

FFA earns awards, enjoys convention



PHOTO COURTESY OF MR. ELSASS

FFA Advisors Mr. Elsass and Mr. Bruns with senior Lucas Broering and junior Kelsey Bergman who both earned FFA State Degrees.

By: Joe Kunk and Emma Pleiman
Staff Writers

COLUMBUS - The Marion Local FFA Chapter traveled to Columbus, Ohio on May 2 and 3 to receive multiple awards and go on several tours at agricultural businesses for the FFA State Convention.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MR. ELSASS
Marion Local FFA at the State Convention.

This year, we had two people earn State Degrees: Lucas Broering and Kelsey Bergman. The State Degree is the second highest award an FFA member can receive. The requirements are to have completed 25 hours of community service, have been an FFA member for over a year and a half, have received the Green Hand degree, chapter degrees, be a junior or senior, and have earned or raised over \$2,500.

The Marion Local FFA also won several other awards, including the Gold Chapter Award, Star Treasurer Award, and Star Secretary Award. These awards are only awarded to the top 30 percent of FFA chapters in the state, and they prove that the Marion Local FFA cares about what they do and what they stand for.

During the trip to the State FFA Convention, we did many activities. We first started by taking a tour of Select Sires. At the end of day one, we then went to the baseball game, the Columbus Clippers vs. Toledo Mud Hens.

On day two, we started off enjoying convention events such as educational sessions and the Ohio Expo. We then took a tour of Wendy's research facility where we learned about the behind-the-scenes of the famous chain restaurant, Wendy's. We later went on to The Ohio State University to preview what the agricultural world is like in the college atmosphere.

Flyers get loud, luxurious at Prom



PHOTO BY: CHRISTY WILKER

The Class of 2024 enjoys Prom day with formal pictures at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center.

By: Aiden Grieshop and Preston Kemper, Staff Writers

MARIA STEIN - The 2024 Marion Local High School Prom was held on Saturday, April 20. The Prom theme this year was "Dripping in Luxury." Seniors Devin Francis and Alyssa Zizelman were crowned this year's Prom King and Queen. This year's Prom dance was held at the Maria Stein American Legion, where we feasted on wedding food.

Senior Prom King Francis said, "Here's the deal: I'm the best there is. Plain and simple." Senior Prom Queen Zizelman stated, "I think Prom was pretty great."

The Senior Prom Court consisted of Landon Arling escorting Brynn Arling, Marcus Rethman

escorting Anna Hemmelgarn, Luke Budde escorting Alyssa Zizelman, Jack Knapke escorting Nora Eckstein, and Devin Francis escorting Audrey Winner.

The Junior Prom King and Queen were Lydia Hess and Colten Ahrens. The Junior Prom Court consisted of Caleb Huelsman escorting Brooke Evers, Griffin Bruns escorting Natalie Evers, Colton Ahrens escorting Avae Unrast, Parker Hess escorting Lydia Hess, and Ben Seitz escorting Rachel Kuether.

The day began with pictures at the Maria Stein Retreat Center, followed by Mass at St. John's Catholic Church. The promenade was held at the high school gym, announced by Dalton Pohlmann,

sophomore class president. We had the surprise appearance of *Dumb and Dumber* (Caleb Huelsman and Derek Otte) who arrived in their limousine.

After the Promenade, the dinner was held at the Legion followed by the dance, featuring DJ Pacman. This year's Prom was different because we had Promenade after church instead of dinner first.

The night was filled with lots of smiling, from pictures at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center to walking through Promenade. Junior Class Advisor Mrs. Schulze, who planned Prom, said, "I thought overall Prom went great! We had a great turnout from the students, and the dance floor was full all night!"

Crowd 'poppin' at performance



PHOTO BY: CHRISTY WILKER

Senior John Kramer and sophomore Dalton Pohlmann as Mr. Banks and Bert in *Mary Poppins*.

By: Alayna Eilerman and Jenna Kuess
Staff Writers

MARIA STEIN - The drama club performed a magical rendition of the musical *Mary Poppins*. Opening night occurred on April 25, and the play ran shows until April 28, with over 55 total students involved on stage and behind the scenes.

The musical was very successful this year with the gymnasium packed full of spectators. Seniors taking the stage for their final performance were Clara Barlage as Mrs. Banks, John Kramer as Mr. Banks, Lau-

ren Kuck as Mrs. Brill, and Ally Mescher as Miss Andrew. Junior Zoey Goettemoeller took on the lead role of the legendary Mary Poppins.

Connie Brunswick continued as Director once again, and Mandy Koenig continued as Assistant Director. Erica Colopy served as Musical Director for her second year. Meanwhile, former student Natalie Ungruhn dove in as Assistant Director, and sophomore Grace Brunswick learned valuable experience as Student Director. The student Technical Directors were sophomore Brody Otte on sound and freshman Isaiah Pohlman on lighting.

The cast was very excited for all four performances, and they had the crowd cackling and clapping. Brunswick said, "The directors were very excited for the community to see *Mary Poppins*! The students have worked really hard for months to prepare a great show! We greatly appreciate the students' hard work and their courage to share their talents."

Senior Clara Barlage commented, "If there's one thing I've learned from drama club, it's this: whenever you're distressed, in trouble, or having an identity crisis, just sing a song about it!"

Senior John Kramer added, "I have enjoyed performing in the drama club's musicals for the past couple of years and cannot wait to see what they do next."



ML track flies toward postseason



PHOTO BY: ANNA HEMMELGARN

Senior Wesley Schoen finishes off the 4x4 as he glides down the homestretch as the boys' team captures their win at the Versailles Invitational.

By: Kyle Otte
Senior Editor

MARIA STEIN - This 2024 track season has been a weird one, just because of all the meets that have been canceled. Other than the bad weather and the cancellations, everything else has been promising on the boys' and girls' sides.

There are a handful of athletes that have been performing better than they were expected to. Highlight performances this season so far have

included junior sprinter Justin Knouff, senior mid-distance runner Wesley Schoen, junior sprinter Victor Hoelscher, and mid-distance senior Aiden Grieshop with their incredible speed. On the girls' side, sophomore hurdler Grace Moeller continues to perform and impress in her individual races.

The boys have won all of their meets except for the Celina Relays, where they were defeated by Celina. The boys' highlight wins so far were probably the Minster Memorial victory and the Versailles Invitational victory.

The girls' team has been fighting their way through all of the meets, competing with all of the great teams and athletes they have gone up against so far, and none of them have backed down from the competition that may seem scary.

