

The Valley Voice

October 28th, 2016



Issue # 5

We're on the Web (in color)

www.beltschool.com

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The Quest for Hardware

The Husky football team and Lady Husky volleyball team both have yet to taste defeat as they enter postseason play. The football team has a 9-0 winning streak and the volleyball squad is 10-0 in conference play, 12-0 overall, along with two undefeated showcase tournaments. The grid iron gladiators are ranked second in the state after capturing the Northern C division championship.

This year the boys don't need to travel anywhere for their football playoffs, as all of their games will be played in the friendly confines of Remington Field. Tomorrow the Dogs play Twin Bridges, ranked 4th in their division. The Huskies will be favored in this matchup. In the playoffs this year, the challenges will be Ennis, Wibaux, Fairview, and

Charlo. The Huskies will continue to play and work hard in their upcoming games, in hope of winning the state title.

The last time Belt High school won a football state championship was in 1994. Last year the Dogs lost their first game in the playoffs, but this year the football team brought back valuable experience and talent to use in playoffs and get to the championship game. They are all very excited for the post season ahead and are determined to win state. The District Tournament will be held at Great Falls Central Catholic, with their home Mustangs being the only challenge for the Huskies.

The ladies played this past Thursday and Friday, and are continuing on their road to suc-

cess. As they go into Divisionals, the Huskies will potentially face the Chinook Sugarbeaters in the championship. The Sugarbeaters are first in their district and they have not yet faced defeat. On November 10th-12th the Lady Huskies will trek to Bozeman for the state tournament.

Favorites in this tournament will be the Belt Huskies, Ennis Mustangs, and the Gardiner Bruins. The Dogs made Belt History in 2013 when they got 2nd place at state, and got the same title in 2015; the girls are hoping to go one step further this year and win the state volleyball championship for the first time.

District and divisional volleyball brackets and the state football bracket are on page 8 and 9.

By: Alison Stoker

Voice of Democracy

Every year the seniors of Belt High School take Government class with Mr. Karl Koontz. In the fall, the Voice of Democracy speeches are held, sponsored by the VFW Women's Auxiliary. This annual presentation has a different theme each year. This year's prompt,



"My Responsibility to America", was the basis for government class speeches delivered Tuesday, October 25th in the school library.

Mr. Koontz was very proud of his students. "I've been doing this for nine years and

this years', as a group, were the best I've heard," Mr. Koontz says. The VFW judges were also very impressed by the speeches given by the Class of 2017.

Students deliver their speeches twice as part of the Government course requirement, once to their peers, and to a committee of local citizens chosen by the
(Cont. pg. 2)

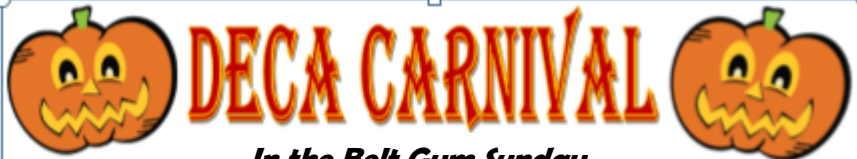
Teen Driver Safety

Most teen drivers are aware of the rules, safety regulations, and have heard millions of lectures from their parents, teachers, and other adults about driving. Although many young drivers have heard of the precautions, most don't take it as seriously as they should. It is extremely important to educate all drivers, especially people who are just getting behind the wheel, about driver safety and what to do in case of an emergency.

AAA Exchange: Teen Driver Safety is a website that has been expressing the importance of driver safety across the nation for 75 years. This program began a Teen Driver Safety Week that takes place at the end of October, and it lasts the entire week. This is where Montana Teen Driver Safety Day originated from, but Montana decided to take it a step farther and dedicated a specific day, the third Tuesday of every October, to the idea. Montana is a state that recognizes the dangers of driving, especially for unexperienced drivers, and educates their students, hoping to prevent accidents. Belt Public School proudly participates in MT Teen Driver Safety. This year, the school and surrounding districts are focusing on two main points, distracted driving and buckling up. This ranges from texting and driving, to simply changing the radio station.

Any movement that requires a driver to look away from the road is considered to be distracted driving. Also, it is extremely important to buckle up, and reminding friends and family of the rule will benefit them and the person responsible, the driver. Seats belts ensure that the driver and passengers will not be ejected from the car in case of an accident. Teachers and parents cannot stress these rules and regulations enough. Remember to buckle up and don't drive distracted.

By: Morgan Davis



**In the Belt Gym Sunday,
October 30th from 4:30-7:30**

<u>Games and Fun!</u>		\$0.25/ticket
-Bouncy House	-Football Toss	Hamburger, Chips, and a Drink-only \$5
-Cake Walk	-Jousting Ring	
-Balloon Darts	-Sucker Tree	Silent and Live Auctions
-Fish Pond	-Softball Toss	
-Goldfish Toss	-White Elephant	
-Bean Bag Toss	-Treasure Chest	

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V.O.D. (Cont.)

auxiliary. The winner chosen by the VFW judging committee was Kerstyn Pimperton. Following her was Harry Green in second place and Isabelle Newman in third place.

Pimperton and Green have qualified for the next level of competition. They will submit an audio version of the speech and a written copy to the district competition for adjudication. Top district speeches then battle with others from across Montana to determine a state champ. State winners deliver their speech in person at the national

Competition in Washington D.C. in the Spring of 2017. Last year, Danielle Adams finished second in Montana. It was the highest finish ever by a Belt student.

