interest in certain events.

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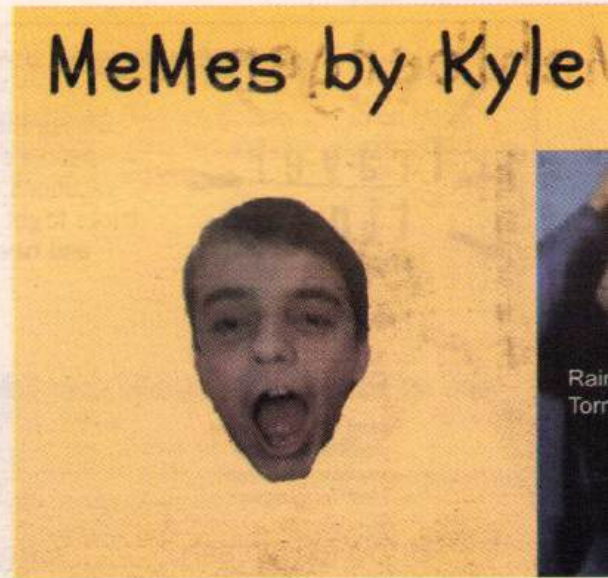
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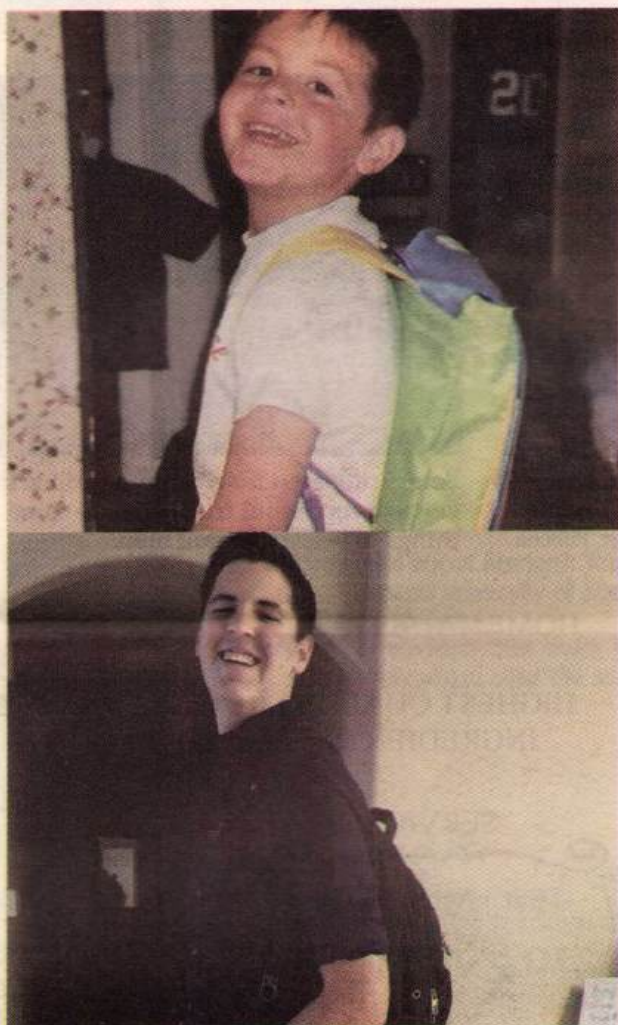
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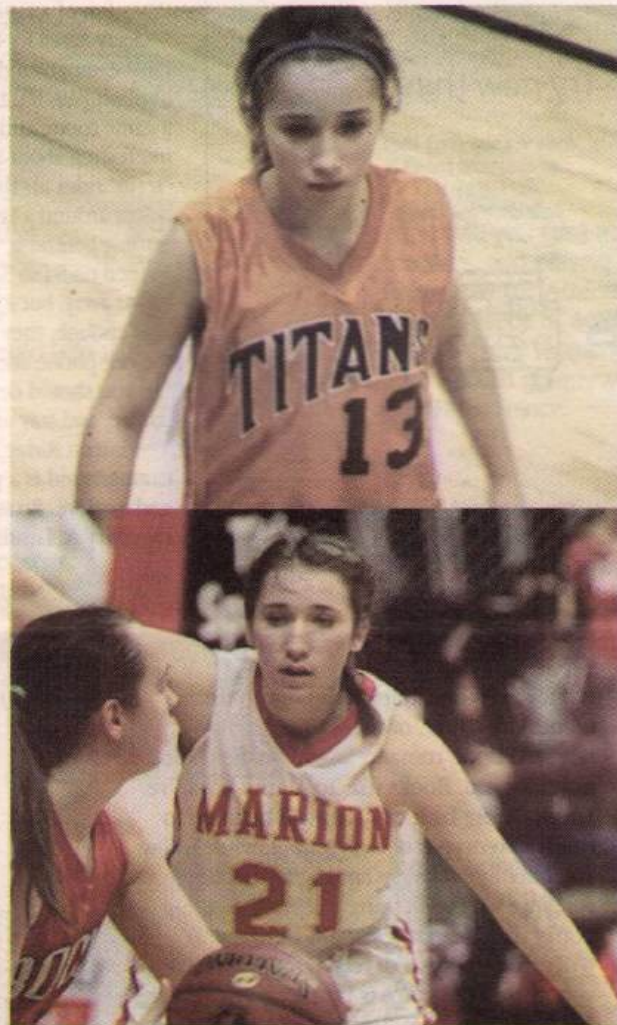


Seniors, before and after...

Bobby Lockhart



Mia Laube



Kalista Reyes



What is your opinion on growing up?



