



Photo by Candice Schley

HERE TO CHEER!

Students from Bellevue Elementary School teacher Candice Schley's third-grade class show their support Wednesday for Paralympic athlete Omar Bermejo, a Nordic skier from the Wood River Adaptability Program participating in this week's Sun Valley Nordic Festival. Bermejo, kneeling in front, competed against other national racers at Dollar Mountain and will participate in this weekend's Boulder Mountain Tour. The students created motivational cards to include in racers' welcome packets and posters for waving during the race. Bermejo served four tours in Iraq, returned home to the valley and was involved in a motorcycle accident that cost him an arm. Student Gracie Peterson, 9, said, "Seeing Omar race with all his heart made me feel good that I can handle anything." Bellevue Elementary is a supporter of WOW-Students.org, an initiative to educate Blaine County youth about the importance of generosity by using their time or money to support others.