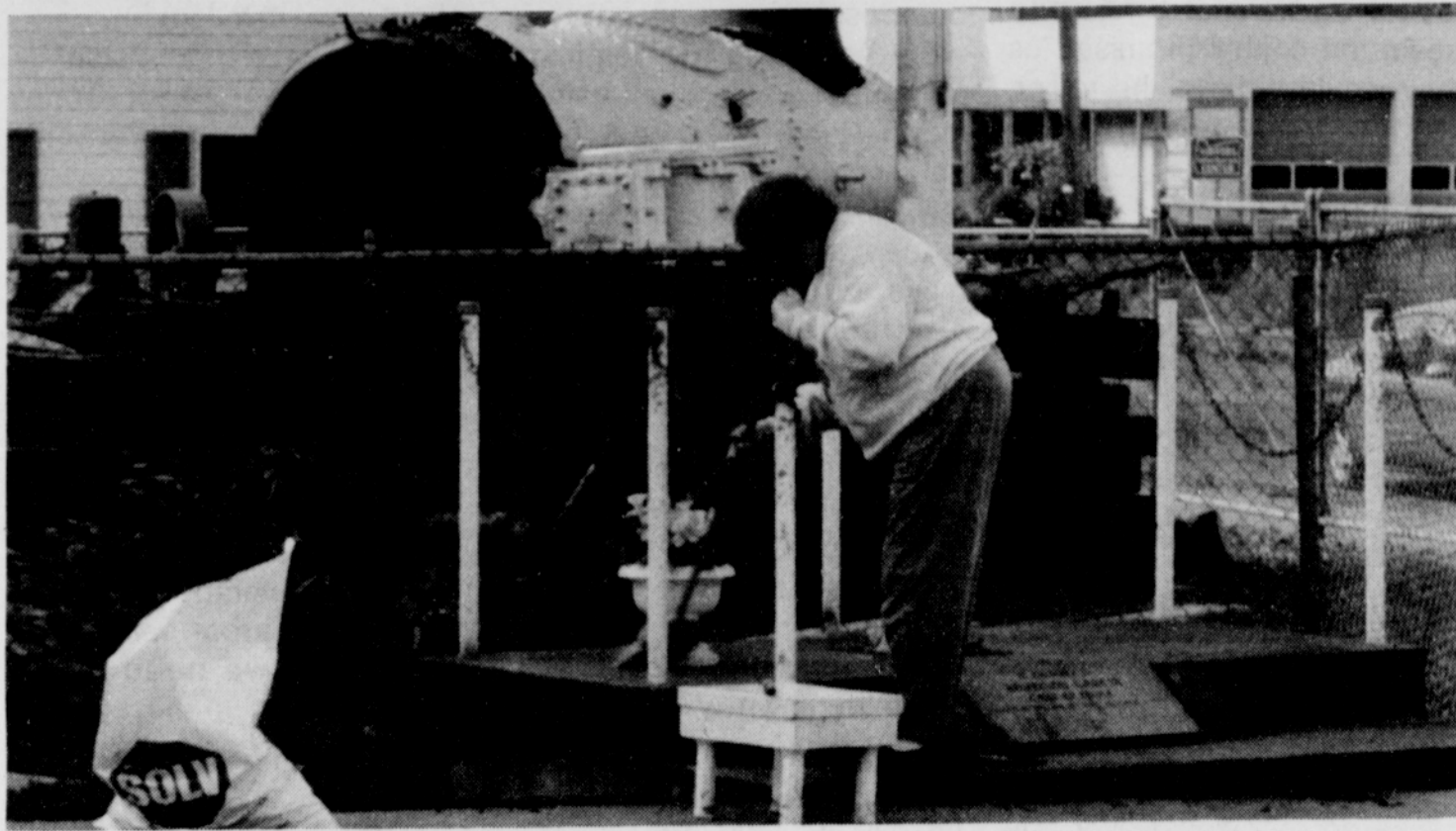


Vernonia Pride in operation...



Nobody ever said that the annual Vernonia Clean-up day, sponsored by Vernonia Pride, was easy. Among the more than 100 volunteers who turned out to spruce up the town were Enid Parrow, who cleaned up the Memorial Park area, and an unidentified family who spent a lot of time on their knees cleaning weeds and removing daffodil bulbs from around the trees on Bridge Street.

WGS track teams learning by competing against bigger schools

Washington Grade School's track teams faced Tillamook, Neah-Kah-Nie and Scappoose, in Scappoose, April 30.

Eighth grade girls: Scappoose 96, Tillamook 20, NKN 11, WGS 4.

Alicia Normand: 80m hurdles, 15.75, third; 200m hurdles, 35.87, third.

Eighth grade boys: Scappoose 91, NKN 28, WGS 11.

Brass Sears: shot put, 36'9-1/2", first; discus, 112'7-1/2", second.

Luke Ellis: discus, 99'8-1/2", third.

Seventh grade girls: Scappoose 93, NKN 26, Tillamook 19, WGS 7.

Kim Normand: discus, 63'8", third. Trisha Titus: 200m 33.63, third.

Seventh grade boys: Tillamook 46, Scappoose 44, NKN 29, WGS 21.

Shawn Hillyer: 80m hurdles, 14.54, first; 200m hurdles, 33.47, third.

Shawn Robertson: high jump, 4'4", second.