On the boys' side of things, they are no strangers to the competition they see every meet. They are able to compete at their best without getting too caught up in victory. They don't worry about winning the meet, they worry about getting better and how they will perform. They will worry about winning the meet after the meet.

The postseason will start after the MAC meet on May 7 and 10 at Versailles. After that, the District meet will be held at Spencerville High School on May 15 and 17. Following this meet will be the



PHOTO BY: ANNA HEMMELGARN

Senior Carter Jones flies through the air as he clears the bar in pole vault at the Versailles Invitational.

Regional meet held at Troy High School on May 22 and 24. Then following the Regional meet will be the State Championships. The State Championship will not be held at Jesse Owens Stadium this year due to renovations. The meet will be held at the University of Dayton at Welcome Stadium on May 30 and 31. This year's state track meet for Division III will be held in the evening.

Flyers finish season strong



PHOTO BY: MARION LOCAL SPORTS PHOTOS

Junior Parker Hess

By: Braydan Homan and Dayne Pohlmann
Staff Writers

MARIA STEIN - This year's baseball team is led by juniors Parker Hess and Ethan Heitkamp, who are both having a phenomenal season. The team is holding strong, being 13-11 on the season.

The Flyers' first tournament game will be on May 16 at home, versus either Lima Central Catholic or Temple Christian.

Hess is the pitcher this year: he has an ERA of .802 and has thrown 686 pitches. Heitkamp is currently carrying the team on the batting side, with the highest batting average and the highest on-base percentage.

To start off the season, the Flyers beat Allen East at home. The game was at a standstill until the fourth inning, which the Flyers took by storm, leaving Allen East without scoring while the Flyers scored five runs.

Their first loss of the season came from Celina 11-0. Then, within four days, the Flyers played the Bulldogs again at Celina and were victorious.

Junior Andrew Pohlman has been attending every game this year. Pohlman said, "This team has potential to make a run with the bats swinging like they have been!"

Softball springs into tournament

By: Kailee Beyke
Senior Editor

MARIA STEIN - The softball team had a good season this year with a record of 5-16-1. The team went 2-4 in the MAC, which continued the trend from last season's record of 8-17. The team ended with a team BA of .274.

After rescheduling due to weather, the varsity team will start the OHSAA tournament off against Lima Central Catholic at 5 p.m. tonight, May 10.

The girls had a few big wins this year. They played against St. Henry on April 9 and won with a score of 5-3. They also played a gritty game against New Bremen winning 2-0, when the freshman pitching and catching duo Haley Everman and Kiley Schoenlein got some big strikeouts with runners for Bremen in scoring position almost every inning.

They started the season with a young team and had a few freshmen step up and help lead the team all-around defensively and offensively.

Head Coach Mindy Feasal said, "Overall, this season we are playing quality ball. We are



PHOTO BY: KAILEE BEYKE

The varsity softball team show their personalities in a goofy picture.

hitting the ball harder than we did in previous years. We are averaging seven hits per game on the current pace. We are five stolen bases away from meeting last year's total.

"Kalyn Thobe has already secured a spot in the ML record book to tie a triple-season total (3), and I expect more to come from her! So even though our record doesn't show it, we are playing better softball this year.

"We have plenty of ball in the coming week or two and are excited to see how this team comes together to (hopefully) make a good tournament run."

The JV ended their season on

Saturday, April 27 at St. Henry with a record of 3-4. The team had a great season with a team batting average of .265. This year was great for the JV softball team.

Freshman Everman commented on this year's season: "Our season has had ups and downs, but our team sticks together like a family. We have worked our butts off to get where we are playing today by putting in long hours.

"This season has allowed me to become closer with the girls and to be a better person and teammate! I am excited to see how we do in the tournament!"

Staff votes for senior superlatives



PHOTO BY: KYLE OTTE

Senior Luke Wuebker giving one of his famous lectures on how to avoid homework.

By: Kyle Otte
Senior Editor

MARIA STEIN - A poll was sent out to all of the staff, and they were asked questions about the seniors in the high school and which seniors best fit various categories. The staff came through with thoughtful responses, and the students they chose fit the questions perfectly.

The student who would be the easiest to give a detention to was, surprisingly, Wyatt Greenwood.

There was a tie for the student who would most likely drop out of school, and it was between Dayne Pohlmann and Isaac Griesdorn. However, Mr. Bruns disagreed with this, writing in the answer as “None—we excel!”

There was a three-way tie for the student who is seen as the class pet between Alyssa Zizelman, Emma Pleiman, and Brandt Homan.

Shockingly, there was a four-way tie for the student who has a tendency to make excuses between Landon

Arling, Preston Kemper, Toby Kremer, and Brayden Pavelka.

An overall winner for the student who would most likely do a TED talk on avoiding homework was Luke Wuebker.

In a non-surprising three-way tie for the person who is always caught with their phone out, Jenna Kuess, Anna Hemmelgarn, and Camryn Swain all gathered the same number of votes. Mr. Bruns’s vote was difficult to count in this category: “You name ‘em!”

It must be in the blood because Landon Arling and Brynn Arling tied on being the seniors with the most senioritis. They are either late to class or do not want to do any work because they just feel the school year winding down.

She always stays positive: Lauren Kuck got voted multiple times for being the senior who always has a positive attitude.

Running away with most votes, Landon Arling came away with the

win by being the senior who would most likely be late to class. Unsurprisingly, Toby Kremer wasn't too far behind him.

The last question the staff was asked was who acted like the best class clown. Many people were selected for this, but there was one clear winner. Brynn Arling comes away with it, being the best class clown in the senior class.



PHOTO BY: KYLE OTTE

Senior Landon Arling displays all the tardy slips he received this year.

Students ‘grade’ Marion Local staff



PHOTO BY: MORGAN SPIETH

Mr. Delawder and Mr. Salazar in the middle of their intense rap battle.

By: Morgan Spieth
Senior Editor

MARIA STEIN - This year, the senior class here at Marion Local turned the tables on the teachers and “graded” staff members based on superlatives. That being said . . .

Most Likely to Win the Nobel Peace Prize was won by Mr. Ashbaugh for his utmost respect and compassion for others. Mr. Ashbaugh also won the teacher that is the Most Quotable, Most Likely

to be a Contestant on *Jeopardy* and Win, and Best Dad Joke Teller. All of these are very true and fitting for Mr. Ashbaugh. All of his quotes, jokes, and random facts will never be forgotten.

Most Likely to Retire a Millionaire was won by only two votes, and Maintenance Supervisor Kevin “Pooch” Hartings took the win. With his determination to repair the school wherever there is a problem, he definitely deserves a raise (and to win the lottery).

