

Sports

Spring brings new hope for track program at IVHS

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IVN Contributing Writer

Spring is just around the corner and that means the track and field season is as well. The Illinois Valley Cougars are looking to continue improving from last season. The sprints, jumps and runs are almost here. Time to get familiar with the local varsity track programs again.

Paul Jackson and his team are opening the season on Wednesday, March 14 at home against Hidden Valley (4 p.m.) and he feels good about the team he is bringing to the track this season. "We are looking forward to having a strong showing at districts so we can have strong representatives at the state track and field championships in May."

Until then there are a few track meets

in March and April that the Cougars have to prepare for. There will be a dozen track meets that the Cougars will take part in including at Brookings Harbor on March 20 and at Southern Oregon University Friday, March 23. An experienced team will have to take the track in order to get maximum points and Jackson has just that in seniors Erica Brooks, Joshua Medina and Cullen Beery who he calls

"an underdog."

The Cougars will also be taking full advantage of a new pole vault and distance coach being added to the program. "We are very excited about that," said Jackson. It seems like Illinois Valley fans and supporters should be very excited about this year's team too. "We are very thankful for the ongoing support of the community," said Jackson.

The Archive Zone: by Hillary Mohr from the *Illinois Valley News* archives

This week we rewind the time back to Feb. 27, 1986. Winter was on the way out with a little help of fresh spring rain. The topics at hand in the Valley were much as they are today: what is there to do in the Valley for kids, families, seniors and adults? Well in 1986, they were coming up with possible answers to this question. Though this was 32 years ago, the question is still being asked, but this time, via social media. Get ready to feel a little déjà vu in this week's Archive Zone.

Bowling alley a possibility for Valley. A Selma couple are measuring public response and plan to undertake construction of a 10-lane bowling alley in Cave Junction if enough favorable response is received. Jack and Patty Steiner plan to borrow funds for the project, a dream he has had for many years. A specific site has not been selected in CJ. "We're looking at three locations," said Steiner, 30, who now works for Rough & Ready Lumber Co. "We've had really good response so far," he said, referring to interest sheets placed throughout the Valley, plus a form in the I.V. News. The building would measure 75-by-160 feet. Valley contactors would do the work. It would contain a snack bar, video games and child care room. From six to 10 persons would be employed, Steiner said. He and his wife have discussed their idea with the owner of the lanes in LaPine and received much help. "We would build from the ground up," Steiner said. "We want to avoid others mistakes, and I've studied this for a long time. I've been concentrating on the project during the past year." He and his wife believe a CJ bowling alley would provide diversion for teenagers, senior citizens and residents of all ages. They would conduct

tournaments and special promotions. League bowling would be a major attraction. The couple would like to have all responses in by Friday, March 7. "We'll be talking to civic, church and social groups in-between," said Steiner. "If sufficient interest is there, we'll make it happen."

I.V. pool... sink or swim? As winter waned and spring seems about to be sprung, the children have begun asking, "Mommy, is summertime almost here? When can I go swimming?" The children seem to have the right idea. Even though it's cool and rainy now, thoughts of summer should be on our minds. This is the time to think about our community's swimming pool, and how we can keep it open all summer long. We raised approximately \$8,000 last year. We already have more than \$400 saved for this year. There are three things we can do now to ensure that our pool opens and remains open all season: (1) Since this year's budget has not been approved, let the county know how much you support the funding of the I.V. Swimming Pool. Talk, talk and talk some more to county commissioners and members of the budget committee. (2) Get involved with the I.V. Swimming Pool Association. It is our understanding that if we raise \$6,000 the pool will be opened and remain open the summer of 1986. Last year 157 individuals, service clubs and businesses donated money to the pool fund. The donations ranged from a child's allowance of 35 cents to an anonymous donor's most generous contribution of \$3,000. And at Pizza Deli in Cave Junction, \$2 from every large pizza through today (Feb.27) will be donated to the pool fund.

Kidz Maze Mania

Help the bird find it's nest at the end of the maze.

© Feature Exchange

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Saturday March 17

2 p.m. till gone!

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Saturday the 10th @ 6 PM

Every Wednesday Open MIC Night 6 - 9 p.m.

KARAOKE w/ Steve- Off

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Saturday Pool Tourney @ 8

Sundays FREE pool games

Sportsman Tavern

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Friday, March 9 9 p.m. - 12 a.m. \$5

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