

VHS Sports Report- Football Gets 1st Win!

Football—The Vernonia Loggers got their first win in over two years, defeating Santiam 70-16 in a non-league game on September 23. A full report of the Loggers victory will appear in our next issue.

Head Coach Gordon Jarmin had to be happy to get that win after a heart breaking loss to Gervais on September 16. The Loggers led the whole way, giving up the go ahead touchdown to Gervais in the final minutes, losing 24-18.

"I think our kids learned a lot," said Coach Jarmin. "We played hard and it was a good outing on our part."

Jarmin says he's seen a lot of improvement in his players in the two games. "Every week we seem to get better and better," said Jarmin. He said the team is always looking for ways to improve and have been working making sure the offensive line understands their blocking assignments, that the running backs know where they are supposed to run and that the receivers are running the right routes.

The Loggers were finishing up their preseason schedule at home against Culver on September 30 and then start league play against Portland Christian on October 7.

Cross Country—The Vernonia Relays, scheduled for October 20 have been canceled and replaced by a regular meet on Thursday September 29.

The Loggers have now run in their first three meets of the season. On September 8 Vernonia won the Willamina Invitational handily with Nathan Fleck finishing 1st and Jacob Medaris 2nd for the boys. Five of the first ten runners crossing the finish line were Loggers. For the girls, Gloria

Ramirez easily won with Rowan Cheney finishing 2nd. Four of the first eight runners were Lady Loggers.

On Saturday September 8th at the Knappa sponsored Elk Run at Teevin Ranch, the competition was much stronger with many of the league's teams and best runners featured. Nathan Fleck again led the boy's team with a 4th place finish, running most of the race in his socks after losing his shoes in a muddy stream bank. Gloria Ramirez finished 2nd overall, losing only to a runner from Naselle, WA. "As a coach, I feel fortunate that Gloria came out for cross country. Her attitude is incredible and I hope her unrelenting desire to win is contagious for our team," said Logger Head Coacj Byron Brown.

On Tuesday Septembr 20, the Loggers faced some very stiff competition at OES--3 of the top 5 teams in the state were at the meet. "We did well and we're gaining valuable experience and should be ready for the district meet," said Brown. For the Loggers, Fleck finished 7th and Ramirez finished 17th.

"Nathan Fleck is looking very good at this stage of the season, said Brown. "He's stronger and faster over longer distances now than he was at the end of last year's track season. He is emerging as one of the top runners in our part of the state."

The Loggers were next headed to Nestucca on September 23 before the home meet in Vernonia on September

Vernonia Student Nominated for Volunteer of the Year

Crystal Ann Carreon, a senior at Vernonia High School, has been nominated for the 2011 Governor's Volunteer Award and has been selected as a regional winner in the Outstanding Youth Volunteer category. Carreon was nominated for her role in the Joy For Jaden project last year, a year-long fundraising effort at VMS/VHS for a young boy from Banks, OR stricken with cancer.

Carreon and her parents will attend a luncheon on November 4 in Salem honoring the regional and statewide winners. Carreon was chosen from Region 2 for the Governor's Youth award, which includes Clatsop, Columbia, Marion, Polk, Tillamook and Yamhill



counties.

The Governor's Volunteer Awards recognize individuals and organizations for their dedication, commitment and determination in promoting and supporting volunteerism throughout Oregon with the purpose of inspiring individuals to make a positive difference by strengthening Oregon communities.

29, and then head to Regis on October 6.

Volleyball—The Lady Loggers are off to a mixed start in league play, defeating both Riverdale and Gaston away. The Loggers returned to the Logger Dome where they lost two matches on successive nights, losing to Portland Christian on September 20, 3-0 and Portland Adventist 3-1 on September 21.

Head Coach Teresa Williams is making some changes in the formations she is using on the floor. Natalie Wallace has taken over setting duties and did well in the Portland Adventist match. "I was really pleased with her performance," said Williams. "She did a good job running our offense." Williams also

mentioned the play of sophomore Tori Dalebroux and junior Sara McMahon. "Tori had an awesome game on Wednesday—blocking, recovering, and scoring. She is a player that I am feeling more comfortable with on the floor."

Williams is still looking for scoring from her outside hitters. The team was heading to the eight team Salem Academy Tournament on September 24, where Williams will have a chance to work with her team to make more improvements. The team returns to league play on September 27 with a tough match at Faith Bible, returns home against Delphian on September 29 and Nestucca on October 4, and then plays away against Knappa on October 6.

Town Hall Provides School Project Updates *continued from front page*

foot wide mixed use sidewalk and bike path and a four foot wide planting strip.

Construction is scheduled to begin in June of 2012 and be complete in time for the school grand opening. Utility installation to the school campus along Missouri Avenue is scheduled to begin shortly.

ODOT representatives ex-

plained that there will be some inconvenience to traffic and residents during construction, including flaggers on Highway 47.

State Senator Betsy Johnson, Columbia County Commissioner Tony Hyde and John Donovan of the Met Group explained the current fundraising efforts. All three are integral mem-

bers of the Oregon Solution team which has been working to help raise the \$39 million dollars needed to complete the school construction. So far \$31.2 million has been raised. The Oregon Solutions Team is continuing its work with regional business leaders, foundations and private philanthropists to raise the additional funds. Hyde explained that

local radio stations will hold a fundraising campaign, and Johnson mentioned plans to involve regional timber companies.

Vernonia School Superintendent Ken Cox introduced Kurt Lango of Lango Hansen, who was recently chosen to provide design plans for the deconstruction of the current school campus and the construction of the new park complex that will replace the existing schools. Lango said his firm will hold several community meetings, including the Town Hall just scheduled for October 20th, to get input from citizens for the design of the new park. Deconstruction of the current school facilities is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2012, with the new park construction to follow, either in the fall of 2012 or spring of 2013.

In the design of the new Spencer Park, the School District is required to replace ball fields that were lost when construction of the new school campus began at the old Spencer Park. The City of Vernonia currently owns the current school campus site and is leasing it to the School District. The school will continue to have use of the football stadium and baseball and softball fields until they are able to construct new fields at the new school site. The School District and City of Vernonia are working together to create a master plan for the construction of the new park.