These orations were very emotional for the audiences to hear, and tissue boxes were going empty fast. An advantage to the prompt this year is the variety of interpretations student provided. Some were very powerful and others were more emotional. Both types of deliveries made a huge impact.

By: Alison Stoker

Veteran's Day Soup Dinner

When: November 11th 5:30-8:00 p.m.
Where: VFW Post
Admission: FREE

Community members are encouraged to attend the soup dinner that is hosted by the Belt Auxiliary 4198 in honor of local Veterans. Thank a hero, enjoy a warm meal, and celebrate Veterans' Day with the community of Belt.

Husky Football

The Husky football team continues to exceed everyone's expectations defeating Great Falls Central and Power/Dutton/Brady almost too easily. Belt clinched the top seed in the Northern C Division with a perfect record of 9-0. Their first playoff game will be held in Belt against the Twin Bridges Falcons.

Two weeks ago, the Huskies competed against the Great Falls Central Mustangs in Great Falls. The Huskies defeated their competition by a score of 55-12. In the first quarter, Jaren Maki started out the scoring for the Huskies with a two yard run. The two point conversion was successful when Maki found Troy Hennes in the end zone. Central struck back against the Huskies to put up six on the scoreboard. Hennes ran into the end zone to add six for the Huskies. Jess Bodner's kick was good. By the end of the first, Belt had a lead of 15-6. The second stanza was full of Husky touchdowns

against the opposing team. Keagan Stroop ran eight yards to add six to Belt's margin. Stroop then found Hennes for the two point conversion. Harry Green also ran into the end zone for the maroon and gold. Hunter Vogl passed to Robbie Flinn for the two point conversion. To finish out the scoring for the Huskies, Bodner ran seven yards to find pay dirt. By the end of the second stanza, Belt's lead was 37-6.

After the half time meetings, the Huskies continued to push the tempo, tiring out their competition. Stroop used his speed to run 15 yards into the end zone. Stroop then found Green for another Husky six. Heading into the fourth, the Huskies held a steady lead of 49-6. In the final minutes of the game, the Husky reserves played most of the time. Flinn scored for the Huskies with a short run adding six to the growing margin.

But the Mustangs showed the little life that they had left to finish the game with a touchdown. As the final horn blew, the Huskies found themselves on the right end of a 55-12 final. Nolan Myrstol had himself quite a game with 11 tackles and two sacks on the night. Taylor Olson also sacked the opposing quarterback. Maki completed 14 tackles throughout the game. Offensively, the Huskies rushed for 282 yards and received for 84 yards. Their speed and agility were the decisive factors in overwhelming the Mustang team. Stroop averaged 10.6 yards per carry on just eight runs. Green had nine rushes and averaged 9.9 yards per carry. Maki received the ball four times and had an average of 7.25 yards per catch.

GFCC	6	0	0	6	12
Belt	15	22	12	6	55

The last regular season game the Huskies competed in was against the Power/Dutton/Brady Titans. After defeating the Titans, the Huskies clinched the top spot in the Northern C Division. In the first quarter, Hennes started out the scoring with a six yard pass from Green. Maki was able to convert the two points. Bodner then found pay dirt with a two yard run. The extra point was no good. Closing first quarter scoring, Stroop received a 39 yard touchdown pass from Green. The two point conversion was successful when Stroop found Maki in the end zone. By the end of the first quarter, the Huskies had a lead of 22-0. The second stanza was just as impressive as the first. The Green to Bodner duo found their stride

with a 69 yard touchdown. Stroop found Green in the end zone for the two point conversion. Bodner scored for the Huskies with a short run. Belt's lead was 36-0 heading into halftime. In the third stanza, Green ran for 39 yards to add six to the Huskies' growing margin. With running clock in tact, the final period went by faster than the others, but was not near as exciting. Both teams went through 12 minutes without any scoring. After the time expired, the Huskies shut out their competition with a score of 42-0.

Defensively, Maki was an animal. He accumulated 18 tackles on the night with four solo tackles and 14 assisted tackles. Green and Myrstol earned 12 and 11 tackles, respectively. Together the Husky defense completed another shut out on the season. On the offensive side of the spectrum, the Huskies rushed for 140 yards and passed for another 248. Green was positioned at quarterback for most of the game. He attempted 14 passes and completed 10, making his percentage 71. He threw for three touchdowns. Bodner was thrown to twice for 100 yards. His longest touchdown being 69 yards. Green rushed for 97 yards, averaging 16.2 yards per carry.

Tomorrow the Huskies

PDB	0	0	0	0	0
Belt	22	14	6	0	42

will compete in the first round of playoffs against the Twin Bridges Falcons. Kick off time is set for 1:00 p.m. in Belt. If the boys continue to win throughout playoffs, all of their games will be held at Remington Field. The playoff bracket is on page nine of this issue.

By: Kerstyn Pimperton

Community Helpers

On October 7th and 8th the fourth and fifth graders participated in the annual community leaf raking activity that Mrs. Metrione runs each year. The students walked in groups, chaperoned by Mrs. Metrione and Mrs. Pethel, to different areas of the

Belt community, and they helped clean up several different yards. Belt Public School is very supportive of this program because it teaches kids good work ethics, and it also improves social skills.

This is a great way to pre-

pare students for community service for college applications, and it also teaches community morals – meaning that it shows them to respect and care for the area they live in.

