



# The Beeter Bulletin



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With ribbons, certificates, and medals, **Regional Science Fair Winners** Cali Van Voast, Garrisen Powell, Rian Molyneaux, and Sasha Anderson celebrate their performance at Great Falls College MSU on March 5.

## Middle School Science Fair Wraps Up

By Falyn Cecrle

Four Meadowlark Elementary School students got the chance to compete in the Regional Middle School Science Fair in Great Falls on March 5. Among the many projects judged, Sasha Anderson and Rian Molyneaux’s work with *Stain, Stain Go Away* received Second Place in Team Projects for Sixth Grade Physical Science. The duo also achieved a Medicine and Health Merit Award.

This win all began on February 20, when the elementary school held its second annual science fair in the gymnasium. Sixth graders participating displayed their projects for the community to view. Judges, Trent Noel and Kendall Harwood, determined the top three projects: *Lungs*, assembled by Cali Van Voast, *Potato Battery Light* built by Garrisen Powell, and *Stain, Stain Go Away* by Rian Molyneaux and Sasha Anderson. Alternates included *Vacuum Candle* created by Piper Skoyen, *How Is Water Magnetic?* developed by Mason Aberg, and *There Is No Such Thing as Too Many Crystals!* by Kaylie Skoyen.

Continued on page 2

With their placings, the top projects advanced to Regionals in Great Falls where participants were judged on scientific thought and engineering, clarity, creative ability, thoroughness, and skill.

“I thought the work was well done,” explains Judge Kendall Harwood, “I truly hope this tradition continues for years to come.”

Some designs in Great Falls consisted of using several types of bats to check batting average, experimenting with liquids that would make colors wear off an object more quickly, 3-D printing an item to clean up spills, testing batteries with various kinds of tapes, and many more.

Anderson and Molyneaux additionally earned a Gold Participation award. Powell received a Silver Participation Certificate, and Van Voast carried away a Bronze Participation Certificate.

“There were a lot of fun projects,” stated Sixth Grade Teacher Alicia Noel. “I think the students had fun.”

From the top 300, 30 students are selected as finalists and winners of an all-expense paid trip to the national competition in Washington, D.C. The top prize is a \$25,000 education award with many other awards offered throughout, to both the students and educators.

Mrs. Noel would like to thank Kendall Harwood and Trent Noel for judging at the science fair in Chinook. “I’m so proud of all the students who participated in the science fair this year, and I am proud of Cali Van Voast, Garrisen Powell, Sasha Anderson, and Rian Molyneaux for stepping out of their comfort zone and going to the next level of competition,” expressed Mrs. Noel.



**Winners of the Meadowlark Elementary School Science Fair** are Cali Van Voast, Garrisen Powell, Sasha Anderson, Rian Molyneaux, Piper Skoyen (alternate), Mason Aberg (alternate), and Kaylie Skoyen (alternate).

## Prom, Planning, and Pandora

By Bailey Billmeyer

Prom, which is annually hosted by the junior class, is scheduled for March 23. With the theme of ‘Pandora,’ or neon jungle,

this year’s prom theme is unique and hasn’t been used before at Chinook High. As the date quickly approaches, the juniors are working to make sure everything comes together.

Hannah Schoen, President of the Junior Class, stated, “Every time we have a prom

**Continued on page 3**



committee meeting, something in our plan changes. Planning is very stressful, but we are all hoping that it turns out great!”

When talking about some setbacks that the prom committee and the juniors have experienced while planning the dance, Schoen said, “We have been struggling with finding enough decor needed for prom.”

Prom’s color scheme will include a lot of blues, greens, and purples all accented with pink: “We will have a ton of leaves and jungle flowers and a tunnel archway that is going to be really cool,” explained Schoen.

Schoen expressed further excitement about this upcoming prom by adding: “This year’s prom is hopefully going to have lots of engagement and people who stay the whole night. We also have Dylan Surber DJing, and that’s super exciting.”

“I am most excited, though, for the catering we are getting for prom; we are serving prime rib before the dance, and it’ll only be fifteen dollars a plate!”

Prom is coming up fast, so those interested in attending are encouraged to sign up in the office and remember to order corsages! Representatives from Cavaliers were at the school on Monday, March 11 to take measurements for tuxedos.

## Three Student Council Members Win District Offices

By Bailey Billmayer

On Tuesday, March 5, Fay Friede, Student Council Advisor, and four student council members made the journey to Wolf Point for a Montana Association of Student Councils district meeting. After leaving with some new titles, the students came home with experiences to share.