"It's good, because there is no more high school. College is way better than high school."
- Jacob Oliver Lamb, '18

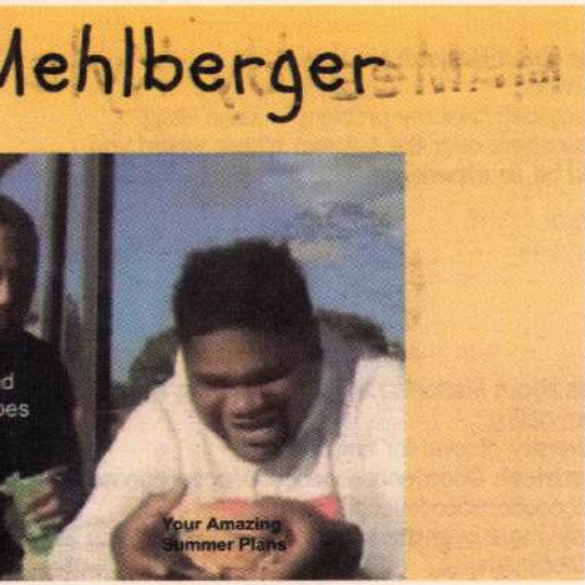
"I think it's good because change is good. Sometimes you need change."
- Brianna Huegel, '18



"I think its been good growing up, but sometimes I wish I could go back to when I was young."
- Paige Wieneke, '18

"It's a part of life and you have to try and make the best of it. Life is about learning from your mistakes, and what to do and what not to do."
- Brady Bartz, '18





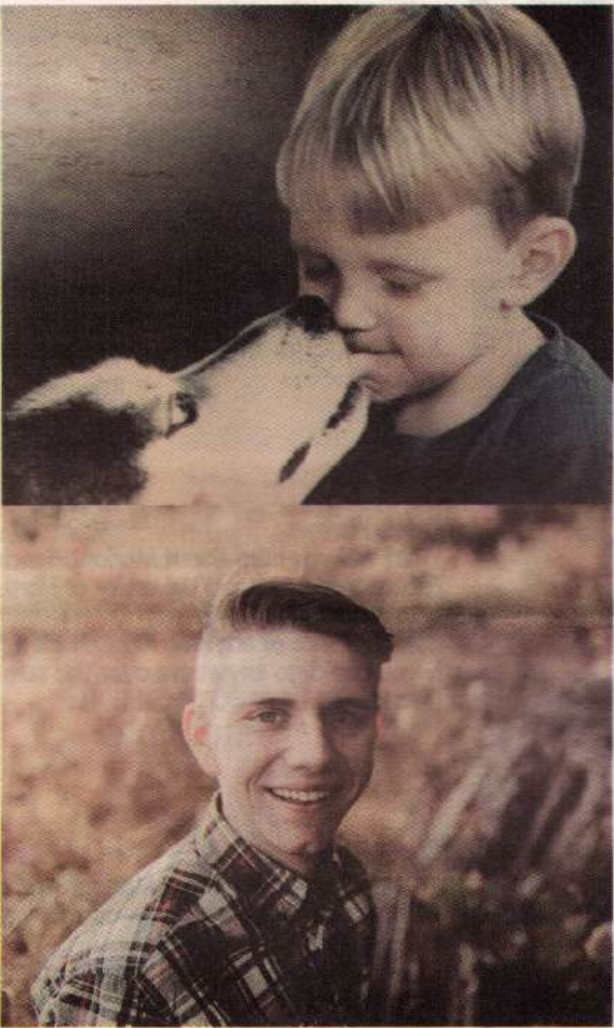
When you're told to park in the tennis courts.



Katie Hemann



Nick Hooper

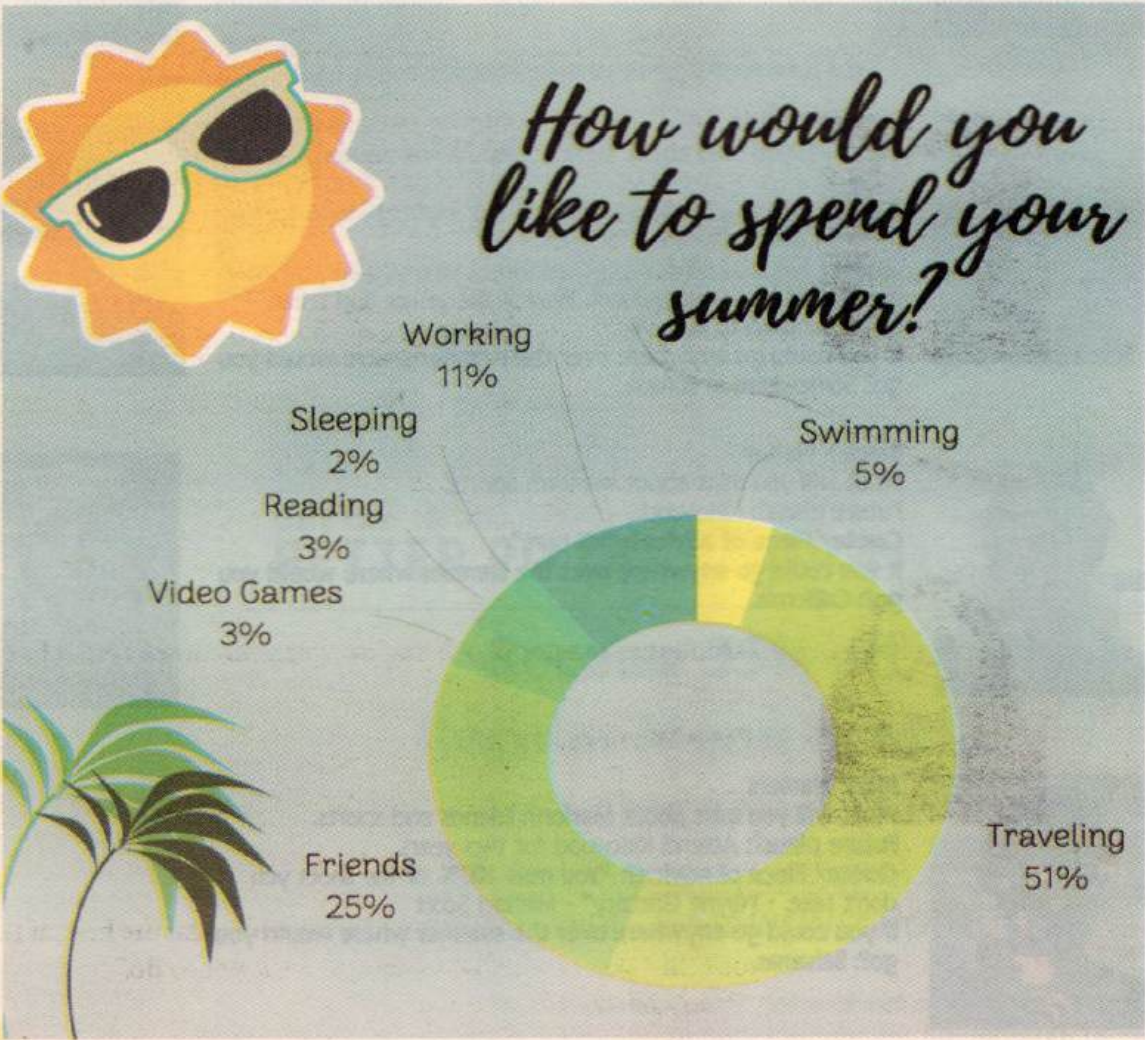


The last summer...

