

## SCHOOL NEWS

By Marcia Stewart

Butte Falls brain bowl teams are preparing for competition. The Senior/Junior team will compete in Ashland, March 11th, at Southern Oregon University. We have a wonderful team that has practiced together for almost seven years. If they are willing to dedicate the time required to be National competitors, they stand a chance at winning districts and would fly to Florida to compete in the Nationals.

The Freshman/Sophomore team practice almost daily and are adjusting to a new coach. They have great future potential and will certainly be a strong team by the time they are Juniors and Seniors. They will compete in Ashland, March 7<sup>th</sup>, at Southern Oregon University. They are a committed and exciting team. Be watching for some great victories down the road.

The Butte Falls Speech Team has been busy with basketball and cheer-leading. Hopefully they will be ready to commit to the Grants Pass Invitational, February 9<sup>th</sup>. There are some speakers that have a shot at Districts, State and Nationals. Garret Harrington continues to be supportive to the team and is such an asset to Ms. Stewart.

The English Department needs remnants of shelf paper. If you have any unused contact paper, the students need it for presentations and visual aides. Please contact Marcia Stewart or drop it by the office in the high school. All colors and designs are welcomed.

### Upcoming Report Cards and Newspaper Articles

In the very near future, test results and an actual report card will be published on every school district in the state of Oregon. There are a few things that the public should keep in mind when reading these scores. When students test, there is more to the big picture than the test itself. Please think about

Coming soon. Alice in Wonderland - A Butte Falls High School Drama Production.

the following facts when it comes time to ponder the scores of the Butte Falls School District and comparisons to various school districts throughout the state:

If a student is tired and hasn't had breakfast, they will score poorly.

If a student has a history of being absent, they will score lower than the student attending school on a regular basis.

If a student has a quarrel with a friend, boyfriend/girlfriend/parent or teacher prior to testing, their results will be lower.

If the student does not take the test seriously and wants to finish it in record time or guess at the answers, the outcome will alter the entire report.

If the student is not paying attention in class when various concepts are taught, they will be unable to answer those questions correctly.

It is easy to point fingers at the district, the administration, and the teachers when state test scores are low. If below average scores persisted over a few years, it is time to become concerned. However, if one year the district scores high and the next it's scores are lower, keep in mind the above information that can alter the scores for any given year. The staff, entrusted to educating the students, in the Butte Falls School District are dedicated and concerned about the education of the students. The direction of teaching and assessment is changing. The state has so many requirements that teachers are spending a lot of their time trying to see exactly what the state is wanting. About the time they figure it out, the state will change the criteria. The staff isn't shirking the responsibility for the education of the students, but the general public needs to be aware of the various snares that alter state mandated test scores.



Bill Moore!

Thank you for all the time you have been putting into clean-up along Butte Falls Highway and Obenchain Rd! It's a great exercise program

## FBLA

On Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> the Butte Falls High School Future Business Leaders of America Club will be travelling to Rogue Community College to compete in the District VI Conference. They will compete in two events each against five other valley high schools; North Medford, South Medford, Rogue River, Grants Pass and Hidden Valley. Tests can consist of speeches, multiple choice tests and home-site computer applications.

Jessica Dunlap in Intro to Parli-Pro and Parliamentary Procedures Team, Michael Hanson in Business Law and Accounting I, Brian Hanson in Technology Concepts and Computer Concepts, Dusty Harrington in Banking/Credit and Parliamentary Procedure Team, Rickard Johansson in Economics and International Business, Jaclyn Lyon in Business Calculations and Accounting I, Wendy McClelland in Word Processing I and FBLA Creed, Kayla McKibbin in Intro to Business Communication and Word Processing I, Heidi McLaughlan in Business Calculations and Accounting I, Elizabeth McLaughlan in Word Processing I and Business Procedures, Bethany Nelson in Parliamentary Procedure and Business Communications, Nick Rodgers in Job Interview and Word Processing I, Krystal Rowley in Introduction to Parli-Pro and Intro to Business Communications, Shannon Sizemore in Business Law and Business Math, Travis Smeltz in Parliamentary Procedure Team and Accounting I, Sarah Bechler in Word Processing I.

Students who place in the top two in each category will automatically qualify to go to State in April. Good Luck to the participants.

Adviser, Dianne Gorman is looking for adult volunteers to help chaperone these events. Please contact her at the high school, 865-3563.

Becca Green  
Keep up the good school work