By: Morgan Davis

Bowling Scores

Youth Days

Week 5

Men's High Game

John Larson	263
Brian Neill	224
Dave Eggert	216

Men's Series

John Larson	625
Brian Neill	617
Drew Koffler	584

Women's High Game

Lisa Urick	189
Patti Sweeney	172
Sandy Francom	169

Women's Series

Lisa Urick	500
Laura Koffler, Patti Sweeney	466
Polly Pimperton	455

Week 6

Men's High Game

Dave Anderson	223
John Larson	206
Brian Neill	201

Men's Series

Dave Anderson	541
John Larson	506
Bill Mital	489

Women's High Game

Joanne Voytoski	173
Sandy Francom	160
Patti Sweeney	150

Women's Series

Sandy Francom	461
Vicky Hicks, Joanne Voytoski	431
Vicky DeKoning	418

This past Sunday and Monday, the Youth Leadership members took a trip to Great Falls to the annual Youth Days hosted at the Holiday Inn. Mr. Hoyer, the M.B.I. director, was allowed to bring many of the members to this enjoyable learning event. Youth Days is an O.P.I. initiative designed to get young people involved in their schools and communities and to promote positive outcomes for all those involved.

This year's theme was "Creating a Sense of Belonging/ Being Part of a Team." There were three amazing speakers for Youth Days. They were: LeAnn Dolly Powell, Bruce Colton, and Oscar McBride.

Ms. Powell, an executive with Montana Special Olympics, shared with the students a few videos and many great examples of how to prevent bullying. They really want people to stop using the "R" word (retarded). No one should ever be called this and they want to continue to spread the word.

Bruce Colton returned to Youth Days as one of the featured speakers and workshop facilitators. Colton is a very energetic person and wants to share it with the MBI Youth Days. In his speech he shared what people should and shouldn't eat as far as sugar is concerned. He is a nationally recognized speaker on topics including both physical and mental well-being.

Oscar McBride was the key-

note speaker for MBI Youth Days. McBride is a former football player for Notre Dame who won a National Championship and played tight end for the Arizona Cardinals of the NFL. He touched every heart in the room. He spoke to the members regarding what it means to be part of a team from his experiences and what it means to be a leader.

On Monday the members completed their annual Service Projects. There were many places the kids and chaperones went to volunteer like the Red Cross, Golden Eagle, Campfire Girls office, Park City, and lots more. When the students finished volunteering for a couple of hours they came back on the buses and shared their stories of what they learned.

Youth Days ended with students getting together in groups and talking about what they will do once they return back to their hometown. The main two things Kassie Hoyer and Kara Neal announced to rest of the schools is that they will continue to clean the Belt Grade at least 3 times during the school year and continue the BuckleUpBlue4Lauryn.

Overall, this was another successful year at the MBI Youth Days. Youth Leadership will continue to complete many activities in the community to keep it clean and safe. Remember, Belt wants leaders, not followers.

By: Kara Neal

MEA

The students recently enjoyed a break from school for a four day weekend from the 20th-24th. Thursday and Friday were necessary days to have off because it got the kids excited to relax from all of their hard work in school and go on an adventure during their long weekend.

The reason for this small break is MEA (Montana Education Association) annual professional development seminar, held this year in Helena. Many teachers gathered at the MEA conference while the students weren't

at school to enhance teacher professional development. Teachers and administration from all over the state discussed important topics such as improving test scores and teaching by using methods of education differentiation.

One of the ways to improve test scores is by teaching using different styles, because of the diverse learning styles of the students. Some students learn better visually, kinesthetically, and some others through auditory perceptions.

When students go off to college, they will be required to adjust

to the professors' teaching styles, but MEA would like to help students learn in all sorts of ways at a young age to help them when they are older.

During this sunny weekend, some students went outdoors to pumpkin patches to get into the fall season, and others spent time with family indoors cozy with a cup of hot cocoa.

All the students enjoyed the break, while teachers and administrators took their turn in a classroom run by someone else.

By: Alison Stoker

Robert Back: Progress Report

Robert Back returned to Belt Public School during the 2015-16 school year, and he began taking every day classes along with physical, speech, and occupational therapies. Upon his arrival, the class of 2016, Robert's graduating class, greeted and welcomed him at the front entrance. His caretaker, Freedom Cousins, originally was working as a custodian for Belt Public School before working with Robert. Since her degree and educational background was an Associate's Degree as a Certified Medical Assistant, she immediately took the position when the opportunity to work with Robert arose. As the school year progressed, so did Robert.

This year Robert is participating in a variety of classes that range from choir, advanced biology, marketing, media, and Spanish, as well as working with Mrs. Tillman several times throughout the week. Mrs. Tillman's class is essential to Robert's day. Together, they work on reading the newspaper, discussing the sports section, and stretching, which stimulates his brain, helps him ease bodily tension, and releases endorphins –

a good way to exercise the brain and body. Robert is almost always in the classroom with other students, interacting, smiling, and participating. Freedom and Robert have become very close over the last few months, and she knows that he prefers and enjoys being with his peers. Sometimes certain environments can be overwhelming or exhausting, so taking a few minutes out to recuperate and refresh himself is the best way for him to cool down and have that positive outlet.