Mr. Delawder is the teacher who is Most Likely to Win a Rap Battle. With all of his sick beats and amazing beatboxing skills, he is for sure going to take the win.

Although he came in second in the rap battle vote, Mr. Salazar won by a landslide as the teacher who is Most Likely NOT to Give Weekend Homework. Everyone knows that Fridays are the best spent in his classroom.

Narrowly sliding by and taking the win for the teachers who give the Best Advice and Wisdom is a tie between Mrs. Dippold and Ms. Yates. Both of these wonderful women win with their easygoing, non-judgmental, extremely helpful wisdom and absolutely splendid advice.

Taking over half of the votes, Mr. Grabowski and his procrastination skills gave him the “dub” as the number one teacher to Most Likely Wait to Put in Grades till the last minute. Everyone has taken his class, and everyone knows Mr. Grabowski deserves this win more than anyone.

Another win for “Grabo” is the easiest teacher to get off topic. Every student has to agree with this

when you can spend a fourth of the class talking about a hypothetical situation in the future.

Surprisingly, Mr. Grabowski takes another win as Most Likely to Make a Sarcastic Comment. HA! Just kidding, no surprise here again.

Most Likely to Trap a Bug and Set it Free Instead of Squishing It was—not surprisingly—won by Mrs. Vantilburg. Throughout her long time here at Marion Local, she has most definitely released a bug or two back into the wild.

The teacher with the Most School Spirit is Mrs. Hemmelgarn. Her bragging about Marion’s state test scores at the meetings she attends in Columbus and her love for her school is shown every day. She even says that she likes Marion Local more than New Bremen where her kids go (but don’t tell anybody).

Taking the utmost superbly advantageous lead for the teacher with the Most Grand and Intimidating Vocabulary, Ms. Yates has immense success. Teaching many advanced classes—like AP English and ACT Prep—Ms. Yates didn’t even need to compete for this win.

The teacher that is Most Likely to be Accidentally Called “Mom” or “Dad” is Mrs. Bruns. With her loving personality and amazing attitude, she has definitely been called “Mom” by multiple students before.

The biggest win of them all was Mrs. Broering with her win in Most Likely to be Mistaken For a Student. Her recent marriage may make her name not look like it, but she still holds true on all other attributes contributing to this win.

Dear Mr. Goodwin

By: Morgan Spieth
Senior Editor

Dear Mr. Goodwin,

On behalf of the Gold Standard staff, we apologize for all the indiscretions this year. We realize you are a very sensitive man and don't want to hurt your feelings. We apologize for the top five items that need to be addressed. This includes the following:



1. We are sorry for making your office the number-one dating spot in all of Ohio. After our Valentine's Edition, your office is now constantly full of couples who want to find love, and we are sorry to intrude on your important principal duties.

2. Not giving you enough credit for being the winningest OHSAA high school football coach of All Time. Like, EVER! We really should have mentioned that more frequently in the newspaper this year.

3. We are sorry for making you (almost) fall in love with one of your students when one of Cupid's arrows went astray in the Valentine's Edition. We now realize that we should respect the student-principal relationship.

4. We are sorry for having you yell at Unimportant Freshman, the star of Dear Freddy this year, for being late to classes instead of gently nurturing his sense of personal responsibility, as we know you would have preferred to do.

5. And, most of all, we apologize for saying how you have a really big nose. Oh wait, I don't think we said that in the Gold Standard. WHOOPS!

To cheer you up, we found a very charming and stylish photo of you from the 2000 yearbook to remind you of your youth.

Dear Freddy . . . The finale!

By: Morgan Spieth
Senior Editor

Dear Freddy,

I am here—for the first time ever—with great news. Actually, it's more than great; it's fantastic! The girl that I have had a crush on ALL YEAR has finally given me a chance. Even though I agreed with you when you said that all of this stuff was gross and sappy and that it never worked for Frieda—and probably wouldn't work for me—I gave it a chance! And lucky for me, it worked!

Anyway, let me tell you how it all went down. For the past few weeks, I have been such a gentleman to her. I open doors for her on the way to class. I have also been complimenting her and talking to her every now and then so that she would notice me a bit more.

In the past, I bought her coffee and some of her favorite drinks from Champion Nutrition. However, this time when I bought her a coffee, she didn't throw it in my face! And the next time I bought her a treat and flowers, she didn't throw them away in front of me: she waited about 25 minutes, ate two bites of the chocolate, and then threw it away! I am so excited! I think she likes me back! She is so nice and sweet. I think I'm in love, Freddy!

Doing all of this sappy stuff that you recommended worked for our relationship. I am excited to see where this takes us. I hope we get to kiss sometime soon (she said she doesn't like to). She is the love of my life! I could not thank you enough for what you have done for me throughout the year.

Thank you so much, Freddy!

Unimportant Freshman

Dear UNimportant Freshman,

You are very welcome. Relationship advice is one of my favorite things to give.

Even if you completely failed at all of the good advice I gave you, I'm glad that one idea finally worked; to my surprise, it was the crappy idea that worked out well. I mean, come on: who likes a gentleman? I sure don't! And Frieda DEFINITELY does NOT like that kind of sappy stuff.

Sadly, I assume that I will no longer be receiving as many letters from you about your miserable relationship. However, best of luck to you and your journey, Unimportant Freshman! Until we meet again!

Love from your BEST FRIEND, Freddy

P.S. When your relationship eventually does implode in on itself because you are being such a crappy boyfriend, don't hesitate to write to me again.



PHOTO BY: MORGAN SPIETH

This lucky freshman finally found the way to win this mystery senior girl's heart after a long year of following Freddy the Flyer's relationship advice.

Guess that middle school couple!

By: Kailee Beyke
Senior Editor

- Although they both say they weren't dating, they "talked" in secret for four months. They got a picture in DC to make this more of an official relationship. This picture solidified this couple, but it unfortunately ended when he lied to her, and she didn't like that and lost trust, so she broke it off.
- This couple only lasted for about a month, with the highlight of their relationship taking place in DC. This gentleman really liked the braids she wore in her hair!
- This couple dated in the seventh grade. Not many people remember this relationship: it was short-lived when he lost feelings for her, and they broke up. This was a very "mature" relationship.
- This long-lasting relationship lasted almost a year! They started dating in the seventh grade and broke up the summer before eighth. They were quite the photogenic couple on the Skyzone field trip!
- This couple started dating in the summer of seventh grade and broke up that school year in February after she ended it. Shortly after they broke up, he blocked her on Snapchat for a month. They also had their first kiss on the back of a golf cart!
- Although this was never an official couple, the entire eighth grade rooted for them. They most definitely liked each other and were number ones on Snap over the DC trip.
- This patriotic relationship both started and tragically ended on the eighth-grade DC trip. This was a short-lived relationship when Jenna Kuess snuck into his room and they sat next to each other. Some jealousy broke out and ended this relationship.
- This couple began on Kik in the fourth grade. They talked on Kik almost every day over Christmas break, but this relationship came to an abrupt stop when she broke up with this unlucky guy before Christmas break ended.



