



The Fort Site Journal

November 2009

Patron
Fort Recovery Local Schools
Fort Recovery, OH 45846
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
FORT RECOVERY, OH 45846
Permit #15

It's a Special Time of Year..Give Thanks!

Jack Staugler, Board President

Sometimes people spend an awful lot of time trying to find the negative side of situations. At this time of year, when we're about to gather around our tables with our families and friends and give thanks for all those things we have, it seems appropriate to focus on the positive things instead. As a school board member of Fort Recovery Local Schools, it's easy to develop a pretty long and impressive list. Here's just a few of them.....

- I'm thankful for the season the marching band just completed. It's wonderful to see our program back at the state contest again! Thanks to all the parents, students and Ms. Beavers for making it possible.
- I'm thankful for the staff we have that continues to put Fort Recovery students and their education at the top of their priority list. We're one of the few schools in the state that has been able to accomplish 10 consecutive years of Excellence! While we've transitioned every leadership position during this time, the one constant has been the teaching staff who continue to prove that we've got the finest group of teachers in the state.
- I'm thankful for the opportunity to be in the stands when the football team comes over to sing the school fight song after each victory. Though I'm sure they would have loved more opportunities to do that, they always handle themselves with class and dignity, and have made those of us in the stands proud of their efforts. Though it's likely very little consolation, it's interesting that 6 of the 7 teams that beat us made the play offs this year.
- I'm thankful for the opportunity to work with Ginny Fortkamp and Dan Kahlig for the next couple of years, and for their commitment to their community in running for the open school board seats.
- I'm thankful for people like Helen Aisenbrey, who recently resigned from her position as a cook at Fort Recovery Local Schools. Helen has graced the various kitchens and cafeterias of Fort Recovery for 44 years. It's very possible that literally everyone reading this has eaten one of Helen's cookies, had a bowl of her chili, or enjoyed one of her many banquet meals over the years. Our schools and our bellies just aren't as happy without her.

As you can tell, the list could go on and on.

Thirty-five Students Inducted into National Honor Society



On November 19, 2009, thirty-five students were inducted into the National Honor Society. The induction began with a welcome from NHS President, Paige Pottkotter. Mrs. Kathy Schwieterman led the invocation. Present NHS members Paige Pottkotter, Erica Muhlenkamp, Kelsey Brockman and Josie Guggenbiller reviewed the qualities of a National Honor Society member. The new members inducted were: Seniors – Alyssa Brackman, Greg Kahlig, Nathan Keller, Chelsey Leuthold, Emily Link, Jessica Link, Emily May, Jacob Pohl, Ethan Schoenherr, Sherri Schoenlein, and Shane Stein. Juniors - Shelby Alig, Casey Backs, Michelle Brackman, Laura Braun, Kelly Brown, Holly Brunswick, Nicole Dilworth, Stacy Gehle, Caitlin Gehret, Ryan Heitkamp, Abby Huelskamp, Colt Metzger, Rose Roessner, Natalie Rohrer, Emily Schoenlein, Lindsey Schroer, Andrea Sutter, Alexis Sutter, Olivia Thien, Alison Tobe, Gena Wendel, Stacy Will, and Haley Wilson. Following the induction, the show choir then performed "Reach," followed by guest speaker, Mr. Ted Shuttleworth. Mr. Jeff Hobbs, high school principal, had the final comments and dismissed the students. New inductees, their parents, and guests enjoyed cake and punch while pictures were being taken. Following the ceremony, all old and new NHS members loaded a bus and traveled to Portland Pizza Hut to continue their celebration.

Attention Seniors



"Class of 2010"



With the end of the first semester only 8 weeks away, the newspaper and yearbook staffs would like to remind the seniors of deadline dates for materials needed for upcoming articles.

Newspaper staff needs:

***Senior feature articles:** We would like to feature seniors in the Fort Site Journal. Forms to complete are available from editor Natalie Rohrer, advisor Mrs. Kathy Jutte, or from the office.

Chant yearbook staff needs:

***Senior packets:** This includes the page *Remember When*, the senior superlatives, senior favorites, and synonyms for fellow classmates. Deadline for the packets is January 18, 2010.

***Pictures:** The yearbook staff needs a copy of the senior picture that the senior wants placed in the 2010 yearbook. They also need a baby or toddler picture. January 18, 2010 is picture deadline also.

***Senior Parent Ads:** Any senior parent wanting to put an ad in the 2010 yearbook needs to send in the information to Shelby Alig, Mrs. Kathy Jutte, or the high school office. All ads will be in color. Prices are: Full page - text with 6 pictures submitted - \$100.00, 1/2 page - text with 3 pictures submitted - \$75.00, 1/4 page - text with 2 pictures submitted - \$60.00, and 1/8 page - text with 1 picture submitted \$40.00. All ads must be placed and paid for by Friday, January 18, 2010. This will allow the staff to make sure enough room is left in the 2010 yearbook for senior parent ads.

