

VHS "Gets Fired Up" as assembly honors student accomplishment

Vernonia High School 2nd Quarter 1999-2000 Renaissance Assembly, held March 16 at the school, honored student achievement in the areas of attendance, citizenship and scholarship during the last quarter. In an upbeat, talent-packed assembly titled "Let's Get Fired Up," a total of 55 awards were presented. Junior Elisabeth Brookins was a winner in all three categories.

Associated Student Body President Leslie Finamore's welcoming remarks were followed by two pieces by the excellent VHS Choir, led by Bob Isted. The program included an evocative original dance by Jessica Weller, two numbers by the band SAAB, a dance performance by the VHS cheerleaders and a Leadership skit illustrating positive attitudes toward learning.

Perfect Attendance Awards, including a token gift, were presented by Mrs. Swafford to Aaron Beethe, Elisabeth Brookins and Melissa De-laeminck.

The Vernonia American Citi-

zenship Award, presented this quarter for the first time, honors students chosen by VHS staff and administration for character, courage, role-model behavior, fairness, and volunteerism. The first six recipients of the award are Rachael Bentson, Elisabeth Brookins, Cassian Flynn, Sharon Hillyer, Jaki King and Kelly Kofstad. These presentations were made by Leadership advisor Ms. Dickens and Principal Mr. Durbin.

Renaissance Awards, including a T-shirt, were presented to 46 students. Each quarter, VHS recognizes students with a 3.6 grade point average or better or who improve their grade point average by .5 or more over the preceding quarter. Students earning the award this quarter are:

Freshmen: Rachael Bentsen, Jacob Brock, Christopher Driver, Shawn Hillyer, Michael Jenkins, Jaki King, Alexander Kinney, Lacey Schilling, Josh Ward and Eric Weller.

Sophomores: Jennifer Bernardi, Marianne Finley, Alexandria Hayes, Elizabeth James, Janet



James, Edith Nelson, Megan Pattison, Rose Peets, Brass Sears, Chris Serafin, Joey Strand and Melissa Templin.

Juniors: Erik Batalgia, Lynn Becker, Elisabeth Brookins, Woody Buxton, Myriam Gendron, Beth Green, Jake Hartman, Kayla Hennessey, Derek McClure, Jessica Soderback, and Blaine Vandehey.

Seniors: Jason Busch, Erica Hobart, Tabetha Kintz, Elena Majbova, Lola Muminova, Kohei Nagashio, Rande Parker, Brian Robertson, Heather Sargent, Narisara Satrulee, Casey Weller, Jessica Weller and Al-lisa West.

Mayor Art Parrow was on hand to draw the name of the grand prize winner from among the awardees. This quarter's winner is Brian Robertson, who took home a panoramic camera and a set of headphones.

Incentive prizes for the Renaissance Awards come most-

ly from funds raised through pop machines located in the high school and run by VHS Student Council and Leadership students. Gwin Logging has donated a stereo. Student

Council is looking for other businesses or individuals who would work as partners to help increase academic improvement at VHS. Donations are also very much appreciated.

Varied after school activities going

Various after school activities are now available for Vernonia students. Organized by a coalition of agencies and community volunteers, the Monday through Thursday activities are

from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m.; this includes a snack and a 20 minute period for reading and doing homework. Friday's schedule varies by age group. The

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Rebecca Knowlton's suggestion to "Make Vernonia Shine" won her a \$25.00 prize from Vernonia Pride in the contest to name the annual Vernonia cleanup day. This year, cleanup day will be April 29.

Healthy kids jump rope to help hearts

Eighteen students participated in Jump Rope for Heart, March 7 at Washington Grade School, raising \$524.25 for the American Heart Association.

A drawing was held every ten minutes, and nearly every participant went home with a door prize.

Karen Roberts, Anna Jeffers and Rena Titus coordinated this year's event.

VHS Seniors plan fund raisers for trip

The Vernonia High School senior class will be holding fundraisers throughout the month of April to raise money for the class trip to Disneyland June 4-7, 2000.

The schedule of fundraisers is as follows:

Saturday, April 8: Door-to-door pop can drive

Sat. April 15, WGS, 6-9 PM, kiddie carnival, 25 cent admission.

Saturday April 22, Bake Sale at Sentry Market, 9 AM- 5 PM.

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