

# 8TH GRADERS TO DEBATE

## CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

-Liza Barrett & Pat Blackman

Eighth grade English & Social Studies students are currently researching opposing points of view on several current Constitutional issues. This interdisciplinary experience will culminate in a series of formal debates to be held in the auditorium on Monday and Tuesday, November 22nd and 23rd. Topics include Gun Control, the Patriot Act, Zero Tolerance policies in schools and the Pledge of Allegiance as well as eight others. Parents are invited to view these debates! A schedule of topics and times will be posted on Mrs. Barrett's and Mr. Blackman's homework sites.

### Touch Football Tournament

-David Livernois

On Tuesday, November 9 the middle school students were involved in a morning touch football tournament. This was the culminating activity for the fall physical education unit in grades seven and eight. The 16 seventh grade teams played a tournament format amongst themselves. The fifteen eighth grade teams plus one faculty team played a similar tournament amongst themselves. The final game was the first place seventh grade team versus the first place eighth grade team, then second place teams, and third place teams and on until the sixteenth place teams matched up.

The tournament play with teams of six opened with the middle school chorus singing the National Anthem during opening ceremonies. Games started at 8:00am on frosty fields and the finals finished at 11:20 on sunny warm fields.

## SPORTS

**Cross Country:**

Sat, Nov 20, 11:00, STATES, location TBA

Sun, Dec 5, 4-7:00pm: BANQUET for X-Country Team in school Cafeteria

## Alpine Ski Club Starting

The Mt. Greylock Intermural Ski Club will be starting a 7 week ski/snowboarding program on Tuesdays from 3:00 - 6:30 pm, beginning January 4, 2005. Forms can be picked up in the principal's office or in Ms. Rinehart's room - #68.

Signed forms and payment for the program must be returned by Monday, Nov 29th. There are several options for lift tickets, rental equipment, and transportation. The price varies with the number of services required. Buses will pick students up at Mt. Greylock at 2:55pm, and can drop them off at one of 5 different locations.

**If you have any further questions,**

**call Kathy Rinehart at 458-9582, ext 122,  
or e-mail at [krineha@mgrhs.org](mailto:krineha@mgrhs.org)**

## Wrestling Team Starts

-Coach Raymond Miro

The Mt. Greylock Wrestling Team welcomes middle school students. The team is divided into weight classes so that kids can be evenly matched. Both boys and girls may join. We presently have the nation's #1 high school wrestler on our team: Nicole Darrow! We have a very successful program that helps the kids in areas other than the actual wrestling. Our first meeting was Nov 16 but interested students should come see me in my classroom E-48; call me at

458-9582 x 191 and leave a message; or email me at: [rmiro@mgrhs.org](mailto:rmiro@mgrhs.org)

## Cross Country Ski Team

The Cross Country Ski Team will hold a

newcomers meeting on Mon, Nov 22 at 7:00pm in the school library. This informational meeting is a chance for parents to learn more about the MG x-country ski program and about practices, equipment, racing, etc. Questions? contact: **Coach Hilary Greene at 458-4759 or Coach Hiram Greene at 738-5294** or email: *hgreene@williams.edu*

## Sports Forms Due

-Nurse Dubendorf

Winter sports begin after Thanksgiving vacation. **Health forms are due by Monday, Nov 29.** Athletes must have a completed EMERGENCY FORM and documentation of a PHYSICAL within the last year before they begin team practices. Feel free to check with me to see what forms you need.

Questions: **Dianne Dubendorf 458-9582 x 154** or *ddubendorf@mgrhs.org*

## PTO News

-Lisa Hiley, co-president

About 30 parents and coaches attended the

November PTO meeting, where the **primary topic of discussion was fundraising for sports** and the possibility of creating a single athletic booster club to work together for all sports at Mt. Greylock (along the lines of the Friends of the Arts model). Many issues were raised, including the current system that puts a large burden on the parents of team captains, the disparity of team sizes (e.g. cross country and track vs. basketball) and how that affects the fundraising ability of each team, the possibility of using participation fees to even out funding somewhat, and the idea of joining forces on concession sales.

This will be an ongoing conversation and is a subject that affects many parents and students. Several people volunteered to spend some time studying the issue further - if you are interested in participating, please contact Lisa Hiley ( [lisahhiley@adelphia.net](mailto:lisahhiley@adelphia.net)) or Anne Hogeland ( [hogeland@adelphia.net](mailto:hogeland@adelphia.net)).

In other business, the PTO's Out of the Ordinary **Auction and Halloween Hop raised about \$3000**, in spite of the competition from other events that weekend. The next PTO fundraiser will be a citrus sale - watch for more information. Also, the GAP Fund will be raffling off a gorgeous Beth Nesbitt quilt over the holidays - tickets will be available soon.

## **Participate in Superintendent Search**

-Robert Petricca, Chair of School Comm.

The MGRHS School Committee invite you to participate in the identification of the characteristics we will be looking for in our new superintendent by completing a ***Leadership Profile Assessment*** form. The form was sent home in *The Forum* or **copies of the form are available on the school's website: [www.mgrhs.org](http://www.mgrhs.org)** Please complete the ***Leadership Profile Assessment*** form and FAX (847-724-8467) it directly to the search firm Hazard, Young, Attea & Assoc. **ASAP!**

## **Field Trip to McCann Technical School**

-P.J. Pannesco

Middle School students who are interested in a technical/vocational program during their high school years, will be visiting McCann Tech on **Monday,**

**November 29, 2004.** Interested students should see Middle School Guidance Counselor P.J. Pannesco to obtain a parent permission slip. Parents who have questions should contact P.J. Pannesco at 458-9582 x 157 or at [pjpannesco@mgrhs.org](mailto:pjpannesco@mgrhs.org)

## **Holiday Shopping? use *schoolpop.com***

If you're shopping on-line this holiday season, earn money for Mt. Greylock and go to **schoolpop.com** first. Register your name and the organization you would like to benefit (Mt. Greylock Regional High School), then pick the merchant you want to shop with and begin shopping. Questions? Contact Melissa Brink [onthebrink89@yahoo.com](mailto:onthebrink89@yahoo.com)

**GOINGS ON**

**Wed, Nov 24:** School CLOSED, Thanksgiving  
vacation begins.

**Tue, Dec 7, 7:00pm:** Mt. Greylock School Committee Meeting in school library

**Wed, Dec 8, 7:30 am:** Mt. Greylock School  
Committee Meeting in room S-1

**Mon, Dec 13, 7:00pm:** PTO meeting in library

Please send items for the next issue of *The Beacon* by **noon, Tues, 11/23/04** to **debbydane@ aol.com** or to **stomberg@adelphia.net**