Devin & Nora



Isaac & Audrey



Mitchell & Allison



Brandt & Alyssa



Kyle & Brynn



Preston & Hailey



Kyle & Brooke



Kyle & Audrey

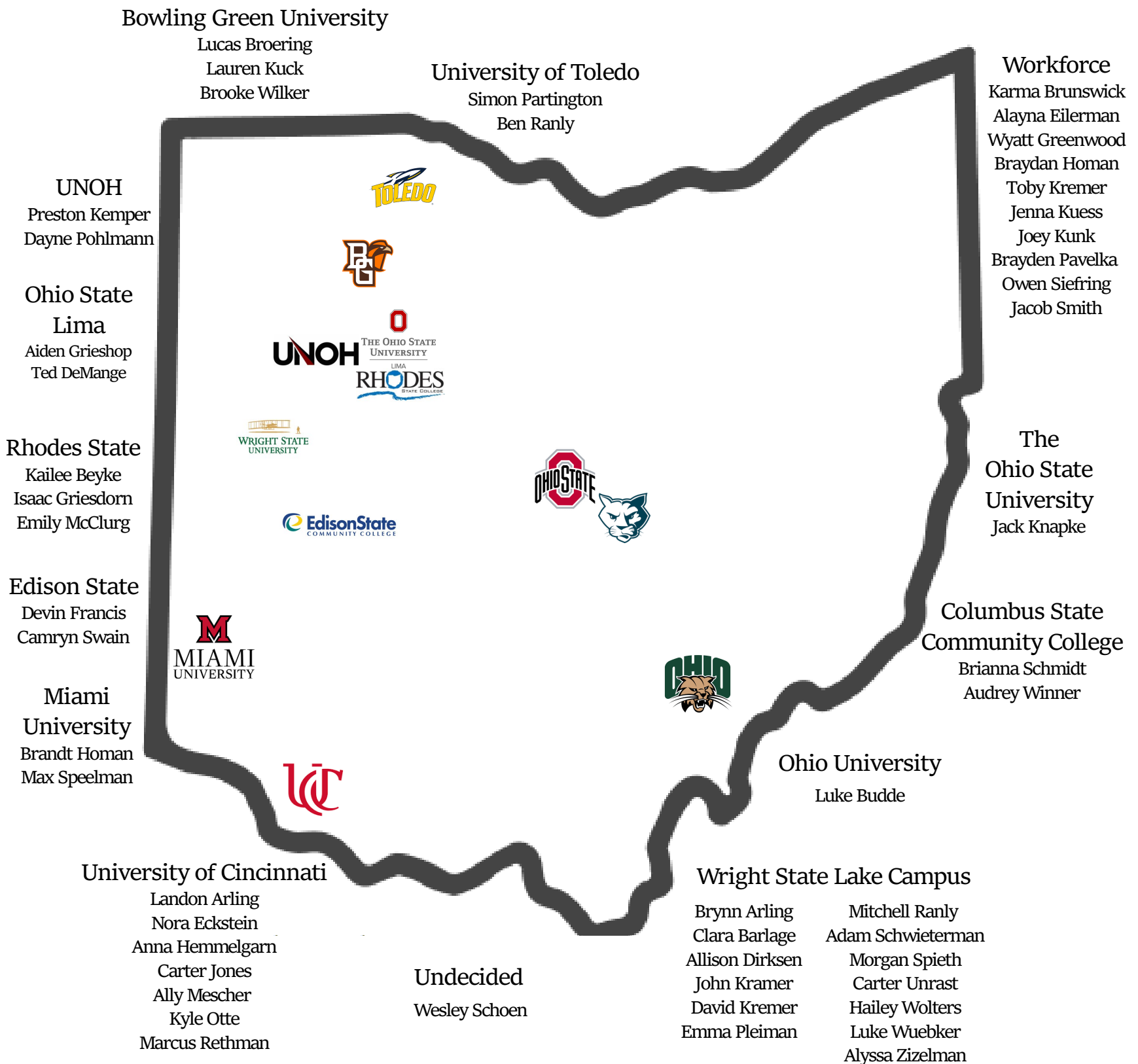
I hope someday we'll sit down together And laugh with each other 'bout these days, these days All our troubles, we'll lay to rest And we'll wish we could come back to these days, these days



Class of 2024



Seniors select to stay in state



By: Anna Hemmelgarn
Senior Editor

OHIO - This year, for the first time in several years, every member of the graduating class plans to stay in Ohio after high school.

The most popular college destination for next year is Wright State University's Lake Campus, only 18 miles away from good old Marion Local High School. 13 members of the Class of 2024—over a quarter of the class!—will be seeing each other every day, once again, for the next four years.

Morgan Spieth explained the logic behind her choice of the Lake Campus: "I chose to go to Wright State University because I preferred to live at home and be close with my family, since I know my mom would dearly miss me. Also I figured that it would be a good financial decision for me

to be able to save lots of money. I am very excited to start this new journey!"

Twenty percent of the Class of 2024 are even more economically-minded in their choice for next year: 10 newly-minted adults are headed straight to the workforce.

Brayden Pavelka explained his choice to start earning straightaway by saying, "They told me I would never make it to college; well . . . they were right."

Jack Knapke will be our only male senior on an athletic scholarship next year, when he joins the track and field program at The Ohio State University in Columbus. He is excited to begin this exciting new chapter in his life, stating, "I'm really excited to go to The Ohio State University and continue my track career next year. I'm excited to try new things and meet new people."

In a last-minute change of mind, Class President Luke Budde has decided to travel the furthest from Marion Local next year, heading all the way across the state to Ohio University. He explained his choice: "I think it will be nice to move away from the Marion area and to put myself in a tough position where I will have to meet new people. Another positive attribute about where I chose to attend is that I'm still able to have that rural town and smaller college feel that I'm so used to."

Though not a member of the Class of 2024, government teacher Mrs. Erica Schulze also made a surprise last-minute announcement that she too will be leaving Marion Local at the end of this school year. She will only be seven miles away, though, at home in Minster as a stay-at-home mom with her young children. I'm sure many students and staff can say she will truly be missed, but we hope the best for her!



