

## Knapke commits to Ohio State

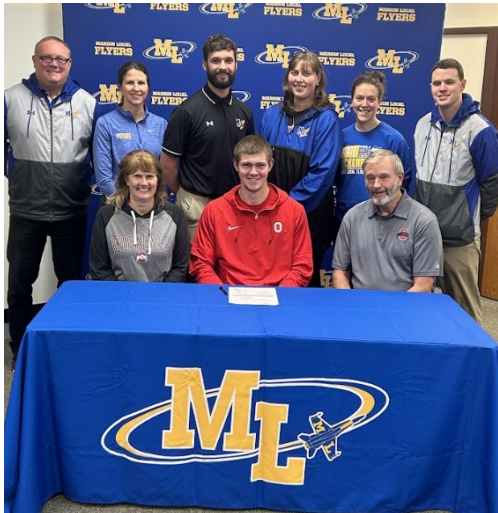


PHOTO BY: MR. KOENIG

Senior Jack Knapke, supported by his parents Dale and Kate Knapke, signs to continue his track career at The Ohio State University.

By: Kyle Otte  
Sports Editor

MARIA STEIN - Over the years, the Marion Local athletic program has sent athletes to promising colleges to enhance their athletic careers; in 2024, this continues with another signee.

Jack Knapke, the son of Dale and Kate Knapke, signed with The Ohio State University on Jan. 29, to further his track and field career by partaking in the throwing events.

## Lady Flyers MAC Champs

By: Kyle Otte  
Sports Editor

COLDWATER - The Lady Flyers made the trip over to Coldwater on Feb. 8 with a MAC title on their minds. In order to come home with the trophy, all they had to do was win, and they did just that.

They secured their 45-33 victory over MAC rival the Coldwater Cavaliers to claim a share of the MAC title,



PHOTO COURTESY OF: MAC

The Marion Local Lady Flyers celebrate their MAC Championship.

winning it for the second time in three years. They now look to have a deep run in the tournament.

## Superintendent soon to relocate to high school

By: Kailee Beyke  
Entertainment Editor

MARIA STEIN - The new school levy recently passed in November, and changes are going to be made early this spring. These changes will last until the 2026-2027 school year. The administrative office, which is currently located in the elementary school building, will soon be relocated to the current high school media center.

Due to the growing enrollment, the space of the current central office will be converted into two new classrooms.

Superintendent Mike Pohlman explains, "We are currently accepting bids from contractors that are interested in completing this renovation. On Feb. 15, we will open bids and

then make a recommendation to our Board of Education at the March board meeting. We are speculating that the renovation will begin in June and be ready for the '24-'25 school year."

The library will have a few changes made during this time to accommodate the administrative staff. The circle tables in the middle of the library will be replaced with a large conference table to hold meetings. The entire bookcase on the east wall of the library will be removed and made into cubicle-type office spaces for Superintendent's Secretary Lynn Will and Treasurer's Assistant Katie Heitkamp. Mr. Pohlman will be relocated to room 415, which can be found within the library; this used to be the magazine room.

With the administrative staff being



PHOTO BY: KAILEE BEYKE

Superintendent Mr. Pohlman stands in the current library where the new administrative offices will be located.

in the library, the library hours will have some changes as well. Positively, the library will be open from 7:30

a.m. until 4:30 p.m. during the school week. Students are still encouraged and able to check out books from the library during this temporary move.

With all this being said, most meetings, tests, events, and storage that were held in the library will also now be moved. Members of Scholastic Bowl and FCA should be aware of location changes. AP tests and possibly Chromebook storage will also no longer be held in the library.

Because of this relocation and construction, school librarian and EMIS Coordinator Mrs. Seger will be relocated to room 418, which can be found near Mr. Koenig's office off of the stairs behind the gym. Mrs. Seger will be able to be reached in her new office, and students will also be able to get ahold of her via email.