From the Principal's Desk

The second nine weeks is off and running quite smoothly. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for November 19th and 23rd at Fort Recovery High School. I would encourage all parents to stop in to check on your child/children's progress. I appreciate the number of conference forms that were returned and if you call the high school office, we can still schedule a conference for either day. The parental support at Fort Recovery is just one key element in why the district has received Excellence with Distinction for ten consecutive years! I'd like to follow-up on our mentoring program that was discussed in last month's article in the Fort Site. If you remember our teaching staff at the high school agreed to

adopt a student or two from the unsatisfactory list (D's and F's) and give them some encouragement and possibly "tough love" to help them find academic success. The results during the 1st nine weeks were quite good. We had 86 total D's and F's at the interim and only ended the nine weeks with 6 total F's on grade cards! That is a true testimonial to our staff's commitment to all students.

The Student Council recently hosted its first blood drive of the year with the Red Cross. Fort Recovery HS collected 52 units of blood to hopefully give the gift of life. We stress the importance of giving back to their community to our students on a regular basis. Winter sports season is on the horizon and several

fall athletes were recognized for their outstanding efforts by the Midwest Athletic Conference. Senior Nicole Pottkotter received 1st Team All-MAC and 1st Team All-District 8 volleyball. Junior Holly Brunswick received 2nd Team All-MAC volleyball. As well, senior Craig Tobe received 2nd Team All-MAC football. Fort Recovery had several teams that achieved at high levels including; district volleyball, regional girl's cross country, and state band. We are quite proud of all our students who participated in extra and co-curricular activities during the fall.

As usual, please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.
Jeff Hobbs, HS Principal

A Mound of History



On Thursday, October 15th, the fourth grade class went to Piqua Historical Area. While there, the students toured the Johnston's farmhouse. Here students learned about the Johnston family and about life in the 1820's. The Johnston family traded and negotiated with the Woodland Indians. The students learned about the various Indian tribes, what they looked like, and how they traded. Close to the Johnston house is an Adena Indian Mound from thousands of years ago. The students enjoyed learning about the mound and thought the "donut shape" was really neat.

Finally, the fourth graders ended the day by taking a trip down the canal on a canal boat, after learning how the canals were dug by immigrants over a 20 year time span. The mules pulling the canal boat at 4 miles per hour fascinated the students. Overall, the fourth graders had a great time!

A Season of Success

By Alexis Sutter

The cross country season has come to a close. The teams had a great season with many wins along the way. "The teams gained confidence in their ability and that shined through in their performances at meets," says Coach Stammen of her teams.

The junior high boys had another awesome year. The boys ended their season with a second place finish at the MAC Meet. Three of their seven runners finished in the top ten. Josh Pohl finished third, Derek Sutter finished fifth, and Joe Gonzalez finished tenth.

The junior high girls finished fourth at the MAC Meet to conclude their season. Jessica Vogel led the team with a top ten finish coming in 18th. Jessica was followed by Elle Sutter who finished 13th. The girls finished off their season strong.

The high school boys had a great season, with more wins than the previous two years combined. Their final record was 37-115. The boys' season concluded at District which was held at Spencerville, on Saturday October 24th. The district team included Calvin Kaiser, Nathan Fullenkamp, Ryan Heitkamp, Marshall Hull, Zach Guggenbiller, and Andy Gray. The boys ended with an eighth place finish.

The high school girls finished fourth at District, qualifying them for Regionals for the second year in a row. Regionals were held at Troy on October 31st. The girls competed against the best in the state at Regionals and finished 16th. Coach Stammen says, "I'm very proud of the girls' team. They did the best they could and that's all I can ask for." They finished their season with a 71-60 final record. Coach Stammen believes the teams had a great season and a promising future. "With hard work and dedication, they will have great results," says Coach Stammen.

2009 Board of Education Election Results

By Nichole Sheffer

Fort Recovery School Board Election was held on November 3, 2009, in the Elementary/Middle School Gymnasium. The three candidates that ran were Ginny Fortkamp, Dan Kahlig, and Matt Fullenkamp.

Fortkamp received the most votes at 1258, Kahlig received 840, and Fullenkamp received 32. Congratulations to Dan Kahlig and Ginny Fortkamp who won the election and will be joining the other members of the school board. These members include Jack Staugler, Steve Wendel, and Dave Hull.

Mrs. Fortkamp would like to thank voters for their votes on November 3rd. "I am looking forward to serving Fort Recovery Local School District as a school board member," she says.

Dan Kahlig also wants to thank everyone who took the time to support him in Tuesday's election. "I guess I shouldn't be surprised, after all, Fort Recovery is the best faith, family, and learning focused town in Ohio! As we all know, the next few years will be challenging ones for FRLS. The Board and administration must consider funding issues and the possibility of some sort of high school project," said Kahlig. While he can't promise that all the Board's decisions will be popular, he can guarantee that the Board, in conjunction with the community and staff, will do their best to make decisions that are in the best interest of our children.

