



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



Understudy gets lead-- Shelby Helm in The Music Man

by Caroline E. Jennings
A young woman, not yet even a freshman in high school, auditions for the upcoming fall school musical and receives the modest role of a rather minor character; however, as the warm summer days slowly begin to fade and the impending thoughts of upcoming school hours and mountainous piles of homework linger in the air, the young woman, content in her role, is suddenly informed that she shall no longer be playing her minor role, as she has moved up the "theater scale", so to speak: she has instead been given the leading female role in the musical. Almost every person who tries out for a musical, a play, or any other sort of theater production hopes to receive the largest and most vital role, but few actually do. However, this did not turn out to be the

case for freshman Shelby L. Helm. Having never been in a play or a musical, Helm was quite ecstatic after auditioning for "The Music Man", even though she only received the role of Mrs. Squires, one of the pick-a-little ladies. "I was just glad that I got to be a part of it (the production)," commented Helm, explaining her feelings after being assigned the role. Initially, Helm tried out for Zaneeta Shinn, Mayor Shinn's eldest daughter, and, after being pestered by others, Marion, the lead female role in the musical. While the role of Marion was then given to Clara Johnson, Helm was informed that she would be the understudy for the role. Summer came and went, Helm attending her pick-a-little lady practices as well as the Marion

practices. It was not until a fateful day towards the end of summer that Helm was told shortly after one of her volleyball practices that she was no longer an understudy or a pick-a-little lady; she was now the leading lady of the stage. "I was actually freaking out," Helm stated when asked about how she felt when being told this information, "because I've never been in a play before", and now she had obtained the highest female role. Although jumping from a minor to a major role can be rather stressful and nerve wracking, Helm was prepared and even excited for a role. "It was a challenge," she admitted honestly. "I learned that I needed to practice a lot!" True to her word, Helm does practice as often as she can, both by attending

rehearsals and going over lines and songs at home. When asked if she felt at all prepared for the actual musical, she replied, "I need to refine some areas", but she also stated that she still feels about ready. She also added rather enthusiastically, "I'm really nervous [about the upcoming production], but I'm also excited because it's not every day I'm in a musical!" "Being in my first musical," she added, "I wanted to be a smaller part", but she enjoys being the lead. Helm plans on trying out for lead roles in future high school musicals and plays, if this one is a success, as everyone thinks it will be. Make sure to go and see this freshman steal the show on the nights of November 14, 15, and 16th! Break a leg, Shelby Helm!

Bravettes are together

by Kennedy Phillips
As your eyes scan the crowd, they fall onto the scoreboard. Your heart starts to beat faster, we're down by 11 points. The libero passes the ball up, the setter sends the ball to the outside and the star hitter gets a kill. The whole team stands up to cheer and the crowd screams. The pressure keeps rising. All season long the team has been prepping for this specific game. No other game matters more than this one. While the starters are on the court, the rest of the team sits in anticipation, waiting for their turn to be on the court. A young back row player, Kerri Gregory, starts shaking when the coach tells her to go in and play. "It's nerveracking," to leave the security of the bench to pass, and to let the excitement wash over you.

Many people believe volleyball is a mental sport. Teams spend a lot of time getting into the right mindset before a game. Gregory "doesn't really think about a lot of things", in case the nerves start to eat at her. After the game, the adrenaline wash high for the varsity team. The varsity team stole the win in the first three games with ease. The very next day, preparation for the second round game begins. Lacey Taylor, a very experienced volleyball player, sends down balls that are "really hard" at the team to formulate a focused group of girls. "Together" is how the team played and has to continue playing in order to keep moving on. This next game will be tough, but it is certainly attainable for our beloved Bravettes.

Connection Failed

by Emma Jennings
For a whole two hours on October 16, 2014, everyone's life came to a stand still. No, it was not the zombie apocalypse; no, it was not a nuclear war; and no it was not our government becoming awesome-- it was the school's Internet crashing. Most classes were not able to do anything because of how reliant we are on the Internet. Teachers had to let their students read, work on any other homework, or study. All the teachers felt the same way about the Internet crashing-- terrible and frustrated. Roxanne Goudy talked about how she had to do everything on the board instead of on the computer. However, she could not grade. "It's kind of neat because it makes you stretch and go back to the old school days," Cory Nikkel said about the Internet crash. He also thought it was very frustrating at the same time because everything is online, and he was not able to access certain things.