By Jenna Sackett @Jenna32818873

The school year is coming to its end, and for some it's the last time they'll countdown the seconds till the bell rings for summer vacation. The whole year they've known it would be their last, but now that it's so close it's real to them. This summer we will lose our senior class of 2018, as they go on with their future. Cole Quint, senior, is one of them. He plans on spending his last summer working and going to the beach. He is starting a job in construction to work on houses. He says that he's not to stressed about this being his last summer, and he's pretty care-free. Although he's not freaking out about it being his last summer, he still wants it to be different from the rest, and he has some plans for his perfect summer. "Make a lot of money, and hang out with friends as much as possible," said Quint. He has enjoyed the years of summer and remembers his favorite summer memory of going to the Dominican with his family, and he never wants it to end. Being an adult this summer might make some people not have as much fun this summer; but for Quint he says that he won't let it stop him. Quint only has one thing to tell people about how to have a good last summer. "Make sure you can do all the things you want before

you can get into too much trouble," said Quint. Emily Kriz, senior, is also ready for summer. She plans on spending her summer working to save up for college, and making memories with her friends. "Have fun and enjoy the time you have," said Kriz. "You probably won't talk to these people after college." Although this summer is mostly about getting ready for college, she still remembers the fun times of road tripping with her friend Samantha Garbers. Kriz doesn't want her summers as a student to end, but she doesn't want them to continue either. "I'm a mix of both I think, I'm ready for what's going to come," said Kriz. This may be the last summer for the seniors before they go off to the adult world, but it is certainly not the end of their summer fun. Hopefully, they will remember the fun times they had when they were students at MHS and years from now, when they are sitting under the hot sun, they will remember how much fun Marion was, and how fantastic their friends were who they shared their spectacular summers with. The years of childhood go by fast, and the summers go by even faster. This summer try to make it one that you'll remember forever. You aren't getting any younger.



Infographic by Jenna Sackett

Saying Goodbye

By: Sophie Reider @sophdispenser



High school is 4 years that everyone is destined to hate, 4 years of wanting to walk out of those doors and

not look back, and 4 years of dreading the moment it actually happens. The senior class is leaving. This happens every year, we say goodbye to our dearest friends, and cry all over their red robes flicking a tassel out of our faces as we hug them. In the weeks leading up to the big day all you can hear the seniors say is the number of days they have left and how happy they will be when they won't walk these halls again.

What is never mentioned what is going to be missed. Things like accidentally napping on the green couch, hearing Mr. Mitchell or Mr. T from 6 classrooms away, bringing in food for foreign language parties to get just a little extra credit. Or walking by Ms. Mary and always stopping to talk about your day. Things like never actually touching the book you were supposed to read for English, doing every single Mixed Review Friday morning, hearing that one teacher's lectures in that one english class and accidentally nodding off. We will miss the leaky ceilings, dodging around the trash cans in the lunchrooms, we will miss the awful flickering, fluorescent lights in each of the classrooms, we might even miss the wifi that never works, or the one printer in the library that is starting to give out.

Walking away is going to feel good, the satisfaction of finally being done is going to be overwhelming, but there is a tinge of sadness around every corner, like the frayed edges of a forgotten picture. What is going to happen to the rest of the people in your class? Those people that you smile at in the halls, but you

aren't friends with, the random people that are easy to talk to, or the one weird kid in every class, are we ever going to talk them again? Or that kid that used to be your best friend in elementary school, will you see them after you leave the US Cellular Center? These people that we see every day will disappear from our lives, leaving tiny holes we couldn't see coming. Our hearts will unexpectedly turn into beehives and we will be scared, for a while. But that is just the thing, as we walk out of the door we walk into a new one. New people will greet us, and come into our lives. Our beehives will fill with honey, and opportunity will shine from the highest peaks. Whatever the future holds it is holding it for us. The seniors will be leaving behind a comfortable life, with comfortable friends, and comfortable places. But to be comforted you have to leave your comfort zone, and to fly you have to fall. Every cheesy quote you ever read now applies to us, the senior class. Because we are leaving, finally. The double doors that are so difficult to get open are going to close behind us for the last time. We all know we are leaving behind a place that treated us well, the senior class can go to college with bright eyes, because this place taught us how to look on the light side.

This place that has consumed our waking moments, and even sleeping ones, was nothing like the movies so desperately trying to capture the spirit. Even though there were no dance breaks, or epic clique battles, or other terrible movie cliches, our school was still somehow better than those movies because it was real for us, and the smell is proof of just how real it can be. This crappy old high school, with its 600 students will always be here. But the class for the class of 2018, it's time for us to move onto better things, it is our time to finally move on. Our days have run up, it's time for us to go, but first, take a second and look back and the school that raised us.

Seniors

By: Summer Williams @summerrose2001

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENTS

CHLOE RICE

"Finally winning the state championship with my girls."

NEIL SHARMA

"The time the tennis team won Wamac for the first time in history."

JACOB BURHITE

"Everything."

FRANCINE JACKSON

"My experience with track and field, cause I qualified at state. The team members are so nice, we are a family and we look out for each other."

CALISTA DITTMER

"Cheering at football games."

SAMANATHA GARBERS

"Austin Piper asking me to prom on stage at the Marion Masquerade."

JACK EICHHORN

"My junior year after the first day of school, when Bradley Burnell and Hunter Burg got in a fight. They were door dinging each other's cars."

SHEA BOHLAND

"When Kian Weimer gave Olivia Webber like fifty bananas for secret santa."

KAITYLIN ASKELSON

Making finals at Lincoln East."

KATIE HEMANN

"Making finals in Nebraska."

SOPHIE REIDER

When Axel Zumwalt took out a ceiling tile in the storage room, went to the other side of the room and hit another one, and a bunch of apples came rolling out of the ceiling."

ELAINA KRUSER

During band camp we camped out at the school, and Carter Lantermans was the nug(get) plug that night."

LEVI HERR

"The tennis team, I'll miss everything like practices and meets."

CALEB WAGNER

"Beating CCA junior year football."

BRIANNA HUEGEL

"Being involved in show choir, it was a good experience and the people were really nice, it was like my second family."

HUNTER JOHNSON

"Getting involved in sports."

DAWSON KIRK

"Winning state track last year."

SARAH MILLER

"Park At The TenniS COuRtS."

KAYLEA DODD

"Marion Winter Guard placing fifth at the state dance finals in Des Moines."