"Thanks again for your support!" comments Kahlig.

A Week of Excitement

By Alexis Sutter



Cori Stone, Caitlyn Huelskamp, and Cassie Gray – the three finalists, listen as Mrs. Fortener tells them what the final competition will entail. Cori Stone was the overall winner.

On October 30th, middle school students attended Fun Night and throughout the preceding week some participated in “Middle School Survivor.”

From October 26th to October 30th, more than fifty middle school students participated in “Middle School Survivor.” The students involved competed in mental, physical, and comprehensive challenges. Cori Stone, a sixth grader, was the victor in the end. She won many prizes, the main one being the chance to eat first at lunch.

Over 100 students attended Fun Night where they could participate in dodgeball, basketball, a Halloween relay, a junk food walk, a gummy worm dunk, karaoke, dancing, and many other fun activities. To reduce the cost of admission to Fun Night, students brought in canned foods to donate to a food drive. The students had a good time at fun night and helped to collect a lot of canned foods too.

The Middle School students had an exciting week and helped out a good cause along the way.



State Representative, Jim Zehringer, recently presented the district with a proclamation celebrating ten years of excellence with distinction. Pictured: Representative Zehringer, Mr. Hobbs - High School Principal, and Mr. Niekamp - Interim Superintendent.

New Changes

By Julie Knapke

You may have noticed a big change in front of the Fort Recovery High School. That change would be a digital sign, showing dates and times of school events, and pictures of the Fort Recovery High School activities.

Mr. Joe Hawk’s classes removed the old sign and made the cement foundation for the new sign. Mr. Michael Gower and Mr. Norm Leugers should be recognized for their hard work on the sign. It took them a year and a half with over 270 man hours that were donated between the two of them. They are both very satisfied with how it turned out.

“This was a great learning experience for us as educators. What we were able to learn here will certainly help the students of Fort Recovery,” says Mr. Leugers.



FRHS Student Council

Submitted By Nicole Dilworth

The Student Council is off to a great start this year! During the football season, they sold spirit shirts to “white out” the Versailles Tigers. Money made from the shirts and money donated from the jubilee went towards a new vending machine which is in the high school lobby.

On October 28th, the student council also sponsored a blood drive. The goal was to have 50 donors and we collected 52 units. They would like to thank everyone who donated blood, and helped at the blood drive. The next blood drive will be in April.

The next project student council is sponsoring is poinsettia sales along with FCCLA. Poinsettias will be sold from November 12th- December 1st and will arrive on December 10th. Money made from the poinsettia sales will be used to buy presents for local families this Christmas.

March On!

By Julie Knapke

The Fort Recovery Marching Band qualified for the state competition after receiving a superior rating at Versailles. They are one of twenty class C bands in the state of Ohio to be able to compete at the state level.

On Sunday, November 8th, the Fort Recovery Marching Band traveled to Welcome Stadium in Dayton to perform at 2:45 pm. The marching band received a rating of 2 - excellent. “The most memorable moment by far was when the band qualified for State at the Versailles competition. They have made major improvements over the last six months,” says Director Megan Beavers. She felt it was a great reward for them to have the opportunity to perform at State Marching Band Finals.

Now that marching band is over, the concert band is preparing for their Christmas concert which will be on Sunday, December 13th, at 3:00 pm in the Elementary/Middle School Auditoria. “Although it was six months long, the season flew by! The students kept working through rain and cold and their efforts really paid off in the end. I am very proud and impressed by their hard work and determination” says director Beavers.



Pink for Kirsten Schlarman

Fort Recovery High School students have been showing their support for Kirsten Schlarman, of New Weston, as she is battling cancer. Monday, November 16th, the students were asked to wear pink as Kirsten was to undergo surgery. A heart was made of the many “people in pink.” Kirsten has several relatives in the Fort Recovery area. The students would like to wish her their best.



OCTOBER MS PRIDE WINNERS --7th grader - Rachel Pugh and 6th grader - Caitlyn Huelskamp. **Congratulations Girls!**

Poinsettias Sale



HS Student Council & FCCLA will be selling poinsettias November 12th - December 1st
Arrival date is December 10th

Call (419)375-4111
Or contact any High School Student Council or FCCLA member



Fort Facts

Fort Recovery Local School
Board Of Education Meeting Summary
November 17, 2009

Board Recognition

The Fort Recovery High School Band and director Megan Beavers were congratulated and recognized for qualifying for State competition.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Triplett:

* Explained the grade recovery program being used in the Middle School as a means of helping appropriate students bring up their grades.

* Updated the Board on the recent van purchase.

Mr. Hobbs:

* Discussed the High School mentoring program in which teachers mentor students with D's or F's to help them improve on that grade.

* Updated the Board on the OGT retakes, various sports programs, and fall activities at the High School.

* Informed the Board that he has heard many positive comments about the new sign.