“The District 5 spring meeting was well-attended and well-organized,” said Friede. “The vice president ran the meeting in the

absence of the outgoing District 5 President, but she did well, having no advance notice. There was a lot of positive interaction among the students in attendance.”

Dentin DePriest (junior), Brockton Elliot (junior), Bailey Billmayer (sophomore), and Walter Schoen (freshman) were the members that traveled to Wolf Point. DePriest had submitted his application and ran for District 5 President, while Billmayer ran alongside him for the district’s Secretary. Elliot stood up and ran for the Vice President position. Competing against one other pair of contenders running for the President and Secretary positions, DePriest and Billmayer won the election.

“I was a bit surprised when the results were in,” DePriest explained. “Prior to the meeting, I thought there would be a lot more nominees than there were, and I actually wasn’t expecting to be elected. It was a pleasant surprise, even with all of my new upcoming responsibilities. It will be a productive and worthwhile experience for sure.”

**Story continues on page 4**



Bailey Billmayer and Dentin DePriest won the MASC District 5 elections and will serve next year as Secretary and President. NOT PICTURED: Brockton Elliot will serve as Vice President.

Elliot claimed, “I decided to run for the Vice President position after Dentin and Bailey won their spots. During the meeting, everyone voted for what President/Secretary combo they wanted. They then announced the results. Winning the position made me feel great; I am very excited to be on District 5 Student Council.”

About his motivation for applying for his position, DePriest said: “Holding this position will definitely look great on resumés and college applications so that was the main reason I thought about running.”

Friede stated, “I’m proud of Dentin, Bailey, and Brockton for running for their positions, and I am excited about Dentin’s upcoming involvement on the Executive Board of the Montana Association of Student Councils.”

With new responsibilities for the upcoming year, DePriest, Billmayer, and Elliot prepare for their upcoming adventures.



## IN THE SPOT LIGHT

### Speeding into Chinook

By Falyn Ceclre

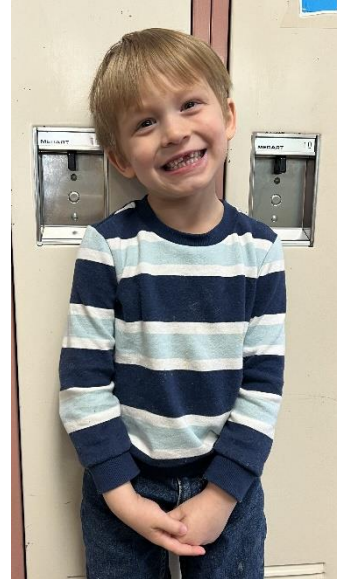
Energetic five-year-old Kevin Caballero from Mississippi is a new kindergartener at Chinook’s Meadowlark Elementary School, and he had his first encounter with snow this year in January.

Kevin would like to put his energy to a good cause when he grows up to become a superhero who would save the world like Captain America. One thing he said that he

couldn't live without is his mom, and one rule his new school should change is that students should be allowed to play all day.

About her newest student in a group of 17 pupils, Kindergarten Teacher Stacey Hasler explains: “Kevin is good at math and drawing and loves to build and take things apart.”

With a creative mind and an active body, Kevin has made his way to Chinook, ready to save the day.



### Crossing into the Meadowlark

By RJ Engstrom

Hailee Thompson, a fourth grader attending Meadowlark Elementary School, is a returning student from last year who recently moved back in November.

While speaking on the topic of superpowers, Hailee said: “I would choose teleportation so I can teleport to school.”

Living without her family and friends and teachers is something Hailee claims she could never endure. When she grows up, she wants to become a teacher



Continued on page 5

and teach the next generation of students.

And out of the many rules the students might not agree with, Hallie would give fourth graders the chance to become crossing guards. Even without the ability to be a crossing guard, she still has many aspirations as a friend and possible teacher.

## Soaring through the Year

By Ryley Hofeldt

Joining Mrs. Amanda Davies' class of sixteen boys and three girls, Christian Belyeu is welcomed to Meadowlark Elementary.

With his caring and hardworking personality, Christian has no problem making friends. Mrs. Davies reports that Christian "always uses his manners and is polite."

His passion for helping others is evident in his every day actions and in his dreams to become a police officer.



Furthermore, Christian is always eager to share his knowledge and help his peers with their work.

If he could have any super-power, he would choose flying so he could "fly to New Mexico." Along with other interests, Christian likes watching tv and states: "TV is something I can't live without."