## J&M Manufacturing welcomes FFA students



PHOTO BY: MR. ELSASS

Senior Joe Kunk asks a question about manufacturing machinery during the tour at J&M Manufacturing.

By: Kyle Otte  
Sports Editor

FORT RECOVERY - On Monday, Jan. 15, the Marion Local FFA chapter went on a visit to J&M Manufacturing in the town of Fort Recovery. J&M

Manufacturing has been a leading manufacturer of farm equipment since 1960. This was a great trip to a very successful local business for the FFA members because they learned a lot from a thriving business.

FFA Advisor Mr. Elsass shared his opinion on the FFA trip: "We value the opportunity to partner with local businesses to provide career exploration experiences for our students. We have so many local agricultural businesses doing really cool things that we often take for granted."

The J&M members showed all the aspects of their business to the Marion Local FFA members. They showed them all of their new machinery where they built everything and where it is all manufactured.

Every year the FFA chapter gets the opportunity to go to an agricultural business and tour the business. The business members give you a tour



PHOTO BY: MR. ELSASS

FFA students touring J&M Manufacturing.

and a rundown of the business from how it all started to where they are today. At the end of the tour, the members are all fed lunch, probably the most favorite part of going on these trips.



## Boys', girls' basketball bounces along



PHOTO BY: MORGAN SPIETH

Senior Jack Knapke scores against MAC opponent Fort Recovery.

By: Kyle Otte  
Sports Editor

MARIA STEIN - This year's basketball season has two different stories: the girls' team rolled through teams and has secured a MAC title, with a season record of 15 and seven. However, the boys started out rough and are trying to get back on track, also aiming to contend for a MAC title. Their current record is eight and eleven, with three games remaining in the regular season.

The girls' regular season went really well, and they finished as co-MAC Champions with Versailles and possibly one other team. The Flyers fell to the New Bremen Cardinals just a couple of weeks ago, which took the Flyers' lone spot at the top.

Senior Audrey Winner gives her word on the

title: "Dubs, I am really proud of this team!"

The Lady Flyers started the season with a double-digit win over Lima Shawnee. The Lady Flyers trampled over their next two opponents, but they were then stopped in their tracks and took a rough conference loss to the Versailles Tigers. After this loss, they went on to win the next three games and then win the Kewpee Tournament in Lima to get back on track.

The boys' season has been an up-and-down roller coaster. They started off with a win over Celina at home, then went on the road to St. Mary's and got thumped. The following night, the Flyers came back home and faced our Shelby Country rival Anna and lost a barn burner to the Rockets.

The following week, the boys and girls played in the 119 Challenge between Marion Local, Fort Recovery, and St Henry. On the first day of the challenge, Marion Local took on St. Henry, and both varsity teams fell to St. Henry. The boys lost a frustrating game to the Redskins, and the girls did as well: coming down to the wire, the Redskins were able to hold on. On day two of the challenge, both boys' and girls' teams traveled over to Fort Recovery to take on the Indians. The girls got away with a close win; again, coming down to the wire, the Lady Flyers were able to hang on. The boys were able to get back on track by handling business with a double-digit win over the Indians.

After the 119 challenge, the boys' story went differently than the girls'. The girls started rolling through their season again, whereas the boys had more highs and lows. Win a game, lose a game, then win a game again, then lose. The boys just couldn't find themselves to catch a break and catch a winning streak.



PHOTO BY: BRYNN ARLING

Junior Avae Unrast and freshman Mya Eckstein look for a way to score against Delphos St. Johns.

Going into this year's season, the boys and girls had to reconstruct both of their teams. Losing a lot of key seniors from both teams was a major loss because of their impacts on the court. For the boys, they lost Tate Hess, Luke Pohlman, Jayden Mescher, and Brandon Eyink. All of them left an impact on the 2023 season, and going into this year's season everyone knew they were going to be hard to replace. On the girls' side of things, they lost a lot of key seniors also: Stella Huelsman, Hanna Rose, Lindsey Koenig, Jenna Knapke, and Allison Everman. Everyone also knew that these girls were going to be hard to replace.