Mr. Niekamp:

* Welcomed board member elect Ginny Fortkamp and congratulated Dan Kahlig on his re-election to the board.

* Updated the Board on the recent Nov. 3rd Staff Development Day.

* Informed the Board on changes related to House Bill 1 that may affect our assessment with the OSFC.

* The date of the January Organizational Meeting will be put on the December agenda to discuss.

* Board member compensation for the upcoming year was discussed.

* Announced that the Franklin B. Walter Banquet will be held at Fort Recovery this year.

* Discussed the timeline and criteria for the hiring of a new superintendent and also any committees that may be needed.

Consent Agenda

1. Approved the minutes of prior October 13 work session and regular board meeting.

2. Approved the monthly financial reports for October 2009 and payment of bills.

3. Accepted the resignation of Lisa Fullenkamp as regular route bus driver, effective Nov. 18, 2009.

4. Approved the reappointment of Bob Staugler as FRLS's representative on the Fort Recovery Park Board for a term of 5 years.

5. Approved the return of financial advance to the general fund.

Agenda Action Items

1. Established the compensation of each board member for calendar year 2010 for 16 meetings a year (12 regular, 4 special) at \$80.00 per meeting.

2. Approved the policy changes as recommended by the policy committee.

3. Executive session.

4. Amended language on the Custodian and Maintenance Engineer/Bus Mechanic salary schedule, effective 1/1/10.

5. Approved the employment of Leslie Muhlenkamp as a non-teaching employee for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year, effective 11/18/09.

6. Approved the contract with Private Duty Services, Inc. effective Nov. 16-Dec. 31, 2009.

7. Approved the lease for the track and football facility from the FR Athletic Boosters at \$1.00 per year for five years.

8. Meeting adjourned.

After School Weightlifting Starts Monday, Nov. 30th

Open to any high school or middle school students.
Workouts every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday after school until 4:15 PM

Supervised by
Mr. Brent Niekamp

Fort Recovery Elementary PTO's Breakfast with Santa



Saturday, December 19th
9 AM- 11 AM

Fort Recovery Elementary Auditoria
\$2.00 per person

Includes a light breakfast of donuts, milk/juice and coffee as well as several crafts & games for kids!

Pictures with Santa (1 - 5x7) will be available for \$2.00

5th Annual Fort Festival of Trees



To be held at the Fort Recovery Library December 7th-23rd during library hours
Special hours:

Friday, December 11th - 9 AM - 8 PM
Saturday, December 12th - 9AM - 5 PM

Visitors will be invited to vote for their favorite tree.

This free event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library

The Fort Site Journal is published monthly during the 2009-2010 school year. These issues are sponsored by the Fort Recovery Local Board of Education and are coordinated by the creative writing class at Fort Recovery High School.

Community clubs and organizations are encouraged to submit articles for publication. These articles may contain news for club activities or notices of upcoming events. If you have any information that you would like to have placed in the Fort Site Journal, contact the high school by the first Friday of every month.

The advisory committee for this paper includes the Fort Recovery Local Schools Board of Education, Superintendent Pat Niekamp, High School Principal Jeff Hobbs, Middle School Principal Matt Triplett, Elementary Principal Shelly Vaughn, and Advisor Kathy Jutte.

Staff:

Editor Natalie Rohrer

Marissa Brunswick

Julie Knapke

Tami Link

Hilary Pottkotter

Nichole Sheffer

Alexis Sutter

Fort Recovery FFA Members Attend the 82nd National FFA Convention

Eighteen members of the Fort Recovery FFA Chapter attended the 82nd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana the week of October 19-23, 2009. Over 55,000 FFA members represented all 50 states, and more than 7,200 FFA Chapters were in attendance. The National FFA Convention is held annually to highlight and award member success through the FFA and agricultural education.

Dan Brackman was a National Finalist for the Diversified Livestock Production Placement Award. Brackman received second place for this award. His diversified livestock is working at a poultry and fish farm and also working at home on the family hog farm. Good Job Dan!

Educational tours included Fair Oaks Dairy Farm, Carley Elk Farm, Not Just Popcorn Factory, GSI Grain Bin Factory, Hunter's Honey Farm, and many more. Other places and attractions visited were a hypnotist show and a Toby Keith concert. The weeklong trip allowed students to return home with long lasting memories, experiences, and deep ties to agriculture.

The Fort Recovery FFA members who attended the convention included: Eric Brackman, Michelle Brackman, Randy Braun, Kelsey Brockman, Michelle Evers, Kurt Fortkamp, Caitlin Gehret, Zach Guggenbiller, Taylor Guggenbiller, Tyler Harker, Andrea Lennartz, Doug Lennartz, Sam Muhlenkamp, Gage Retz, Shelby Westgerdes, Aaron Will, and Stacy Will. Parent/chaperone Mark Will,

and advisor Michael Gower accompanied the students on the trip.

