

Letters to the Editor,

VHS Timberline—Page two

Dear Editor:

All I would like to say is that what the school is doing about semester tests is great.

I like having them one period instead of two hours. I don't think they will be as hard to study for since they won't be as long, and I don't think they will be as nerve racking.

Sincerely Yours,
Kristi Reinsch

To the Editor and Staff:

I would like to compliment you on your variety of stories and your coverage of each one.

I also would like to say that I like the *Timberline* inside the *Vernonia Freedom*. Now it seems like a real paper or part of one.

Sincerely,
Mary Denckla

To the Editor:

Last month in the Aloha High School newspaper, there was an article printed about school sports. It said that schools and communities put a lot of emphasis on football and basketball and very little on the other sports. I would like to comment on it.

I agree with the article. What it said is true. Too much emphasis is put on football and basketball. What about cross-county, volleyball, wrestling and track? These sports are equally important to the students who are participating in them.

However, the only time they get real recognition is when they achieve superior accomplishments and/or are on their way to state.

Their input is just as important to them as football and basketball. They need our support too.

Sincerely,
Karen Pitt

Editor:

I am writing on the matter of semester tests. Although I myself do not particularly enjoy taking semester tests, I agree with the teachers that are for them. Most students don't like these half-yearly tests because it means that they have to know everything that they were supposed to have learned up to that point.

But isn't this the whole point of going to school? Many students do well on the sectional tests, but what good does a perfect score do if they don't remember how to do anything they learned? How would you feel if you went to a lawyer who got excellent scores but never had to take semester tests, and when you got to the courtroom, you find out he can't remember anything he was supposed to learn?

Sincerely,
Ken Hostetler

To the Editor:

There has not been any sports coverage in the *Timberline* or the *Vernonia Freedom* for quite a long time. There have been all kinds of sports in Vernonia and not one has been in either paper. I think we need a new sports writer.

Yours Truly,
Ralph Ashcraft

To the Editor:

In my opinion, the sports editor of this paper is doing a very poor job of covering the sports events of this school. I also feel that he or she should either get something done to cover every sport event in this school or quit and give the position to someone else that will get something done.

Nolan Sterns

To the Editor:

The sports editor, in my mind, is not doing anything to help the sports section of our paper.

I think he should resign and let one young lady have the job. This young lady has done interviews for girls' and boys' varsity basketball, and done them well.

Signed,
Kurt Dunaway

(Editor's note: I would like to call your attention to the coverage of cross-country and JV football in the first issue, and the coverage of JV and 'C' team volleyball, varsity volleyball, freshmen basketball, varsity football, JV boys' basketball, and cross-country awards in the second issue.)

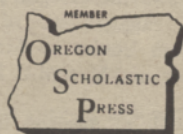
To the Editor:

I am writing about your article on *dumb jocks*. It does not state very clearly who you are pointing the blame at. Also, is this pertaining to our high school, other schools, or both?

I don't think that this has much to do with our school because some of the athletes might not be smart, but they are definitely not illiterates.

Sincerely yours,
Eric Wilcoxon

(Editors note. I'll call your attention to the last six words in paragraph 5. They state 'our nations high schools and universities.' This is a generalization, not pointing a finger at any specific institution.)



The *Timberline* will attempt to accurately and objectively cover student related news and reflect areas of student interest while abiding by the codes of student press.

Readers are encouraged to send letters to the editor concerning news items and editorials printed, which must be signed. Letters must be limited to 300 words

The *Timberline* will print all such letters, except in cases of profanity, obscenity and personal attack. Letters to the editor will be considered the opinion of the writer, not the *Timberline* staff. Controversial issues must be presented fairly.

Send letters to the *Timberline* editor, Vernonia High School, 299 Bridge Street, or place them in the *Timberline* box

To the Editor:

I would like to congratulate you and your staff on the *Timberline*.

I think the coverage of school events is good. The articles are interesting and well written. The pictures so far haven't been very clear, but they do add a lot to the paper.

Sincerely,
Kim Taylor

To the Editor:

Since the coming of Mr. Aultman, this school has started to respond to discipline which has never been enforced before. It seems to me that former principals just were in for the job and didn't care much about the actions of the kids. But when [Mr.] Aultman came into office and laid down the rules, they were enforced.

