

THE ROCKETEER

100 Years of Graduates

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From Left to Right: Bentley Bertolino, Connie Cooper, Lilly Hyvonen, Zoe Larson, Misty Pitts

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL 2022-2023

It's going to be a great year!

In 1923 Roberts School had its first graduating class. Look for 100 years of graduates throughout the year.

Welcome back all Rockets new, young, and old! It's that time of year again, as school has begun for the new 2022-23 school year. Some are looking forward to another year of learning, while others wish they were still basking in the rays of summer. A new year means new faces, so the students and staff would like to welcome all the new students and teachers. This month's edition will cover topics on the sports teams, organizations in the school, the new teachers, and more. Keep reading on so you don't miss anything important! Everyone here is looking forward to another wonderful year at Roberts filled with exciting activities and events. Thank you all for reading the new edition of the ROCKETEER!

MEET THE ROCKETEER STAFF

Misty Pitts

I have been a part of the Roberts Community since I met my husband Jason in 1995 then married in 1997. Along with Jason (1993), his parents Sue Herbert Pitts(1968) and Jerry Pitts (1968) and grandparents, Ray Pitts (1947) and Marian Wallila Pitts (1948), our children Garret (2020) and McKenzie (2021) are also Roberts graduates. My dad's family homesteaded in Roy in 1917, Where I attended from 4th grade through my Junior year then transferred to Winifred and graduated in 1992. I went to New Zealand and Australia for 13 months through the International Agriculture Education Association (IAEA) in the fall of 1992.

In 1997, I obtained my Associates of Arts Elementary Education, with a Minor in Early Childhood from Northwest College in Powell, Wyoming. In 2000 I graduated from MSU Billings with my Bachelors degree in Elementary Education. In 2020 I received a Library/Media Certificate from University of Montana Western. Through my certified years I have filled many positions, including Kindergarten, First Grade, Title 1 High School and Elementary, Special Ed Aide, MTDA, Library/Media, and preschool. Outside of school I have been a member of Roberts Booster Club, MBI/MTSS, book keeper for Volleyball and Basketball and had an in-home daycare.

This is the first time filling the Journalism-Media position for me. There are 4 students in this class and we hope to have a "Rocketeer" publication out almost every month.

Connie Cooper

I'm going into my senior year of high school. I am involved in volleyball, Rocket Leadership/Student Council, and FFA. This is my second year taking the Journalism and Media class. This class has sparked my interest in photography and writing. I love that I can help inform the community about what's going on with our school activities. Also this class lets me embrace my creative side. After I graduate I would like to take a year off and save money. Then I would like to go to college to either become a social worker or a mechanic.

Bentley Bertolino

I am going into my senior year. I've been a student here at Roberts since kindergarten. Also, I am involved in volleyball, basketball, track, National Honor Society, and Rocket Leadership/Student Council at the school. This is my first year taking the Journalism and Media class. I am excited for this class to provide me with the knowledge of writing and reporting. I love the idea of providing the community with information and news that is happening in our school. After I graduate I plan on attending Montana Technological University to study Health and Exercise Sciences.

Zoe Larson

I am a senior and this is my first year at Roberts Highschool. I am involved in FFA, 4-H, and Student Council. I am taking a Journalism and Media class, not only because I need the credit but because I enjoy taking pictures. I also enjoy writing and would love to be able to be more involved with the school.

Lilly Hyvonen

I am going into my sophomore year, and this is my first year taking Journalism and Media. Some things I take part in are volleyball, basketball, track, FFA, student council, and 4-H. I decided to take journalism and media this year because I enjoy taking pictures. Also, I find interviewing people a lot of people. When I get out of high school I would like to become a vet tech or a nurse.

TEACHER INTERVIEWS

MRS. VANEK

BY: ZOE LARSON

Today I had the opportunity to interview Mrs. Vanek the new Kindergarten teacher. She says her favorite thing about her class is the excitement they have each day when they come to school. When I asked why she wanted to be a teacher, her response was one you hear a lot of times from older siblings. She said that she always was a teacher. She liked to teach the younger kids she was around. When I asked her what she wanted to be before she became a teacher, I could predict the answer. She had told me that she had always wanted to be a teacher. It had always been something she was passionate about. Besides being a teacher from a very young age, she has been a certified teacher for four years. Her inspiration for pursuing her dream of becoming a teacher was her grandmother who was a teacher before her. I hope you guys all get to meet our new teachers as they are all superstars!

MRS. BLANKENSHIP

BY: CONNIE COOPER

Mrs. Blankenship is our new high school History and Social Studies teacher. She became a teacher because she loves history, politics, and sharing that passion with others. Also, she really enjoys teens and thinks they are "super fun and insightful". This will be her first official year teaching. When she was younger she wanted to be a Broadway actress/singer. When she started college she wanted to be a lawyer and got her first degree in political science with a pre-law emphasis. Her favorite thing about the kids is that she loves how kind and personable we all are. Getting to see how our personalities come out has been her favorite part of the first few weeks of school. Her inspiration to become a teacher was her family, which is full of teachers. Both grandparents, four of her aunts and uncles, and three of her cousins are teachers. She thinks that it's in her blood to be a teacher. Another inspiration of hers was her eighth grade history teacher who still inspires her to this day. She has even text him a few times for help with lesson ideas.