Christian's teacher and his classmates would agree that he is a wonderful addition to the class.

## Elementary Classes Continue to Grow

By Bailey Billmeyer

Ryker Coleman is a new student in Ms. Bridgette Brennan's first grade class. He also participates in AAU wrestling.

As a wrestler in the community, Ryker thoroughly enjoys the sport, so when he grows up, he wants to be a professional wrestler. Such a career path would likely supply him with the one thing he could not live without: money!

Because Ryker does not enjoy riding the school bus, if he could have any super-power, he said: "I would choose to fly so I would never have to ride the bus again."

Suggesting that perhaps he does not enjoy school all too well, Ryker stated, "If I could choose a new rule for school, I would choose that nobody has to go to school again."



## National Honor Society Helps Sweeten up Valentine's Day

By Falyn Ceclre

Each year the National Honor Society (NHS) sells, decorates, and delivers Hershey's Giant candy bars for five dollars. This year the group sold 195 bars, "helping make Valentine's Day even more enjoyable," according to NHS Advisor Jill Paulsen.

Continued on page 6



Paulsen went on to explain that the NHS' goal for the year has been "to be a positive force within the school and community." Giving each staff member at Chinook High School a candy bar as a 'thank you,' the group actually only raised around \$0.75 a bar, turning the fundraiser into more of a "fun activity" than a money-making endeavor. The funds obtained will go towards whatever nonprofit organization or good cause the group chooses, or they will just be saved for the next year.

One Valentine recipient, sophomore Kirbey Hofeldt said: "I enjoyed getting a candy bar; it was delicious, and it made me feel special since someone thought of me."

About sales, Paulsen reported, "I think sales went well."

Paulsen would also like to remind upcoming juniors that those who qualify and are interested in becoming a part of the NHS, the club will start receiving paperwork in April for potential members, and the induction ceremony will occur in mid-May.

## Faith in Action

By Ryley Hofeldt

Starting roughly fourteen years ago, Chrissy Downs organized JUMP. She saw a need for a group where diverse young people could find comfort as well as experience a sense of belonging.

JUMP, or Jesus Uses Motivated People, is Chinook's non-denominational youth group. Another leader, Moses Deanon describes the purpose of JUMP: "To share God's message and help the young people with their faith."

On Wednesday nights, some 15-30 Chinook Junior High and High School students, regardless of faith background, come together and exercise the purpose of JUMP. The mission team is slightly smaller and "composed of the committed members,"

according to Deanon and his wife, Janelle, who are the leaders of the group.

During the summer of 2023, JUMP took 19 members to Kona, Hawaii, to work on Project Hawaii. Getting to meet "some incredible kids," the group assisted with programs to help end the cycle of poverty. Spending a week in Kona, Mr. Deanon claims that the trip "really opens your eyes to the real cost of paradise. There are a lot of families that struggle in Hawaii and have no way out because they live on an island."



On a Wednesday evening, (Left and Clockwise to Front Right) Laura Danley, Alexis Kuntz, Amanda Finley, Lillie Bearcub, Cassidy Darlington, Rachel Bilger, and Karley Hajenga enjoy a meal together.

Many members who participated in the Kona mission have been on previous missions while a few experienced their first mission. About her first mission, Sarah Gillett responds: "I was nervous about the environment since I wasn't sure what working with homeless children would look like beyond playing and helping kids with activities. The most exciting part was standing on corners to raise money for the kids."

Another member, Quentin Edwards has been on one previous mission. His first

**Continued on page 7**

mission was to a human trafficking victim sanctuary. “They fixed a ranch so it was able to be a sanctuary,” he said.

For his first time in Hawaii, he had a “memorable experience.” His most enjoyable moment was “being able to go into the ocean for the first time ever.”

Edwards also reports that the zoo was interesting. “There were the usual zoo animals: monkeys, exotic birds, and tigers but also animals we see frequently in Montana, like pigs and horses.”

Regarding future mission trips, Mrs. Deanon states, “This summer our trip will be much closer to home, and we’re looking forward to helping in several Montana and Idaho locations.”



JUMP participants: Abigail Danley, Kegan Green, Jameson Nordboe, and Amanda Finley build muscle while learning about faith.

## Academic Olympics to Be Held in Glasgow

By Bailey Billmayer

On March 20, ten students chosen at the high school level will be attending the Academic Olympics in Glasgow. Three students from the senior class, two from the junior class, three from the sophomore class, and two from the freshman class will make the trip.

