

Meet the Exchange Students, Part 2

This year the Vernonia School District and community is hosting nine exchange students from several different countries. In our October 7 issue we introduced five of those students. Now you get to meet the other four.

Gia Tran is living with Katherine Cadenas and is from Can Tho City in Vietnam. Gia is running with the cross country team this fall and is interested in art programs at the high school. He likes that Vernonia is a small town and says the people are friendly. He says he became an exchange student because both his brother and cousin had done it before, and he wanted to meet new people and improve his English. Gia says he hopes to study computer and graphic design when he finishes high school.

Yilin Lu is from Xian, a large city in China. He is spending this year living with Katherine Cadenas. Lu has been an integral part of the boys cross country squad this year, will play basketball in the winter, and run the 400 meters in the spring for the track team. "I'm good at running," he says with a big smile. He says he likes Vernonia's clear blue sky and clean air, and he likes the people who he says "are kind." Lu says he hopes to improve his English while

he's an exchange student. He says he plans to study psychology when he graduates from high school.

Mireia Jauma Verges is from the city of Barcelona, Spain and is spending her year living with Deanna and

come be an exchange student here, and "meet new people, improve my English, try new things, and learn a new culture." She says she wants to study architecture after high school.

Zoe Menzolini is from the small city of Pordenone in Italy where she lives with her parents and her two dogs, two cats, and her turtle. "I love animals," she says. She is spending this year with Stephanie, Jesse, Leilani, and Maika Borst.

"They are so sweet and nice with me and since my first day with them, I am so happy!" Zoe is an experienced volleyball player and has been a good addition to the Lady Loggers varsity team. She says she might try basketball in the winter in

order to stay close with her volleyball teammates, and

run track in the spring. She became an exchange student to improve her English and to become more self confident. Zoe has one more year of high school in

Italy and hopes to study to become a veterinarian. She says Vernonia is a very pretty city and she likes that everyone knows each other. She says the teachers and people in Vernonia are very nice and friendly.



L-R: Gia Tran, Yilin Lu, Mireia Jauma Verges, and Zoe Menzolini



Daniel Colmena. Mireia is playing volleyball this fall, will play basketball this winter, and hopes to play softball in the spring. She likes that Vernonia is small and you can walk almost anywhere. She says the people here are "so nice and friendly." Because she was born in Florida but moved to Spain when she was just four months old, she holds dual citizenship and wanted to

run track in the spring. She became an exchange student to improve her English and to become more self confident. Zoe has one more year of high school in Italy and hopes to study to become a veterinarian. She says Vernonia is a very pretty city and she likes that everyone knows each other. She says the teachers and people in Vernonia are very nice and friendly.

VHS Fall Sports Report

Cross Country – Head coach John Roady's girls and boys squads continued their journey toward the State Championship meet with several more strong performances.

At the Bigfoot Classic in Rockaway on October 5 the Vernonia girls won the meet with 20 points beating Astoria (41) and Portland Adventist (66). Sophomore Delaney Draeger finished 2nd overall, followed in order by senior Sadie Gump in 3rd, exchange students Elena Zielke in 4th and Asia Garcia in 7th, freshman Trinity Weber in 15th, sophomore Eloise Pedersen in 16th, and junior Chloe Guiberson in 22nd. The Logger boys placed 2nd as a team with 68 points, to Astoria's winning score of 40 points and edged league rival Knappa who placed 3rd overall with 70 points. Sophomore Evan Miller was the first Vernonia runner with a 3rd place finish, followed by sophomores Peter Hahn in 7th and Seth Scheuerman in 9th, exchange student Yilin Lu in 25th, and freshman Cannon McLeod in 30th.

At the Rainier Invitational on October 9 the Vernonia girls again won the meet with a score of 18 points over district rival Southwest Christian who came in 2nd with 41 points. Draeger won the race in a time of 21:15 over the tough course, with Gump taking 2nd in 21:55. They were followed by Zielke in 4th, Garcia 6th, Pedersen 10th, and exchange student Philomene Abt in 12th. The boys team placed 4th behind Benson Tech, Knappa, and Warrenton. Miller again led the Logger boys with a 3rd place finish in a time of 18:32,



L-R: Delaney Draeger, Yilin Lu and Evan Miller, and Sadie Gump at the Vernonia Cross Country Meet. Below: Brooklynn Walters

followed in order by Yilin Lu in 11th, Hahn in 12th, freshman Kaiden Van Lom in 38th, and McLeod in 43rd overall.

On October 14 The teams ran on their own course at the Vernonia Invitational, from Anderson Park to Vernonia Lake and back. With 14 teams competing, the Lady Loggers dominated the event, grabbing four of the first five spots. "The weather turned out perfect for the race, as it was cool and the rain had stopped that afternoon. It was a great atmosphere and Vernonia and the home team did not disappoint by beating four of the top ten ranked teams in the state!" said coach Roady.

Draeger was again the top Vernonia finisher, running a PR of 19:22, followed once again by Gump who finished 2nd. Zielke took 4th, followed by Garcia in 5th, Pedersen finished 17th, and Abt in 21st.

The boys also had a great meet with several running PRs. Heppner won the team race with 69 points, Knappa was 2nd with 72 points, and Vernonia



was a close 3rd overall with 74 points. Miller was again the top Vernonia finisher, placing 7th, with a time of 17:25, followed by Yilin Lu with a PR of 18:00 to take 11th place, Hahn in 16th, Scheuerman 17th, and McLeod 30th.

Vernonia had one more meet at Knappa on October 20, before the District Meet on October 29. The top two placing boys and girls teams at the District meet earn a trip to the State Championship at Lane Community College in Eugene on November 6.

Volleyball – The Lady Loggers advanced in the Northwest League playoffs after

defeating Faith Bible 3-0 in a home match on October 19, and were scheduled to travel to face Portland Christian on Thursday, October 21.

The Lady Loggers had inched up the Northwest League standings and were sitting in 3rd place after their final regular season match, a 3-0 win over

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