Robert has been undergoing physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy on a medical schedule, but Freedom still encourages him and helps him practice each of these critical therapies during school. Robert has become more communicative with teachers and students, and he attempts to speak, laugh, and smile – he has his facial expressions down. Robert loves giving Freedom the 'stink eye,' when he doesn't want to do something or go somewhere. He has also become extremely conscious of his personal surroundings, the main focus is on his peers. During some classes, Robert kicks at his friends and tries to get their at-

tention. His friends and classmates love seeing his smile when they respond to him by cracking jokes or sharing funny stories. These are just a few of the major improvements that the faculty and community have seen from Robert.

Some days can be harder than others, but every day Robert continues to advance mentally and physically. He works extremely hard to interact during class and he loves it when his friends talk to him. When asked about her experience working with Robert, Freedom has no words, "Some days I'm so overjoyed and proud of his progress...but there are also those days when my heart breaks and I wish I could do more for him."

Robert still enjoys simple things like sports and football teams. Robert beamed when Mr. Koontz brought up the Texas-Oklahoma game from 2015... Texas was the winning team, giving Robert a huge victory over Mr. Koontz! There are so many things about Robert that can be shared: his personality, his sense of humor, and his will to push through life with a purpose.

By: Morgan Davis

State Cross Country

The cross country season came to end at the state meet in Kalispell on October 22nd. The boys' team brought home hardware with a third place finish. The girls also fared well in Kalispell, earning sixth place. Two weeks ago, the runners competed at the Townsend Invitational meet.

In Townsend, Brandon Little and William Franzen were the only two runners for the co-op team in the boys' race. Little finished 45th with a time of 21:45.5, while Franzen crossed the line at 29:05.6, good for 53rd. As for the ladies, Shelby Paulson finished 20th with a time of 22:57.5. Kolby Pimperton finished with a time of 23:22.9 to earn 21st place. Shaylyn Dilley came in 25th with a time of 23:32.0. Makayla Paul was the next runner to finish for the Huskies. She had a time of 23:38.1, good for 28th. Kerstyn Pimperton fin-

ished last for the co-op team with a time of 25:04.8 to take 34th place.

At the state meet, the boys' cross country team finished 3rd overall. Keagan Stroop was the lead runner for the squad with a 7th place finish. He had a time of 17:04.58. Harry Green came in next for the team in 19th place with a final of 17:54.11. Robert Gliko had a time of 18:22.0. Robbie Flinn was the fourth runner to cross the line with 18:26.76 for 34th. Jacob Kelley from Centerville finished with a time of 19:05, followed by Little with a time of 20:11.2. Franzen finished out the running for the Huskies with a time of 26:43.18. The ladies finished 6th overall out of 16 teams. Paulson crossed the finish line first for the Huskies with a time of 23:04.85, good for 27th. Dilley finished 31st with a time of 23:19.2,

closely followed by Kolby Pimperton who had a time of 23:20.91 to earn 32nd. Paul finished next for the co-op team with a time of 23:27.1. Kerstyn Pimperton crossed the line with a time of 24:19.44 in her final race.

This is the first time Coach Garber has won a boy's trophy during his tenure as head coach of the coop team. He was more than excited for the team to get bronze. Bringing home hardware is always something to be proud of and Coach Garber was impressed with both of the teams' efforts. Seniors Green and Pimperton will hang up their cross-country spikes, as it was their final race. Both multi-sport athletes can now focus on football and volleyball postseason competition.

By: Kerstyn Pimperton

Montana Shake Out

Tuesday October 18th at 10:22 the school performed an earthquake safety drill as part of The Great Montana Shakeout Drill that included more than 110,000 residents around the state. When Mr. Paulson announced the beginning of the drill, the students crawled underneath tables and held on to something for about forty-five seconds to a minute. After that, students and teachers evac-

uated the building and moved out to the football field. One Elementary and one Middle School/High School teacher were chosen to be incapacitated during this drill.

Montana does get earthquakes, although they are not as frequent and large as earthquakes in Alaska and California. Montana gets about seven to ten earthquakes a day making it one of the top ten

most seismic states in the U.S. Even though Montana doesn't get very many large scale earthquakes, it is important to know what to do just in case of one. So drop, cover and hold onto something secured to the ground. Be alert for items that can fall and hurt someone, and be alert for aftershocks.

By: Kali Duncan

MBI

MBI (Montana Behavioral Institute) is a big part of Belt, these meetings take place during husky time during the school day on Mondays. MBI is a school wide organization that discusses positive school climate. One big survey that the MBI controls is the My Voice surveys. These surveys allow students to express their opinion on their school. Another one that allows students to have a voice and use their opinions is in the focus groups. This is a random

draw of students that gather around with a couple advisors to discuss problems and positives in the school. These discussions really help the students keep a positive environment in the school. The focus groups will be taking place soon in the next few weeks.

Belt School is a very good education center, and they have received the gold star ranking. This means that Belt exceeds in positive evaluations from outside sources,

high academic achievement, college bound students, minimal office referrals, and a positive outlook of student opinions of the school.

Keith Hoyer is one of the advisors for this organization in Belt and he mentions that the kids are lucky to be in such a safe and happy environment, because there aren't many that are as good as Belt.

By: Alison Stoker

Lady Husky Volleyball

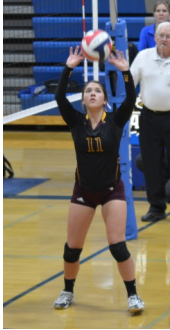
The Lady Husky volleyball team is still undefeated as their conference play comes to a close. The Dogs lead in their conference with a 10-0 winning streak, and a 16-0 streak including their nonconference games, plus two undefeated showcase tournaments. The Huskies have had played very hard these last two weeks to get ready for their District tournament this weekend.