Based on their academic performance as well as recommendations from teachers, Quentin Edwards, Hallie Neibauer, Aislinn Handy, Mekayla Brown, Alexis Seymour, Carson Kelly, Ayden Alisch, Bailey Billmayer, Walter Schoen, and Carter Alisch will represent Chinook High School. The group will depart at 5:30 a.m.

Others schools attending include Bainville, Glasgow, Frontier, Froid, Hinsdale, Lustre, Nashua, Plentywood, Poplar, Savage, Sidney, Lambert, Westby, Whitewater, and Wolf Point.

Upon arrival, the competitors will gather for an informational meeting in the gym area at about 8:15 a.m. Testing will follow at approximately 8:30 a.m.

There will be tests on science, math, social studies, and English. Calculators will be allowed on both the science and math tests. After lunch, students will compete in Academic Orals by group.

“Our primary goal in joining the academic challenge is to foster intellectual growth and teamwork,” stated the group’s chaperone, Mrs. Stella Llante. “We aim to engage deeply with diverse subject matter, honing students’ critical thinking and problem-solving skills along the way. Ultimately, we aspire to represent our school with excellence and sportsmanship, while enjoying the journey of learning and competition.”

## Working Towards State and Beyond

By RJ Engstrom

The Chinook FFA Chapter has been busy preparing their Hall of Chapters board submission for exhibit at the up-and-coming Montana State FFA Convention. The event is taking place on April 3-6 and has the theme of *Guided by Gold*. Additionally,

**Continued on page 8**

members have been spending lunch hours practicing for their competitions at state and planning for Donkey Basketball on April 28.

Furthermore, Chapter officers will be submitting their scrapbooks to State Convention Administrators. Binders for the treasurer, reporter, and secretary are finalized and submitted by the corresponding officer. The binders will be judged for consistency of records and organization of any files.

Finally, the Chapter is on the lookout for raffle item donations for their Donkey Basketball fundraiser later this month. Taking place on March 28, the event is meant to generate funds that will cover the cost of attending FFA Nationals in Indianapolis, Indiana.

## Star-Spangled Moments

By Ryley Hofeldt

During the spring, students from Chinook High School typically take a week and a half-long trip to Washington, DC. Doug Hayes, former trip advisor for many years, joins Mike Jones in his fifth year as advisor and helps organize and prepare for the trip.

The trip is open to juniors and seniors who wish to travel. Most commonly students participate during their junior year. This year 24 students and 14 adults made the trip. They drove to Belgrade, Montana, on March 13 and then flew to Washington, DC on March 14.

As described by Mr. Jones, days are all very busy, with early mornings, late nights, and lots and lots of walking. Jones states

“A typical day varies, depending on the plan. We have days that our field trips are within a field trip, such as Gettysburg and Baltimore.”

Jones then fills the days with scheduled tours of government buildings, museums, theaters, and even sporting events. The students get a wide variety of activities so everyone can enjoy the trip.

Everyone has his/her own experience in DC. Some may prefer the sporting events versus the history tours. Jones has seen a lot of different things while in Washington, DC. His favorite tour was the Dome Tour of the capital a few years ago.

Dentin DePriest, who has previously been to Washington, DC, states that this trip “will be a walk in the park.” He is most excited for the Gettysburg tour but also expressed excitement about touring the Smithsonian Museums again.

Julia Briere, who has never flown before, has done a lot of travel by car. She is most looking forward to learning and visiting the various historical spots.

Talking to previous members of the DC Club, Jackson Nordboe described the trip as “very impactful” and one of his “favorite times ever.” He recommends the trip to future students. **Story continues on page 9**





This field trip is always planned to the second with extra perks along the way. In 2023, for example, the group witnessed a presidential motorcade.

Emma Paulsen and Aislinn Handy, who went their junior year, both recall favorites. For Paulsen, “the segway tour group was the best,” while Handy stated that her favorite was “the private tour of the tunnels between the House of Representative and the Senate building.”

Handy recommends the trip, calling it “a good opportunity to see our Capitol.”

## Testing the Student Body

By RJ Engstrom

On March 11, Mrs. Susan Erskine, who oversees MAP testing, reported that the freshmen and sophomores had wrapped up their Measured Academic Progress (MAP) Reading tests.

Although over for the freshmen, testing continues for juniors and seniors who will take the American College Tests (ACT) on March 26.

