

New Vernonia High principle eagerly anticipates year

Ed Tice, the new principal at Vernonia High School, isn't new to the Nehalem Valley; he has been vice-principal and teacher at Jewell School for the past 14 years. In addition to the vice-principal's duties, Tice taught social studies and sometimes coached seventh and eighth grade basketball.

"I'm really excited about being here," Tice said, "and I'm looking forward to a good year."

Among his goals at VHS this year, Tice includes developing solutions for some of the shortcomings in the physical facility, initially with improvements in the weight room. He is actively soliciting donations for improvements and talking with the Boosters about help for the project, which, he says, must stay "within financial reason."

Building school spirit is another goal. Tice feels that the school should remain important in the lives of its graduates and, among other possible events, would like to see a full schedule of activities during Homecoming.

He is also open to suggestions for non-sport extracurricular activities for students, one possibility being a chess club. It is already probable that a debate club will be started this year.

"I really anticipate community support" in these endeavors, Tice said. He keeps an open-door policy and will meet with people whenever he has time, but will also make appointments.

While recognizing that it is difficult for people to accept change, Tice is comfortable with most of the educational changes that will be required during the next few years.

"A lot of what is required already exists," he noted, "but the scheduling will be important." As an example, foreign languages will have to start in grade school in order for students to become proficient in their use.

"The hardest change will be going to skill level development and mastery, not just put in the time and expect to graduate," Tice said. He anticipates that the changes will take from three to seven years.

In the meantime, he plans to work with the staff to see what is available and what is needed, and with a site-based committee. "There will be some changes this year," he added.

Tice was born in Michigan. His mother was a teacher or teacher's aide, depending on

where the family was living because of his father's military career. He graduated from high school in Corvallis, where he participated in football, track and boxing.

He earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts and a master's in education, both from Oregon State University. Currently, he is working on his doctorate at OSU, with an emphasis on curriculum and a minor in administration.

Tice, his wife and an 18-year-old daughter, live in Gearhart with a dog, cat, four chickens and a parrot. His daughter is a senior at Seaside High School; two other children are grown.

Currently, he is seeking a room to rent in Vernonia while looking for property where he can build.



Ed Tice

VHS volleyball "Pack the Gym" night

lastically in Hawaii. The quality of the players' skills, abilities, and experience is steadily increasing.

"This level of volleyball intensity is very engaging," Foss said, "and provides spectators with an 'on the edge' experience."

He anticipates a successful season for the varsity team. Returning players have a year of playoff experience to reflect upon. The girls also have goals and many of them have been playing all year in open gyms, volleyball clubs, and camps in order to improve their skills.

The coaching staff worked with the athletic director during the off-season to put together a challenging schedule for this fall, Foss explained, and "it" all starts Thursday, September 8th, when VHS hosts perennial rival Knappa, for "Pack-the-Gym" night.

"Pack-the-Gym" night, a local volleyball tradition, is usu-

ally scheduled for the first home match of the season. This year, in addition to an outstanding night of volleyball, there will be door prizes and audience participation events. Everyone is invited to be a part of "it", Foss said. The junior varsity match will begin at 5:00 p.m., then there will be a serving contest and the varsity match will start soon after.

Lincoln kindergarten starting schedules

Kindergarten students at Lincoln Grade School in Vernonia are registered in two separate groups. One group attends Mondays and Thursdays, the other attends Tuesdays and Fridays; the two groups alternate on Wednesdays.

This year, the Tuesday-Friday group will start on the first day of school, Tuesday, Sept. 6. The Monday-Thursday group will start on the second day of school, Wednesday, Sept. 7.

Kindergarten parents who need more information may call head teacher Marguerite Nice at home, 429-8783, or Lincoln School, 429-5711, on Aug. 29, 30 and 31.

Registration dates for VHS students

Registration dates for new students at Vernonia High School are August 24, 25 and 26. Returning students will register August 31.

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 6.

Changes for Mist School attendance

A change in the Mist School attendance boundary, from Scappoose junction to Big Eddy Park, was approved by the Vernonia School Board last June.

Now students who live south of Big Eddy Park will attend Lincoln or Washington Grade Schools from kindergarten through fifth grade, while K-5 students who live north of Big Eddy Park will attend Mist School.

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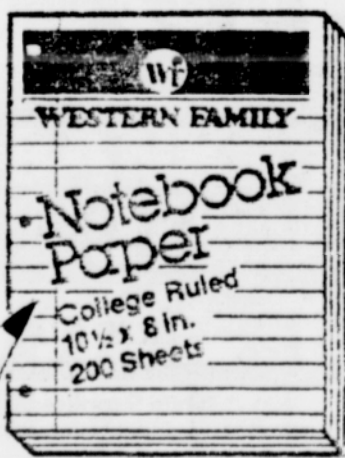
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