On the 14th these ladies played the Fort Benton Longhorns and swept them away in three quick sets 25-14, 25-17, and 25-14. Leading in stats was Kerstyn Pimperton and Sara Anderson with 1 ace, Kassie Hoyer with



10 kills, Adrian Malek, Kerstyn Pimperton, and Sara Anderson with 1 block, Alison Stoker with 20 digs, and Pimperton with 29 assists. That next day, on the 15th, the Huskies played Big Sandy for their last home game. This was senior night, a very special night for the seniors that will never again play a volleyball game on the

Belt floor. Each senior was walked out by their parents to be featured for their achievements throughout high school. The seniors were Sara Anderson, Kassie Hoyer, Kerstyn Pimperton, and Alison Stoker. These ladies lead the team to victory in this match against Big Sandy 25-8, 25-8, and 25-10.



Leading in stats was Joely Stoker with 5 aces, Malek with 11 kills, Malek, Hoyer, and Jordan Swanson with 1 block, Urick, A. Stoker, and Pimperton with 5 digs, and Pimperton with 22 assists.

Earlier this week, the ladies played two nonconference games to end their regular season. On Monday, the girls trekked to Simms to play a quick game against the Tigers. In three rapid sets, the Lady Huskies snatched the win 25-10, 25-17, and 25-15. Leading in stats was Haley Stoker with 3 aces, Hoyer with 13 kills, Hoyer with 6 blocks, A. Stoker and Urick with 9 digs, and Pim-

perton with 33 assists. Finally, the Huskies' last game before tournaments was against the Fairfield Eagles, a nonconference game. This gym was loud and rowdy, getting the ladies pumped up for the match ahead of them. The Lady Huskies pushed through the chaos of the gymnasium and defeated the Eagles 25-16, 25-17, and 25-15. Leading in stats was Urick with 3 aces, Malek, Urick, and Hoyer with 8 kills, Urick and Hoyer with 5 blocks, Urick with 9 digs, and Pimperton with 31 assists.

Yesterday the Lady Huskies began their District tournament at Great Falls Central High School. The Huskies started off playing Fort Benton. The Dogs eased through this match in three sets 25-20, 25-12, and 25-13, qualifying for the undefeated game today against Great Falls Central approximately 11:30 today. Divisional tourney information will be available in the next issue of the Voice. Brackets are on page 8 of this issue.

By: Alison Stoker

On Halloween night many people go out and drink/ party with friends. On this night there are pedestrians all over the streets just hanging out and trick or treating. Sometimes their costumes are not easily seen, especially when it is dark outside and their costumes are covered in dark colors. People who aren't intoxicated have troubles seeing all of the pedestrians that are wandering about on Halloween night. That means a drunk driver would have a heck of a time seeing these people, many of whom are children who are also not paying attention.

If you are underage, don't drink.. If you are an adult, have a designated driver to drive you where you need to go because if you don't you could hurt a lot more people than just yourself. Make a plan...

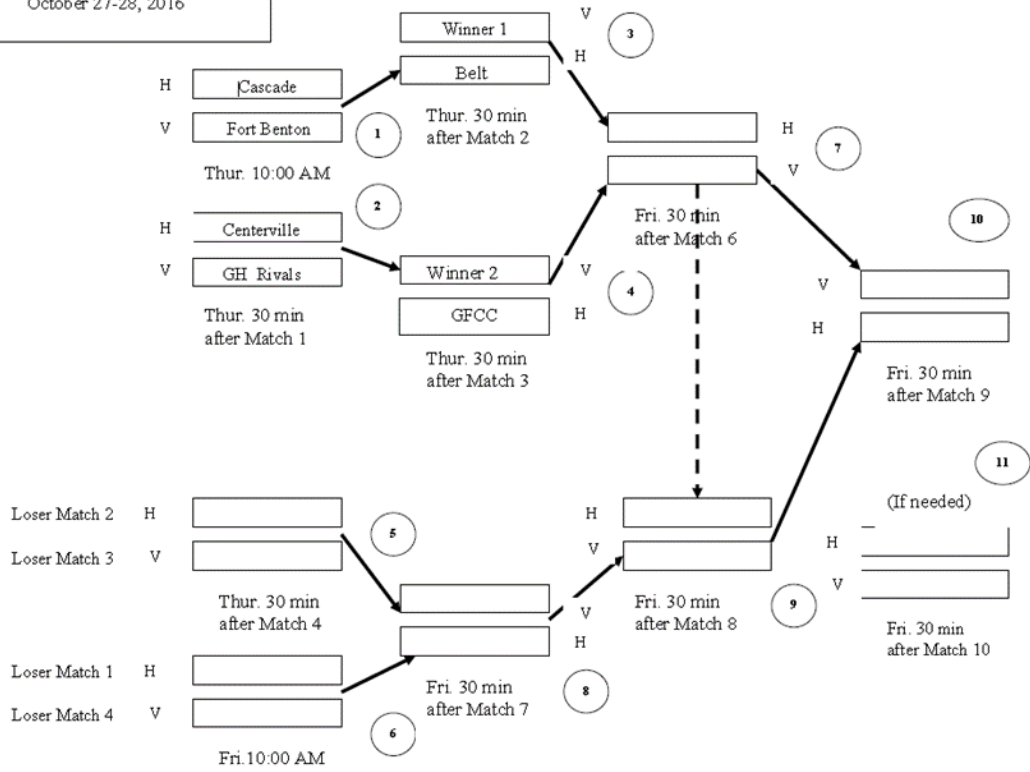
Don't Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your
Cascade DUI Task Force

