

## Financial constraints force "Pay for Play" at VHS

Several years after most school districts in Oregon were forced to institute student fees for high school athletic programs, Vernonia has finally succumbed to financial pressures and joined the majority.

Details have not all been worked out, but the basics are as follows:

- The first participation in an academic year in any sport, from one family, will be charged a fee of \$75.00.
- There will be a \$65.00 fee

for a second participation, whether by the same student in another sport or a sibling in the same or another sport.

- The fee for a third and any succeeding participation would be \$55.00.

• Students who qualify for free/reduced meals will not be charged a fee.

- Parents of students on free/reduced meals will also be given a complementary, (free) season pass.

up to the first ten practices. There will be no refunds beyond that time.

- Student participation fees will not be prorated if a student starts the season late or ends the season early, regardless of the reason.

The district is also examining the feasibility of an installment payment plan for those who would have difficulty paying the entire fee in one lump sum.

Before each season, the

athletes and their parents will meet with coaches to review the plan and the options available.

The first meeting will be held August 21, which is the first day of practice for fall sports, at 7:00 p.m. at the high school.

There will be more information in the packet all athletes will pick up on August 14.

The district's budgeted goal is to raise \$10,000 with the participation fees. The fee sched-

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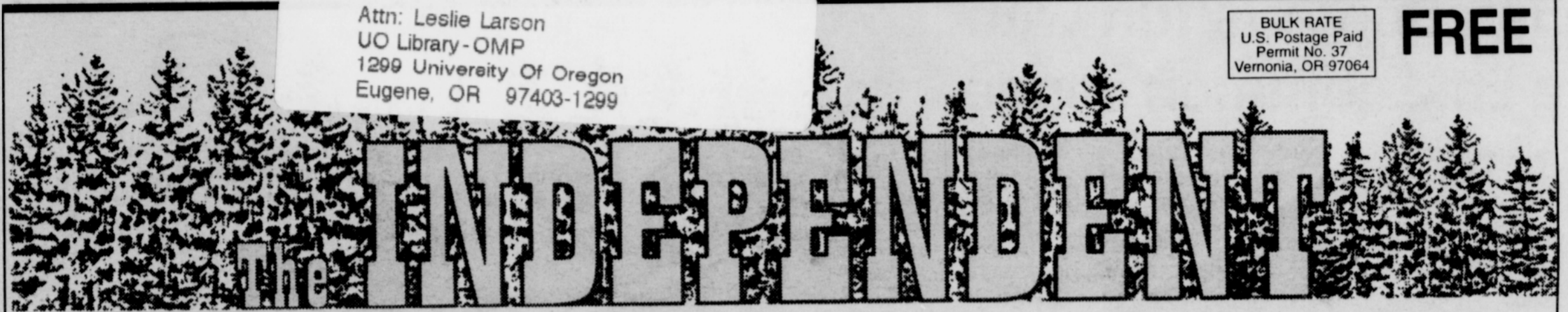
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Vol. 15, No 15

"Voice of the Upper Nehalem River Valley"

August 2, 2000

### Occupants saved...



Joe Poetter of Vernonia and Jared Busch of Mist, both recent graduates of Vernonia High School, survived the wreck that destroyed this pickup, because of the extraordinary efforts of others. See story on page 3.

## \$249,000 to Vernonia for Anderson Park

They hoped for it. They applied for it. But they sure didn't hold their breath and wait - because the competition was really tough!

When the City of Vernonia received word last week that they will receive \$249,000 this year from the Local Government Grant Program through the state Department of Parks and Recreation, the reaction was close to shock. The elation came next.

The grant application prepared by City Administrator Mike Sykes and Public Works Director Robyn Bassett requested funds for a new restroom/shower facility, construction of a picnic shelter with cooking facility, demolition of the existing cooking facility and new/additional RV sites, all with disabled access, plus rehabilitating the existing infra-

structure.

Some of the infrastructure rehabilitation was to be accomplished with the aid of \$80,000 from the Northwest Oregon Economic Alliance (NOEA), but the whole job can now be done. The cost of the entire program is projected to be \$415,000, which means the city will still have to be very careful with the available funds, but most of the program can go forward without further delay.

When the necessary contracts between the city and state are completed, probably this month, the project can begin.

The total available in the program was \$4,127,264, and according to figures supplied by the state, there were 67 applications requesting a total of \$10,582,555.

## It's time for the 44th Vernonia Friendship Jamboree

Full Steam Ahead into the New Millennium is the 2000 Jamboree theme and the community is getting up a good

head of steam.

The festivities get off to a good start Friday with water balloon-tossing catapults and a

fishing derby for children. Going through the weekend, people will stroll through the cruise in of 300 or so cars, watch or participate in softball, a parade, fast draw competition, children's games, horse gaming, the Alternative Stage, a community worship service, breakfast with the Sweet Adelines, a show of synchronized swimming, relive the way of life as it was in the 1800s at the black power rendezvous, and more. It all culminates in the logging show on Sunday at noon, when real loggers have fun demonstrating skills that have been important in the Nehalem valley for the last century.

Because of errors in this year's schedule of events in the special Jamboree issue published by *The INDEPENDENT*, here is some clarification of the muddy points.

- The parade will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, starting at Weed Avenue and ending at Washington Grade School. Parade entries need to register early because judging starts at 10 a.m.
- The Logging Show, as previously mentioned, will be at

noon on Sunday. Participants should be registered by 11:30.

With the exception of Johnny Limbo and The Lugnuts, who will be appearing at Cedar Ridge, all activities are free to spectators. Participant registration fees vary according to the different activities.

### Park off street when street sweeping is scheduled to avoid parking ticket

Street sweeping is scheduled in Vernonia for Friday, August 4, and residents are reminded to park their vehicles off the street on sweeping day.

Sweeping will start at 5:00 a.m. and be finished by 11:00 a.m. Sweeping begins at the south end of Rose Avenue and goes from there to Bridge Street in order to complete the business area first. Once the streets have been swept, it is

alright to park there; if they have not been swept, cars parked on curbed streets during sweeping days and hours may be ticketed for a parking violation.

The next scheduled sweeping days are August 18 and September 1. After that, street sweeping will be done on the first and third Fridays of every month.

