

Whitefish faces off with Whistler in online battle

By **MATT BALDWIN**
Whitefish Pilot
 Whitefish is set to battle online with Whistler, British Columbia in Powder magazine's "Ski Town Throwdown."

The magazine has set up a March Madness-type bracket with the top 32 ski towns in North America ranked as Nos. 1 to 8 seeds. In the first round of online voting, No. 4 ranked Whitefish faces off with No. 5 ranked Whistler, home of the behemoth Whistler/Blackcomb ski resort. Online voting on Powder Magazine's Facebook page

runs Nov. 14-15. While there is no prize to be had, the marketing staff at Whitefish Mountain Resort has been priming voters for the past month with reasons why Whitefish is a better ski town than Whistler.

One reason they contend is that Whitefish is a more authentic town. Whitefish built the ski hill, while in Whistler, the ski hill built the town. Another reason — crowds, or lack thereof in Whitefish.

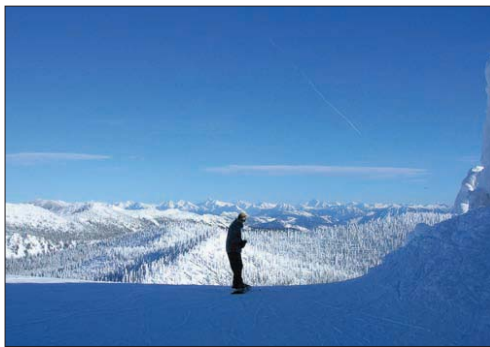
"We measure acres per skier," the Big Mountain marketing department noted.

Whistler on the other hand has 1.79 million skiers annually.

Cheap beer also set Whitefish apart from Whistler. Free beer at the Bierstube during Frabert on Wednesdays was compared to \$18 pitchers of beer in Whistler with a 14 percent sales tax.

If Whitefish wins the first round, the city moves on to face No. 1 seed Rossland and Nelson, British Columbia.

To see the Ski Town Throw Down bracket go online to www.powdermag.com.



Pilot file photo

Whitefish Mountain Resort touts its solitude for one of the reasons it is better than Whistler, British Columbia in the "Ski Town Throw Down."

Committee looks to monitor water issues

In July of this year the city established an ad-hoc Whitefish Community Wastewater Committee. The purpose of the committee is to monitor issues of wastewater management and identify the extent of septic leachate contamination in Whitefish Lake. They will also provide a scientific basis for identifying ecological threats to Whitefish Lake.

The committee will prepare a report with recommendations to city council regarding wastewater management, septic systems, nutrient trading, and wastewater conveyance issues.

The March 2012 study on septic leachate conducted by the Whitefish Lake Institute provides the committee with the necessary information needed to act now.

The non-compensated committee has 10 voting members to include a Whitefish city councilor, the Whitefish Mayor, one Flathead County Commissioner, one Flathead Basin Commission Board Member, two at-large members of the community, and one citizen representative from each of the areas identified in the study as being contaminated or having a high concern for contamination. Lazy Bay and Lion Mountain have committee representation while vacancies remain for Carver Bay/East Lakeshore, and Point of Pines.

The committee will also have up to nine ex-officio (non-voting) members

including the City Manager or designee, one representative from each City Public Works, Whitefish City Planning, Flathead County Health Department, Whitefish Water District, one septic system engineer, and two representatives from the Whitefish Lake Institute. The committee is facilitated by outside consultants.

Committee activities, meeting agendas and minutes, and other documents are posted on the City of Whitefish website at www.whitefish.govoffice.com/ under "Committees, Boards & Commissions."

As part of the report council, the committee will be developing a timeline of deliverables, addressing short-term goals such as education and outreach, and long-term goals such as management options and or policy setting. They will review current funding options and grant application deadlines, considering a monitoring component to assess and disseminate scientific and technical information, and will identify resource agencies and decision makers to be included on the communications of the committee.

The health of Whitefish Lake directly affects the health of Whitefish's citizens and economy. Waste management — particularly near a water body — is complex and costly. We are very pleased to have an opportunity to bring together a diverse group of concerned citizens and professionals to

work on developing a plan to address this important issue.

— Whitefish Mayor John Muhlfeld, and Lazy Bay Area Representative Patti Scruggs

Trouble hearing on the phone? WE CAN HELP!

You may qualify for **FREE** assistive telephone equipment thru the Montana Telecommunications Access Program.

MONTANA TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS PROGRAM

Equipment Includes:

- Loud ringers
- Amplified telephones
- Captioned telephones
- Light signalers
- TTY (text telephones)
- Artificial Larynxes

800-833-8503 • montanarelay.mt.gov
 Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

Attention Hunters!

Do you want to hunt, but your wife says: **"Don't bring anymore wild game home!" or you have more than you can use!**

The Whitefish North Valley Food Bank will take your freshly killed, dressed animals!

We'll cut, wrap and store it in our freezers for low-income people in need of food this winter. Commercially processed game will also be greatly appreciated.

Please call June at **862-5863 or 862-2795**

Happy Hunting and Thank You for Sharing!

The North Valley Food Bank/Meat Crew

For the BEST BUYS in Floor Coverings, Furniture.

Cielle Tyler
 Interior Consultant

melby's Home Interiors, Inc.

892-2878

2620 Hwy 2 West
 Columbia Falls, MT
www.melbysinc.com

Your Link to Elegant Gifts

Continuing the Tradition

Jewelers Crouch

Open House on **DEC. 5, 2012** Fine Jewelry Since 1917

Layaway available!
 40% off select items

892-5432
 303 Nucleus Ave.
 Columbia Falls, MT 59912

News? Call 862-3505

It is with sincere gratitude that the family of **Duywane Gardner** would like to thank all of our family, friends, and co-workers for their outpouring of love, prayers, cards, flowers, gifts and food during this difficult time. We would like to express a special thank you to Dr. Ward and staff at Northwest Oncology and Hematology and Dr. Stillie and staff at Katiopell Regional Medical Center Radiation Oncology. The care and compassion given to Duywane during his many appointments will always be remembered. And a special thank you to Plum Creek and all those who worked with Duywane for their overwhelming support during his illness and after his passing. We are so blessed to have had Duywane in our lives and he is greatly missed.

Janine, Darren, Devon, Adam and Connor

Puttin' the Hit on High Electric Bills!

Do you live in a manufactured home, with an electric furnace? If so, we can seal your ducts for **FREE!**

****some restrictions apply****

For information go to www.flatheadelectric.com or call 751-1875.

Your Co-op
Flathead Electric
 Community... Integrity... Reliability

Energy Fix