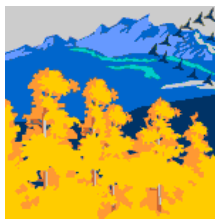


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3 Rivers schools Aid cited to boost attendance

A concentrated program to assist parents in any way it can to ensure student attendance is under way in Three Rivers School District (TRSD).

As part of the program, TRSD is hiring its first district attendance officer, said Jann Taylor, the district's director of curriculum and federal programs.

He is Gary Geiger, a reserve deputy with Josephine County Sheriff's Office, and will work one day a week for TRSD. His work will involve checking with parents when necessary to see what help can be offered.

They will be reminded of their obligations under the law, Taylor noted.

"Our basic statement to parents," she said, "is that if there is difficulty in connection with attendance, we're here to help.

"If we can't assist them, we can offer help through referrals to social service agencies," she said.

A major goal, in connection with the "No Child Left Behind" law, is for schools to achieve a minimum attendance of 92 percent. This includes Evergreen Elementary, Lorna Byrne Middle, and Illinois Valley High schools.

Schools that do not reach the minimum 92 percent are rated low on the Oregon Report Card, and don't meet acceptable levels on the federal Adequate Yearly Progress reports.

Failure to meet federal attendance guidelines results in a variety of sanctions against individual schools and districts.

Beyond economic sanctions, other aspects, include potential consequences for students with high rates of absenteeism.

These include increased rates of not com-

(Continued on page 3)

Raffenburg, Ellis take county commission seats

President Bush seems victor; CJ law, county jail proposals lose; Measure 36 appears approved

Jim Raffenburg and Dwight Ellis emerged as winners for seats on the Josephine County Board of Commissioners in the Tuesday, Nov. 2 election, according to final, unofficial figures.

Jim Brock, seeking a third term, was whipped by Raffenburg for Position 2: 22,315 votes vs. 14,212 cast for Brock.

Ellis narrowly defeated Cherryl Walker for Position 3; 19,556 to 17,096.

In the primary election, Brock left his Posi-

tion 3 seat to run against longtime Position 2 Commissioner Harold Haugen and won with Raffenburg.

In the national scene, indications are that President Bush defeated Democratic challenger, Sen. John Kerry. Unofficial results show Bush with 58,194,009 vs. Kerry's 54,652,155.

The president garnered 286 electoral votes.

Figures also indicate that incumbent Peter DeFazio beat Republican challenger Jim Feldkamp

for the House District 4 seat: 130,535 to 77,558.

In other voting, based on final, unofficial results:

*The city of Cave Junction's request for a three-year operating levy, totaling an estimated \$296,713 to fund another 40-hour deputy in the city, didn't make it. The vote was 315 "no" to 209 "yes."

*The county's four-year local option tax proposal for adult jail operations, totaling an estimated \$6.7 million, was not approved: 24,728 "no" votes

to 15,162 "yes" votes.

*Measure 36, the "one man/one woman marriage" issue, appears approved statewide, 524,164 to 433,937.

*Measure 33, proposing marijuana dispensaries and raising the amounts allowed for possession by patients, was defeated, 547,080 to 403,813.

*Measure 35, limiting noneconomic damages involving negligence or recklessness by health-care providers, was defeated: 475,178 to 468,596.

*Measure 37, involving reimbursement by government when land-use restrictions reduce property value, was approved 543,404 to 388,512.

*Measure 38, to abolish SAIF, with the state to reinsure and satisfy SAIF's obligations, was disapproved 575,095 to 342,511.

Final results on preceding items and seats, plus others including I.V. Soil & Water District results, will be in next week's issue.



BILL YEOMAN and GRAHAM BAKER

Selmac may be reopened soon

Closed to fishing and swimming by Josephine County since Aug. 19 because of an infestation of algae bloom, Lake Selmac could reopen soon.

Campgrounds at the lake also were closed, but have been reopened for a time with drinking water brought in temporarily.

A test Sept. 23 showed

that microcystin toxins still were above acceptable levels.

However, results of a more recent test are due this week, and it's hoped that levels will be OK.

Fishing has been occurring at the lake, but there are warnings to release fish and avoid contact with the water.

I.V.'s Bill Yeoman picked top coach; Graham Baker takes 2nd at district

Two top achievements for Illinois Valley High School marked the Skyline Conference district cross country meet Saturday, Oct. 30 in Klamath Falls.

Sophomore Graham Baker, 16, captured second place overall, touring the 5k course in 18:22, only 13 seconds behind Phoenix student Kevin Jantzer.

And Selma resident Bill Yeoman, in his second year coaching the Cougars, was honored as Skyline Coach of the Year.

Baker, son of Cave Junction residents Graham and Kathleen Baker, earned the right to compete Saturday, Nov. 6 in the Class 3-A high school state meet at Lane Community College in Eugene.

Baker had the goal of gaining a state berth at district, and he accomplished that by pacing himself. He said that he was just trying to be among the top seven finishers, and noted that most competitors began at too fast a pace.

"He ran real smart in terms of kind of conserving himself, and he managed to have enough to pass people at the finish," said Yeoman. He coached cross country at 3-A Elmira for five years before relocating to the valley.

At the coming state meet, Baker said that he wants to be among the top finishers. He also ran last year for I.V., and said that he prepares himself with strenuous workouts running up and down "lots of hard hills" like the one just to the east of IVHS.

His coach is a registered nurse who works at Three Rivers Community Hospital in Grants Pass. Yeoman is a 1976 graduate of what's now Southern Oregon University in Ashland, where he ran track and cross country all four years.

He's married to the former Anita Modrich, a 1978 graduate of IVHS.

After receiving the Coach of the Year award

Oct. 30, Yeoman held it up and told his charges that it really is their award, and he dedicated it to them.

Yeoman is working on rebuilding the Cougar runners, and feels confident that it will become a force with which to reckon.

"The award could have gone to any of the district coaches," he said, noting that he "didn't win by much." The coaches vote for the award recipient.

"I think the award is to welcome I.V. back into serious competition.

"Winning the award was a surprise," he said.

Besides rebuilding the Cougar running team, Yeoman wants to bring back the Moon Tree Run at I.V. Airport.

The race was discontinued approximately eight years ago due to lack of support by the sponsor. Yeoman wants to work with O'Brien resident Tom Zulliger, who organized and directed the race for several years.

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Nov. 3
Partly sunny
High--53, Low--25.



Thursday, Nov. 4
Mostly sunny, a.m. fog
High--56, Low--23.



Friday, Nov. 5
Mostly sunny
High--59, Low--29.



Saturday, Nov. 6
Mostly sunny
High--60, Low--29.



Sunday, Nov. 7
Mostly sunny
High--58, Low--29.



Monday, Nov. 8
Clouds & sun
High--58, Low--32.



Tuesday, Nov. 9
Partly sunny
High--55, Low--28.



Some Halloween views



(Clockwise from left) A wolfman at the Lorna Byrne Middle School 'Haunted House,' jack-o'-lantern entries at Illinois Valley High School; pin the stem on the pumpkin booth at Evergreen Elementary School's Harvest Festival; Dr. Katherine Mechling and staff at Clear Creek Family Practice; some of the crew at Home Valley Bank in Cave Junction; and four Lorna Byrne students who were involved in the family night program last week, which included a haunted house.

(Additional photos on page 8.)