Class of 2024



Wise words from the Class of 2024



PHOTO BY: CARTER JONES & DEVIN FRANCIS

Senior Luke Wuebker pushes senior Mitchell Ranly into a (very realistic) fire.

By: Devin Francis, Carter Jones, and Brayden Pavelka
Staff Writers

MARIA STEIN - Each senior has one phrase that they will always remember. These quotes are something that sits with them forever or they represent a person's character and personality. These are the final words that wrap up our high school days from the Class of 2024.

Brynn Arling: "Holding your pee is no way to live life." - Kendall Jenner

Landon Arling: "Everyone has a plan until they get punched in the mouth!" - Mike Tyson

Clara Barlage: "That wasn't like *High School Musical* . . ." - Anonymous

Kailee Beyke: "You can dance, you can jive, having the time of your life!" - ABBA

Lucas Broering: "And now the ACTUAL hard work starts." - Anonymous

Karma Brunswick: "The path to greatness is hard and long. Even boring sometimes, but there are no shortcuts. So you have to stay. Focused." - Carol Kincaid from *OK KO: Let's be Heroes!*

Luke Budde: "You stay classy, San Diego." - Ron Burgundy

Ted DeMange: "For nothing is impossible with God." - Luke 1:37

Allison Dirksen: "It's not that deep." - Anonymous

Nora Eckstein: "High school taught me so many things that I still use to this day!" - No One Ever

Alayna Eilerman: "School is actual-

ly easy when you try." - Lincoln Stachler

Devin Francis: "Love me Sexy!" - Jackie Moon

Wyatt Greenwood: "If you're gonna be late to school, you may as well grab some breakfast to make it worth it." - Wyatt Greenwood

Isaac Griesdorn: "Not again, Griesdorn . . ." - Mr. Goodwin

Aiden Grieshop: "I don't know if we have a destiny, or if we're all just floating around accidental-like on a breeze, but I think maybe it's both." - Forrest Gump

Anna Hemmelgarn: "Do your thing, and don't care if they like it." - Tina Fey

Brandt Homan: "Orange Juice?" - Jacob Smith

Braydan Homan: "I'm here for a good time, not a long time" - Anonymous

Carter Jones: "So you're telling me there's a chance . . ." - Lloyd Christmas

Preston Kemper: "What's up, brother?" - Sketch

Jack Knapke: "I like two-by-fours." - Jack Knapke

John Kramer: "It ain't that funny, Budde." - Mr. Ashbaugh

David Kremer: "I don't care who IRS sends, I am not paying taxes." - Anonymous

Toby Kremer: "If you have a problem figuring out whether you're for me or Trump, then you ain't black." - Joe Biden

Lauren Kuck: "I fight for what's

right, I don't really care who supports it." - John Dutton

Jenna Kuess: "And that's a wrap on another day where I acted like I knew what I was doing." - Anonymous

Joe Kunk: "Hit life like a blacksmith hits metal: HARD!" - Anonymous

Emily McClurg: "God will never give you anything you can't handle, so don't stress." - Kelly Clarkson

Ally Mescher: "Follow your passion, and life will reward you." - Uncle Iroh, *Avatar: The Last Airbender*

Kyle Otte: "I'm not a businessman; I'm a business, man." - Jay-Z

Simon Partington: "I'm the best there is. I wake up in the morning, and I pee excellence." - Ricky Bobby

Brayden Pavelka: "No" - Rosa Parks, because she was a strong-minded, intelligent individual who stood up for herself

Emma Pleiman: "Don't be so humble — you are not that great." - Anonymous

Dayne Pohlman: . . .

Ben Ranly: "The worst that can happen is that we end up in the hospital!" - The guys every weekend

Mitchell Ranly: "Webby would be the one to push someone into a fire." - Most of the boys

Marcus Rethman: "We had fun, that's all that matters." - Me

Brianna Schmidt: "I was too LAZY to do anything so BP, Devin, and Jones made it for me." - Pavelka, Francis, and Jones

Wesley Schoen: "I want to thank Google, Wikipedia, and whoever invented copy and paste." - Wesley Schoen

Adam Schwieterman: "World's Greatest Invention: CCP Classes" - Anonymous

Owen Sieftring: "Should've burned this place down when I had the chance." - Michael Scott

Jacob Smith (Morty): "CHEESE!" - Anonymous

Max Speelman: "If there is a will, there is a way. If there is a Quizlet, there is an A." - Anonymous

Morgan Spieth: "I'm not good at the advice, can I interest you in a sarcastic comment?" - Chandler Bing

Camryn Swain: "Have fun!" - Anonymous

Carter Unrast: "Well, the fridge broke, so I had to eat everything." - Joey Tribbiani

Brooke Wilker: "Never memorize something that you can look up." - Anonymous

Audrey Winner: "Let me tell you this, the older you do get, the more rules they're gonna try to get you to follow. You just gotta keep livin' man, L-I-V-I-N." - David Wooderson

Hailey Wolters: "Fold them dishes!" - My mom

Lucas Wuebker: "Your voice is like a combination of Fergie and Jesus." - Dale Doback

Alyssa Zizelman: "I don't know where I'm going from here, but I promise it won't be boring." - Anonymous