As the boys' regular season is winding down, they find themselves in a tough position because they are not in contention for a MAC title. But the games they have left on their schedule are important for the tournament draw. They can also play spoiler to the other teams in the MAC that are in contention for the MAC title because the teams they have left to play are undefeated in the MAC.

## Flyer track gets a head start indoors

By: Kyle Otte  
Sports Editor

MARIA STEIN - This winter, several Flyer track athletes seek to get a head start over their opponents by going indoors. Winter brings snow and cold weather, but that does not stop our track athletes. They go around the state to try and compete at indoor track meets. Some of our athletes also find their way over to Ansonia to practice their pole vault skills.

So far, our track athletes have been to five meets: Findlay, ONU, Wittenberg, Indiana Tech, and Michigan. The athletes that competed were seniors Toby Kremer and Carter Jones and junior Derek Otte, all at Ohio Northern University. Sophomore Trey Goettemoeller competed at the University of Findlay. Junior Ava Ranly competed at Indiana Tech University. Seniors Jones and Kremer, juniors Ranly and Ben Seitz, and sophomore Grace Moeller all



PHOTO BY: KYLE GRABOWSKI

Senior Toby Kremer flies through the air as he aims to achieve his best vault of the day at Wittenburg University on Jan. 28.

competed at Michigan University. Kremer also jumped at Wittenberg University.

The results from those meets have been very positive. The best perfor-

mances so far have been at the ONU meet where Kremer, Jones, and Otte all competed in the pole vault event. Kremer finished seventh with a PR of 14 feet. Jones finished tenth with a

jump of 13 feet, and Otte finished the day off with a PR of 12 feet.

At the Indiana Tech meet, Ranly competed in the high jump event. She had an incredible day, finishing first at 5' 4". She is looking to further build off of the very successful year she had in the 2023 season.

The rest of the athletes that competed all had promising performances as they looked to get a head start on everyone else and pushed to be the best versions of themselves come track season.

The track teams look to forge forward from their tremendous season last year when the boys won the Division III State track meet, and the girls had a very good season despite limited numbers. They look to add more female athletes to further their performance from a great season last year. Continuing to lead the way in this year's track season for the girls are Moeller and Ranly, both of whom made it to the State meet last year.

## Flyers share sports superstitions



PHOTO BY: ANNA HEMMELGARN

Junior Chloe Ronnebaum holds all of the items for her superstitions that she must perform before every game.

By: Anna Hemmelgarn  
News Editor

MARIA STEIN - Many students are very particular with their routines before a game, match, meet, etc. They either have to wear the same thing, eat the same meal, listen to the same song, or whatever else they might believe to be a powerful factor in controlling luck and performance to ultimately win the game. A poll was sent out to high school students whether this was true for them or not. Out of 70 total responses, almost half of the votes responded "yes" towards having a pregame superstition. Some students are very particular and detailed about their routines.

Senior Kyle Otte has to stay true to his strict routine, as he responds, "Wear the same thing every game; my mom has to make two PB&J sandwich-

es before every game. And I drink the same thing before every game, also I listen to the same 12 songs. I also eat an orange before we go for pregame and at halftime."

"I have to have my socks the same way, eat Cheerios with milk, brush my teeth, and before the game I have to stretch, and lastly put a LOT of Biofreeze on my knees," junior Chloe Ronnebaum says.

"I drink one blue Powerade. Change socks and put them on in this order: sock, shoe, sock, shoe," states junior Colten Ahrens.

"I gotta have on my American flag tights and my tight white shirt, gives me superpowers. Plus eat some food and drink a lot of water before a game," adds senior Landon Arling.

"Max Ranly's pregame bark" is essential for freshman Isaac Moeller.

Senior Camryn Swain says, "Cleats need to be tied a certain way. Hair needs to be in a certain way, the right bow for the day, uniform has to fit perfectly. During the game, I have to make an L around the plate while holding time, need to look my bat dead in the eyes, and take a deep breath."

