



Cat's Corner

A Publication of 21st Century Journalism at MHS

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This newsletter is a production of the 21st Century Journalism Class of 2019-2020. Advisor is Ms. Melanie Krehbiel. Questions or comments may be directed to: krehbielm@usd423.org.



Photo by Ms. Kelsi Chisholm

Ms. Chisholm sponsored a Cultural Connections Club trip to Lindsborg on Sat., Dec. 7. Students ate Swedish food, went window-shopping, and went to the Birger Sandzen Memorial Art Gallery.

Debate Comes to a Close

Debate season is coming to a close. The Augusta tournament was on Dec. 7, and the tournament at MHS was on Dec. 14. Regionals will be Dec. 20-21, and there are two state tournaments in January.

There were only 2 tournaments that the team participated in this month, and for some students, either no tournaments or one tournament left. Novices will be at state in Kansas City early January, and novices and returners will be at regular state after that.

The last regular season tournament that the debaters competed in was at Augusta on Dec. 7, and some debaters worked with different people than they have for most of the season. Freshman Mackenzie Woltje and sophomore Matthew Morrison teamed up, freshman Reese Stucky worked with freshman Mateo Roth, and sophomores Jordan Creed and Rebecca Schlosser still worked together.

"Jordan and Rebecca went 3 and 1, and Mateo and Reese went 2 and 2 at the tournament on the 7th," Unruh added.

"Rebecca Schlosser and Jordan Creed qualified for 2-speaker State and Kenzie Woltje and Reese Stucky qualified for Novice State," Unruh said.

"I expect Novice State to go well," Stucky added.

"We need to place in the top three teams to go to State and I think we have a pretty good chance. The teams we are competing against are, I think, about at the same level we are, so the rounds will be tight but winnable," Unruh added before the regionals tournament.

"Forensics starts as soon as debate is over. There is a tournament on the weekend after state debate if we are ready to compete. We will absolutely be competing the 2nd weekend after state debate or we will be behind," Unruh also added.

Chris Houk

Lady Cats Begin Season 3-2

The Moundridge High School girls started their season off with a home game score of 41-31 against the Elyria Eagles on Fri., Dec. 6., and they are growing steadily as a team.

"I am very excited about this year of basketball, and I think we are a lot better with teamwork than previous years," junior Kourtney Kaufman said.

"Compared to last year I think we are working better as a team. We had a fresh start with new coaches and new plays, and I think we have all finally realized that we can't get much done when we are always against each other," Myiah Logue Junior said.

"I enjoy playing with the team especially with the new coaches because I feel like we are improving a lot and becoming better as a team," junior Erin Durst said.

This home game was setting off their 2019-2020 season and they were prepared to put their all in.

"The team will have to quickly adjust to



a new coaching staff and system. We will miss the leadership of last year's senior class and we will need to develop that quickly. The players will have to be ready to compete day in and day out due to a tough schedule. Our pre-season tournament always hosts strong competition, along with our HOA league competitors,

and a solid mid-season tournament at Haven," Coach Vicky Kessler said.

There are 18 girls on the team, and ten are on varsity.

The girls are excited to continue their season as well as the coaches.

Alanna Golden

MHS Boys Start Season 1-4

This year's 2019-2020 high schools boys basketball season is off to a 1-3 start.

Their only win so far is against Elyria Christian School.

The boys are coached by head coach Vance Unrau and assistant coach Courtney Modellmog.

The Wildcats went 0-3 against Inman, Lyons, and Hillsboro in the pre-season tournament.

"Both Inman and Lyons were games that I would hope that later in the season we would win," Unrau said.

"The last night we played Hillsboro, the fatigue really set in during that game. Physically and mentally we just failed to execute," Unrau added.

This year's team only has two seniors, Daniel Kaufman and Brady Helms.

"Our back court is totally new, and we are asking a lot of young kids to step up and really grow up in a hurry," Unrau said.

The Wildcats are not executing as well as they need to on their offense, according to Unrau.

"I think Brady and I help the team by encouraging the team when they are



Photo by Facebook

Dan Kaufman passes the ball to Landon Kaufman during the game against Elyria.

down and if they miss a shot just say no big deal, we got the next one," Kaufman said.