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Becoming environmentally friendly

Saving the planet one step at a time to enhance life on Earth.

By: Leah Kray @leah_kray

Modern day trash cans overflow with plastic Starbucks cups, wrappers, straws, eating utensils, water bottles and paper plates. Consumerism in this day and age is depended upon convenience, which results in wasteful, one time use products. According to Petz Scholtus from Treehugger, 50 billion plastic water bottles are bought each year, and of those 50 billion, 80% of them end up in landfills, even though there are recycle programs in effect. Wasteful habits are a serious problem to the planet, however there are many alternatives to combat this pressing issue.

Using disposable items is a quick fix anyone can convert to. For example, use a ceramic plate instead of a paper plate, along with reusable utensils instead of plastic. Paper plates are often used to avoid doing the dishes, however, if a person washes their plate directly after eating there will be minimal items to clean with no hassle.

A simple adjustment to coinciding with earth is to adhere to using reusable water bottles instead of plastic ones. According to Petz Scholtus from

Treehugger, bottled water costs 1,000 times more than tap water. Filling an everyday water bottle will save thousands of dollars each year instead of adding an unnecessary item to the grocery list each week.

Another way to conserve resources is to unplug cords from outlets when they're not in use. This will save a substantial amount of energy, and can prevent fires. After a device is fully charged, simply unplug it for safety as well as for the betterment of the environment.

A large amount of waste comes from excess food. According to Nick English from Greatist, 40% of food in America gets thrown away. When a person is cooking or preparing food, they should only make an amount they know they can consume. If there is leftovers after a meal is made, place it in a tupperware dish and save it for later. Actually eating leftovers is a great way to reduce waste, instead of letting leftovers sit in the refrigerator for days afterward while other meals are being made.

No matter the scenario, there are always ways to reduce a carbon footprint to enhance life on earth.

ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY

FOOD WASTE

Put leftover food into a container to eat later or give away to someone in need, instead of throwing it away.



UNPLUG

Unplug chargers and electronic devices after they're no longer in use.



WATER BOTTLES

Use reusable water bottles instead of plastic, disposable ones. This will in turn save money by not having to buy packaged water.



REUSE

Use ceramic plates instead of plastic or paper plates to reduce waste.



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TIPS TO A "SUMMER BODY"

Drink more water

It is commonly recommended the average person should have eight eight ounce glasses a day which is about a half gallon, this should be increased with more physical exercise.

Eat healthy

Try to eat every food group throughout the day with the majority being fruits, vegetables, and protein. Cutting out most sugars is also a good way to eat healthy.

Control portion sizes

The amount of food consumed is also a major factor in maintaining health. Portion sizes vary depending on each person. Charts can be found online that show how much of each food type that should be consumed.

Exercise

How much someone gets active is an important factor. It is recommended that people get around 60 minutes of physical activity a day. Starting out that may be a lot so beginning with a shorter time might work best.

Focus on core

Any physical activity will benefit a person trying to get in shape, but focusing on core workouts can advance the "summer body" one may want by toning muscles.

Get enough rest

When you think of getting in shape, sleeping usually doesn't come to mind but it actually benefits a person more than one might think. It can improve mood and increases energy that can be used for exercising.



By: Madigan Crowley @CrowleyMadigan

Where the wild things are (in the ecosystem)

By: Summer Williams @summerrose2001

The circle of life, it's something kids learn about while watching "The Lion King." Simba's dad Mufasa says to him, "Everything you see exists together in a delicate balance," in relation to the ecosystem they live in. He shares that every part about them helps one another, and same goes for the other animals. Now think about animals that are dying, not just one, but their whole population. If they die the ecosystem is gonna go all mumbo jumbo. If there's no bees, there's no pollination. If elephants die, seed dispersal for trees is gonzo. Even if we don't know the importance of these species it's still there. And more needs to be known about saving them.

Elephant poaching has been banned in Africa for numerous years after they landed onto the endangered species list. But, the population is still declining rapidly. Unfortunately not everyone is a rule follower, and money hungry groups share no remorse and are poaching anyway. The crude act is causing elephants to almost reach the point of extinction, and groups like Ivory Ella are doing their part to combat that.

Ivory Ella creates original designs selling them on t-shirts, leggings, active wear, water bottles, really almost anything. The best part is, ten percent of the profits go towards battling the fight against ivory poaching, and the impact is working. Stores like these keep consumers happy, they get to wear cute clothes and have that little sweet feeling in their chest, knowing they've

done something good for the environment. Although poaching is still happening, it's decreasing and the hope for their comeback is becoming a reality.

On a brighter note, there's species that have almost been wiped out completely, but with huge effort they're thriving once again. Bees. For a short moment CCD (Colony Collapse Disorder), was on the rise. Thousands of bees were dying and no one really knew why. (We still really don't know). Even though knowledge was dim, people still talked all about it. 'Save the Bees' was a token phrase used, and people shared what they could on how to help.

Doing things such as planting bee-friendly gardens could be helpful or farmers could even avoid using certain pesticides that are harmful to the bees. Or simply, not killing them when you see them, works too. Eventually the bees bounced back, and now they're buzzing freely. Awareness is a simple and effective thing, when people know what to do they do it. (sometimes).

There's a long list of animals that are endangered, but there's also a long list of organizations that are doing a lot to help. It can be a little time consuming to research, but chances are it'll be worth it. Just think of the precious lives that could be saved by donating or informing. Protecting our ecosystems is really important, imagine life without fresh fruit because there were no bees to pollinate. Horrific! Every animal, insect and creature is essential, it's all about the circle of life.



Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

The news is daunting, and these students tackle it with ease.

By: Sophie Reider @sophdispenser

If you've ever turned on a TV to a news station, or watched any late night TV, you know our world has turned into a burning fiery pit of despair, and that may be underestimating it. Following the news is something that not many high schoolers do, whether it's because of lack of motivation, adamant avoidance, or just not knowing where to start, many of High schoolers only watch or look at the news in social studies class every now and then. Except there are some people who are fighting to keep up with the news, even if it means almost drowning in the fake.

Kyle Holmes, senior, tries to keep up with the news as much as possible. "It is important to know what is going on in the world especially when it effects you," Holmes said. Holmes tries to keep up with not only international news, but local too. He thinks it is one of the most important things you can do, and it isn't that hard. "It is important to keep up with the news" Holmes said. To start Holmes recommends watching the local news sources, like KCRG. Keeping up with this type of news helps to keep in touch with your community and gets you more active in the world. "After getting into local news you can start branching out." Holmes stated. Holmes says one of the only downsides of keeping up with the news is all of the arguing you will do, trying to debate the better side.

