

Sharpen those pencils, get ready for spelling bee

Public, private and home school students in Columbia County are urged to participate in the 24th Annual Spelling Contest for the State of Oregon. The Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Association of Education Service Districts sponsor the contest. Laura Couture of the Northwest Regional ESD coordinates the Columbia County contest.

The competition is held at the local school district, county and state levels. At each level, students are expected to write all spelling words. An oral spelling bee is not part of this

program. Local school districts should complete their competition no later than May 19. Interested home-schoolers may make arrangements to participate in their home school district.

The Columbia County Spelling Contest will be conducted in the Loo Wit Room at St. Helens High School on May 25, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Visitors are welcome to view the competition at the county level. Students will be competing for the opportunity to go to the state competition held during the Oregon State Fair. This year's state competition will

take place on Saturday, September 2.

The contests at both the county and state levels are divided into three divisions: Division one for elementary students through grade five; Division two for students in grades six through eight; and Division three for students in grades nine through twelve.

Plaques and U.S. Savings Bonds will be presented to the first place winners of each division; the second and third place winners of each division will receive certificates of achievement and U.S. Savings Bonds.

It's Kindergarten Round-up time for little cowpokes

Kindergarten Round-Up in Vernonia will be held during the week of May 9-12. The kindergarten room at Lincoln Grade School will be available for parent/child visits daily during this week, from 9:00-10 a.m. and 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Parents need to register at the Washington Grade School office during this week, and bring a copy of their child's birth certificate and current immunization record. The following immunizations are required

for the 2000-2001 Kindergarten class are:

Diphtheria/Tetanus—five doses (unless fourth dose was given after four years of age)

Polio—four doses (unless third dose was given after four years of age)

- Measles—two doses
 - Mumps—one dose
 - Rubella—one dose
 - Hepatitis B—three doses
 - Varicella (Chicken pox)—one dose or history of the disease
- Call the WGS office at 429-

7941 for any questions regarding registration, birth certificate, or immunizations.

It is very important that all students who will be five years of age by September 1, 2000, be enrolled during this week so the school district will know the approximate size of next year's kindergarten class.

Kindergarten students in Mist and Birkenfeld may register at the Mist School during this week. Call the school, at 755-2486, for an appointment.

State training classes for state child care workers

"Oregon Child Care Basics," a set of two trainings giving basic child care information suitable for child care professionals and parents, will be presented by Caring Options Child Care Resource and Referral, a program of Community Action Team, Inc. (CAT)

Classes will be held Saturday, May 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Columbia Technology Center in St. He-

lens. Basics 1, dealing with children's health and safety issues, will begin at 8:30 a.m. Basics 2, which presents issues connected with children's social and emotional health, begins at 12:30 p.m.

Each class meets four of the mandatory training hours for childcare providers.

Pre-registration is required. A registration fee of \$5 per

class (\$10 for the full day) covers the cost of materials. Lunch and snacks will be provided at no additional charge.

To register, send your name, address and phone number along with a check or money order to: Caring Options, 310 Columbia Blvd., St. Helens, OR 97051

For information, call Barbara U. Mitzi at 397-3511, or toll free, 1-800-404-3511.

Sports

Lady Loggers enjoy softball, even without many wins

Vernonia High School's softball team played their first double header at home against Portland Lutheran on April 20. Both games resulted in losses, 11-1 and 8-1.

Jessica Allison scored the team's only run in the first game and pitched the five-inning game. The solo run in the second game was scored by Nicole Koch.

"The Lady Loggers lack con-

fidence when batting, but they are a positive, fun team," said coach Dana Hyde. "They are happy with the improvements they've made through the season and continue to work on their batting skills."

The ladies brought home their first win of the season April 18, defeating Knappa 12-9.

Kim Normand, Kirsten Hyde, and Jennifer Grady each scor-

ed two runs, while Allison, Koch, Sarah Luttrell, Nicole Potter, Nikki Gwin and Abby Pond had a single run apiece. Four of the runs came when Allison, Hyde, Grady and Normand each stole home.

"In this game, Pond made two incredible diving catches at short stop," said Hyde.

The girls played a double header last night at home against Knappa.

Four games remaining for Logger baseball season

With 11 baseball games played and four games left, Vernonia High School's league record stands at 1-8. Overall, the Loggers are 1-10.

The first doubleheader of the season was at home April 20 against Portland Lutheran. The Loggers lost the first game of the twin bill, 11-4, and the second by 13-2.

Three of Vernonia's runs came in the third inning of the first game, with Josh Luttrell, David Koch and Bobby Lokken crossing the plate. Lokken also scored in the fourth.

In the second game, Luttrell

and Kohei Nagashio produced the team's only runs.

"The defense is giving up too many runs compared to what they are capable of offensively," said head coach Dave Doubrava.

At Knappa, April 18, the

Loggers run production was better, but they still ended up on the wrong side of a 10-6 score. Curtis Golson and Dus-

tin Titus were credited with two runs apiece. Lokken and Kyle Cota each added another run.


One home golf match remaining

The Vernonia High School girls golf team has made it to the beginning of district play-offs, which started May 2 at Quail Valley Golf Course and will end May 8 at the Astoria Golf Course.

Previously, the girls traveled to Mint Valley Golf Course in Longview to compete in a nine hole match against St. Helens.

St. Helens came out on top, with 240 strokes as the Ver-


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