Andy Thomas adds the comment that we rely so much on the Internet that it makes it difficult to do things. Lucas Nikkel is different from most teachers because he aforesaid, "I find it comical because we have become so dependent on something so small." Derrick Dengler agrees with Nikkel about how it's funny to see how dependent we are on the Internet. Dengler also thinks that the Internet crash is nobody's fault. When asked about how they feel with the Internet crashing, some students' replied with something opposite compared to the teachers' feelings. However, other students found this predicament to be rather stressing. River Webb talked about how he was very upset because he could not work on homework or look at cats in baskets. "[We] should not be reliant on computers at school because bad things like this can happen," Webb remarks. Trent Salsman is on a different page though. He is happy with

the Internet not working because his science test could not be printed out. When asked how he is going to get by with no Internet, Salsman shrugs with, "Keep trucking on." Other students were upset about it, but only because they couldn't access their social media apps on their phones. What is this world coming to with no social media to check at school? Tyler Hooven feels that the Internet crashing is very stupid and upsetting because he was not able to play slots on his phone. Breck Goodman feels the same way since she could not access her apps and Google docs. After what felt like forever, the Internet, also known as life blood, had started working once again, relieving everybody's stress. Student's were able to work again, and teachers were able to grade. Let's hope that in the future the school can avoid problems like this and hope that something less terrible happens, like a zombie apocalypse.

Trick-or-Treat Horror Stories

by Olivia Jones
Trick-or-treating can be a blast! Full of goblins, ghosts, and bats. Treats like Butterfingers, Milky Ways, and Kitkats fill the children's candy bags. However, this year they get horrid toothbrushes, rotten apples, and ripped up rags. The treats in trick-or-treating seem to be disappearing. The stories that have been told are now going uncontrolled. "I remember, on that dreadful night, one frightful stop changed my life. Two people made me dance on their front steps. Humiliated I left still with no candy and I wept." Emma Jennings tells the story with a far off look. The story still haunts her dreams today to help the pain she's considering writing a book. The next story is almost just as awful. They are sure it was unlawful! The night started out good, the peace before the storm. Then the rucas started to form. Not only no candy, but just the candy wrappers! The sight of this almost made her fall backward. Those horrid people how could they do such a thing, excitement drops like fly splattered against the wall losing its wings.

The resident science teacher, Luke Rohe tells the next tragedy, being 23 the memories are faint. However, no one could forget this complaint. Comparing this tale to others is not possible. It came from his father and is improbable. Almost every Halloween the young Rohe would receive coal. It made him so upset he would snort loudly like a bull. Rohe pushed on past that stumbling block. He went on trick-or-treating to the next block. The creepy little old lady with scarecrow she owned. He reached for the candy, but was thrown. It sat there all the time, but this time with candy on it's lap. This time it moved. It had come to life! Rohe did what any other boy would do, he ran for his life, there is

no way he would fight. Ten blocks he ran and this should really be banned. It didn't really come to life, it simply was switched out with a real man, that scared Rohe and made him wet his pants. Some say this next legend is actually not bad, while others argue what can you do with that? Another trick-or-treating night some girl received a penny. It really should've been a twenty! She cries of repulsion! A penny really? It makes her impulsive. What has become of trick or treating? All of this chaos brings screaming! No candy, none at all! All the little children ball. Should something be done? Some people may ask. Hey, pulling halloween tricks is half the fun. While others say the givers should reveal their masks.



Lunch Menus and Calendar of Events

Thursday, October 30	Friday, October 31	Monday, November 3	Tuesday, November 4	Wednesday, November 5	Thursday, November 6
Chili in bread bowl or Tenderloin/bun Broccoli Banana Pineapple	Shrimp Poppers or Pizza String cheese Baby Carrots Applesauce Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	Hot dog/bun or Hamburger Ranch Wedges Sliced Tomatoes Watermelon Mandarin Oranges	Ham or Chicken Nuggets Mashed Sweet Potatoes Dinner Roll Green Beans Peaches Grapes	Burrito or Walking Taco Black Bean Salsa Applesauce Honeydew Melon Fruit Cocktail	Mandarin Orange Chicken or Tenderloin Rice Egg Rolls Broccoli Banana Pineapple
2:30 Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences	No Activities	7:00 pm: Football State Playoffs Second Round @ TBD	No Activities	No Activities	3:30-6:00 pm: 4th-8th Grade Braves Basketball Skills Camp