The Fort Recovery FFA Chapter would like to send a special thanks to the school board members, administration, and staff for allowing this trip to be possible as well as Mark Will for chaperoning the weeklong trip. The following businesses also supported the Fort Recovery FFA Chapter through donations: C and M Welding Services LLC, Cooper Farms, Farm Credit Services, B & F Rental, FR Equity, Fort Recovery Lumber, Ft. Recovery Vet Center, Hull Brothers, JR Manufacturing, Pottkotter Construction, Reinhard Dairy Products, Wabash Garage, and Wendel Poultry Service. This trip would have not been possible without these great supporters.



Pictured R to L are Fort Recovery FFA members who recently attended the National FFA Convention. Back: Kurt Fortkamp, Eric Brackman, Aaron Will, Tyler Harker, Sam Muhlenkamp, Gage Retz, Randy Braun, Michelle Evers, Kelsey Brockman, Zach Guggenbiller. Front: Michelle Brackman, Caitlin Gehret, Shelby Westgerdes, Stacy Will, Taylor Guggenbiller, Andrea Lennartz, Doug Lennartz.



Senior Emily Bauer (left) and sophomore David Tobe, of the varsity Scholastic Bowl team, compete in their match against Parkway on November 16th, in the Fort Recovery High School library.

Breaking out the Books!

The Scholastic Bowl team has been having a great season. To learn more about this club, we interviewed Mrs. Dilworth, the coach.

FSJ: "Who are the members of the Scholastic Bowl Team?"

MD: "We have a junior varsity and varsity team. On the junior varsity team are Brian Bauer, Michael Cotterman, Craig Hart, Kelly Hull, Mallory Kinder, Alison Koch, Daryl Osterloh, Elizabeth Osterloh, Adam Pohl, and Brandon Stammen. Participating on the varsity team are Jacob Backs, Emily Bauer, Kelly Brown, Skott Burrows, Brent Link, Colt Metzger, and David Tobe."

FSJ: "Can you tell us more about what goes on at the meets?"

MD: "JV and Varsity each have a match weekly consisting of 20 questions (break after each set of 20 questions, to substitute other team members). I substitute in and out of rounds, watching to see who is being more successful in answering the questions that day."

FSJ: "Is Scholastic Bowl considered a sport or a club?"

MD: "Good question. I don't think it is defined as either, but it is considered a MAC event. We play all the schools in the MAC, just like our other sports teams. We also have a tournament each year; however there are no sectionals, districts, regionals, or state competitions."

FSJ: "What does the team do to prepare for meets?"

MD: "We practice by holding question and answer sessions and reviewing questions in practice books designed for this purpose."

FSJ: "What kinds of questions are asked at the meets? Are there categories or specific questions?"

MD: "The questions cover all areas. They come from physics, chemistry, biology, algebra, geometry, geography, history, civics, grammar, literature, and current events. Before the question is read, the reader gives the category, so that the players can "key into" that specific area."

FSJ: "Is scholastic bowl all year round or is it in a certain season?"

MD: "The "season" is from mid September with the varsity tournament in December, and the JV tournament in October. We have other tournaments we attend annually. Wright State's annual tournament is in March. We also usually attend a tournament at Ball State in January. Channel 7 also sponsors a Quiz Bowl, where names of schools are drawn in a lottery type fashion to determine which schools participate each year."

FSJ: "What made you want to coach the Scholastic Bowl team?"

MD: "I really enjoy working with the students involved in Scholastic Bowl. Seeing the students' excitement about the information in matches and practices is very rewarding."

(Interview by Marissa Brunswick)

Gingerbread House Family Night



Tuesday, December 8th
in the High School Commons
from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Grades pre-K through 5th

Each child will be decorating his/her own gingerbread house to take home.

Parents are required to accompany children.

The cost is \$7.00 per child.

Pre-registraton **IS REQUIRED!**

Turn forms in by Wednesday -December 2.

Call Cheryl Perkeybile (FCCLA advisor) at FRHS (419)375-4111 with questions.

Shooting to Make History

By Marissa Brunswick

Coach Brian Patch is looking forward to a great season for the Fort Recovery Boys' basketball teams. Patch's goals for this season include improving as individuals and as a team for each of the teams in the program, winning a sectional championship, and competing for a MAC championship. If they win sectionals, they will be the only team to win three sectionals in a row at Fort Recovery. Each of the coaches are ready for winning seasons. Brian Patch is the varsity coach, with varsity assistants Jeff Vaughn and Bob Leverette. Dave Blockberger is the coach for the JV team, and Joe Bruns is coaching for freshman. The eighth grade coach is Tony Overton, and the seventh grade coach is Toby Metzger. The managers this year are Brandon Schoen, Wes Wenning, JJ Overton, Tanner Koch, Ross Homan, Nick Litmer, Chase Bruns, Kyle Schroer, and Jackson Hobbs. Patch says the schedule will be a challenge this year.