Even though senior Braydan Homan isn't in a sport, his superstition is, "Play with my dog" before a game.

Sophomore Wade Kremer believes that "if it's too quiet, something's gonna happen."

Junior Ava Ranly and sophomore Grace Moeller have a special handshake that they do before their relay at track meets.

## Golf: the rich man's sport?

By: Morgan Spieth  
Opinion Editor

MARIA STEIN - What is the most expensive sport in the world? According to Wikipedia, it's F1 racing. However, here at Marion Local, that sport is not provided to our students. I couldn't imagine why: one of the cars required for F1 racing is only 12 to 15 million dollars.

The Flyer student body decided for themselves what the most expensive sport is to them. There were many different opinions on this one; however, the majority of the voters said that golf is the most expensive sport, with nearly a quarter of the votes. Many said that with being a club member and how expensive the clubs, balls, and other materials that are needed to play are, the price can add up quickly.

Senior Landon Arling must lose a lot of balls in the water hazards when he golfs because he says they are a major expense: "Balls, so many balls. Expensive balls, too!" And he is not the only one: seniors Allison Dirksen and Braydan Homan, and sophomores Grant Kremer and Derek Knapke all said something similar.

Golf taking the lead by that much is not the only thing that stood out, but the dedication of some of these athletes did as well. Junior Vincent Winner's dedication is on a whole other level. Winner said bowling was the most expensive sport because



PHOTO BY: MORGAN SPIETH

Senior Marcus Rethman and his sweet, but expensive golf gear.

"installing an alley in my basement cost a pretty penny."

Volleyball took second place by only a few votes. Most of these voters said that club volleyball was what they had spent the most money on, in addition to the equipment, of course.

Football, softball, track, and hunting all tied for third. The one sport that many may not expect to see is hunting. Lots of these voters said the ammunition and clothes are what they have to spend a lot of money on.

Senior Braydan Homan states, "I have spent money on various clothes for all sorts of weather. I have bought multiple firearms and ammunition for all sorts of hunting. I spent money on knives to gut animals and calls for hunting anything from a squirrel to a bear."

## Sledding, sleeping top snow day activities



PHOTO BY: ANNA HEMMELGARN

Senior Kyle Otte playing *Fortnite* and drinking hot chocolate on his snow day.

By: Anna Hemmelgarn  
News Editor

MARIA STEIN - Who doesn't love a good ole snow day with no school and sleeping in? Everyone loves snow days, and there are endless ways to enjoy your day off of school! Students were asked what their favorite activity was on a snow

day. Ninety students in the high school responded as to what their favorite activity was. Sledding took first place and received 24.4 percent of votes.

Coming in second place was hot chocolate and movies with 22.2 percent. Then, of course, sleeping was in third place with 16.7 percent, because who doesn't like napping all day? Hanging out with friends came next with 12.2 percent, and the remaining options only received 1 or 2 percent of votes.

*Fortnite* should've been an option, I guess, considering many boys are obsessed with playing the daily game and getting a victory royale with their friends. Senior Mitchell Ranly is one of them: "Hot chocolate and *Fortnite* with friends while bundled up" is his idea of a top-tier snow day.

Junior Austin Niekamp also states, "Playing *Fortnite* because *Fort* is life." What could you possibly do without *Fortnite*? There would simply be no reason to live.

Junior Victor Hoelscher has different intentions

with the boys, and he writes, "Me and the boys like to build igloos!"



PHOTO BY: MR. ELSASS

Mr. Elsass's two daughters Lydia and Quinn playing in the snow on their day off school.

## Mr. Goodwin's office: idyllic romantic paradise

By: Morgan Spieth  
Opinion Editor

MARIA STEIN - Imagine you and the love of your life enjoying a picnic with the same plate of pizza rippers you stole from the cafeteria. You both try and grab the same strip as your hands touch. You look into the love of your life's eyes and cannot believe that you are in the most romantic place in the world . . . Mr Goodwin's office.