"One of our strengths is our rebounding. Jon [Schlosser] and Brady do a fantastic job rebounding, and I think that rebounding is very important," Kaufman added. "One of our weaknesses, however, is our three point shooting. Without Dillon Vogts this year we struggle in that

area but Dillon's shoes are really hard to fill".

The Wildcats face Little River on Tues., Dec. 17 at home, and then on Fri., Dec. 20 they face Conway Springs at home as well.

The game against Conway Springs is the annual HOA vs CPL challenge.

Myiah Logue

MMS Basketball Boys

The Moundridge Middle School boys basketball team started their season with a game away from home against Marion on the 25th of November.

"The boys B team won 44-15 in their first game against Marion. The A team also won, 38-24 against Marion in their first game," assistant coach Larry Diepenbrock said.

Their first home game was Dec. 3 against Little River and won with a score of 36-20.

"The A team's only loss of the year so far was against Sedgwick by a score of 41-45," Diepenbrock said.

They also won against Remmington 44-14.

Coach Meeks is the Head Coach for the basketball boys.

Diepenbrock has been assistant coaching for five years for basketball, but also coaches football and high school track.

7th grader Daniel Dixon is new to Moundridge this year and led all scoring with twelve points in the first game of



the year.

"Henry Hecox, Bear Modellmog and Joaquin Huff made great contributions to the scoring there as well," Diepenbrock added.

"It's nice to have a team where you

don't have to rely on the same person every time and that you have a number of people who can score, and I believe that it's what makes us tough this year," Diepenbrock said.

Alanna Golden

MMS Girls Start Season 0-3

The middle school girls basketball has a 0-3 start to the season.

Coaches for the 2019-2020 season are head coach Andrew Scheef and assistant coach Breanna Meyer.

Their first game was against the Marion Wildcats and the ending score was 12-20.

Tues., Dec. 3 they hosted the Little River Redskins, losing 10-29 and on Thurs., Dec. 5 they hosted Sedgwick with a final score of 16-18.

"We are in the process of finding our leaders. We have a lot of girls that are still being introduced to the game of basketball and are still learning. We will find out who takes the reins when the game night lights come on," Coach Scheef said.

With numbers being so low this year the 6th graders are able to play to help the team with numbers.

Last year Scheef was the JV coach for high school girls.

He had been a JV coach for four years but previously coached middle school girls for two and is now back.

Kaelyn Wedel, Paityn Kaminkow, Macie Woltje, Maddie Ward, Haley Everhart, Cammi Unruh, and Lexi Bretz are all



Photo by Hillary Hecox

Lakyn Allenbach looks to make a post move during the Sedgwick game.

battling for the five starting positions on the team.

Meyer graduated from Fort Hays State University this December and has been a student teacher for Mr. Al Neufeld since the beginning of the school year.

Woltje said that her goals for the season are "to rise as a team and accomplish

a lot this season to get some good wins."

"I think I can contribute to the team by just knowing what I need to do and just boost my team up" Woltje also said.

Haley Everhart said "we just have to play with each other, for each other".

Myiah Logue

FFA Slows Down For December

This month while having fruit sales and a beef expo FFA also hosted the annual winter formal dance. Winter Formal was held at the Cloud 9 Venue on Sat., Dec. 14 from 9-11 pm.

"We were all really excited that we could make everyone's night magical," junior Katelynn Miller said.

"We had a great turnout this year with the number of people that showed up, too," said senior Carson Orpin.

Fruit and chocolate sales came in on Tues., Dec. 10. This sale is FFA's biggest

fundraiser of the year. They order it from Four Seasons all the way in Iowa. The money they raise helps them to be able to pay for National FFA Convention.

The FFA members who went to the Beef Expo in Hutchinson on Fri., Dec. 13 were senior Carson Orpin, junior Silas Courtney, sophomores Jordan Creed, Kase Ptacek and Joseph Schrag, and freshman JD Jenkins. While there they all judged the same 8 classes of cattle but were in different groups.

"I judged beef cattle and placed them

to what I thought were the most desirable cattle that would make the most profit out of each class. Then our answers are processed by officials and we get a score on how close we were to the actual placings," said Orpin.

FFA has had such a great start to the school year. From expos and judging to winter formal and National Convention.

"Formal went great! It was my first time because I didn't go last year and it was super fun," Ptacek said.