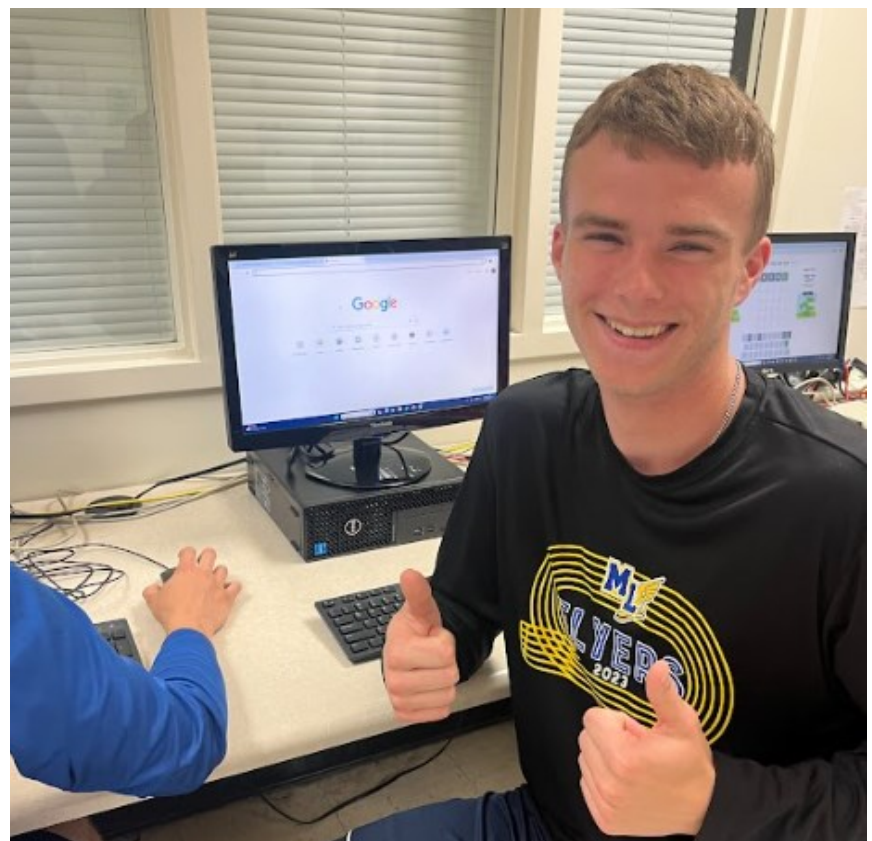


PHOTO BY: CARTER JONES & DEVIN FRANCIS

Senior Wesley Schoen thanks Google for all the help he has received from it.



Class of 2024



Guess that senior!

By: Kyle Otte
Senior Editor

ACROSS

1. Goofiest and most sarcastic guy in the grade
4. He lives on Gold Top Farm
9. This person is a bull rider
11. She is the oldest of six kids
12. Known for his Super Senior acts
14. Only girl going to college for sports

15. She is not found in school often

17. Known to be very sassy and give an attitude

19. Could always correct your answer in any class

20. This kid has one kidney

21. Likes to sleep in a lot

25. Loves her car more than anything

26. Red hair

29. Second coolest guy in Osgood

30. Loves the movie *Mamma Mia*

31. He loves farming and driving tractors

32. Known for her nickname HOPS

33. His dolphin laugh will always make you laugh

37. Loudest voice in the high school

38. Traveled from Versailles

40. Conducts the band

41. Could mistake him for a leprechaun

43. You may not find him at school a lot

44. You can see him at OSU next year

46. Buddy never gets tired while running

47. The judge

48. You can find him down Droesch Road

DOWN

2. Padre is cooler

3. James is the cooler one

5. You could see him as the owner of Reliable in a few years

6. Curley Fries

7. Mary Kay cosmetics volunteer

8. The Salutatorian

9. Coolest guy in Osgood

10. Has a very distinctive laugh

13. You could never beat this person in a video game

16. Only guy in AP English

18. She is in Med Prep for Tri Star

20. He is always standing up or messing with something

27. Nobody can ever say his last name correctly

28. She is in Girl Scouts

34. Only senior girl in bowling

35. You can find him in the gym getting huge

36. Probably will own the Elks one day

39. "Tainted Love"

42. Always seems to be wearing a knee brace

45. You can find him hunting geese any day

22. Common sense is not a strong suit of this person

23. Big ole Packers fan

24. Farmer

26. He is Sub 12

Will underclassmen fulfill seniors' wills?

By: Wyatt Greenwood and Isaac Griesdorn
Staff Writers

I, Lucas Broering, being of stable mind and amazing body, do hereby will my great sense of humor to Trey Goettemoeller, so he can continue to lighten up the cross country team.

I, Alayna Eilerman, being of confident mind and strong body, do hereby will my willingness to learn to Katrina Will, so she can get through math without complaining.

I, Emma Pleiman, being of delightful mind and body, do hereby will my amazingness at annoying "Sherbear" to Grace Brunswick.

I, Brandt Homan, being of small mind and perfect body, do hereby will my speed and incredible attractiveness to Troy Moeller, so he can finally get a female specimen to look at him.

I, Lauren Kuck, being of sound mind and body, do hereby will my conducting skills to Emily Moeller and Katelyn McClurg, so they can take over the role of field commander.



PHOTO BY: ISAAC GRIESDORN

I, Carter Unrast, being of strong mind and average body, do hereby will my superb golf skills to Trent Homan, so the Marion Local golf team can continue its success.

I, Wyatt Greenwood, being of unstable mind and strong body, do hereby will my strength to Trey Brookhart, so that he will finally stop being so skinny.

I, Morgan Spieth, being of SARCASTIC mind and painful body, do hereby will my somewhat

good art skills to Ethan Osterholt, so he can suck just a little bit less at art . . . however, he will need more; he needs A LOT of help.

I, Landon Arling, being of the highest intellectual mind and killer Greek god-like body, do hereby will my insanely good game with the ladies to Andrew Pohlman, so that he may someday be able to have a full conversation with a female.

I, David Kremer, being of disembodied mind and mangled body, do hereby will my thousands of dollars of debt to Austin Niekamp, so someone pays it off.

I, Clara Barlage, being of questionably stable mind and clumsy body, do hereby will my talent of throwing gutter balls to Allie Moeller, so she can surpass my record of most gutter balls thrown by a single member of the bowling team.

I, Brayden Pavelka, being of slow mind and short body, do hereby will my running fast sometimes to Cale Nagel, so he can finally run a fast time.



Class of 2024



PHOTO BY: ANNA HEMMELGARN

Senior Allison Dirksen kisses a picture of senior Carter Jones like the good old days.

By: Anna Hemmelgarn
Senior Editor

MARIA STEIN - These past 13 years have been beyond memorable for the 2024 class of seniors. With graduation in a week, here are some bitter-sweet and memorable moments from our school years that the seniors want to share.

“Lucas Broering gave Anna Hemmelgarn a necklace, and she threw it in the trash.”

“Carter Jones asked Morgan Spieth on a date for truth or dare.”

“Camryn Swain ran away through the woods at the last day of school party; we couldn't find her!”

“Allison Dirksen kept a picture of Carter Jones by her bed and kissed it every night.”

Remember when . . .

“Braydan Homan got yelled at by Mr. Koenig for calling Mrs. Weitzel a zombie.”

“We tied Devin Francis to the basketball pole with jump ropes at recess.”

“We toilet-papered Isaac Griesdorn's house, and we ran through the field after, and Kyle Francis ran straight into a fence.”

“Brandt Homan sprained his ankle in music class while playing a game.”

“Brynn Arling ate 10 bananas during one lunch in junior high.”

“Joey Kunk kept spilling half of his lunch on himself every single day, and his favorite person, Mrs. Clune, brought him a big bib to wear when he ate lunch, and he stopped talking to her for two weeks.”

“We started a fire in Mr. Ashbaugh's chemistry class as sophomores.”

“Joey Kunk got crushed by a golf cart at senior campout.”

“Jacob Smith snorted crushed warheads in Mr. Kaup's science class.”