After dinner, you go to the gym and curl up under the same blanket as you look up to see the beautiful big motion sensor lights, wishing upon them for the rest of this date to go well. As you are about to kiss, the bell rings, and you're both officially late for class. However, you don't care because you are in love. Who needs good grades, anyway?

Marion Local students were asked to tell us where they think the best dating spot is located in the high school. Senior Audrey Winner believes that Mr Goodwin's office is the best dating spot "because he loves supporting new high school romances and would be happy to join you on your date." Clearly, Winner wants to have a date with her special someone in the principal's office, much like juniors Drew Lause, Adam Nietfeld,



PHOTO BY: MORGAN SPIETH

Seniors Kyle Otte and Anna Hemmelgarn and Principal Mr. Goodwin enjoy a romantic, candlelit dinner date in Mr. Goodwin's office.

and Victor Hoelscher, and freshman Mark Mescher.

According to sophomore Alea Pohlman, the hot new dating spot is "in

Ms. Cobb's room because you would have great chemistry, "WINK WINK."



Both seniors Devin Francis and Preston Kemper said Mrs. Hemmelgarn's room is the top dating spot. Obviously, they both have a secret crush on the handsome Chris Pine (who may or may not reside in Mrs. Hemmelgarn's blue cupboard), much like Mrs. Hemmelgarn herself.

Senior Alayna Eilerman took a much-needed romantic take on things when she said that the best date spot is "the shop, where you can carve your initials in wood to make your love official." HOW ADORABLE IS THAT!

Many other students said the commons or Mr. Elsass's room for the simple purpose of food being there.

Others also said the gym. They collectively said that they could pull out the bleachers, watch a movie in the projector, and snuggle close to one another. Senior Kyle Otte specifically said the crow's nest in the gym.

No matter where anyone chooses to go on a date, inside the high school is definitely one of the top spots this Valentine's Day!

## Flyers food for Valentine's Day

By: Anna Hemmelgarn  
News Editor

MARIA STEIN - Valentine's Day is today, and love is in the air! High school students were asked to respond with what they consider to be the best Valentine's Day gift. Food is the way to anyone's heart, considering "out to dinner" and "chocolate" took first and second places.

Out to dinner had 23.2 percent of votes, and coming in second place was good ole chocolate with a total of 22 percent of votes. The next most popular gifts were flowers with 15.9 percent, jewelry with 12.2 percent, and so on. Below are some students' more specific responses.

Senior Ben Ranly selected out to dinner because "the guy is happy because he gets to eat, and the girl is happy because she doesn't have to pay for it."

Junior Rachel Kuether also wants to go out to dinner for Valentine's Day. Toby Kremer, keep this in mind: she responded that she loves free food.

Junior Victor Hoelscher replied, "FOOD." Enough is said there.

Things must be really working out for senior

Brandt Homan in his new relationship with sophomore Grace Brunswick. He chose dinner as the best Valentine's Day gift because of "quality time with the individual you enjoy most."

"Expensive chocolate and flowers that will die in a week are overrated. Go to dinner and chat," Allison Dirksen responded.

To nobody's surprise, senior Landon Arling is so lonely and just wants to be by himself for Valentine's Day.

Senior Mitchell Ranly feels that a card or letter is the best gift for your special someone because you can "tell him/her how you really feel about them."

Freshman Jozlyn Schlarman states she really just wants a "boyfriend" because "I need someone to love."

"Flowers and a kiss on the cheek" is all sophomore Dylan Dahms wants and needs for this Valentine's Day.

Freshman Kate Ashman is a very needy girl, and she wants "all of the above" for Valentine's Day. Flowers and chocolate must not be enough for her.

Poor Joe Kunk, a senior, doesn't want anything



PHOTO BY: ANNA HEMMELGARN

Junior Rachel Kuether displays some of her favorite Valentine's Day gifts.

for Valentine's Day. He responds, "It's just another day: I don't need anything special."