Sincerely,
Matt Kretschmer

To the Editor,

Has going to Saturday School as punishment for tardies really helped the situation? I feel there could be more done to prevent tardies.

If there were three bells instead of two, I feel it would give those who are a few blocks away, eating at home, more of a warning. Also, having three bells would help those who didn't hear it the first time.

Saturday School would have a lower attendance, if some changes took place.

Sincerely,
Sonia Olson

To the Editor:

I would like to comment on the editorial you wrote on *Dating Leads To Labeling*. I'm glad you said something about it. I agree one-hundred percent. In just the year I've been here, I've seen it all too clearly.

Sincerely,
Dwayne Zadow

To the Editor:

I wish to comment on your article about *Dating Leads To Labeling*. I agree with it a lot. That is the way it is these days, and it [was] a good article.

Sincerely yours,
Doug Helfer

(Editor's note: The editorial you refer to was a class effort, written by the entire staff, with each member contributing.)

To the Editor:

As a member of the Vernonia High School student body, I would like to congratulate the cast members and anyone else who had anything to do with the production of *Winnie the Pooh*.

Each member did an excellent job performing his/her character which made a play that could have been boring very interesting and funny.

They should keep up the good work and the excellent performances and present us with more plays in the future. Thank-you for the well done play.

Sincerely,
Heather Remsen

To the Editor:

I think that the *Timberline* is a very good paper because it shows all opinions, and talks about people I know. I think it could have more jokes in it though.

Sincerely Yours,
Heidi Gallaty

To the Editor:

There are many misconceptions today about Jehovah's Witnesses. I would like to briefly clarify one. This has to do with competitive sports. There is always a winner and a loser in a competitive sport. The winner feels victorious, better than the other person, and most of all, a feeling of explicit delight is conquering the oppressors. The loser experiences a dismay of, 'Why didn't I try harder or accomplish more?' Envy is at the top of the list, then comes grief, and finally a feeling of down-grading pity for oneself.

Could you imagine Jesus running a foot race with the apostles, seeing who could be the greatest? No, you certainly couldn't. The Bible at Luke 22:24-27 speaks of Jesus counseling the apostles because they were lording it over themselves, trying to see which one was the greatest.

Is it really being kind to your neighbors when you want to stomp them, wipe them out, or beat them so it causes the feelings I mentioned above?

Muscles are awesome. But muscles aren't gods. 'Bodily training is beneficial for a little,' the apostle Paul wrote, 'but Godly devotion is beneficial for all things, as it holds promise of the life now and that which is to come.' (1 Tim 4:8) Enjoy whatever kind of exercise you do. It can make you feel better. I personally think Godly devotion, however, can do what muscles can never do-make you live longer, even forever, as the psalmist sang: 'the LORD sets no store by the strength of a horse and takes no pleasure in a runner's legs; his pleasure is in those who fear him.' Ps 147:10-11.

Sincerely,
Leora Batrick

EDITORIAL

Has effort gone to waste ?

by Kathi Rinks

Now that the new administration has formulated new policies, defined new goals, and applied some pressure to reduce truancy here at VHS, only one question remains unanswered. It takes the form of a challenge: 'How do they keep reformed *skippers* in the classroom AND contributing positively to the learning environment?'

Re-routing habitual *class cutters* back into the classroom is an admirable undertaking, but what happens when success in one area leads to failure in another? What happens when a rebellious youngster turns into the class clown or Rip Van Winkle?

Our entire school system is based on the premise that young adults of high school age are not yet mature enough to take on

the responsibility of making the correct decisions concerning attending, or not attending school. Therefore, the state entrusts this responsibility to the parents and, in part, to school administrators. When one of these two makes the decision to keep *Johnny* in school, despite his bad manners, poor study habits, obnoxious actions, and disrespect for others, they consider what is best for him and what he will benefit most from.

Unfortunately, you can lead a horse to water, even throw it in the trough, but you can't make it drink, no matter how hard you try. Luckily the laws of nature hold that a horse must eventually drink or else perish, but there is no such rule that applies to a student disinterested in attending school.

Editor.....Kathi Rinks
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Reporters.....Thorgen Brown
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