“Ricky Vanmeter, an old student of ours, was a 'pro wrestler.'”

“Landon Arling kissed Audrey Winner in the second grade.”

“Every girl in the grade had a crush on Carter Jones in elementary school.”

“Marcus Rethman told Audrey Winner that he was Lady Gaga and got a red card.”

“Braydan Homan got kicked out of Mrs. Kessen's and slammed the door so loud people thought he broke it.”

“In Mrs. Kessen's class, we didn't say a word the whole class.”

“In Mrs. Wolters's class, we set off six alarms in one class.”

“A group of people toilet-papered Mrs. Wolters the first month she started teaching.”

“Brynn Arling called Ted DeMange 'thick' and he thought it meant fat, so he told Mr. Koenig.”

“Jacob Smith said he could flip all the trays at the lunch table by hitting the table hard enough.”

“Wuebby [Luke Wuebker] drove his car into the muddy woods and got it stuck deep into the woods.”

“Kyle Francis stapled his finger in the first grade and screamed and scared everyone.”

“Braydan Homan tried to call his 'girlfriend' [Lauren Ruhenkamp] on Luke Wuebker's thermostat.”

“Toby Kremer got beaten up by a guard rail.”

“Brynn Arling was crying over a breakup and Nora Eckstein was trying to be a good friend but instead got yelled at by Mrs. Huwer.”

Seniors know what is best

By: Anna Hemmelgarn
Senior Editor

MARIA STEIN - High school is full of highs and lows, and the graduating Class of 2024 is filled with very intelligent minds who have shared some advice you should take very seriously.

Lucas Broering- “Work as hard as you can throughout your entire high school career until your senior year, then just stop trying.”

Brandt Homan- “Show up to Ms. Sutton's late. I've never seen her penalize anyone for it.”

Brooke Wilker- “School's just school; life goes on.”

Jenna Kuess- “It's okay to not listen to the teacher 100% of the time. Sometimes they really don't give good advice.”

Allison Dirksen- “Walk faster. Please.”

Morgan Spieth- “If someone asks you to do something, do it really badly so you never have to do it again.”

Jacob Smith- “Don't do drugs, kids!”

David Kremer- “Don't shout swears in the school parking lot.”

Ally Mescher- “Don't take AP Calculus if you hate math. I can tell you from experience that it's not worth it.”

Joey Kunk- “Think about the future and where you see yourself, and while, yes, it's good to live life to the fullest and have fun in high school, at the same time, your life will be better off if you think about your future and set yourself up for success.”

Owen Siefring- “If you can't finish high school, you can always finish concrete.”

Braydan Homan- “113,800 hours just for a paper and a handshake is not worth it.”

Camryn Swain- “YOLO.”

Wesley Schoen- “Due dates are just a suggestion.”

Lauren Kuck- “Take challenging classes, and work hard.”

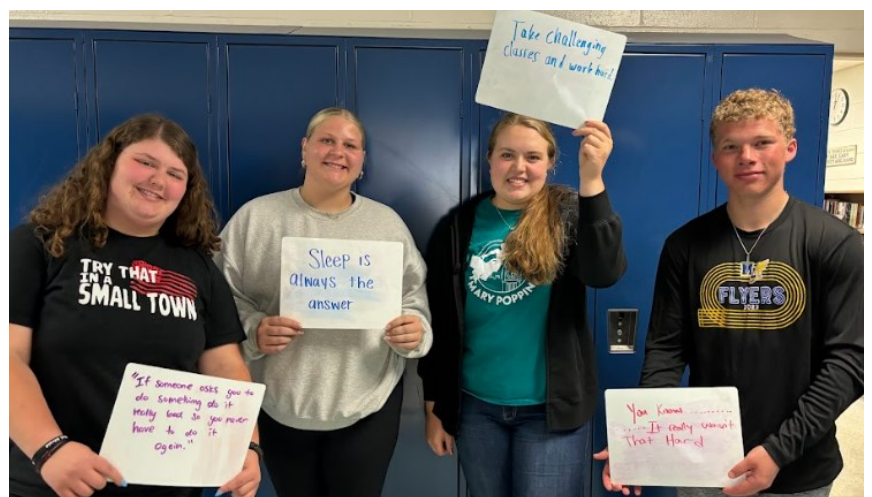


PHOTO BY: ANNA HEMMELGARN

Seniors Morgan Spieth, Kailee Beyke, Lauren Kuck, & Kyle Otte hold their advice.

Carter Unrast- “Enjoy the time while it lasts, because it goes by quickly.”

Kyle Otte- “You know . . . it really wasn't that hard.”

Alayna Eilerman- “Don't stress over the little things.”

Brayden Pavelka- “Don't do drugs.”

Audrey Winner- “Procrastination is the way to go.”

Clara Barlage- “Pretend like you know what you're doing, even when you couldn't have any less of a clue what's going on. That's how I passed AP English.”

Anna Hemmelgarn- “Nothing really matters.”

Wyatt Greenwood- “Don't take exams seriously.”

Kailee Beyke- “Sleep is always the answer.”



Class of 2024



President Unrast moves capital to Maria Stein

By: Kailee Beyke & Morgan Spieth
Senior Editors

MARIA STEIN, 2034 - I, Morgan Spieth, was standing in line at Winans waiting for Kailee Beyke to meet me for a coffee break from her tiring week-long shopping trip.

We were catching up as the President of the United States Carter Unrast made a national announcement that said, "My fellow Americans, as the youngest president in history, Congress has decided to move the capital of the country to my hometown, Maria Stein, Ohio.

"In celebration of this astonishing news, I am inviting the Class of 2024 from Marion Local High School to join me for the groundbreaking of the new White House at 7:30. Hope to see you there, and God Bless America!"

We looked at each other intently, both shocked, as Brynn Arling ran in the door screaming, shouting, "HELP! My dog got hit by a car!"

We walked outside to help when we saw Brooke Wilker crying over the dent that the dog had left on her beloved car and Nora Eckstein trying to comfort them both. Their moods instantly changed when we asked them if they had heard the brilliant news from President Unrast. They were ecstatic to soon see their past classmates. This got us talking about what everyone had been up to these past 10 years.

At that moment, Brynn said that she had seen Toby Kremer coming down Drosch Road on his moped with Luke Wuebker on the back with his hands wrapped around Toby's waist. They told us that there would be a gathering in Toby's shop before the groundbreaking ceremony, just like the good old days.

As we all left to get ready, we were immediately met by new town cops Camryn Swain, David Kremer, and Jacob "Morty" Smith on their Segways in fast pursuit of three unknown assailants for stalking Marcus Rethman. After asking us if we had seen anything suspicious, they rode by.