Junior Adam Nietfeld wants "ancient dou-bloons," whatever that might be.



## Flyers fight for 2024 Freddy Awards

By: Morgan Spieth  
Opinion Editor

UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - In February 2017, the most prestigious and difficult artistic awards were established. As one of the highest and most respected awards, it is an honor for anyone to even be thought of as a nominee.

No, they're not the Oscars or the Grammys or the Emmys or the Tonys . . . The Freddys honor some of Marion Local's finest achievements in film, music, and anything else deemed relevant.

The 2024 Freddys were held on Feb. 13 in an undisclosed secret location to avoid paparazzi. We would like to thank the President of the Academy—Mr. Goodwin—for overseeing the awards. He has done a great job nurturing and supporting his “artistes” to follow their dreams.

And the Freddy Award goes to . . .

Actor in a Leading Role: Senior Aiden Grieshop, and Actor in a Supporting Role: Senior Preston Kemper for their co-starring roles in *Let's Hug in Mrs. Hemmelgarn's Room*

Actor in a Comedic Role: Senior Luke Wuebker for his star-stopping roles in *The Nickname 'Moped'* and *Bikes, Motorcycles, and Mopeds*

Actress in a Leading Role: Senior Clara Bar-

lage and Actress in a Supporting Role: Senior Lauren Kuck for *Always Together*

Understudy: Sophomore Derek Grieshop starring as Will Ferrell

Writing: Senior Kyle Otte with his close-up details in *Football Play-by-Plays*

Cinematography: Senior Anna Hemmelgarn for her role in *Always on her Phone*

International Feature Film: The latest movie in the long-running *Batman* franchise, starring Valentin Arnault with his hit role in *Save the Cat from the Tree*

Music: Junior Ava Ranly for her A-list performance in *The Guitar Hero*

Sound: Senior Camryn Swain for her role in *Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close*

Visual Effects: Senior Morgan Spieth for her lead role in *Paint*

Makeup and Hairstyling: Junior Lilly Moles for her outstanding performance in *Every Day*

Unfortunately, the underclassman underperformed in this year's awards. In order to keep these awards a Flyer tradition, they are going to need to step up their game and become the stars Mr. Goodwin wants them to be, so they can make their big break from this small town into Hollywood.

PHOTOS BY: KAILEE BEYKE AND ANNA HEMMELGARN

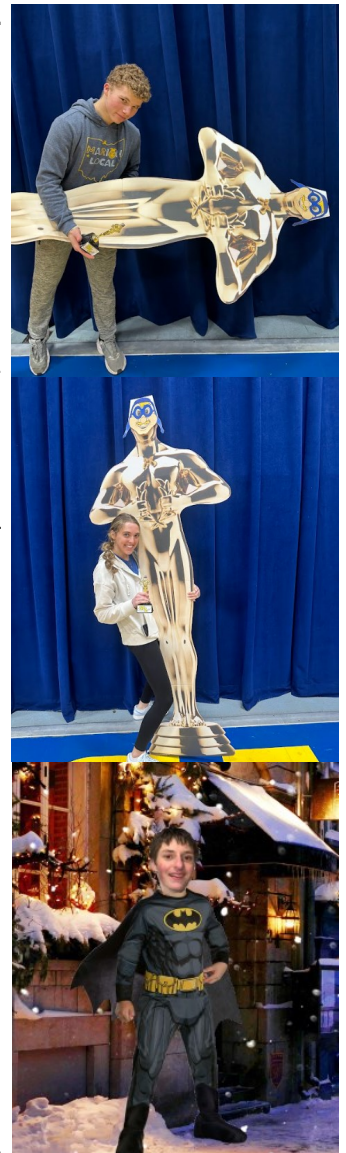


PHOTO BY: CAMRYN SWAIN



## Brunswick launches Media Arts class

By: Kailee Beyke  
Entertainment Editor

MARIA STEIN - The second semester for the 2023-2024 school year introduced a new class, Media Arts, as part of the art department's curriculum.

