



Blue & White

A Weekly Production from the MHS Journalism Class

P.O. Box 580-Montezuma, IA 50171- www.montezuma-schools.org/SchoolNewspaper.aspx



¡TEQUILA! A snapshot from last year's variety show. (L-R) Preston Hirsch, Jude Teumer, Caymen DeJong, and Ben McClenathan jam out to the song Tequila at the variety show. This year, over 20 acts are prepped to entertain a packed crowd in the South Gym on March 23rd.

File Photo

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Girls' Track is under way

By Brayden Stockman

Spring is coming in Montezuma, and with it comes the track and field season at the high school. The high school girls began their practices on February 22nd, and they are already preparing to run their best.

Head coach Megan Carlson is ready to take on the coming season, stating, "We just want to get out and compete. We want to do well in our events, stay healthy, give another run at the conference title and get as many people to state as we can."

Although there have not been many practices, Carlson still has high hopes for all of her girls, saying that, "It's been cold, but it's been a lot of fun. We haven't had all of our girls yet because of state basketball, but it's been very enjoyable." The girls that participated in state basketball returned to practice on the 7th of March. They are now all working as hard

as possible to achieve their goals and the goals of all of the individuals.

However, there are still challenges that the coach has to overcome to be the best they can be. Carlson believes that the most difficult trials for the girls are going to be, "The weather, working to get everyone involved, and finding races to put people." However, she is ready to overcome these trials by, as she puts it, "Planning, organizing, and keeping a clear line of communication with athletes."

Carlson is personally working to improve the girls, and she does this through, as she puts it, "Researching different ways to help, along with staying positive and focused." She is preparing for the track meets so that all of the girls can look to her as a coach for their goals.

However, the coach isn't the only one who has to work hard to make the goals of the team of course,

as the girls also have to practice and weightlift to be the best they can be.

Carlson values girls that are hard workers and willing to do what's asked of them even though it may not be their favorite event. These girls are the ones that push themselves for the good of the team and to go to the state meet.

Though there may be many things to prepare for during the season, Carlson is still excited to get the season underway, stating, "I'm most excited for just working with all the girls, they're fun. They're a really good group"

The girls' first meet will be on March 19th at the SICL indoor meet at the Grinnell Fieldhouse. The Lew Lundy Relays at the Montezuma track will take place on April 17th, and Carlson encourages everybody to appear and support the Bravettes.



MEGAN CARLSON, left, is the head coach of the girls' track team at Montezuma. Carlson has been coaching track for 8 seasons at Monte. Over those years, she has had multiple athletes in the State Track Meet, including multiple 1A titles in several events. In addition to coaching track, she is an Elementary and Secondary Physical Education teacher.

Photo Credit: Brayden Stockman

Montezuma's Got Talent

Variety Show "Under the Stars" is coming on March 23rd.

By Chase Talbert

In less than two weeks, on March 23rd at 7pm in the South gym, the Montezuma Music Boosters, along with some band and vocal students and the band and vocal teachers themselves of course, are putting on a little show.

This show is, the Montezuma High School Variety Show, it will be commemorating its third consecutive year of existence with its, "Under the Stars," theme this time around. The Variety Show was created in order to showcase the talent of Montezuma's band and vocal students, while even highlighting some more speech and drama related performances like poetry pieces and acting as well.

Mrs. Roorda, Mrs. Burnett, Mrs. Pohlmann, and parents from the music boosters all see to it that the variety goes off without a hitch, the teachers help the students hone their skills and perfect their acts, while the music boosters form committees in order to setup and provide food for the event.

The students performing do not have their hands held through every step of the process like they may in Speech and Drama, they are responsible for picking their own pieces, memorizing them, and learning how to do them to the best of their ability.

After the students have done their best to prepare, if they are prepared, Mrs. Pohlmann, Mrs. Burnett, and Mrs. Roorda come in and help them fix the little things and assist them with blocking and any other tweaks that may need to be made to their act.

Whether or not they go on to perform is their own choice, if they work hard and they practice diligently this will be seen by the coaches and they will be allowed to perform, but no one is going to perform in the show with a half-baked act. The type of acts students are performing in this year's show are singing, instrumental, acting, poetry, and dancing. While Mrs. Pohlmann enjoys all of the acts in the Variety Show, but she would really love

to see a student perform as a comedian because, "that would be funny."

The average number of acts seen the last two years has been around 25, and if Mrs. Pohlmann's confidence in the student performers is any indication, they will all be fantastic and supremely entertaining for all those who choose to attend. The Variety Show is important and great for students because it gives them experience in front of a crowd, allows them to show off their talents, and lets everyone enjoy and celebrate all the hard work students put into the show.

Members of the community debating whether or not to attend should just come, because the acts will be great, the atmosphere, and the food as well. Finally, one last message from Mrs. Pohlmann for those students who are hesitant to try-out for the Variety Show, "Go for it, sometimes you don't know you how far you can go until you try."

MHS Journalism Staff to sell vintage yearbooks at conferences

By Carrie Jennings

The Montezuma High School Yearbook staff is conducting a vintage yearbook sale during parent-teacher conferences on Monday and Tuesday March 12th and 13th from 5:00 to 6:00 pm.

The MHS yearbook staff has been planning this sale for some time now: since before the first semester of this school year.

"We [the yearbook staff] have a bunch of yearbooks from past... years. Instead of throwing or giving them away, we thought it'd be a great fundraiser for the yearbook," Elizabeth Van Gorp, journalism advisor, explains.

Van Gorp has been an advisor to both the Blue & White newspaper and the MHS yearbook for two years. She has decided that selling the old yearbooks that have been stored away for years would be much better than letting them sit and collect dust.

"We don't have a need for them," she says, "and storing them is just silly. It makes sense to sell as many as we can and use the funds to publish our yearbook."

The yearbook is certainly not a cheap thing to publish. Fundraisers like this are frequent

during the school year for the yearbook staff.

Some past yearbook fundraisers this year have included organizing the homecoming dance and conducting photography and ad sales.

The staff hopes to raise quite a bit from these sales. They have a hundred or so books to sell, ranging from 1973 up to last year's yearbook.

Books from the 1970's-1999 are five dollars, 2000-2016 are two dollars, and 2017 for twenty dollars. They are also buy one get one free.

Van Gorp also encourages everyone to buy the 2018 yearbook once it is published too. The theme this year is "Be Brave," and is fo-

cused on everyday heroes.

"We wanted to highlight the student body as positively as possible as well as cover as many students as possible," Van Gorp states.

She would also like to say this to the Montezuma community regarding the new yearbook: "We have made a lot of changes [to the book] and have done our best to improve. We are very thankful for all the support given to us this year."

The yearbooks will be sold publicly only those two days, but Van Gorp can be contacted at evangorp@montezuma.k12.ia.us if anyone wishes to purchase a vintage yearbook past the days of the sale.

The Blue and White Staff



Calendar of Events

Thursday
No Activities

Friday
No Activities

Monday
SICL Indoor
Track Meet @
Grinnell - 4:15 pm

Tuesday
FFA Parent &
Member Banquet -
6:30 pm

Wednesday
No Activities

Thursday
Girls/Boys
Basketball Banquet
- 6:00 pm