"During the season our schedule will be challenging, both in conference and out of conference. Our schedule will prepare us so we can become a better team. For sectionals we will need to be prepared for New Knoxville, New Bremen, Marion Local, and Minster. These will be the teams that we will prepare for and be threats to us, because they stand in our way of winning a sectional championship," says Coach Patch. He adds that each player will be a key player for their respective teams.

Seniors on the team are Greg Kahlig, Cody Fiely, Michael Gearke, and Craig Tobe. Juniors are Ryan Schoen, Shane Brunswick, Elliott Post, Aaron Wilker, and Ryan Link. Sophomores are Jason Pottkotter and Jared Kahlig, and the freshmen are Wade Gelhaus, Trent Kaiser, Mason Evers, Wyatt Blockberger, Chad Schroer, Derek Schmitz, Jacob Schoen, and Connor Rammel. Varsity players who will see the most action will be Greg, Craig, Cody, Michael, Ryan Schoen, Shane, Wade, and Jason.

Each player brings something different to the team and they need each one to perform at a high level to have a good team this year. Each player needs to play their role well for the team to compete and reach their goals. The basketball team is looking to make history by winning three sectional championships in a row at Fort Recovery. Greg Kahlig is also 323 points away from beating our school's all time leading scorer record.

Indians Roll Out a Record-Breaking Season

By Natalie Rohrer

After ten straight weeks of Friday night football, the Fort Recovery varsity football team finished the 2009 season with an overall record of 3-7. The team placed eighth in the Midwest Athletic Conference with a MAC record of 2-6. The JV team ended the season with an overall record of 5-4 and a MAC record of 3-4.

"I enjoyed coaching our guys this season. We had a class of seniors that was really fun to work with," remarks head coach Brent Niekamp. Twelve seniors played their last game against Delphos-St.Johns on Friday, October 30th. Senior players included Greg Kahlig, Cody Fiely, Ethan Schoenherr, Michael Gaerke, Nathan Keller, Perry Hull, Shane Stein, Craig Tobe, Alan Lennartz, Jordan Bechtol, Mark Matraw, and Adam Guggenbiller.

One of many great accomplishments for the season was this year's team being only the third in FRHS history to win multiple MAC games in the same year. The senior players will have the best MAC record of any class that has ever graduated from Fort Recovery, winning seven MAC games in four seasons.

This season, thirteen new seasonal school records were set. Greg Kahlig set the new record for single game passing (479 yards), single game touchdown passes (6), season pass completions (168), season touchdown passes (23), career passing yards (6689 yards), career pass completions (490), and career touchdown passes (57). Michael Gaerke set the new record for single game touchdown receptions with three receptions during the Ansonia game. Craig Tobe set new records for season pass receiving yards (819 yards), season pass receptions (54), career pass receiving yards (1614 yards), career pass receptions (107), and career touchdown pass receptions (15).

"Our team supported each other well," says Coach Niekamp, "The older players did a nice job of setting an example of work ethic for our younger players." For the 2010 season, Coach Niekamp would like to work to improve the team's fundamental skills like blocking, tackling, passing, route running, and catching. Congratulations to Fort Recovery's football teams on a great season!

Six Receive American American FFA Degree

Six members of the Fort Recovery FFA Chapter were recognized for their hard work and effort in receiving the American FFA Degree Award, while attending the 81st National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. The six individuals who receiving this award were Dan Brackman, Lindsey Fortkamp, Valerie Fortkamp, Tyler Huelskamp, Janessa Nietfeld, and Jeremy Siegrist. These six make up only 62 students awarded this degree in the history of the Ft. Recovery FFA Chapter.

The American FFA Degree is the final step, in a four stepping-stone order of achievement within the FFA. In order to receive this award, they were first required to receive their Greenhand, Chapter, and State FFA Degrees, the other three steps for each member in this process. They were also required to document that they increased their net worth by at least 7,500 dollars, worked the equivalent of 2,250 hours on all of their projects, and be heavily involved in school, community, and FFA Chapter activities.

The American Degree Ceremony was held at 7:45AM in Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis and was watched by over 22,000 FFA members, their parents, and FFA advisors. The American FFA Degree is a very prestigious award with only five out of every one thousand members nationwide receiving the award.

Dan Brackman is the son of Mrs. Doris Brackman-Good. Dan's accomplishments for receiving this award were recording hours and earnings at Zehringer poultry and fish farm and at Brackman Hog Farms. Lindsey Fortkamp is the daughter of Bob and Bonnie Fortkamp. Lindsey's accomplishments for receiving this award were recording countless hours of work at Buschur Dairy Farm. Valerie Fortkamp is the daughter of Kevin and Sharon Fortkamp. Valerie's accomplishments for receiving this award were recording hours and earnings at Cooper Farms. Tyler Huelskamp is the son of Ken and Connie Huelskamp. Tyler's accomplishments for receiving the award were working for Huelskamp Farms. Jenessa Nietfeld is the daughter of Jeff and Linda Nietfeld. Jenessa's accomplishments for receiving this award were recording hours and earnings for Cooper Farms. Jeremy Siegrist is the son of Don and Sally Siegrist. Jeremy's accomplishments for receiving this award were recording hours and earnings at Siegrist Farms.