Keeping up with the news is something Grace

Hinrichs, freshman tries to do on a regular basis also. She wants everyone to watch the news to. "It helps to get into the conversation, and it is good to be educated in it," Hinrichs said. When following the news it is recommended to talk about it with your peers because it helps to achieve greater understanding, and gets more people active in watching local and national news. Grace believes there are certain downsides to watching the news. "You have the risk of believing all of the fake news that is circulating, and getting the feeling of 'oh my god our world sucks,'" Hinrichs explained.

"You can get the feeling of 'oh my god! Our world sucks.'"
- Grace Hinrichs, freshman

Hinrichs said to avoid news sites like Buzzfeed, because it is incredible, and never believe what you read on twitter. "Almost every news site is biased in some way" Hinrichs said.

richs said. It is important to read more than one article on the news issue. Hinrichs also believes that the more you keep up with the news the more impact you will have, especially if you start young. "The more informed you are the more things will change." Hinrichs said.

The News is hard to follow, it's mostly negative and it is sometimes hard to trust, but if more people start paying attention to news sources, and start a conversation about important issues it could help improve the situation. People who pay attention to the world are the firefighters against the hellfire that is our current situation, so it's time to pick up a hose and join them.

Like insects or dice insects

By: Kyle Mehlberger @KMehlberger

Insects are all around us, in the grass below us, in the sky around us, and the trees above us. Some think these bugs, thinking of them as pests with no purpose but to make our lives miser-

able. But others love and adore these creatures, thinking of them as an equal on the same level of importance as humans. Students were asked about there opinion on these, biting, crawling, flying, and nesting creatures, and these were there varied responses.

"specifically there's some bees that I hate and fear, so I fear being stung."
-Julia Funck, '21

"I just think they're nasty, they don't hurt you, but they're weird looking."
-Brooke Glasbrenner, '20

"They just freak me out I guess,"
-Andy Byrant, '19

"I like bugs just fine because all bugs have a purpose in the ecosystem, except mosquitos,"
-Grayson Barnett, '21

"As long as they aren't messing with me I don't care,"
-Grant Brown, '18

Trusted News Sites

The most trusted

- BBC
- CNN
- Economist
- NPR
- PBS
- Washington Post
- Time Mag
- local news
- Britannica
- Guardian

The least trusted

- Buzzfeed
- Fox
- MSNBC
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Youtube
- Yahoo
- Blaze
- Wikapedia
- Huffington Post

Infographic By: Sophie Reider

A list of news sites that are reliable when giving information, and those that aren't particularly honest.

Don't be a slob, get a summer job

By: Kyle Mehlberger @KMehlberger

A summer job is a good way to get money and experience, along having something to do over the summer besides just staying home and playing video games. The summer also let's people to get a lot more time to work, with still allowing them to hang out with friends.

It also allows the stress of school work and work-work not to happen simultaneously, making it a much easier and stress-free time. Many people would just find a day job at McDonalds, Burger King or WalMart, but Karis Holley, senior, is doing something besides all of that.

Holley likes to run in track, do photography, and hang out with her friends. She also has a total of 5 siblings, and during the school year she is working at the clothes store Justice and also babysits for people. During the summer though, she plans to start working at a daycare, Calvary Christian Preschool And Daycare. "I just really love working with kids," Holley said, but this is not the only reason she has decided to take up this particular job.

She wishes to gain money for college and experience with children from this job. "Kind of just to get me ready for having kids when I'm older," Holley said. And the job pays well, so it will help out with paying off college for her soon to come college experience.

This job doesn't really affect summer for her that much, as she still will have a job like before. Holley still will be able to find time to hang out with friends, as the hours of her job are also pretty flexible.

One of her friends works there, so she has someone to talk to there. Holley is not the only person planning to do something to get money over the summer, Samuel Murphy, freshman, is going to work somewhere over this summer as well, but it's a bit different than caring for kids.

Murphy likes to play Fortnite, reading books and playing soccer, but all of this will have to be put to the side during the summer, because he will work at a Dupont Pioneer's, which is a producer of hybrid seeds for agricultural purposes in the United States. "We control how the corn is made," Murphy said.

A lot of his brothers also work there, along with a bunch of kids from Marion, so they can get money over the summer.

This is the first job he has had, and so far he really enjoys the job.. "It will provide a lot of money I need for the future," Murphy said. Money is one of the reasons Murphy is doing this job, as according to him, it pays a lot of it. "It's a really job to do but it's fun and pays a lot of money," He said.

So the summer may be filled with adventures for some of us, a lot of students it is filled with hard work and labor, with fun on the side. These jobs are a sort of fun way to get money, and the summer let's people have much more time to work than during the school year. The reason for getting these jobs may be different for different people, but it's always for a good reason.

"Summer definitely helps with money and you still get to hang with friends due to flexible hours and I recommend it when you are old enough to get a job," Holley said. So get a job, and there will be no probs.

What kind of Job will you have over the summer?



Infographic by: Kyle Mehlberger

Students were polled on what type of job they will be working over the summer, or if they'll even have one at all.

The new "normal" family

The unique structures that make families their own.

By: Jenna Sackett @Jenna32818873



Photo provided by: Cameron Greeno

Cameron Greeno '21, stands beside part of his family (his mom and his brother).

Throughout the years the image of families has changed. A family is not just biological, and it's not just mom, dad, and little Bobby. Many students at MHS, and around the United States have divorced, or single parents.

Alana Finley, sophomore, is one of them. She has had a single parent for about a year and a half now. Finley lives with her dad and sister. Her family is very close because despite being so small. High schoolers often have to get to places around town for practices, and performances. Other family members help Finley and her sister get to where they need to be when her dad can not. People don't think of Finley differently, or treat her differently, because of her family. She thinks it because single parents are so common now a days. "It's pretty normal, so no one really tries to help," said Finley.

Cameron Greeno, sophomore, has divorced parents. His time with them is split pretty equally. He lives with his dad and stepmom some of the time,

and the other times he lives with his mom and her boyfriend. Greeno has a younger brother in 6th grade, as well as older stepsister who is in her twenties. Once again Greeno's family is very close. Greeno also thinks that single and divorced parenting is becoming more of a norm. "I think that it just seems like it's becoming more common in America. Which is interesting to me. Marriage isn't what it used to be," said Greeno.