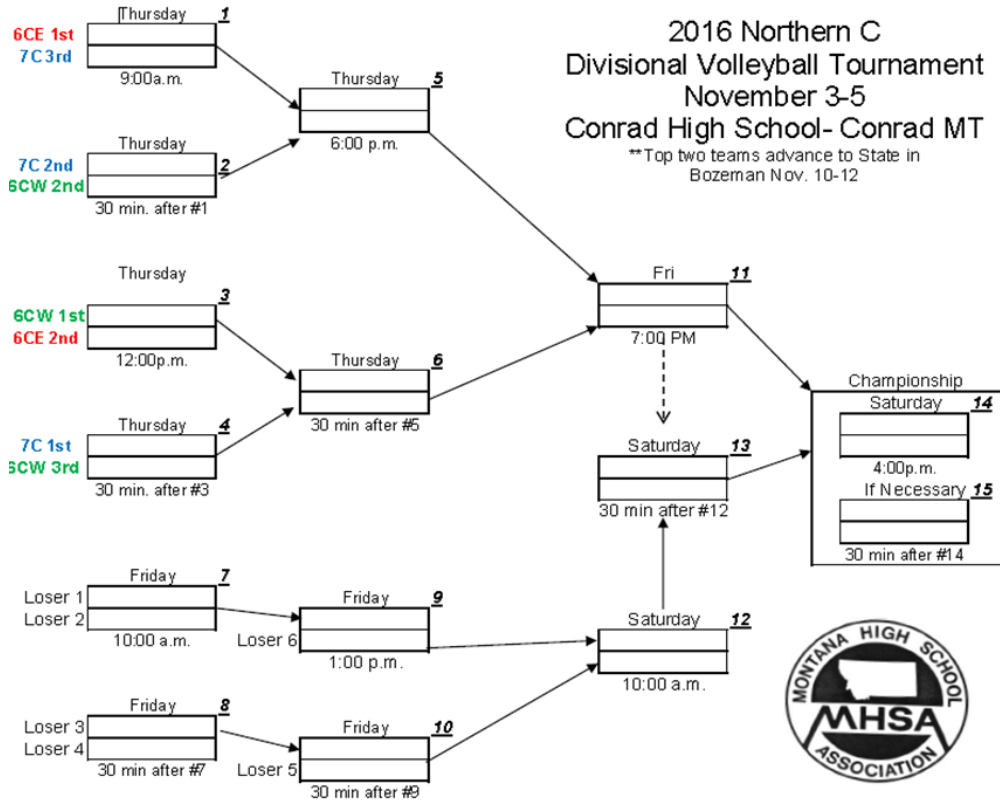


District Volleyball 2016

DISTRICT 7C
 At GF Central Catholic HS
 October 27-28, 2016

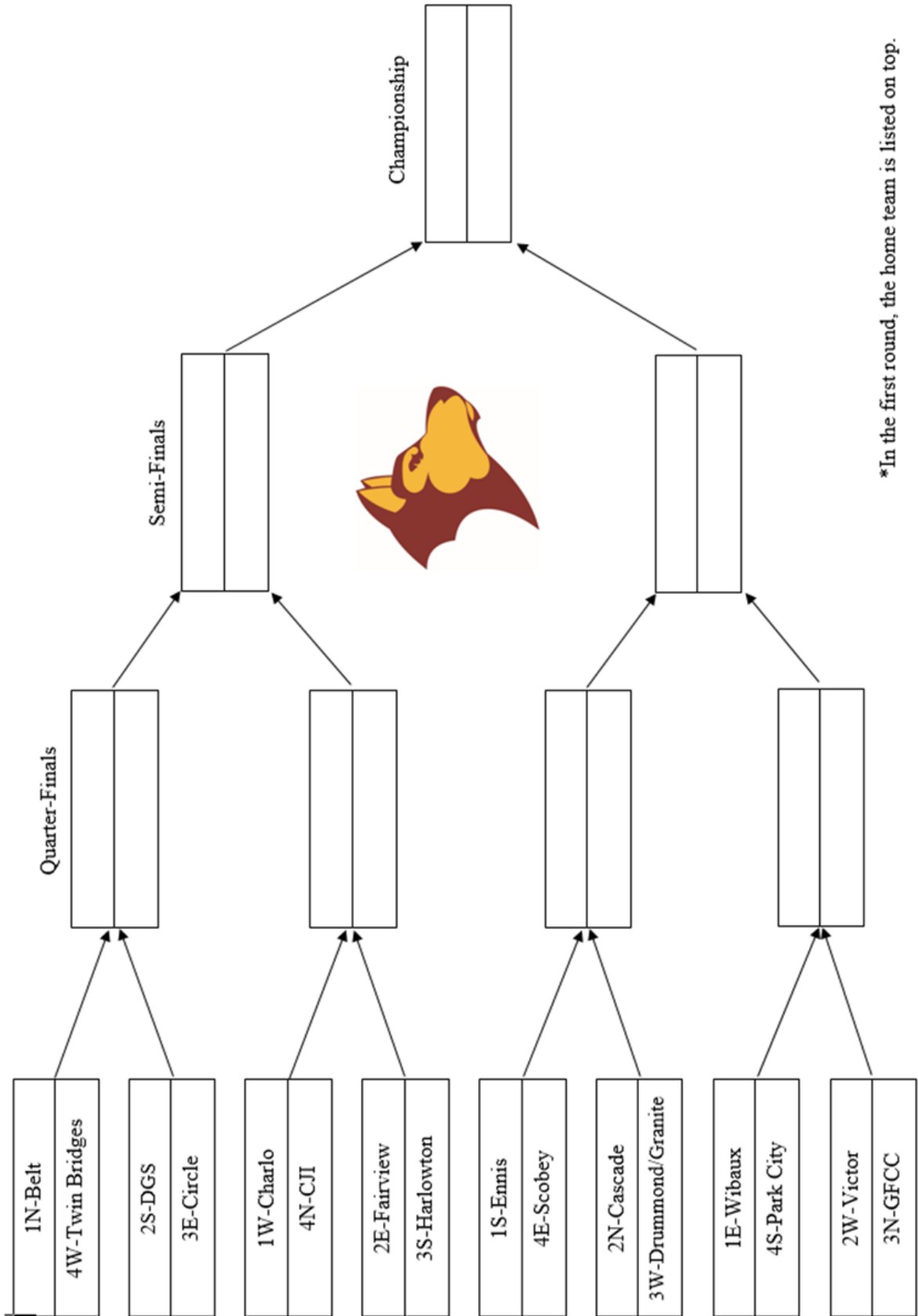


Divisional Volleyball 2016



Class C State Football Playoffs 2016

2016 Class C State Football Playoffs



Student Motivation

When it comes to waking up early every morning, arriving to class on time, completing assignments in a timely manner, and putting forth maximum effort, students can lack motivation and the desire to succeed. Without inspiration and ambition, students tend to get sloppy and grow more lazy as the school year progresses.

This year Belt Public School is making a goal to raise and excel student motivation. This quarter, Kassie Hoyer, Sam Vaughan, Tori Shelton, and Trey Heitzman have

been composing a video about student motivation for their media class. It was posted in the PSI Comp this week after last minute edits.

These students are engaging in class while also showing the importance of the self-confidence and encouragement that students need to excel. “Some people are unaware that Belt has been a Gold School for several years in a row,” Kassie Hoyer explains, “student motivation will not only express how great our school is, but it also represents Belt

community – giving it a strong, positive reputation.” Hopefully, to continue Belt’s reputation as well.

The Belt community is known for their lofty athletic achievements, academic excellence, and their hard work. Sometimes it is hard to stay motivated – even for adults – but a few good ways to stay positive are to work to be the best, engage in classroom discussion, and get involved in extracurricular activities or after school programs.

By: Morgan Davis

STEM

The 7th and 8th of October, Mrs. Vogt had the opportunity to pilot a small airplane. This STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activity was sponsored by Montana Learning Center. The 18 professional educators had to complete a variety of math until their brains hurt.

After all of their hard work, Mrs. Vogt and the rest of the teachers had an opportunity to fly a plane.

They flew from Helena to Butte and back. Mrs. Vogt had lots of fun and was nervous at the same time. From what Mrs. Vogt learned she is teaching her students. Although, they will not be flying a plane. The students will make paper airplanes after using their STEM knowledge.

STEM is a great way to enhance the education for students as it gives them a better understanding of science. As Mrs. Vogt said,

“Without science we couldn’t do much.” Curriculum is primarily based on science and with STEM improves their comprehension of science and the rest that follows it.

Mrs. Vogt is thrilled to announce that there is a new science curriculum based on STEM. She is ecstatic to use the new science curriculum in her middle school classroom .

By: Kara Neal

MAPS Testing