The Fort Recovery FFA would like to congratulate the American FFA Degree recipients for all their hard work and dedication.

Lions Club-Psi Iota Xi
\$5000 New Years Eve Dance
 Thursday, December 31st
 Fort Recovery American Legion
 Doors open at 7 PM - \$75 per couple
 call Jodi Staugler for tickets 1-419-554-0000

2009 Fall Sports Banquet

The Fall Sports Banquet was held November 5th. A wedding style meal, catered by Theinmans, was served to the athletes and their parents. At the banquet, the athletes were recognized for their accomplishments and success. Each sport presented special awards to some of their athletes. Athletes were also recognized for their academic accomplishments along with their athletic accomplishments by receiving the MAC All-Academic Team Award.

Boys Golf

Most Improved: Derek Rammel

Indian Award: Shawn Roessner

Most Valuable Golfer: Jared Kahlig

Boys Cross Country

Most Improved: Marshall Hull

Indian Award: Calvin Kaiser

Most Valuable Runner: Ryan Heitkamp

Girls Cross Country

Most Improved: Hilary Pottkotter

Indian Award: Casey Backs

Most Valuable Runner:

Marissa Brunswick

Football

JV Player of the Year: Derek Gaerke

Offensive Player of the Year:

Greg Kahlig

Defensive Player of the Year:

Jordan Bechtol

Special Teams Player of the Year:

Aaron Vagedes

Most Improved: Ethan Schoenherr

Indian Award: Shane Stein

Most Valuable Player: Greg Kahlig

Volleyball

Most Improved: Carly Stauglar

Best Offense: Nicole Pottkotter

Best Defense: Emily May

Indian Award: Emily May

Most Valuable Player: Nicole Pottkotter

MAC All- Academic Team

In order to make this team the athlete must meet all three of the following requirements:

1. Must be at least a sophomore
2. Must have earned a varsity letter in their current sport
3. Must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above

Girls Cross Country

Casey Backs

Abby Huelskamp

Alexis Sutter

Christen Wendel

Boys Cross Country

Ryan Heitkamp

Zach Guggenbiller

Adam Pohl

Football

Ryan Gaerke

Ethan Schoenherr

Shane Stein

Aaron Vagedes

Boys Golf

Jared Kahlig

Volleyball

Alyssa Brackman

Holly Brunswick

Shelby Brunswick

Josie Guggenbiller

Nicole Pottkotter

Olivia Thien

Cheerleaders

Natalie Rohrer

Alison Koch

Shelby Alig

Sylvia Schwieterman

Congratulations to all fall sports athletes on their 2009 season and all of their hard work and dedication!

Congratulations to the following Fort Recovery varsity football athletes for being honored in the Midwest Athletic Conference!

Senior Craig Tobe - 2nd Team for receivers/split end

Honorable Mentions - Seniors Mark Matraw, Greg Kahlig, Michael Gaerke, and Jordan Bechtol

Sophomores Kenny Werning and Jacob Whitacre

December Events

DISTRICT

- 6 - HS/MS Winter Choir Concert - 3 PM
- 8 - Gingerbread House Family Night - 6:30 PM
- 10 - Elem./MS Spelling Bee 9 AM
- 13 - HS/MS Winter Band Concert - 3 PM
- 23 - Jan. 2nd - No School (Christmas Break)
- 30 - Interim reports

ELEMENTARY

- 3- 4th to State House/COSI
- 3 - Math/Science/Tech Convention
- 15- Book Club
- 16 - Lange Photographics - 3:30 PM
- 17 - Student Council Meeting 3:30 PM
- 2nd Grade Musical - 7:00 PM
- Yearbook Candids 8 AM

HIGH SCHOOL

- 7 - FFA Meeting

BOARD OF EDUCATION

- 8th - Board Meeting 7:30 PM

Choir Christmas Concert



Come hear traditional Christmas music and a choreographed show entitled "One Magic Christmas"

Admission: canned goods or paper products such as paper towels etc. These items will be donated to our Fort Recovery Community.

Also...By Request is taking bookings for Christmas parties, if you need entertainment for your gathering call Tracy Hein-Evers at the high school office (419)375-4111.

Kahlig signs with
University Of
Findlay



Fort Recovery High School's Greg Kahlig, recently signed to play basketball at the University of Findlay.