The fact that both Greeno and Finley are close with their families just proves that there are a million different ways a family can look, and still function. There isn't one simple image of the perfect family, there is no such thing. All families have their ups and downs, and are dysfunctional in their own way. 43% of the fifty students polled at MHS said that they have a single or divorced parent. This is almost half, so Finley isn't wrong that it's becoming more popular.

All families have their own problems. No family is perfect, no matter how much it looks like it is. Kids come to school everyday saying

that they hate their parents because of a small disagreement. They forget to consider the children who haven't seen one parent in a long time, or have lost one. Words can be very powerful. When a student or child says they 'hate' a parent just because they might have grounded them is should not be a norm.

A family member shouldn't leave when times get hard. A family should be there for each other when the times get rough. They should be there to make a bad day better. To quote Lilo and Stitch "Ohana means family. Family means nobody gets left behind or forgotten." No matter how big or small a family is, the important thing is that they are there for each other and act like a family.

Many high school students are caught up in their lives, and forget to spend time with their "annoying" families.

The truth is, in the end you might just wish that you had spent more time with them. So, before it's too late, spend time with whatever type of family you have.

Trebling from the impact

By: Jacob Shaffer @jacobshaffer_18

Music is one of the most common forms of entertainment, and artists have been making music for centuries. With a form of entertainment so ever evolving, a person may not think music can impact someone's life. Seth Paulson senior, who has been playing the trumpet since he was seven, has had his life positively impacted by music.

Paulson plays mainly trumpet, but started his music career with piano. "I started piano lessons because my mom forced me to, and I kept with it because it was fun to perform in front of others," Paulson said. Another person who has had their life impacted largely by music is Adeline Shindelar, junior, started her music career in a similar way. "My parents wanted me to play an instrument and I wanted to too, it was something new and different," Shindelar said. Ever since taking piano lessons, Paulson has continued playing music multiple bands for the high school. "I play pop for showband, classical for concert, jazz for jazz band, and a little bit of everything for marching band," Paulson said. Shindelar also plays in various bands for the high school, and

made it to all state for playing trumpet. "Music has been a great part of my life and it's something I do everyday, whether I'm playing it, listening to it, or dancing to it," Shindelar said.

Paulson plays music not only because it is fun to perform, but for other various positives music offers. "Music has expanded my friend group, made me more at

peace with reality, and it has made me more cooperative," Paulson said. After high school, Paulson plans on continuing to play music in the future. "As if they could stop me, music is a great medium of expression, I wouldn't give it up for anything,"

Paulson said. Even though Paulson has been playing music since a young age, it still takes a lot of practice to be good at playing an instrument.

With music being one of the oldest forms of expression, it can be a daunting task to put in so much practice to get good at it. "If at first it doesn't sound great, stick with it because music is something that stays with you your whole life," Paulson said. There are many ways music can impact someone's life, it just takes a lot of practice.

"Music has expanded my friend group, made me more at peace with reality, and it has made me more cooperative."

- Seth Paulson, senior



Photo by: Jacob Shaffer

Seth Paulson, '18, plays a song on the trumpet in the band's storage room.

Just a little stitious

By: Sophie Reider @sophdispenser

When browsing through the internet, or watching YouTube videos on autoplay, one might come across a mysterious video. A ghost sighting, a Ouija board experience gone wrong, someone barely getting hit by a bus, or other phenomenal occurrences. Some look at these strange sightings and see the magic of video editing, really good acting, or well-practiced tricks, while others, watch the videos repeatedly, taking it as proof of what they have said for ages. These people are known as superstitious, and they walk our halls.

Samantha Sorenson, freshman believes in the impossible. "My mom was always interested in ghosts and stuff and we always go on ghost tours so I guess I believe in them too," Sorenson explains. Sorenson thinks the paranormal can walk the halls, but They can't hurt us. "Ghosts are an energy that is in the air, they can probably move things around, but they can't kill us. That would be insane," Sorenson said. The presence of ghosts is a debated topic. Are there dead people floating around the air, trying to get in touch with living relatives?

Kaylea Dodd, Senior, doesn't think so. "It all just seems so bogus," Dodd exclaimed. Dodd believes that spirits and ghost can't sit around waiting for us. They probably don't exist. With today's editing and special effects, it's hard to tell what is real, and what is just a green screen. This is what makes Dodd a skeptic and what makes most people question the legit powers of their Ouija board.

To people like Kaylea,

Samantha has proof. "When I was little My grandparents lived in this house that used to be owned by a lady named Ursenell. She liked to play with little kids. My grandma set me down for a nap one day and when she came to check on me apparently I said 'you never came, but she did'" Sorenson recalls. Her whole family has had encounters with the creepy ghost that lurks the halls of the house, from her mom to her aunt. Dodd explained that people can believe what they want, She just chooses to leave the paranormal alone, and to explain it with more ordinary objects.

While Dodd doesn't believe in Casper the friendly ghost, she does believe in another superstition: luck. With all the crazy things Dodd has seen she doesn't see how people aren't lucky. "There are people who just barely get hit by a bus, or people who win the lottery more than once. It can't just be coincidence. This is where Sorenson disagrees, luck can't be real, it's skill. Sorenson takes the approach that people make their own luck. Everything given to you was for a reason.

Both disagree on the terms of being superstitious. Are people haunted by unruly spirits, or are they plagued with bad luck? The two different types of supernatural occurrences can be debated for centuries, but one thing's true: Neither are very superstitious, they are both just a little stitious.

Are you
Superstitious?

yes	51%
no	48%

Infographic by: Sophie Reider

A poll was taken asking students if they believe in the supernatural or luck 51% said yes while the remaining 48% answered no.

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Photo By: Rachel Wilkey

Brandon Hamilton, '19, new Red Nation leader, gets thrown up into the air by the student section after the football team scores a touchdown.

Red hot section leaders

By: Summer Williams @summerrose2001

Each year the seniors graduate, and the remaining classes continue to move up in their ranks. Traditions are passed on and legacy's are left behind. Red Nation, has been run by Zach Cochran and Mitchell Takes, seniors, for the past year. The decision of who would take their place was made with good thought in hand. The future leader? Brandon Hamilton, junior.

leader as he was always cheering loudly and willing to do stuff so others would enjoy the game with him," Cochran said. Hamilton isn't scared of any fun. At football games it became a common sight to see him being thrown in the air after the team scored touchdowns. He's super willing to put himself out there in order to make sure the student section is enjoying the ride.