It’s a national requirement that student academic success is recorded, and many states participate in testing that monitors their progress. MAPS testing is a formative assessment that is used to measure student academic progress, and it’s critical to the learning environment because it shows teachers what students struggle with most.

This is a great way to improve the learning environment because students can personally challenge themselves, and teachers can regularly refresh and renew their lessons and how they choose to teach them. This week, October 24th-31st, grades K-10 are taking a series of MAPS tests that range from science, math, reading,

and language. MAPS testing is a dreadful week for everyone, teachers included, but they truly are beneficial to students’ personal learning statuses.

Students are able to set their goals, and teachers can easily see what students are missing and they’re able to do something about it. Students also need to take into



consideration how important these tests really are. Although they’re not national tests, they reflect student progress and they also represent teachers.

The test shows how well teachers are doing their job, and some students’ may choose to blow through the tests – causing problems for not only themselves, but also the teachers involved. It’s a perfect opportunity to practice for testing, and students should take advantage of it. A student who gives it their best will also have an idea what areas of their own education need attention.

By: Morgan Davis

Fire Safety

Wildfires are the most common natural disaster that occur in the state of Montana. They mainly ignite in rural, countryside areas where vegetation is highly combustible, but they can quickly become brush fires, forest fires, hill fires, or several other forms of destruction. Fire is hard to contain once it starts, so educating the community is the most efficient way to prevent this hazard. Recently,

Montana has seen wildfires, as well as domestic fires, in cities and areas such as: Maple Fire along the Madison River (27,000 acres burned), Berry Fire at Grand Teton National Park (15 acres burned), and Rattlesnake Fire about 30 miles from Helena (900 acres). These are just a few of the fires that are blaz-

ing in Montana, and there are many fires that could've been prevented. A few good points to remember when camping and having bonfires are: check local fire conditions, make the area fire safe (don't leave the newspaper by the fire), do not make excessively large blazes, keep a shovel and water close by in case of an emergency, and be sure to smother the embers, double checking to see that it's completely out, before leaving the area. Belt community hasn't had problems with local wildfires recently, but it's never a bad idea to be precautious and prepared. Residential fires can also be prevented by taking basic precautions.

