

MOAC Winter Honorees

Marion Harding had a terrific winter athletics season! All the winter sports teams posted winning records with several individuals earning accolades during the postseason.

The bowling teams were well represented at the MOAC Banquet with Kenzi Vaught (Girls) and Jayden Combs (Boys) both earning MOAC Bowler of the Year Honors. Coach Corey Chatman was also named MOAC Boys Bowling Coach of the Year

In addition, Caden Millisor, Gage Warren and Hannah Mullennix earned 1st Team MOAC Bowling Honors.

Drake Cerny earned 1st Team MOAC honors in wrestling by virtue of his conference title in the 126# weight class at the MOAC Tournament in Galion.

Justice Steinman-Ross was a 1st Team Girls Basketball MOAC Player for the Presidents. She also earned District 11 honors and was Special Mention Division I All-Ohio.

Wesley Stokes was a 1st Team MOAC Boys Basketball Player for the Presidents. He earned District 11 honors as well. He played in two All-Star contests following the season.



Boys Bowlers Finish the season as State Runners-Up!

The Marion Harding Boys Bowlers had a remarkable 2021-2022 campaign!

The President Bowlers won the MOAC regular season title with a perfect 10-0 record. The Presidents then triumphed at the MOAC Tournament in Galion, winning the conference tournament for the fifth straight year. The Presidents dropped 4,405 pins during the tourney, outdistancing 2nd place Pleasant's 3,865.

In post season play, the Presidents won the Central District Sectional Tournament with a pin total of 4,360, outdistancing 2nd Place Pickerington North's 4,140. The Presidents then took home the Central District Tournament Trophy for the 2nd year in a row with a pin total of 4,266, ahead of Olentangy Orange's 4,229.

At the State Tourney, the Presidents finished the preliminary rounds seeded 4th with a pin total of 3,421. In bracket play, the Prexies swept Parma Padua Franciscan 3-0 in the first round, then got by Macedonia Nordonia 3-1 in the semifinals. In the finals, the Presidents were bested by Centerville 3-1. The bowlers were the highest finishing team for Marion Harding since the 1984 Baseball State Runners-Up!

this issue

Winter Winners **P.1**

New Spring Coaches **P.2**

Facility Improvements **P.3**

Winter State Qualifiers and Honorees

The winter season saw several Presidents earn post season honors at the state level!

Gymnast Autumn Fitzgerald was the Central District Champion in the Vault and 4th in the All-Around competition. This qualified her for the state meet in both events. At the state competition, Autumn was 7th in the Vault and 8th in the Beam, earning her All-Ohio honors!

In addition to the bowling accomplishments listed to the left, Caden Millisor earned Honorable Mention Division I All-State honors for the boys bowlers!

Justice Steinman-Ross earned All-Ohio Division I Special Mention honors in Girls Basketball! She also became the newest member of the Marion Harding 1,000 point club this winter!

Drake Cerny was a Division I Wrestling State Qualifier at 126#!

David Backus was a Division I Wrestling State Qualifier at 132#!

The members of the Division I State Runner-Up bowling team were Caden Millisor, Jayden Combs, Cameron Rayner, Jordan Hensley, Gage Warren, Gavin Houseworth, and Austen Valentine!

Softball Field Receives Upgrades

The Varsity Softball Field has received a few upgrades in the offseason!

First, the field received new drainage tile which will help the field to shed water during the soggy spring weather in Marion.

The new tile extends from the infield, through the outfield and into a main drainage line which empties into Graves creek beyond the outfield fence. This should help to keep games on as scheduled, and to help footing in the outfield grass.

In addition, the outfield fence has been replaced with a new six foot fence, which is a safer height for players running after fly balls. This fence will also have a new red fence topping, similar to what we have at the baseball field and stadium in town.

And, the Marion Harding Athletic Boosters have purchased a new batting cage for the auxiliary gym at Harding! The cage will raise and lower automatically from the center of the gymnasium.

THANK YOU BOOSTERS!



Coach Brett McCrery is taking over the reigns of the President Softball program this spring. He is returning to the diamond after coaching baseball for 20 years, including 8 years as varsity head coach up until 2018.

He is also the department chair of the history department at Marion Harding, where he has been a teacher for 23 years.

Coach McCrery states that he feels “our staff has a lot to offer the girls, and that we can move the program in a positive direction”. He also says “the offseason workouts have been super, and the girls have given us a great deal of energy!” and that “It has been fun to come to work!”

The softball staff at HHS will include varsity assistant Joey Biederman, and JV coaches Taylor Hancock and Aspen Backus.