Along with Hamilton, Guyer is going to be his right hand man for enthusiasm and entertainment. "With every co-leader you want someone who really brings energy into the game time," Cochran said. Guyer was just the perfect fit, he does just that. Guyer was always at every game with tons of energy pouring out. "Getting others to cheer, showing insane amounts of spirit, and really just being the life of the party in the stands,"

Co-leader? Graham Guyer, junior.

Cochran and Takes both wanted to make sure the new position being fulfilled weren't covered by anyone unfit. It was also important for them to not just choose anyone over popularity, it was strictly who was the best. "Brandon was a chosen

Cochran added, Guyer didn't put in any half-hearted cheers at games, when he came so did the school spirit.

Hamilton is very excited for the upcoming year and knows people's expectations won't be let down. "I think you can expect a lot from us. Graham and I bring a lot of energy and hype to games," Hamilton said. Being the ones chosen was something that made them feel a little honorable. "Graham and I both like to have fun and get loud during all the games for each sport and we're excited for the opportunity to be involved with the students," Hamilton said.

When new leaders are chosen, some people can be quick to judge. Some might assume their picked due to status, but Cochran was quick to shut that view down. "We chose them not because of popularity in the school, it was just who we thought resembled us the most," Cochran said. Choosing the new leaders was purely out of love for school spirit. Someone who can rile up a crowd, stay energetic, and just be a leader is exactly what Takes and Cochran were looking for. "I know we wanted somebody that showed all these traits," Cochran said. Hamilton and Guyer ended up being that perfect fit.

Hamilton and Guyer are ready for the upcoming sport season. "Both of us are looking to bring a lot of fun hype at the games," Hamilton said. They want everyone to enjoy the game and have a fun time cheering a long. "Red Nation will be a lot of fun and we encourage kids to come to all the games and cheer with us," Hamilton added.

Sport games at almost every high school have fiery hot student sections filled with tons of energy, fun themes and games are played to get students fired up. Picking the right leaders was a necessity with a new year on its way. With Hamilton and Guyer leading Red Nation, the flame of school spirit is bound to burn even brighter.

You got a friend in me

A look into friendships between freshman and seniors.

By: Jacob Shaffer @JacobShaffer_18

Most people know the stereotype of high school, the upperclassmen absolutely despise the freshmen class. Almost every movie about high school reinforces this stereotype and have turned it into more of a school tradition to hate every freshman to ever exist. While some of these outdated beliefs might still hold true, most of the upperclassmen have moved on, and some seniors have even made friends with freshmen.

David Reisner, freshman, is just one of the freshmen to have made friends with a senior, Jordan Montoya, senior. Reisner and Montoya met through band camp, and have known each other a short time before the school year started. The two didn't fully make acquaintances until marching band. "We met at marching band orientation, I had missed

the first day so he worked hard to catch me up," Reisner said.

Montoya had known Reisner even a little before band camp. "I kinda knew him already in eighth grade, and I just kinda talk to him because he was in my trumpet section," Montoya said. After Montoya helped Reisner out, their friendship started to take shape. "He reached out to me and it was very unconditional since there was nothing interesting about me as a freshman. For him to altruistically reach out to me as a friend was special," Reisner said.

The difference in their age hasn't discouraged their friendship at all, it has only improved because of it, even if they can't relate with each other about everything. "He can appreciate my lack of maturity, but I can't empathize with his problems, like having a job," Reisner said. While

the two have made friends with each other, Montoya being a senior is leaving the school at the end of the year and they won't be able to see each other as often. "It's like the law of conservation of mass, the fact that he's leaving hasn't really hit me yet," Reisner said. Even though they may not be able to meet at school after this year, there are still many ways to stay in touch. "We have social media's, and I'm sure he'll come back to see where we're at, either through performance or by visiting," Reisner said. It may be harder because one of them is going to be in college, but both plan on staying in touch after this school year.

High school is a place full of stereotypes and traditions. Some are more true than others, but for two of the most different people in the school, a freshman and a senior, to overcome their differences and make friends and prove age is just a number is something special.

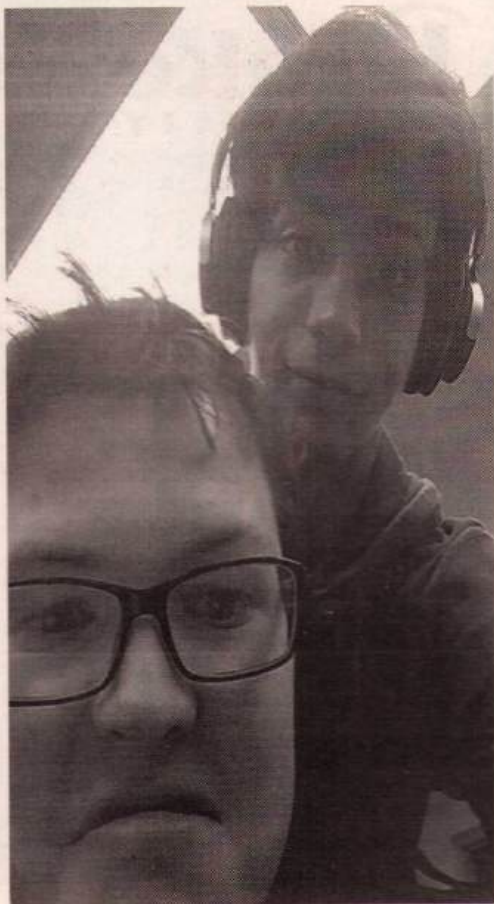


Photo provided by: Jordan Montoya

David Reisner, '21, and Jordan Montoya, '18, pose for a comedic selfie while hanging out.

Taking the final step

By: Patrick Bleadorn @p_bleadorn

At the end of the year, everyone has come or is coming to the full realization that they're moving on to the next chapter in their high school career. Granted, seniors are moving on to the first chapter in their post high school career, but the point still stands that people are moving on to the next chapter. For juniors, they are moving on to the last part of their high school career. Becoming a senior can sometimes be a scary notion. When someone becomes a senior, they're teetering on the line between being a kid and being an adult. Responsibilities are coming faster than a lot of people can handle, making this new step a stressful and daunting one. But for Trace Whitlock, junior, taking the next step isn't quite so terrifying.

So far, junior year has been easy for Whitlock. "I would say it's going as I planned it to," said Whitlock. If junior year is going well for Whitlock, senior year will be a breeze. "I feel pretty surprised that high school's gone by so fast," said Whitlock, "but I'm ready for the next chapter." To make it easier on himself, Whitlock doesn't see the need to change his methods.