At the get-together before the ceremony, our former Flyer from sophomore year Valentin Arnoult flew in from France on his private jet. As we were reminiscing about our past times as classmates, Anna Hemmelgarn walked in holding three phones, when she got a call on the new iPhone 54 Super Plus Mega tablet. Alyssa Zizelman notified her that she and Brayden Pavelka



PHOTO BY: MORGAN SPIETH

49th President of the United States Carter Unrast inspires his former classmates and fellow citizens in 2034.

would, unfortunately, be late because she got stuck in a ditch with her blue minivan while trying to bring their dogs to the new all-animals daycare in the industrial park owned by Joey Kunk.

Once it hit seven o'clock, we started to make our way to the ceremony, when we were held up by a tractor race between Dayne Pohlmann, Owen Siefring, and Adam Schwierman. In this riveting race between farm machinery, we could hardly hold on to our chairs as we cheered and clapped for our choice of tractor. After Owen won, we all got into John Kramer's "MAN VAN" and started to head to the ceremony at 7:28—almost late, as always.

When we finally arrived at the ceremony, we had no time to spare. The band *Devin and The Short Brothers*, consisting of lead singer Devin Francis, backup singer Ben Ranly, drummer Mitchell Ranly, and tambourinist Jack Knapke, had already started to sing their hit new single "The King."

In the middle of the performance, Lauren Kuck and her husband, Isaac Griesdorn, started to yell as their nine kids all ran up and sat in the front of the stage to hear their favorite song by their favorite band. Following their kids, Aiden Grieshop, his wife Emily McClurg,

and their five dogs tried to find seats in the crowd. As their dogs barked uncontrollably, they knew something terrible was on the horizon.

As *Devin and The Short Brothers* were finishing up, Vice President Luke Budde came on the speakers and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome the 49th President of the United States, Carter Unrast!"

There was an abundance of applause. That was, until a rotten tomato flew at the President's feet thrown by Emma Pleiman as she yelled, "YOU STINK!"

Unperturbed, President Unrast gave his opening remarks: "Thanks to everyone who showed up to this unbelievable feat. I have invited all of my past classmates. However, it has just come to my attention that Braydan Homan, Landon Arling, and Carter Jones were unable to be here today. They were just arrested for crimes they 'did not' commit. Stalking is hardly a crime. That being said, my first act at this new capital city of ours is to pardon these--"

President Unrast was interrupted when Lucas Broering's evil laugh was heard ringing through the crowd, and the powerful whooshing sound of a helicopter flown by Simon Partington and co-pilot Kyle Otte was heard overhead.

Clara Barlage came sliding down the rope in front of the President. All of a sudden she yelled, "YOU'RE BEING KIDNAPPED! And if you don't comply with our demands, there will be consequences!"

The top Osgood Secret Service agents Ted DeMange, Preston Kemper, and Wesley Schoen all shouted in unison, "STATE YOUR DEMANDS!"

Simon yelled, as he was coming down the rope, "We need you to apologize for stealing my Valedictorian position! My life has not turned out as planned. If only I had been eligible for those scholarships, I would have been able to go to Yale!"

Soon after Simon's rant, Wyatt Greenwood and Allison Dirksen hopped up onto the stage, prepared to fight. Simultaneously, Hailey Wolters and Brianna Schmidt ran up from behind and hit Simon in the back of the head to try and knock him out. This being unsuccessful, Clara pushed them all off the stage.

Not long after, the president's Secret Service agents tried to come to the rescue once more. Jenna Kuess came out swinging hard and unfortunately accidentally hit the agents and not the bad guys. Karma Brunswick fled in fear after realizing the only hope of surviving was leaving.

Meanwhile, Ally Mescher and Alayna Eilerman threw the rest of Emma's rotten tomatoes at Lucas, Simon, and Kyle's helicopter blades, causing it to crash straight into the high school. Tragically, Marion Local Schools exploded into a dramatic mushroom cloud as a final backdrop to the epic battle.

After many scary hours, the President was finally returned by Brandt Homan and Audrey Winner who were successfully able to capture Clara, Lucas, Simon, and Kyle, the culprits who had committed this heinous crime.

That same day, at that same ceremony, Brandt and Audrey were awarded both the Nobel Peace Prize and the Presidential Medal of Honor for their outstanding act of valor. As the medals of honor were going around their necks, the crowd started to clap and cheer wildly . . .

I suddenly jolt awake to the sound of loud applause as Mr. Goodwin finally finishes his boring commencement speech. As I wipe the drool off my chin and straighten my graduation cap, one person before my name is about to be announced: "George Maxwell Speelman."

I hope someday we'll sit down together And laugh with each other 'bout these days, these days All our troubles, we'll lay to rest And we'll wish we could come back to these days, these days



Class of 2024



"These Days"

I know you moved onto someone new
Hope life is beautiful
You were the light for me to find my truth
I just wanna say, thank you

Leaving to find my soul, told her I had to go
And I know it ain't pretty when our hearts get broke
Too young to feel this old, watching us both turn cold
Oh, I know it ain't pretty when two hearts get broke
Yeah, I know it ain't pretty when two hearts get broke

I hope someday we'll sit down together
And laugh with each other 'bout these days, these days
All our troubles, we'll lay to rest, and
We'll wish we could come back to these days, these days

Oh-oh, I know, I know
Oh, I know, I know
Oh-oh, I know, I know
These days, these days

Three years of ups and downs, nothing to show for it now
And I know it ain't pretty when the fire burns out
Calling me when I'm down remind me of what I've done
And I know it ain't pretty when you're trying to move on, yeah

I hope someday we'll sit down together
And laugh with each other 'bout these days, these days
All our troubles, we'll lay to rest, and
We'll wish we could come back to these days, these days

Oh-oh, I know, I know
Oh, I know, I know
Oh-oh, I know, I know
These days, these days

Reminiscing on those past days
I thought you'd end up with my last name
But that changed

And I travelled around the world, think where you living at now?
I heard you moved to Austin, got a new apartment and settled down
And every once in a while I start texting
Write a paragraph, but then I delete the message

Think 'bout you like a past time
I could cry you a river, get you baptized or
I wasn't ready to act right
Used to always think I'd get you back, right?

They say that things fall apart (yeah)
We were gonna move to Brooklyn, you were gonna study art
Love is just a tool to remind us who we are
And that we are not alone when we're walking in the dark

I hope someday we'll sit down together
And laugh with each other 'bout these days, these days
All our troubles, we'll lay to rest, and
We'll wish we could come back to these days, these days

We'll wish we could come back to these days, these days

