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the aspects of the game,” says Shockey. “I think by the end of the season we are going to be a pretty good team.”

Baseball- The Loggers were currently in fifth place in Special District 1 in Division 2A as they headed into a three game series against league leading Knappa on April 16th and 19th. The Loggers league record is 3-5 and overall record is 4-5.

Coach Aaron Miller says pitching continues to be a strength this year with Austin Cutright, Tim Jennings and Bo Clark making up the starting rotation; Ron Maldonado and Adonis Hopkins and Jake Titus have provided relief.

Defensively Miller is still trying to fill some gaps and decide on a starting lineup. Miller says he has a good core group of returning players with a lot of varsity experience, beyond that he has a lot of players new to varsity high school baseball, including several foreign exchange students who have never played before. “We have players who are competing for positions and getting

stronger,” says Miller. Miller noted that, in a 14-2 win over Faith Bible on April 9, the Loggers played a very solid defense game and only made one mistake. Miller says multiple defense mistakes in one inning have been a downfall in several league losses, so he is pleased to see the improvement. Miller noted the play of Ethan Johnston, who has filled in at catcher due to injuries as a bright spot for the team.

Offensively Cutright and Jennings have been the most consistent Loggers at the plate. Both have been hitting the ball solidly, putting the ball in play and not striking out. Against Faith Bible Cutright had four RBI's on 3 hits, including two very long doubles. Jennings is hitting for high average and is a strong baserunner. Clark has been battling a thumb injury; Miller hopes he will be able to contribute more consistently when he is completely healed. Miller also noted the offense of Johnston who has been making solid contact and Maldonado who has contributed some clutch hits. Ryan Roberts added a grand slam in a 20-10

loss against Gaston and has been doing a good job of putting the ball in play.

Miller says he is pleased that his team has continued to fight back in several games when they were behind and have not given up. “They continue to play hard and make games competitive.”

Golf- Coach James Brookins has five golfers this season, two with some team experience, and three who are new to golfing. The team had competed in two matches this season at Quail Valley, including a match on April 10th and one scheduled for April 17th. The Loggers will host a league meet at the Vernonia Golf Club on April 24th at 11:00 AM.

Matt Bringman and Austin Ragsdale are the two returning players. Ragsdale finished in the middle of the pack after shooting 105 for 18 holes at the teams first match. Brookins says both are where he expects them to be this early in the season and both have been improving with each week.

Jerrid Whitton, Justin Ragsdale and Alexis Baska are the new golfers this season. All three have been progressing

well and are very enthusiastic.

Brookins also has Gabe Roberts, a middle school player, who is practicing with the team. The team has two assistant coaches this season: Marv Long who has been with the program for eighteen years and a new volunteer, Laura Blacker who played women's collegiate golf at Bowdoin College in Maine and is working primarily with Baska.

Brookins says his players are enjoying the social aspect of competitive golf and like the opportunity to meet players from other schools. “Some of these new kids who have played other sports like football and baseball are used to trying to beat the other guy,” says Brookins. “They told me, ‘Hey, golf is kind of friendly!’ While they're still trying to score better than the other guy, they can still cheer and appreciate it when they make a good shot. You want to beat the course, but if the other guy is having a better day than you then you can congratulate him. It's a good game in that regard.”

Spencer Health and Wellness to Host Open House

Spencer Health and Wellness, Vernonia's School-Based Health Center, will host an open house for the public 9:00 AM-2:00 PM on Tuesday, April 23, at the new Vernonia Schools building. The clinic space will be open for view. Student guides and staff will be on hand to answer questions and conduct tours. Area dignitaries have been invited to the opening ceremony event at 1:00 PM in the Commons.

Sherrie Ford, program manager for the Public Health Foundation's School-Based Health Centers, said that since the January “soft” opening of the Spencer Health and Wellness (SHaW) the staff has been overwhelmed

with student patients. “We've seen everything from sports physicals to immunizations, to sore throats and follow-up on chronic conditions such as asthma,” said Ford.

The clinic funding allows it to be open Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Funds come from the Oregon Health Authority through the Public Health Foundation. Tara Roberts is the Family Nurse Practitioner on staff with support from medical assistants Monica Rea and Laura Meyer.

Ford said that the clinic will bill insurance, and insured patients can request SHaW to be their primary care

provider. No students will be turned away because of an inability to pay.

“We hope the community will take this opportunity to visit the center, meet the staff and get answers to any questions they have,” said Ford. She added that anyone with interest in serving on the clinic oversight committee can contact her at 503-397-4651, ext 2021.

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each month on the
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Thursday.
Our next issue will
be May 2.



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