Because the ACT is standardized, many colleges use it for acceptance purposes and scholarship opportunities. The initial cost of the ACT with Writing assessment is covered for all juniors in Montana by the Office of Public Instruction, but the testing company offers retakes for \$93.00.

The creator of the ACT, Everett Franklin Lindquist, a professor at the University of Iowa, aimed to make a test that focused on practical reasoning and personal achievements. Designed to cover English, Math, reading, and scientific reasoning, the sections are scored 1-36 then averaged into a composite score

The Pre-ACT, which was taken by sophomores on March 19, is meant to simulate the test-taking experience and to prepare students for the ACT. The tests are

formatted similarly, but the Pre-ACT asks easier questions and is of a shorter duration.

Created as a direct competitor for the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT), the ACT is now the most popular standardized college test in the US; being accepted by all four-year colleges and universities in the USA as well as by over 225 universities worldwide.

There are many differing opinions on whether the test is applicable today. Previous ACT test-taker Ryley Hofeldt, a senior at CHS, says she does not agree with the test still being forced upon high schoolers: “Many colleges don’t require a certain ACT score to be accepted, and some people have trouble performing well under the pressure of a big test.”

## Sweating About Answers in Havre

By Falyn Cecrle

On March 14, Math Teachers, Gerald Llante and Stella Llante, advised 46 of Chinook’s students, ranging from seventh to twelfth grade, in Havre for the Regional Montana Council of Teachers Mathematics (MCTM) Math Contest. Participants were excused from school at 1:30 p.m. on what is often called Pi Day in the math community.

After all schools met in the Havre High School Auditorium for the testing rules, the students settled into their classrooms and started testing at 2:30. They had 30 minutes to finish each exam and got a 15- minute break between tests. During breaks, students listened for their names for a door prize: an Amazon Gift Card. By the end of the tests, 20 out of 375 participants had won a door prize. Results from the testing are found on at [contest.montanamath.org/results](http://contest.montanamath.org/results).

“Some tests were easier than others,” explains sophomore Bailey Billmayer. “It was a really fun experience because I got to see friends from other schools.”

## Finding Opportunities

By Ryley Hofeldt

On Monday, March 11 from 9:45 until 2:00 p.m., Hill Country Electric and Triangle Communications hosted their second Opportunities Trades Day in Havre. The goal of Trades Day “is to expose our area high school’s students to opportunities available in trades,” says Bethany Chinadle, COO for Triangle Communications.

With eight different zones, students were able to choose four to attend in the morning before lunch to learn about the trade. Options included Diesel, Welding, Construction, Telephone and Internet Technician, Electrician and Lineman, IT and Security, Job Opportunities in Trades, and finally Mapping, Engineering and Locating,

At about 11:45, all the students lined up for pulled pork sandwiches and listened to a few presentations by sponsors of the event. After lunch, students split up again and went around to do hands-on activities at their preferred zones.

Chinook High School sent 20 students to Trades Day, which was chaperoned by Nick Turner and Mitzi Cecrle. One junior, Nicholas Johnson reported that his favorite trade was lineman, though he does not plan on pursuing that trade after high school. Having gotten a clearer look on what he wants to do after high school, he states: “The booths I checked out had clear explanations on what they do and how they do it.”

A senior, Corey Bilger favored mapping, engineering, and locating. The hands-on project was interesting to him because he understood “how they put in the pipes and wiring for locations.”

Sterling Bemis, another senior, says: “Trades day is beneficial because we get to learn about other jobs and what they do.” Welding her initials onto metal was her

project of choice. Bemis recommends that students attend trades day.

## Junior High Wrestlers Pin Some Wins

By Bailey Billmayer

The junior high wrestling team has stayed arguably busy all season, with at least one meet a week. With that schedule, the wrestlers have experienced some successful weekends so far.

On Friday, February 24, the team participated in their first bracketed tournament in Havre. “This was one of our biggest meets of the year,” said Coach Trent Noel. “The kids shined bright in Havre, and all 13 of the kids we took placed.”

Upon completion of their matches, winners were announced:

### First Place

- Fifth Grader Claire Buck
- Sixth Grader Evan Powell
- Eighth Grader Samson Sanders

### Second Place

- Sixth Grader Kimber Klein
- Seventh Grader Lane Wicks
- Eighth Grader Charlie Buck

### Third Place

- Fifth Grader Ayden Kuhnenn
- Sixth Grader Jaxton Crowley
- Sixth Grader Hayden Paulsen
- Eighth Grader Ethan Klingaman

### Fourth Place

- Sixth Grader Madalyn Billmayer

### Fifth Place

- Sixth Grader Amos Billmayer

### Sixth Place

- Seventh Grader Teagan Sanders

Traveling to Big Sandy on February 29, the team participated in a mixer: “The kids showed up and wrestled some tough matches in Big Sandy. A few of them had really good competition,” stated Noel.