Senior Tri Star students Ally Mescher, Clara Barlage, and Isaac Griesdorn wanted to take a graphic design class, so art teacher Ms. Brunswick came up with this idea to challenge the students and create something new and engaging for the student body to enjoy.

To grow their skills in the new Media Arts class, the three sen-

iors will produce videos about different engaging topics throughout the semester. These videos will be shared with the student body throughout the semester.

The first video released was about students' and staff's New Year's resolutions. The seniors are using CapCut to create these videos by taking multiple different shots and videos and then merging them together.

Barlage explained why she is enjoying this new class: "It's really great when I make a simple animation for a video and Ms. B. praises me as if I performed rocket science!"

Mescher is also enjoying her new second semester schedule: "It's really fun to walk around school for third period getting videos instead of doing math!"

There will be approximately eight more videos sent out via email to all students throughout the rest of the school year.

Hopefully, as this new class develops throughout the semester, it will become a vibrant program for more Marion Local students to sign up for in future school years.

Look out for the next Media Arts video that will be released around Feb. 15.



PHOTO BY: KAILEE BEYKE

Senior Media Arts students Isaac Griesdorn, Ally Mescher, and Clara Barlage.



## Is love in the air or the hallways?

By: Kailee Beyke  
Entertainment Editor

MARIA STEIN - February is the season of love, which is why I want to introduce the couples that aren't, but should be! High school students voted on who they believe should be together, but aren't. Hopefully, this poll can spark some new love interests and find THE couple for each grade.



PHOTOS BY: KAILEE BEYKE

Freshman lovebugs Kara Dahlinghaus and Brandon Grieshop cuddle up next to each other.

Starting off with the most voted-for freshman couple, Kara Dahlinghaus and Brandon Grieshop. Their classmates Ella Schwieterman and Georgia Clune voted for their classmates that should be a couple because they claim they are "always together." Alayna Birt said, "They seem like it already... even Mr. Grabowski

thought they were!" When asked how they felt being coupled up, they both agreed on being "not surprised." This couple that isn't did not seem to mind the speculation of liking each other. I surely think they would make a perfect couple right in time for Valentine's Day! Coming in close for second place are Gina Bruns and Isaac Moeller: obviously your classmates believe you should rekindle this relationship and give it another shot just before Valentine's!

The next couple we have up is sophomores Alaina Buschur and Aaron Heitkamp. Their classmates gave one specific reason as to why they would make a great couple: they have rhyming nicknames. How cute! They could have an amazing 'ship name! Their classmates paired them together because their chemistry is unmatched. Heitkamp said that this



Sophomore sweetie pies Alaina Buschur and Aaron Heitkamp show their love by holding up hearts.

relationship suggestion "is weird, and this relationship will NOT happen in the future." (However, the sophomores are currently discussing verbal irony in English II.) Coming in second place for the sophomore class are Sophia Fleck and Brayden Mescher. Their classmates paired them up because they have similar personalities and allegedly flirt "all the time."



Junior lovebirds Emerson Bruns and Parker Hess are gazing with hearts in their eyes.

On deck are the juniors: winning for the couple that isn't but should be, are juniors Emerson Bruns and Parker Hess. Bruns said she wasn't shocked about being in the new relationship for the junior class. Bruns claims, "I'm not surprised; I've always been a fan favorite!" With a close vote, the runner-up couple is Damon Cramer and Ashlyn Moeller. Classmates voted for them because they claim it is quite obvious they like each other.

Last but not least, the seniors. Love is really in the air for this "couple"! Winning with almost all the votes for the senior class are seniors Jack Knapke and Audrey Winner. Knapke simply had nothing to say and denied most questions. Winner states, "Absolutely not." Coming in HOT with only one other vote are Joey Kunk and Jenna Kuess. A vote is a vote, and someone in your class thinks you would be a spectacular couple!



