



BLUE & WHITE

A Weekly Production from the MHS Journalism Class
P.O. Box 580-Montezuma, IA 50171- www.montezuma.k12.ia.us

The Blue and White Staff



Back(LTR): Logan Price, Vance Bushong, Jake Shaver, Kian McKeag, Kennedy Phillips, Tessa Snook, Ciara Hirsch, Jolene Lechtenberg
Middle(LTR): Caroline Jennings, Emma Jennings, Hailey Anderson, Olivia Jones, Heaven Lorenz
Front(LTR): Cassidy Watts, Anna Mallory, MacKenzie Talbert, Alyssa Carl, Tailor Snook, Lauren Slings

Lunch Menu

Thursday, September 25:
Pasta Bake or Chicken Sandwich
Bread Stick
Romaine Lettuce
Fire & Ice Salad
Banana
Pineapple
Friday, September 26:
Cheese Sticks or Fish Sticks
Broccoli
Peaches
Assorted Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
Monday, September 29:
Hot Dog or Hamburger w/ Bun
Ranch Wedges
Sliced Tomatoes
Watermelon
Mandarin Oranges
Wednesday, September 30:
Turkey Ham or Chicken Nuggets
Mashed Sweet Potatoes
Butter
Green Beans
Peaches
Grapes
Thursday, October 1:
TBA

Calender of Events

Thursday, September 25:
4:15pm- JH VB V. BGM @ BGM
4:30pm- Varsity XC @ PCM Middle School
5:30pm- Varsity VB V. Keota @ Home
Friday, September 26:
7:00pm- Varsity FB V. Belle Plaine @ Belle Plaine
Saturday, September 27:
9:00am- JV VB V. Tournament @ North Tama
Monday, September 29:
Start of Homecoming Week
5:30pm- Varsity VB V. English Valley @ Home
6:00pm- JV Football V. Lynnville-Sully @ Home
Tuesday, September 30:
4:15pm- JH FB V. Sigourney Keota @ Home
4:15pm- JH VB V. Lynnville @ Lynnville
5:00pm- XC Varsity Invitational @ Pine Knolls Country Club
Thursday, October 2:
4:00pm- JH VB V. BGM @ Home



FFA plans on making national headlines

By Hailey Anderson
From State to Nationals, the FFA chapter has always made Montezuma proud. This year there will be even more excitement to come. Mrs. Lindsay Schanbacher is a teacher of Montezuma High School in her second year and an FFA leader her first year and into her second year. She tells how she enjoys coaching FFA and helping students. In our FFA program this year, there is believed to be around 100 students participating in the Montezuma FFA chapter. "I always feel like there should be more. I like having a lot of students," Schanbacher explained. She would like to get more students involved with FFA because she thinks all students have a lot of potential. There is a new group of 7th grade students and a lot

of new freshman this year. What does she plan on doing this year? "Thatsaloadedquestion," Schanbacher laughed. She plans on putting more competitive teams together and for more students to be involved. She also plans on going to National FFA conventions with the business management team and State Soils with the soils evaluation team. Going to contest is another part of the busy FFA leaders agenda. Luckily, she has another teacher by her side, Mr. Rick Swenson. Schanbacher says that they work and share responsibilities together. Does she enjoy being with the FFA students? "I do. [That is] probably the most rewarding part of my job." Schanbacher tries to make agriculture

challenging, but rewarding for students. "I feel like our students work incredibly hard, and see every challenge and take it on," Schanbacher commented. She says they try to prepare them the best they know how and they put a lot of time into what they do. Schanbacher says last year's students and this year's students always are improving on what they have already learned from past classes. Mrs. Schanbacher is very excited for this FFA year. Breck Goodman, a freshman student at Montezuma and one of the Montezuma FFA members, speaks out about Freshman Fun Night. Goodman explains that Fun Night is a night just for freshman at the school. Freshman will get to do activities for fun and to help get them

interested and involved with FFA. They are going to be aware that FFA is not just all about agriculture and farming, there's much more to it. There is a lot to offer and it is definitely worth going. "Of course, I'm always excited for whatever FFA has coming up," Goodman proclaimed when asked if she was excited for FFA this year. She personally does contest and the FFA Creed along with some work around the community with the rest of the FFA members. She is most excited about conduct this year and working in the Montezuma Greenhouse. Goodman says she would enjoy working with the flowers and it is a responsibility that she would love to take on. She loves being with Mrs. Schanbacher, her friends, and all the fun she has with the FFA group.