**Continued on page 11**

Harlem hosted a mixer the next day on March 1. Noel commented: “The team count was way down, but all of the kids wrestled at least four matches. They wrestled hard and came away with some big wins.”

## Boys’ Basketball Finishes 6-17

By RJ Engstrom

The Sugarbeeter boys travelled to the Divisional Tournament in Malta with high hopes and state aspirations. Although the boys did not qualify for state, finishing the season 6-17, their deep playoff run is “one to remember.”

The team entered the post-season with a 3-14 record but quickly swept through the district level, going 2-2.

In their first divisional matchup, the Malta Mustangs handed the Beeters a 43-87 loss. However, during their second game of the tournament, they faced the Cut Bank Wolves, taking the 73-66 victory and sending Cut Bank back home.

With yet another decision match, the boys brawled against the Glasgow Scotties. In a “nail biting contest,” according to some fans, the boys came up short in a 59-61 final second defeat.

When senior Jackson Nordboe related his feeling about their playoff performance, he stated: “I am very happy with how we flipped around the season by defeating the teams that led our conference.”

Nordboe attributed their playoff success to the “next play mentality,” while also stating, “The most important thing is to keep a level head through the good and bad.”

His favorite season memory was going through practice, knowing that all of his teammates were doing it with him, and the life lessons and stories from Head Coach Bill Bell.

About their season, freshmen stars Ryan Bell and Jameson (Jae) Nordboe stated: “We

were fueled by the cockiness of the other teams.”

Out of the many things they took away from the season, Jae said he “learned to stay in shape running,” and Ryan states he “learned from his mistakes.” For their favorite moments from the season, they named “the hotel activities, by far, and the Rocky Boy upset game.”

Ryan added: “You never lose; you only learn, so keep on pushing.”

The boys thank the fans for all their support and encouragement though the season.



Beeters gear up to take on the Shelby Coyotes for the district tournament in Conrad.

## Swinging into Spring

By Ryley Hofeldt

On March 11, Nick Turner and Ashley MacLeod began coaching for the 2024 golf season. Practice started inside with a golf simulator and wiffle balls and will continue indoors until ice patches on the field melt and the Chinook Golf course is golfable.

Turner says: “To work on their conditioning, I told them to walk around town with their golf bags.”

In his second year of coaching, Turner claims to love golf and to enjoy coaching younger people to golf. This will be

**Continued on page 12**



MacLeod's first year as a coach, although she was a golfer while a student at CHS.

On Monday, three girls and eleven boys turned out for the team; six are returners. Among those returning, Brockton Elliot advanced to state last year but unfortunately did not place.

Like Elliot, the current team is mostly juniors, but the sport is open to all high school students. "We need more golfers and more girls to field a team," Turner stated.

With the small number of girls, an opportunity for eighth grade girls opened up to qualify the girls as a team. Unfortunately, no younger girls were interested, so numbers remain low.

A few stand-out community members are dedicated to the golfers. Steve Edwards will be donating to the team any golf balls he finds as he walks around the course. And Kelcey and Nancy Diemert, avid golfers and former owners of Chinook Pharmacy, will be donating golf tees to the team.

One of Turner's goals for the team is to see the golfers improve and enjoy the game.

Their season opens on April 5 when the Chinook Sugarbeaters are invited to the Old 9 Invitational in Shelby, Montana.

## Tennis Bounces into Action

By Falyn Cecrle

The tennis team started the season off facing adversity. As the group met up at the courts for the first time this year on March 11, they were "devastated" to discover that the construction job started on the courts over the summer had not been completed. With the courts being unfinished, the coaches resorted to traveling to Havre every day after school to practice on the Northern and Blue Pony courts.

The team—comprised of Jenna Liddle, Mya Berreth, Rilee Molyneaux, Paycee

Leo, Gracie Skoyen, Makalya Brown, Falyn Cecrle, and Kamry Gustitis—will be competing in the first meet of the season on April 5 in Great Falls. According to Assistant Coach Aaron Chriss, the goals for the team this year are to "enjoy the game, get better, and compete in state."

He went on to say: "I think we have a lot of experienced, determined, and talented girls that are supportive of each other but also that push one another to make each other better."