Photo: Greg Kahlig. L to R: Principal Jeff Hobbs, Greg's parents - Luke and Lynn Kahlig, and head basketball coach - Brian Patch

DECEMBER SPORTS



Varsity/JV Girls' Basketball

(all games begin at 6:00 PM unless stated otherwise)

- 3- Greenville (A)
- 5- Wapakoneta (H) 1:00 PM
- 10 - New Bremen (H)
- 17- Parkway (A)
- 19 - Jay County (A) 6:30 PM
- 21 - Fort Loramie (A)
- 22 - Waynesfield Goshen (H)

Freshmen Girls' Basketball

- 7- Wyane Grace (H) 7:30 PM
- 12 - Anna (A) 10:00 AM
- 15 - Wayne Trace (A) 6:30 PM
- 21- Lima Senior (A) 6:00 PM
- 28 - Coldwater (A) 5:00 PM

JH Girls' Basketball

(all games begin at 5:00 PM)

- 8 - Delphos-St. Johns (A)
- 10 -New Bremen (A)
- 15 - Parkway (A)
- 17 - St. Marys (A)
- 21 - Mississinewa Valley (H)

Varsity/JV Boys' Basketball

- 4 - St. Mary's (H)
- 5 - Wapakoneta (H)
- 12 - Tri-Village (A)
- 18 - Parkway (H)
- 22 - Waynesfield Goshen (H)
- 29 & 30 - Coldwater Classic (A)
(Varsity Only)
- 29 & 30 - JV Fort Loramie

Freshmen Boys' Basketball

- 7 - New Bremen (H)
- 14 - Parkway (A)

JH Boys' Basketball

- 8 - Delphos St. John (H)
- 10 - New Bremen (A)
- 14 - Ansonia (A)
- 17 - Parkway (H)



Dribble, Shoot, Score!

By Tami Link

The girls' basketball team is hoping to have a great season this year. Coaches this season are Doug Bihn coaching varsity, Chris Summers coaching junior varsity, and Lori Pottkotter coaching freshmen.

Varsity players this year are Nicole Pottkotter, Chelsey Leuthold, Emily May, Kelsey Brockman, Alyssa Brackman, Kendra Brunswick, Holly Brunswick, Nicole Dilworth, Abby Huelskamp, Olivia Thein, and Kelly Nietfeld. With their biggest competitor this season being Delphos, their goals are to get better each practice and try to win a lot of games while still having fun. "For us to be successful, the girls need to set aside their personal goals, and put the team first. They need to care more about the team being successful, than themselves. If they can do this, we will have a fun and exciting season," says Coach Bihn.

Junior Varsity players this year are Olivia Schwieterman, Kelly Nietfeld, Karissa Will, Kylie Kahlig, Ericka Lennartz, Christen Wendel, Julie Kahlig, Kendra Stammen, Kara Faller, Xavien Overton, Michelle Evers, and Taylor Guggenbiller. Returning JV players are Olivia Schwieterman, Kelly Nietfeld, Karissa Will, Kylie Kahlig, and Christen Wendel. "The goal is for these players to improve and to prepare to play at the next level," says JV Coach Summers. With Delphos looking to be one of their biggest threats this season, the team is already preparing to play their best.

Freshmen players this year are Kelsey Fiely, Abby May, Chelsea Pottkotter, Janelle Schwieterman, Amy Link, Emily Kahlig, Melissa Lochtefeld, and Sam Tobe. "The main goal as a team is to continue to learn the game of basketball and to improve in all areas. The goal as individuals is to improve on their basketball skills and work really hard each day," said coach Pottkotter. The freshmen have a very good schedule of teams to play this season. They are hoping for some wins this year. Coach Pottkotter describes her team as hardworking, eager to learn, and they are improving each day. "This is a very talented group of young ladies and I think we will do very well this season" says Pottkotter.

Good luck Lady Indians on this coming basketball season!

CHAMPS!

By Hilary Pottkotter

Varsity volleyball girls were named Sectional Champs and made it to Districts. There they lost to Archbold in four close games. When the girls made it to Districts, the school put together a spirit bus to support the girls. "Getting a spirit bus to take to Districts was a fantastic idea and I so much appreciate the students that participated in that. It showed how supportive the athletes of different sports and genders are of each other", says Coach Rammel.

According to Rammel the volleyball girls finished their season with great records. Varsity 12-10, JV 12-6, and freshman 12-7. The game that was most memorable was winning the Coldwater game to win sectionals for the first time in 15 years. Although they will be losing talented seniors this year, Rammel thinks there are some talented underclassmen that have showed some great improvements in how they are playing, "They do have some shoes to fill, but I am confident that we will do well", says Rammel. She also thinks her assistant coaches did a fantastic job at getting the best out of their girls this season.

"I do expect them to continue to show improvements in the off season to prepare for next year", says Rammel. The senior girls did very well this season. The seniors on the team were Alyssa Brackman, Josie Guggenbiller, Sarah Knapke, Chelsey Leuthold, Emily May, Nicole Pottkotter, Lorraine Shier, and Carly Staugler. It is hoped that the underclassmen will step up their game for a great season next year.

Congratulations to these

Fort Recovery Volleyball Athletes!

Nicole Pottkotter-
1st team District 8
Holly Brunswick-
Honorable Mention



From the Fort Site Journal Staff