Not just an ordinary run



by Lauren Slings
Cross-Country is a mental sport and all of the runners are insane. Waking up early on a weekend is always hard but having to wake up and then go run early in the morning is always harder. The Montezuma cross-country was wide-awake Saturday morning, September 20th, to head out to BCLUW to run. It started off as a rainy morning but the rain cleared for the high school girls' meet. A hilly course was no match for the girls team as they finished third out of six teams. The times of the girls as they finished were Olivia Jones (9) 19:05 with sixth place, Lauren Slings (10) 19:57 with 13th place, Alexis Maki (10) 20:16 with 16th place, Ciara Hirsch (9) 20:58 and 21th place, Jolene Lechtenberg (9) 22:42 with 40th place, and Ashley Armstrong with a 25:41 and 57th place. At the end of the boys' meet the weather started

to turn, it started raining again but they were done before it began to pour. They all did very well Paden Maschmann(10) 19:47 placing 3rd, Joel Cranston(10) 20:47 with a 10th place, Vincent Bushong(9) 21:16 with 17th place, Jared Little(9) 22: 34th placing 27, Vance Bushong(9) 23:28 placing 39th, and Robbie Brodstan(10) 23:43 finishing in 41th place. The boys also finished third out of six teams. To get ready for meets, runners have to be prepared and to do so they must train. Part of training is to do interval running, hill repeats, long runs and hard workouts. "We do a 7-10 minute warm up, do stretches. For a hills workout we will run to Diamond Lake on the trail. We pick a hill long, short, or mix do 10-15 hill repeats then jog back. It ends up being about a four-mile workout. When we get back we stretch and do abs and if time

Back Row: Kaleb Kriegel, Paden Maschman, Jared Little, Robbie Broadston
Front Row: Lauren Slings, Olivia Jones, Hirsch, Jolene Lechtenberg

[allows] we will lift," says Coach Heather Schmidt. To get ready for the season to start, the runners will do summer training. This consists of running three days a week, ab workouts, and lifting. This helps because they are getting more miles in and they are gaining muscle that will help them in the race. It can be hard on the runners because they have to train in the heat and run while it is getting cooler. Throughout the race every runner has their ups and downs during the race. Some people are better at hills and others are better at straight-aways. Ciara Hirsch, a freshman runner, says "Down hills are my weakness because I feel slow because people are passing me but if I go to fast I feel like I'm going to fall on my face." Depending on the runner, another weakness could be the weather. "It was not too hot, a little rain, kinda perfect fall running weather." Coach Schmidt states. Some do better when it's cold others when it is warmer.

Students experience a change in the code of conduct

by Vance Bushong
Every year, both new and returning students are assembled at the beginning of the year to discuss school policies. From grading scales to class schedules, academic eligibility to truancy, several changes have been made to policies. But for over 10 years, the school's co-curricular good conduct policy has been left untouched, until now. After many meetings from April to May 2014, a school board sanctioned committee has completed several revisions to the dilapidated good conduct policy. This committee set out to revise and revamp the policy, adding several clarity updates and stricter punishments. The process began in early 2014 when school board members drew attention to the aging code of conduct. As their study grew more intensive, the board began to realize that numerous improvements could be adapted. It was here that the journey of transformation began. In order to gain the maximum perspective on the issue at hand, the school board and other school officials appointed a committee of coaches, non-coaching teachers, student athletes, administrators and other board members to begin rewriting sections of the code of conduct.

Increase in clarity was the first stop on the code's journey. The codes of conduct from surrounding school districts were examined, and portions of them were mimicked in order to increase both student and administrator clarity. Updating what constitutes a violation was next on the journey. One of the main additions that school principal Brian Moretz cited was cyber bullying and harassment. The committee felt that students should be held accountable for what they say and post on social media, rather than just verbal infractions. The journey then brought the code of conduct to increasing the severity of penalties for infractions. After deliberations amongst committee members, it was decided that for the first violation, students would receive 30 calendar days of ineligibility from their extracurricular activities. The second violation would receive 60 calendar days of ineligibility, and the third would receive 365 calendar days of ineligibility. The journey trekked along to how the punishment would be administered. Upon the infraction, the school principal would collect evidence in the initial investigation. The principal would then

expound on this evidence to a good conduct committee, which consists of the athletic director, two out-of-season coaches and two non-coaching teachers. They would then decide if the infraction is deserving of a good conduct punishment. Finally, after many tweaks, revisions and additions, the journey ended at the school board in June 2014. The board inspected the changes and was pleased. It then approved the new good conduct policy, which has began to affect all extracurricular activities at Montezuma. "[The good conduct policy] was a positive creation for our school district because we got feedback on it from all of our stakeholders" Moretz said. The good conduct policy has found its home in the handbooks of every student attending Montezuma. It is available for them to review whenever they feel the need to do so. Since its introduction, there have been no infractions. Now the rest is up to students. Moretz commented, "The biggest impact will be students understanding and knowing the policy, and my hope is that students will make the right choice."