Charlie Hanson: shot put, 24'6", second.

The teams went to Neah-Kah-Nie April 21, for a three-way meet, along with Astoria.

Alicia Normand, one-girl team, finished second in the Eighth Grade Girls competition. Neah-Kah-Nie 55, WGS 18, Astoria 13.

Normand took first place in the 80m hurdles (:16.5), 200m

hurdles (:37), and high jump (4'), and finished second in the 100m dash (:15.82).

Eighth grade boys: NKN 50, Astoria 39, WGS 30.

400m relay: WGS team, second place.

200m hurdles: Keith Rondo, first place; Charles Gendron second.

80m hurdles: Rondo, first; Gendron, second; J.J. Malnerich, third.

Seventh grade boys: Astoria 78, NKN 41, WGS 20.

400m relay: WGS team, second place.

80m hurdles: Shawn Hillyer, second, Casey Waltz fourth.

Sahson Dehkordi: long jump, 13'1-1/2", second.

Seventh grade girls.

Candice Dalebroux: 80m hurdles 16.79, first.

K. Normand: 80m hurdles, 18.95, second; discus, 59'2", second.

Audrey Looney: high jump, 3'10", first; 200m, third.

Titus: 200m, second.

VHS track records keep on falling

From page 12

triple jump. It was a spectacular finish, as he was able to complete only two of the six jumps allowed in the preliminary and finals, and finished only three inches behind second place. After Woznicki's second jump, the heel injury that has been plaguing him made it impossible to continue. His second jump of 43'1-1/2" stood while the rest of the field jumped four more times.

April 29 Vernonia co-hosted a four-school track meet at Oregon Episcopal School, with Catlin Gabel. Seven parents, VHS teacher Gennie Harris, and athletes who were in between events ran all the field events. Catlin Gabel volunteers handled the running events.

Ellie Prpich won the high jump at 5'. Mary Anne Miller finished first in the 1500 meters.

Records are made to be broken, a point VHS track and field athletes have proven many times this spring.

"We've had six meets and nine school records, in six separate events—it's phenome-

nal," said Coach Mel Nice. "The best I can remember is five in 1979."

The team competed with 24 schools in the Lower Columbia Invitational at St. Helens April 25, some from 3A and 4A levels.

Prpich won the high jump with her 5'2" jump, and "just ticked the bar" at 5'4".

Miller began the 1500 at the rear of the pack but still managed to finish third, while posting a personal and VHS record time 5:08.4.

Miller again provided the high point, April 23, when the team travelled to Oregon Episcopal School.

This time she claimed the school record in the 800 meters with her personal best of 2:24.91. The old record, set in 1986, was 2:31.94.

In the 5J Invitational in Clatskanie, April 18, Denise Titus took second in the shot put (34'5-1/2").

Miller won the 3000 (11:27), and 800 meters (2:27).

More Letters

From page 3

things were going. The next thing I knew, he was there at the school district parking lot. He took the only "crew" available and started the car wash. The "crew" is why I mention this. It was comprised of Calli (9) and Hayley (7) Hardwick, Elise (8) and Cody (5) Blum and Christopher (4) Antley. By 2:00 p.m. they had washed nine vehicles and had raised \$75.00 in donations. When the high school crews returned for the last time, and as it started to rain, they took over and finished up the last few cars.

So, (taking into account an away track meet and an OS-SOM field trip today) 23 Vernonia High School students choose to clean gutters, pull weeds, cut brush, mow grass, bag clippings, cut back berry plants, plant flowers, wash dogs, shovel gravel, haul away and burn debris, wash cars and answer a phone. Total Youth in Action! (YA!) hours = 132.

Originally, I had spoken to sixteen senior citizens about their homes. Three homes cancelled for the 18th, and requested to be rescheduled.

One we could not get done and will be rescheduled, another happened by chance. A total of thirteen homes were helped and approximately \$112 in donations was collected from the car wash and turned over to Mr. Eric Olson, President of the Senior Center Board.

YA! wishes to thank the people who supported them during the "Senior Class Challenge" today: Genny Harris, my co-advisor for YA! at VHS, for working behind the scenes, and Sheri Boyd, Carol Davis, Chris Rea and Pat Stacklie for working with, and/or transporting youth today (Total Support hours today = 48).

To Western Auto and Vernonia Boosters, a special thank you for supplies "at cost" and our sandwich board. Thank you to Vernonia Pride, who inspired us, and SOLV who supported them.

I personally wish to send a HUGE thank you to the youth who participated (and to those who wanted to but could not be there), for doing it simply because of how it felt when you were done! You are all great role models!

To the senior citizens who welcomed us to their homes,

thanks for believing in our youth and supporting them. To the Senior Class of '98 for "The Challenge" and leading the crews, you are huge!

And last, but not least, to my husband Jeff, who supervised the crews by driving to each and every home (several times), did not complain about the flat tire on his new truck, (and ignored the checkbook on this one!) THANK YOU!

With warm regards,
Michelle Blum
Youth in Action!
Vernonia

P.S. The Senior class won "The Senior Class Challenge".

Children should not play in the road

To the Editor:

I grew up in Warren and now I am raising my children here. People have always driven fast on all these roads. So when [Columbia County Commissioner candidate] Colleen DeShazer mentioned widening the roads so our children could play on them, I was overwhelmed with anger and frustration. No child should be al-

Please see page 14



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