Skye Fletcher

Buddy Day Was a Success

Every year the high school basketball team and the 3rd graders get together for their annual Buddy Day. Everyone enjoys this time of year because who doesn't like having a buddy?

"Our kids love it. They can't wait to spend time with their buddies," 3rd grade teacher Kristen Koller said.

The MHS basketball team goes over to the elementary school and spends time with the 3rd graders during the school day.

This year Buddy Day was on Wed., Dec. 11.

Students played a round of knockout between boys and girls. The basketball teams also spent time with activities getting to know their buddy, as well as eating lunch together.

This is always a great day for both the High School basketball players and 3rd grade school students.

Emily Smith



K-2 Christmas Concert



Photo by Sarah Brunk

K-2 had a great time at their concert on Dec. 2 in the high school auditorium.

The K-2 music concert was on Dec. 2 at Moundridge High School.

The children and parents always enjoy singing and coming to these concerts. This is the start of music for most of these kids. Almost all of the kids enjoy singing and dancing at a young age, so being in this concert was awesome for them!

"We did a mix of familiar Christmas songs and songs that were new to both me and the kids. Kindergarten did 3 songs, 1st grade did 2 alone, 2nd grade did 2 alone, and 1st and 2nd did 2

together," choir director Matthew Graber said.

The kids love this time of year because most of them are new to music. They are excited and nervous because they don't really know how to perform in a concert setting.

"I love this concert every year because these grades are either completely new to performances or have very little experience performing, and they are very curious, nervous and excited about the whole thing," Graber said.

Emily Smith



Photo by jokestoyou.com

Merry Christmas from Journalism!

What is on your Christmas list?

"Golden Retriever"

-Addy Kuder
Third Grade

"Legos"

- Zoe Winsor
Third Grade

"Video Games"

-Allison Stoker
Third Grade

"Laso"

-Dominick Hall
Fourth Grade

"Sharpie Kit"

-Lexi Heslip
Fourth Grade

"Cat"

Lennon Graber
-Fourth Grade

Emily Smith



Photo by Sarah Brunk

Girls basketball met with their buddies at the elementary school on Dec. 11.

January Events

- Jan. 1-3.....Christmas Break
- Jan. 3.....BB @ Oxford
- Jan. 4.....KMEA Band
- Jan. 6.....Classes Resume
- Jan. 7.....Home BB
- Jan. 14.....BB @ Remmington
- Jan. 17.....Home BB
- Jan. 18.....State Debate
- Jan. 20.....No School
- Jan. 22.....Scholars Bowl
- Jan. 21, 23-24.....B BB Tourney
- Jan. 24.....G BB @ Goessel
- Jan. 27.....Scholars Bowl
- Jan. 30-31.....G BB Tourney



Photo by Vania Winsor

Sequora Pfeiff, Reese Stucky, Mateo Roth, Daniel Kaufman, and Brady Helms prepare to start a round.

Scholars Bowl Continues Their Year

Scholars Bowl had a JV meet on Dec 2 at Canton-Galva and a Varsity meet on Dec 5 at Hesston. The JV team finished their meet with a record of 6-1, finishing second overall. Varsity finished with a record of 4-2 in pools, not making it to the tournament rounds. Although they did not make it out of finals, most participants felt good about how they performed in that meet. Students say that they feel confident and prepared for the future competitions.

"I thought overall we did pretty good," freshman Lucas Beasley said.

Most of the freshman participating this year have been in middle school Quiz Bowl in the past. Questions are different,

but allowed them to get a feel for what quiz competitions would be in preparation for Scholars Bowl.

"Yes, there are questions we've had before that we missed, but we'll get them in the future," Beasley said.

Now that all participants have a few meets under their belt, they understand what the questions are like and what they will need to study in the future. There are several upcoming meets in January.

"We really need to be more aggressive at times, and definitely need to do some serious memorizing of lists that have been given out. We miss out on questions each year on authors, poets, artists,

etc. that I know are on those lists." Coach Adam Robb said.

Although there are many changes to be made to the team's efforts currently, he thinks that they are all still ready for the upcoming challenges.

"We've been off to a good start this year, and if we continue to compete well, we should be in good shape for regionals." Robb said.

Kyler Dalke