

Special education department works with students on an individualized level

By Kelly Kyser

Mr. Randy Stevens and Mrs. Ilene Grady teach classes with a low student-teacher ratio called special education.

It is basically a one-on-one situation in which each student has his or her own instructor giving him or her special attention in the subject where he or she needs the most help.

One reason for this class is for the students who have missed school, aren't

motivated, have fallen behind, or lack the skills in an area to get help to fill in the holes.

Requirements of special education include taking a test on which the student must score at least two grade levels lower than the grade he is in at the time the test is taken.

Mr. Randy Stevens, special education teacher at VHS has devised a new plan to

create an academic atmosphere in the skill center. *Stevens Dollars* are the answer for the students who can't seem to motivate themselves to work.

Students who come to class prepared and ready to work for the entire class time are rewarded with points (a maximum of 10 per class period). They can change these points into *dollars* to buy candy, gum, peanuts, rights to view a movie,

when it is shown during classtime, and, by accumulating 100 *dollars*, they may buy a free period.

'Positive reinforcement works particularly well in the classroom,' says Mr. Stevens. 'It has two beneficial results: first, the students feel good about their efforts when they are rewarded, and second, it provides a direct, visible indication of their successful achievement.'



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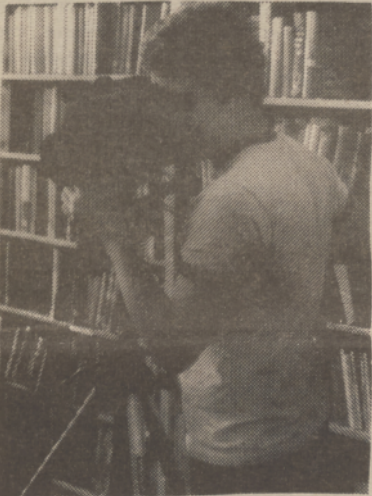
TIMBERLINE

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New arrival

Video tape system popular attraction in school



Robert Jackson demonstrates the district's new video tape camera.

Students and staff who happened to be in the vicinity of the VHS library on December 18 were shocked to discover that their words and actions were recorded for posterity.

Mr. Dan Sevig and Senior, Dave Proehl were learning the ABC'S of operating the school district's new video tape system.

The system includes a 25 inch RCA color television monitor, a color Panasonic camera, and a Panasonic video cassette recorder.

Although the video cassette recording system has been in the district only a little over a month, it has already been used by many instructors and coaches.

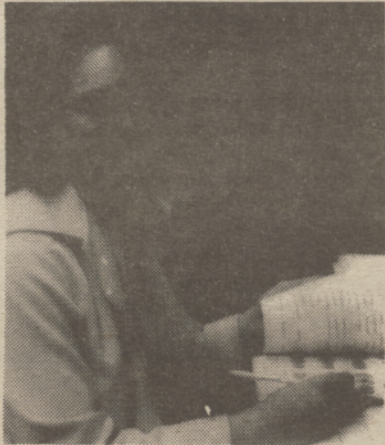
Students in drama and athletics have had their performances tapes and have been able to watch themselves perform.

Students are able to see exactly what their strengths and weaknesses are when they view their actions with their coach or instructor.

Girls' basketball player, junior Brooke Crowston says, 'It's super! I think it helps us find out what we are doing wrong.'

Examples of video tape uses in the elementary school include the production of humorous television commercials by Mr. Daily's fourth grade, the production of a play by Mrs. Pettijohn's English class, and the recording of the WGS Christmas program.

Wrestling coach, Mr. Terry Nimz commented, 'I think it is a great teaching aide. My wrestlers couldn't believe the way they looked on the mat until they viewed the tape. It really helps.'



Ilene Grady: Title I aide, prepares a math lesson.

FBLA toy-drive a success

Throughout the month of December, collection boxes were placed at Vernonia Market Place and Western Auto by VHS Future Business Leaders of America members for people to donate new and old useable toys for underprivileged children in the area.

FBLA members collected the toys, then returned to VHS to wrap them, with the help of other business students.

On Tuesday, December 23, Mrs. Sally Harrison dressed up as Santa Claus and went to various homes, handing out the toys and other items.

FBLA members would like to thank all the people of Vernonia who donated toys to the drive, and made it a success.

Roses and Valentines

Dance Team plays Cupid

VHS Dance Team will be sponsoring several fund-raising activities in February.

During the week of February 9-13, team members will be selling old-fashioned, hand-made Valentines which may be inscribed with a personal message from the sender. These will be available for

fifty cents each, and will be delivered on Friday, February 13.

At the end of that week, on February 12 and 13, the girls will be selling red roses for \$1 each.

All proceeds will go towards paying for uniforms. For more information, contact team members.

Four VHS students to legislate

Five VHS students are participating in Oregon Youth Legislature again this year.

Each student is required to formulate a bill based on, but not necessarily restricted to, local or student-related issues.

Thorgen Brown, Karen Parrow, Vickie Pitt, and Angie Remsen will participate in the legislative processes.

Students from all over Oregon will meet in the actual chambers of the Oregon State Legislature. There, participants will play the role of lawmakers, working to improve existing state law.

Pre-legislature was the first activity. It was a preparation for the sessions to follow, and took place in Portland on January 24.

'Everyone learns a great deal about our law-making procedure in a short time,' stated Mr. Gary Curtis, VHS government and history teacher, and advisor for this activity. 'We have found, over the years, that students attending for the first time are reluctant at first, only to become very enthusiastic the final day, not wanting it to end.'

VHS student to speak in American Legion contest

Kathi Rinks, a senior at VHS, is to compete in the American Legion Oratorical Contest this spring.

Requirements for the contest include writing and memorizing an 8 to 10 minute speech, based on a facet of the United States Constitution.

'The unique thing about this contest is the availability of cash prizes for state

and national winners,' commented Mr. Randy Stevens.

Competition for the contest is at the regional, state and national levels, and will be held throughout the next two months.

Kathi is working with Mr. Stevens, a former speech and debate teacher himself, to prepare her presentation.



Rinks/Brewer engagement announced

Mr. and Mrs. Rick Gardner of Vernonia, and Mr. and Mrs. John H. Rinks, Jr. of Brownsville, Oregon proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Cynthia Louise to Mr. Greg Brewer, son of Mr. and Mrs. M.C. Brewer, also of Vernonia.

The couple will be married in Lake Tahoe, California, then will return to Vernonia on March 7 for an invitation only reception.



Lila's Line Mother Goose 1981

Georgy Porgy puddin' pie,
Beat his wife and made her cry.
The Mother Goose of olden days,
Is muted under corrupted haze.
The once noted and honored Peter Piper,
On top a building is a sniper.
And Jack with Jill and brown paper,
Has been convicted of being a raper.
Remember the lady friends of those,
Who jaunted down these happy prose.
There is Mary-Mary Quite Contrary,
She has a lot of victims to bury.
And Little Miss Muffet with her curds
and whey mix,
Who waits out each day for her heroin fix.
Jack is nimble, Jack is quick,
He laughs and makes you flick his bic.
Peter, Peter peyote eater,
Had a mind and couldn't keep 'er.
Jack Sprat's wife was a looker,
She dumped her husband and became a hooker.
Put them together and write a book,
They're all on the streets if you take a look.

Experience is the best teacher.
And considering what it costs,
it should be!