Although house fires are unstoppable, they can be prevented

by following these safety tips: keep flammable items away from heat sources, keep yard and rain gutters clear of debris, never smoke in bed, use fire alarms, and discuss an escape plan with family members. Keep in mind that most house fires are extremely dangerous, no matter how mild, and the structure will more than likely collapse in less than two minutes. It's essential to educate the community and their families when it comes to local house fires. Belt is a small community and the houses are built close together, creating a dangerous situation for the entire neighborhood in case of a fire. Residents should remind neighbors of fire hazards and be alert.

By: Morgan Davis

October Principal's Report

Belt Public School is quickly moving towards the end of the first quarter as the month of October creeps along. To wrap up the month of September, Mrs. Gliko took juniors and seniors to the College Fair at the University of Great Falls on September 21st, and 20 students attended the Trades Career Fair at the Expo-Park on October 7th.

The Husky Club celebrated their annual Light On After School Family Dinner with the Boys and Girls Club on Thursday, October 13th, and it was a great hit with over 82 attendees. A spaghetti dinner was provided, and families enjoyed student projects and had a blast while building a family tower. Shout out goes to Adriana Irvine, senior at BVHS, who was selected as KRTV's student of the week! The segment will be aired during the 10 o'clock news. Homecoming was a great success, thanks to the Homecoming Committee, Mr. Koontz and Mrs. Tillman for designing and chaperon-

ing Class Olympics, Mr. Hoyer for sponsoring the homecoming dance, Mr. Adams for going with seniors to paint the 'B', Mrs. Newman, and the cheerleaders for coordinating sports events throughout the week.

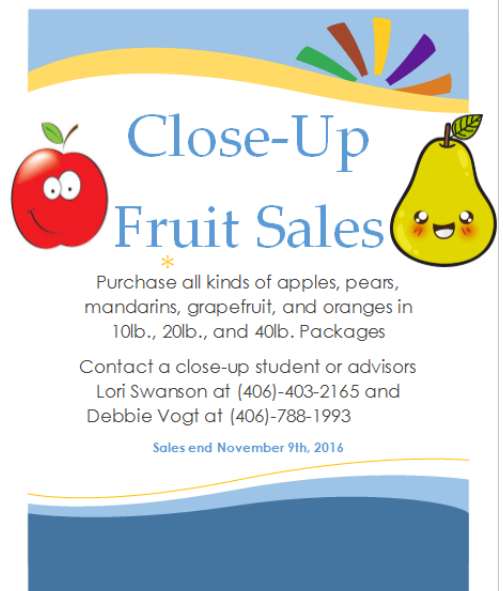
Congratulations to Kerstyn Pimperton and Jess Bodner for winning Homecoming King and Queen, to the senior class for expressing the most school spirit and claiming the Spirit Stick, and to Elyse Adams for recovering the long lost Spirit Stick!

October is a busy month for the students and staff at Belt Public School, and the Valley Voice would like to give the community a brief preview of upcoming events! The junior class will be facing the challenge of PSAT testing on October 19th, and Red Ribbon Week – Drug & Alcohol Awareness & Prevention Campaign will take place the week of October 24th-28th. Music lovers...join the community at the 5-12 Fall Music Concert on

25th which begins at 7 p.m. in the Belt Public School gymnasium.

These events are wrapping up the First Quarter, and report cards will be sent out on October 31st. This will follow with Parent/Teacher Conferences (4-7 p.m.), on November 7th and 8th.

By: Morgan Davis



**Close-Up
Fruit Sales**

*
Purchase all kinds of apples, pears,
mandarins, grapefruit, and oranges in
10lb., 20lb., and 40lb. Packages

Contact a close-up student or advisors
Lori Swanson at (406)-403-2165 and
Debbie Vogt at (406)-788-1993

Sales end November 9th, 2016

Hunting Trophies

Archer Throckmorton (elk and deer)

Type: Elk

Range: 25 yards

Weapon: Compound Bow

Area: Highwood Mountains

Score: 163

Date: September 4th

Highlights: The biggest elk he's ever killed.

Type: Whitetail Deer

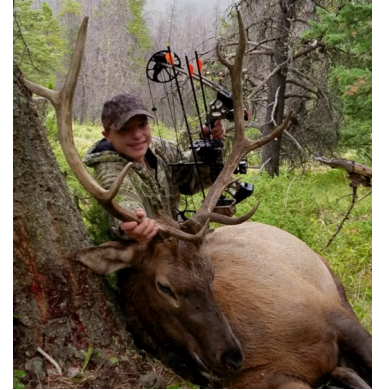
Range: 20 yards

Weapon: Compound Bow

Area: Belt Creek

Score: 104

Highlights: The biggest deer he's ever killed.



Shanae Johnson

Type: Mule Deer

Range: 160 yards

Weapon: .308 caliber

Area: Tom Chesbro's Ranch

Score: 4 by 4

Highlights: Second deer she has shot.

Valley Voice
P.O. Box 197
Belt, MT 59412