As mentioned by one of the newest members of the team, freshman Gustitis, the most challenging thing about tennis is "using the backhand swing or hitting the ball just right."



## Track Bounds into Season

By RJ Engstrom

With spring coming around the corner, the track team has begun practices and will be travelling to their first meet on March 29 in Glasgow. The team of 33 has felt the absence of numerous juniors due to the Washington, D.C. trip's having taken several of the athletes out of state from March 13-21.

Looking forward to the new season, senior Wylee Simenson stated, "We have a good season ahead of us, and we are going to compete." He hopes to make it to the Glasgow Top Ten Meet on April 30. The Top Ten Meet is a collection of runners with the top ten times in the state in each competition. **Continued on page 13**

“I’m looking forward to a great season with a great group of kids,” says Head Coach Kendall Harwood.

## Securing Some “Hardware”

By Falyn Ceclre

The Chinook Girls’ Basketball team rallied in the post season, giving the fans a show from districts to state.

### Districts

On February 16, the Beeters made their way to the Conrad gym ready to rumble. As conference champions, the girls were bumped up to one seed and started off in the semifinal game. Playing the Cowgirls on their own home court, the girls beat Conrad, 46-28. With a strong beginning, the girls returned to their hotel victorious and planned for the championship to come.

Strolling back into Conrad’s Corral, the Beeters pumped themselves up for the game that determined where they would sit for the next tournament. The girls experienced a slow start but fought their way back in, getting within three points when the final buzzer sounded, finishing off the game 39-41. Although they carried home the second-place district champion title, the girls were not ready to be done.

### Divisionals

Although there were two weeks until the Divisional Tournament, the girls came back to Conrad hungrier than ever. To start off, the Beeters played the Fairview Warriors, overpowering their opponents and taking their first win of the tournament with a score of 50-29.

As the tournament progressed, the next day the Beeters were back for more, facing “their rivals,” the Malta M-Ettes. The game was a contest of runs, and with one last run against Chinook, the M-Ettes took the final lead, leaving the Beeters with another loss of

41-55. Despite being handed their first loss in Divisionals, the girls weren’t giving up.

Trekking back into the gym, the girls set off to take care of the Cowgirls one last time. As the seconds on the clock counted down, the Beeters pulled ahead each quarter, “leaving Conrad in their dust.” With every point, the Beeters drew closer to gaining some hardware to display at home. The game ended 61-26, keeping the girls in the tournament.

On Saturday night, the Beeters were ready for their rematch with Fairfield. After losing the District Championship to them, the girls came into Divisionals hoping for another opportunity.

When they got their chance, they surely did not disappoint. Determined to dull their talons, the Beeters took after the Eagles and beat them by 20 points, finishing the game with a score of 55-35.

After a one-day break, the girls got to challenge Poplar, who had lost to Malta in the Championship. Traveling to Glasgow on March 4, the girls were looking at a window of opportunity to qualify for the state tournament. The Beeters “took it to ’em” and defeated the Poplar Indians, 62-39. With her “shooting on point and by working hard,” Hallie Neibauer beat the school record of most points scored in a single game, putting 36 points on the scoreboard.

Securing second place, the Beeters had scratched their way into state.

### State

Next, the team traveled to MetraPark in Billings on March 7 to play the Baker Spartans.

Starting the game, the girls fell behind 14 points in the first half. After a “heartfelt” talk in the locker room, the girls picked themselves up, getting within six points of the Spartans in the third quarter. With the score bouncing back and forth between teams, the Beeters were defeated for the third time this season, 30-46.



**Chinook's Girls' Basketball Team** poses with their Second-Place Divisional trophy after beating the Poplar Indians. BACK ROW: Volunteer Coach Shiloh Seymour, Amyerah Kelly, Hannah Schoen, Kirbey Hofeldt, Head Coach Mike Seymour, Gracie Skoyen, Mataya Inman, Sidney Liddle, Carson Kelly, Lori Mord, Kamry Gustitis, and Assistant Coach Tami Schoen. FRONT ROW: Neva Lowe, Brooke Fetter, Addison Olsen, Jenna Liddle, Hallie Neibauer, Falyn Cecrle, and Alexis Seymour.

With another game brewing for the next day, the girls got ready to take on the Anaconda Copperheads.

“Playing their hearts out,” the Beeters began the first quarter, 17-9. As the game went on, the rivals were stuck playing neck and neck until the end buzzer. “Working hard” until the time expired, the girls got sent home, losing out 56-59.