New Spring Coaches for 2022

Dustin Ellis is taking over the Boys Tennis Program, and Brett McCrery is the new softball boss.

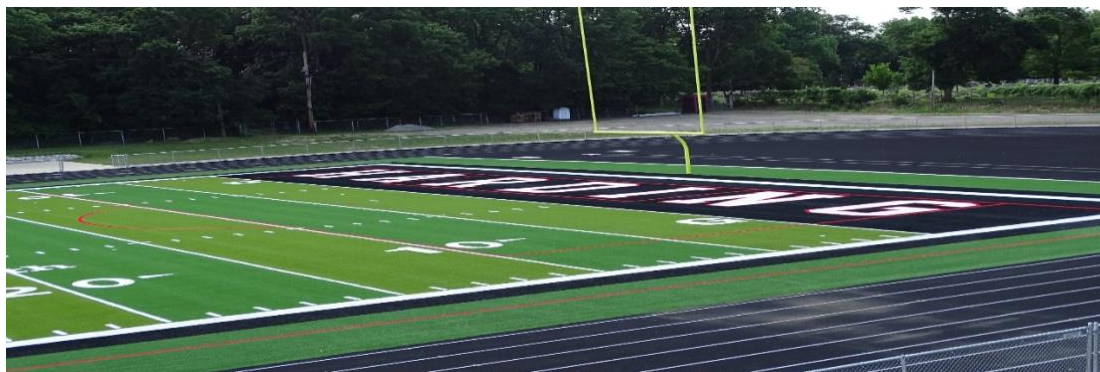
Dustin Ellis is taking over the Boys Tennis program after serving as the varsity assistant for the past four seasons.

Coach Ellis states that “we are hoping to continue to improve and to have a chance at the MOAC title this year...and sustain the great atmosphere we have had at practice the last four years with Coach Geyer”

Dustin teaches Calculus and Global Logistics at Marion Harding High School.

He will be assisted this spring by Harding Physical Education teacher Don Worstell.





Summer/Fall Facility Improvements

We have been busy upgrading multiple athletic facilities this summer and fall both at Harding High School and Grant Middle School.

A great deal of work has been completed at the historic Harding Stadium. Built in 1935, it is celebrating its 86th year of service to the Marion City Schools and Marion Community.

This summer, all the electrical wires have been moved underground, new lights were installed, a new shot put area was created, and new pathways were constructed from the ticket gates.

We also completed the addition of a 5th tennis court to the Grant Tennis Facility. This project was completed with over 18,000 in community contributions, as well as over \$31,000 from the Harding Athletic Boosters! A court had been removed to make way for the expanded Grant cafeteria 18 years ago, so this addition makes the facility complete once again!

New fencing for the entire facility as well as a complete resurface of all five courts. The new fencing is 10' tall, 2 feet taller than the old fence.



In addition, the shot put competition area was relocated at the stadium. The area was moved to the southeast corner of the stadium. There will be a total of three new pads, one for competition and two for additional practice for the athletes.

Also, at Harding High School, we have installed drainage tile under the entire softball field and will soon have a new six foot outfield fence!

We look forward to seeing everyone at our new and improved facilities this school year!

First Team MOAC Honorees

Marion Harding had 8 First Team MOAC Honorees this winter, including two conference players of the year and a coach of the year!

Boys Bowling:

Jayden Combs – MOAC Bowler of the Year

Gage Warren

Caden Millisor

Coch of the Year: Corey Chatman

Girls Bowling

Kenzi Vaught – MOAC Bowler of the Year

Hannah Mullennix

Wrestling

Drake Cerny – 126#

Girls Basketball

Justice Steinman - Ross

Boys Basketball

Wesley Stokes



Fahey Athletes of the Month!

Three more Presidents have been honored this school year with Fahey Athlete of the Month Honors.

Wesley Stokes, a

senior on the boys basketball team, earned the honor for December 2021. Wes was a first team MOAC performer, and averaged 17.7 points per game this winter.

Autumn Fitzgerald, a

sophomore gymnast, was the Central District Champ in the Vault, and earned All-Ohio honors in the Vault by placing 7th at state. She earned the Fahey Award for March 2022

Caden Millisor, a

senior bowler for the Presidents, averaged a 212.05 in MOAC play, and had the season's high game of 279. He also was the high individual at the MOAC tournament with a 716 series. He earned Honorable Mention All-Ohio status with a 635 series at the state meet. Caden earned the Fahey Award for March 2022.



Harding Bowlers
with their Central
District
Championship
Trophy in February!



Twitter: @HardingPrexies

Athletics Website: marionhardingpresidents.org