Senior sweethearts Audrey Winner and Jack Knapke "smile" for their couple portrait.

Here is a PSA to these new couples: check out page four to find the best spot to take a date and what the best Valentine's Day gift is. This may spark a few new relationships throughout the school. Good luck to all the couples that aren't, but should be, and now might be!

## Dear Cupid

By: Morgan Spieth  
Opinion Editor



Dear Cupid,

Freddy sucks at giving advice, and I think it is getting worse. The last time I asked Freddy for advice on how to get the attention of my crush, he told me to hang mistletoe above her door and wait in the bushes for the love of my life to come home. However, his plan did not work . . . AGAIN.

When I arrived, I hung the mistletoe above her front door, and everything was going really great. I was about to get into position in the bushes until her Grandma opened the door!

OK, Cupid, I know what you are thinking, I could have just walked away without a word, but you know how lovable grandparents can be. Anyway, she kept asking me all of these questions, and I kept trying to lie, but she saw right through me.

Eventually, I had to tell her the truth because it was coming dangerously close to the time my crush was arriving home. And when I told her this, she made me do something. Something I cannot believe I am telling anyone because . . .

I HAD TO KISS HER GRANDMA! And, no, not on the cheek! She even tried to French kiss me, Cupid! She held it for at least 30 seconds, and it was nasty, man!

I feel hopeless and need professional help.

Sincerely,  
Unimportant Freshman

Dear Unimportant Freshman,

YIKES! That Freddy really does give bad advice. You should have contacted me from the beginning so I could give you ideas way better than that.

I'll lend you one of my LOOOVEEEEEEE arrows, and you can shoot her with it. But you must be very careful with it. If the tip of the arrow comes in contact with anything other than this girl of yours, then you may or may not fall in love with whatever it hits. Or you might have amnesia or go into a coma or have strange dreams.

I'm not quite sure if I'm being honest: I've never really lent one of these to a human before, but why not start now? Right?

Break a leg,  
Cupid

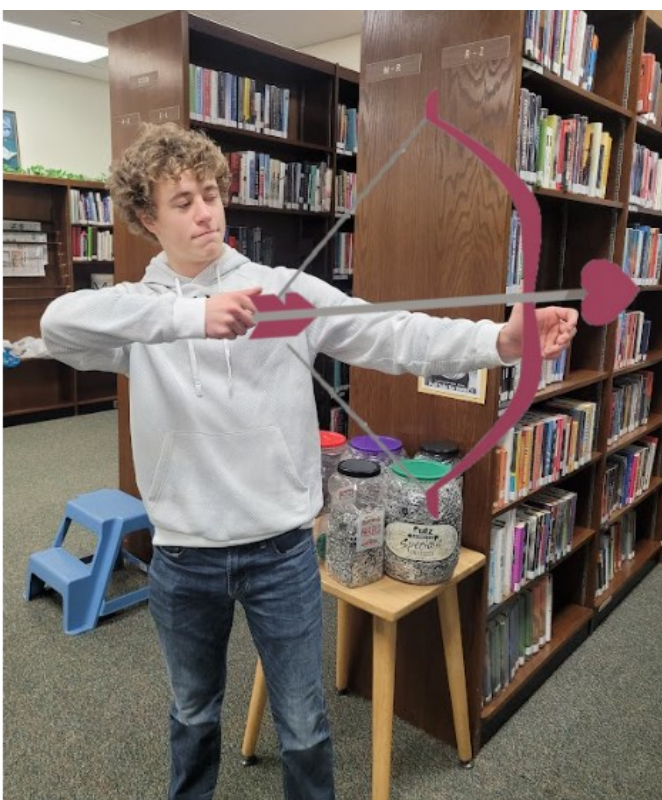


PHOTO BY: MORGAN SPIETH

An anonymous freshman takes a shot at using Cupid's love arrows this Valentine's Day.