Fall Sports

Volleyball

By: Bentley Bertolino

Head coach Melissa Bertolino, who will be assisted by Theresa Kosel, is coming back for their eighth season. When asked about her ideal outcome for the 2022-23 season, she explained that she wants “the girls to play to their fullest potential and have some fun doing it!” Everyone knows that sports can be extremely competitive, and it is important that athletes don’t forget the reason they are playing, which is for fun. Coach Bertolino was then asked what drove her to become a coach. She answered with a general explanation that she was a three-sport athlete in high school and always had a love for the game and competition. She then went on to add that “I didn’t think I would ever be a coach until I decided to coach junior high volleyball eight years ago because we needed a volleyball coach, but I ended up being the varsity coach instead.” She then talked about how she needed to quickly learn about all the things that had changed because she hadn’t played in fifteen years. Mentors were very valuable to her at this time because they helped her navigate the new chapter of Roberts Rocket Volleyball. Next, she was asked about what the difference was between this season and all the others. Bertolino stated that this would be the first time in years that she would have to start two freshmen and only one senior, which would necessitate a significant amount of rebuilding. The final question asked was about her biggest accomplishment as a coach. She said she was the first volleyball coach to make it to a district championship and brought “home hardware from districts and divisionals.” She then went on to explain that in her first years of coaching, the team started at the bottom, but then slowly built themselves up to become successful. The journalism team wants to thank Coach Melissa Bertolino for letting us interview her, and wishes her and the team a fantastic season!

Cross-Country

By: Lilly Hyvonen

Mr. McCrone is the head cross-country coach. I asked him four questions. Coach was first asked about his ideal outcome for this season, to which he replied with a few answers. He wants his athletes to be all-state and to meet their monthly personal records. Then he was asked about what made him want to be a coach. He answered that he enjoys working with kids and likes sharing his knowledge with them. The third question asked was what makes this season different from the rest? Coach McCrone said having a four-time all-stater, seeing programs grow in numbers and success. Finally, he was asked what makes this season different from the rest? He responded with a simple answer of athletes and their goals. A big thank you to Mr. McCrone for letting the journalism team interview him. We all wish you a great season!

GAME UPDATES

The Lady Rockets kicked off their season on August 27th with a whopping third-place finish at the tournament in Broadview. They started off with a few strong games in pool play to put them through the gold bracket where they battled it out for the bronze. Then they fought through a gruesome three-game weekend starting on September 1st. They first faced off against Absarokee at home. The Lady Rockets had a rocky start with the first set going into extra points. Nevertheless, they prevailed in three sets with scores of 24-26, 22-25, and 18-25. After that, they dominated Fromberg/Belfry in their own gym, winning the first set 8-25. Then the Rockets let up the last two set with scores of 14-25 and 16-25. Lastly, Melstone at home ended in a four-set nail-biting battle. The team started out strong with the first set ending 14-25, but they tragically lost the second set after it went into extra points for a 28-26 finish. The girls were luckily able to pull it off with the last two sets ending 23-25 and 24-26.

Junior Class Concessions

By: Connie Cooper

Concessions are run each year by the current junior class. The money the class will make is going towards their graduation and senior trip. A few new items they are offering this year are nachos, the one and only 'hot dog meal', and Icee popsicles. They will be available at all home games during volleyball, high school, and middle school basketball games. We also want to emphasize how important it is to the class that the community supports them.

Senior Fun Night/FFA BBQ

By: Zoe Larson

This years senior class of 2023 put on a carnival as one of their major fundraisers. The event was held out on the football field. There were a variety of games that kids could play for \$5. They had basketball, cornhole, spike ball, and even a prize wheel. The FFA also did a BBQ, where they cooked hamburgers as a fundraiser to get the chapter started for this year. These were both great ways to start off the new school year so everyone could get to know each other and begin the year with new friends.

Word in the Halls

By: Lilly Hyvonen

Word in the Halls has become the latest hot topic. I asked a couple of questions to four random candidates, who will be chosen for an interview every month. This month they are senior Kyle Young, junior Garrett Vandesant, sophomore Elizabeth Devries, freshman Abigail Swansborough and teacher Mr. Grove.

While you've been at Roberts, what has been your favorite meal that they've prepared? Our first candidate, Kyle Young, appeared to be a little stressed, but his answer to the first question was mac and cheese pizza. Our junior, Garrett Vandesant, had answered burgers because he usually goes home for lunch. Sophomore Elizabeth Devries had also said burgers were her favorite lunch. Freshman Abigail Swansborough thought long and hard about her answer and said chicken strips with sweet potato fries. The teacher chosen this month was the Ag and Shop teacher Mr. Grove, who said pizza because he loves it.

Would you prefer to read the Rocketeer as a newspaper, online, or both?

Kyle's answer was that he doesn't read it, but I figured that he would like to read it both ways. Garrett then said he'd like to read it both ways. Elizabeth replied with she'd like to read the Rocketeer online. Abigail thought neither long nor hard and just said both. Mr. Grove answered newspapers because he likes to read off of papers.

Stay tuned for next month's interview!

ROCKET LEADERSHIP/STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council:

President: Naomi Joyce

Vice President: Zoe Larson

Treasurer: Kyle Young

Secretary: Lilly Hyvonen



Class Representative:

7th: Rachel Devries

8th: Kallie Garcia

Freshman: Charlotte Kosel

Sophomore: Elizabeth Devries

Junior: Laynee Holdbrook

Senior: Bentley Bertolino

Small Group Leader:



Mrs. Baver: Brooklyn Nelson

Mrs. Blankenship: Hailey Croft

Mrs. Larson: Connie Cooper

Mrs. Ronning: Kaleb Kroll

Mr. Grove: Gus Kosel

Mrs. Shoopman: Emily Smith

FFA Representative: Molly

Mitchell

Advisors:

Jackie Ronning

Kenedee Blankenship

Photo Dump