"I'm going to go about senior year the same way I have the past three years: being dedicated to

my schoolwork," said Whitlock. Just because Whitlock doesn't plan on changing his strategy doesn't mean he isn't excited for senior year. "I'm excited to get scholarships and preparing to go to college for astrophysics," said Whitlock. Another student, Savannah Valvoda, junior, is getting ready for next year. "I'm excited to take loads of college classes to further my education in preparation for dentistry," said Valvoda. To help her get through her senior year, Valvoda plans to use her family to her advantage. "My brother is definitely going to help me through senior year, especially with figuring out what classes I need to take," said Valvoda. While Whitlock realizes that there are some less serious parts to senior year, he also realizes that there are some responsibilities.

Senior year can be the most exciting year of high school, but seniors still have to be responsible.

"Seniors have to be role models for the other classes," said Whitlock. "They also have to stay on top of preparing themselves for college or whatever they decide to do post high school." Where many students look at more responsibility with disgust, Whitlock looks at them with optimism. "I would

like senior year to revolve around more like what life is like out of school," said Whitlock, "rather than having senior year be like we're still kids." Although senior year presents a big step forward for juniors, they should rest easy, like Whitlock, knowing that senior year will be the year to remember.

"I feel pretty surprised that highschool's gone by so fast, but I'm ready for the next chapter."

- Trace Whitlock, junior

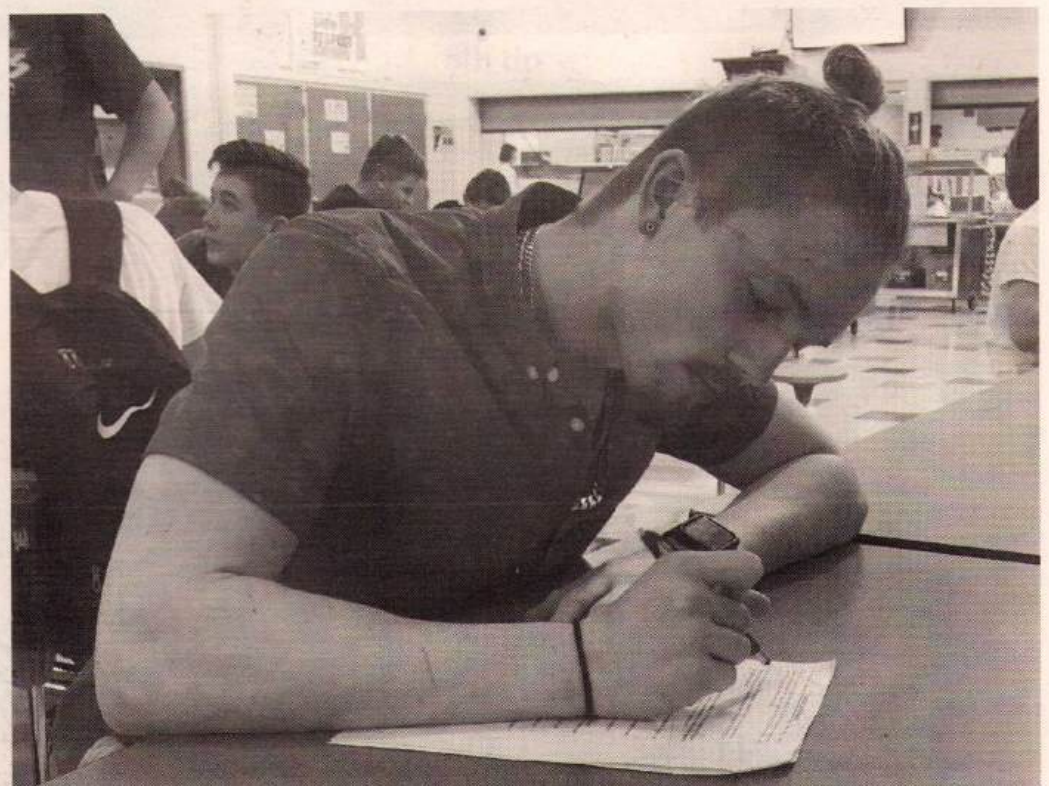


Photo by: Patrick Bleadorn

Trace Whitlock, '19, works on his Kirkwood Astronomy homework during his lunch period.

Preparing for send off



Devin Ahrendsen
Olivia Antonelli
Madison Berry
Connor Bjornsen
Zach Cochran
Hailey Conrad
Celia Daubs
Kaylea Dodd
Cameron Hankemeier
Devyn Hauser
Aubrie Hird

Ian Mahoney
Paige Martinson
Sarah Miller
Jordan Montoya
Isaiah Mork
Makaila Oldfield
James Osbon
Skye Reece
Alyssa Rose
Zehkiaha Ross

Jack Whitney
Jon Woodhouse
Ben Woods
Trevor Jones
Taylor Lerch
Abbie Lewis
Sam Waddington
Braden Walter
Rhys Regan
Carson Webster
Elia Aguilar-Lingo



Trey Robertson
Sophia Kabance
Andrea Landyut

Madison Roling
Kian Wiemer

Madison Baker
Vivian Le
Blair Brooks
Macey Lovell
Jacob Burhite
Vrunda Patel
Emma Collins
Cole Quint
Hunter Johnson



Chloe Feilmeier
Sam Garbers
Nick Hooper

Elaina Kruser
Seth Paulson



Elle Herold
Francine Jackson
Chloe Parenteau



Madi Baxa
Alex Lovejoy



Calista Dittmer
Levi Herr



Dylan Bourgeois
Colin Gorgen
Issac Keehner
Bobby Lockhart
Jevin Mandersheid
Caleb Wagner
Paige Wieneke

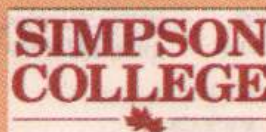
Chris Deeter
Katie Heman
Emily Kriz
Allie Lupkes
Hannah Olson
Sydney Walker



Shea Bohland
Kelsi Hundorf
Kenzie Redmond



Grant Meth
Sophie Reider



Bri Horrach



Bri Huegel



Hunter Tyo



Morgan Barenz



Mia Laube



Neil Sharma

Workforce

Cydney Berry
Micaela Dennis
Alexis Smith

Chase Clark
Kalista Reyes
Colton Wilkinson

Trade School

Andrew Bischoff
Tyler Topping

Adam McAllister



Caitlyn Smith



Anwir Algharib
Ryan Demuth



Cody Frost



Alyssa Looms
Logan Reeves
Cheyanne Thompson



Lukin Stople



Nile Venteicher



Cappra Svoboda