



ABOVE | Sophomore **Rylli Burton**, freshman **Rebekah Fyfe**, and junior **Ally Canfield** dig up tulip beds together.



BELOW | Senior **Corey Elliot** and sophomore **Isaac Vos** place bulbs in the ground.

Preparing for Tulip Time as a Team

Cross Country plants tulip bulbs for spring festivities.

On October 25, the cross country team, joined by Pella Christian cross country, had the opportunity to serve the community by planting Tulips. A total of 35 cross country members came out to plant tulips together.

"During Tulip Time you get to see your work, and it's great to give back to your community," said sophomore **Payton Phelps**.

In a span of around three hours, the team planted around 20,000 tulips in beds that lined Main Street from Lincoln school down to Pella Corporation.

"It was fun because we got to help out the community. Plus, I got to hang out with **Isaak Webb**," said senior **Corey Elliot**.

The regular season finished on October 16, just nine days before the service project. However, even with the small gap of time the team had been apart, many people enjoyed being reunited with the team.

"We planted tulips along Main Street, and it was super fun. It is like a little family reunion with the team since cross country has been over," said junior **Ally Canfield**. "I can't wait for them to pop up in the spring, so I can see them."

Identifying ... **Mariah Kooyman**

Junior **Mariah Kooyman**, along with being a student, is involved in many activities outside of school. Kooyman is a part of AcaPella show choir, speech, Thespians Club, and theatre. She also represents Pella as a Dutchess. She has been involved in over 30 plays, including the school's fall musical "Shrek."

"I love performing. When I get on stage an imaginary lightbulb goes off in my head, and it's like I'm in another world. The reason I love these activities so much is because I meet so many amazing people, and everything I do helps me grow in some way or another," said **Kooyman**.

Kooyman competed in the Miss Iowa Teen USA pageant this past fall. She placed within the top 15 for her first time competing.

"It was so amazing to meet all of the young women competing. Pageants are so much more than people make them to be. They are an opportunity to build self-confidence, speak in front of other people, as well as learning interpersonal communication skills through interviews with the judges," said **Kooyman**.

As for the future, **Kooyman** does not know what she wants to do after high school. She has some ideas though. "For right now, I don't have a set plan, but I want to attend the Aveda Institute and become an esthetician or cosmetologist. After that, I would love to move to Florida and someday work in the pageant industry," said **Kooyman**.