The following Monday, Chinook’s announcements shared a congratulations to the girls’ basketball team on their “outstanding season and representation at the state tournament.” The varsity team finished with a record of 22-4 and was one of the top seven teams in the state. The junior varsity team finished the season with a 17-0 record, making this their third consecutive year to go undefeated.

A second congratulations went to award winners Hallie Neibauer, Alexis Seymour,

and Hannah Schoen for being selected to the District 1B First Team All-Conference list, as well as to Neibauer and Seymour for being selected as Class “B” All-State Basketball players.

“I was incredibly pleased with the team and so proud of what they accomplished this year,” stated Head Coach Mike Seymour.



## ***The Beeter Bulletin Staff***

**Reporters:** Bailey Billmayer, Falyn Cecrle, RJ Engstrom, & Ryley Hofeldt

**News and Feature Editor:** Bailey Billmayer

**Managing Editor & Advisor:** Dr. Donna Miller





The following poems were written in the Honors English class. After reading the poem “Remember” by Joy Harjo, students wrote imitations of Harjo’s poem to celebrate how heritage, family, and nature have shaped their lives.

# Remember

By Kylee Green

*Remember* the laughter that brings happiness;  
Know each memory like it happened yesterday.  
Remember the stars which sparkle throughout the night, giving the darkness a luminescence to cherish.  
Remember the sunlight, as it brings warmth, security, and a good tan.  
Remember your brothers, as they protect you from unwanted dangers, tease you about the little things, and cheer you up after a horrible heart-break.  
Remember your sisters, as they love you unconditionally and teach you respect and responsibility.  
Remember the Creator of all things, the one who gave his one and only son to save you.  
Remember dancing, at dawn or dusk, as it fills the air with loud songs and dirt; dance until you can’t dance anymore.  
Remember the earth, round and flawless; remember to treat it with kindness, as it gives us a place to live and air to thrive.  
Remember your tribe; be proud of where you come from, for your ancestors had to fight to keep this land.  
Remember the braids as you twirl around in the colorful dress, carefree and unbothered as the beat makes you dance with so much power.  
Remember to respect your elders, for they have experienced life longer than you have.  
Remember to live life, not just live in it, but to experience it.  
Remember to praise your culture, as there is nothing to be ashamed of.  
Remember your father, as he taught you nothing but patience, hard work, and perseverance. He is the one who never gave up, no matter how scared he was, raising three children by himself.  
Remember your mother, the one who gave you life but didn’t want to stay in it, the one who gave you abandonment issues and made you feel worthless.  
Remember your friends, as they chose to love you.  
Make memories with them;  
soon, that’s all you’ll have left.  
Remember the food that fuels you, that makes you thrive.  
Remember the challenges you’ve had to face, that either made you or broke you.  
The hardest one’s you’ve had to overcome alone,  
the one’s that molded you into the person you are today.  
Remember what it feels like to love someone and to feel loved.  
Remember to always remember, even when you’re old and grey.  
Remember.

# **Remember**

By Bailey B. Billmayer

Remember the stars that lit up the black eternal darkness that you look up to see;  
the "Big Sky" country you were raised in and taught to appreciate,  
full of pinks and purples when the sun gains brightness over the horizon.

Remember the pure smell wafting from grandma's kitchen;  
fresh bread rising in the oven,  
with scents that tickle the insides of your nose.

Remember the stories told around the warm, stove-fire that lights up smiling faces;  
tales of his cowboy days that Grandpa recites from his memory of his childhood,  
putting a grasp on the grandchildren and adults wrapped within blankets of love.

Remember the feeling of freedom;  
saddling up and riding with the wind in your ears,  
creating the impression that nothing and nobody can slow you down.

Remember your connection with nature;  
running barefoot in the tall, green grass that stains your heels and toes,  
jumping in mud puddles produced from rain which pours from the clouds.

Remember the ceremonies that hypnotized you;  
the bright, multicolored skirts and jingles that take up every inch of your vision,  
while long hair with braids and eagle-feathered headdresses are dancing in circles.

Remember the hard work you achieved;  
the trips for school events you participated in,  
spending all summer under the hot sun, trying to make a living for yourself.

Remember the goals you set;  
sports that you have strived to excel at,  
extra classes you take in order to reach your aspirations.

Remember the struggles that shaped who you've become;  
always surrounded by anger and hatred,  
moving back and forth between houses every other week.

Remember everything that molded you into who you are;  
the hardships, the love, the lessons.  
Remember.