

Cheerleading isn't for the timid or weak; it is a demanding sport

Cheerleading is NOT what it used to be. Since being discontinued in many districts for a variety of reasons, cheerleading has become an intensely competitive, year-round sport, attracting both young men and women, who learn to perform exciting stunt routines and dances.

Since modern cheerleading involves difficult and dangerous stunts, proper training is essential. Every summer squads from all over the state go to one or more "Cheer Camps," usually on college campuses, to learn from the pros. The \$200 per person cost for camp may be the biggest single expense, but each person must also have uniforms.

Vernonia High School Cheerleaders, like Vernonia's Equestrian Team, must raise all of the money needed to pay their expenses. This is also typical of cheerleading programs throughout our area. Since cheerleading has no "season," participants need uniforms suitable for hot or cold weather at football games, plus indoor uniforms for volleyball and basketball. Teams usually have practice uniforms, as well, for camps and clinics.

The Vernonia Cheerleaders have been raising money all year, most recently by teaching youngsters a series of cheers that they will perform as part of the Jamboree Parade. After the parade, cheerleaders will be

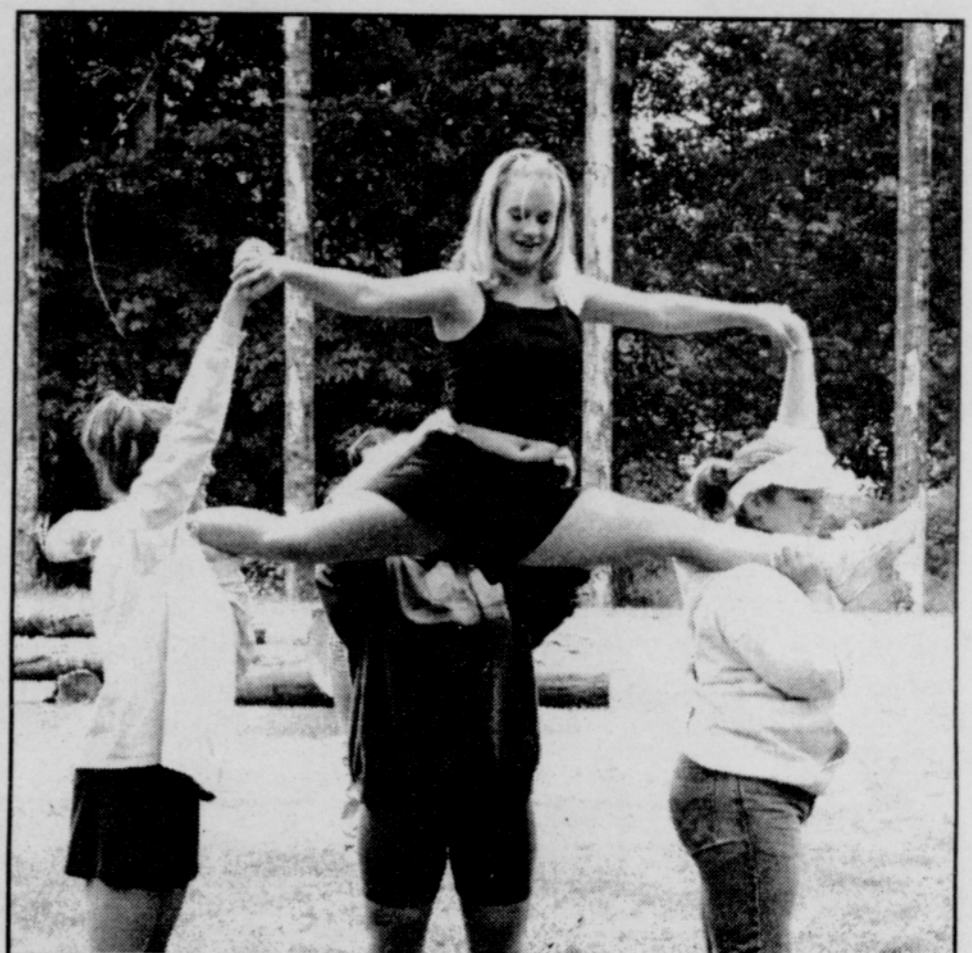
tickets. Raffle prizes donated so far include a variety of products from the Gerber Knife Company, a one-night stay at the Vernonia Inn, several free dinner coupons, and a variety of gift certificates. Raffle tickets

movies, and crafts for children ages 2 to 12, for a couple of hours or up to all night. Snacks and breakfast will be provided. Cost begins at \$2 per hour per child up to a family maximum of \$4 per hour. All-night babysit-

Fundraising activities will continue with a bottle and can drive on Monday after Jamboree. Cheerleaders are also responsible for picking up garbage cans a couple of times over Jamboree weekend.



Caught unaware because they didn't know a photographer was going to show up as they practiced in Hawkins Park,



cheerleaders show some of the strain and effort they will try to hid when they're urging fans to cheer for the home team.

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walking through town selling pop, bottled water and raffle are available from any cheerleader through Sunday of Jamboree. You need not be present to win a prize.

Cheerleaders will also provide babysitting on Jamboree Saturday night, August 4, at the high school. The girls will provide supervision, games,

ting will be provided from 7:30 p.m. Saturday to 9:30 a.m. Sunday. Cost for the entire time is \$30 for one child, up to a family maximum of \$50.

Babysitting will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 429-0825 to reserve your spot.

Community members are being asked to consider participation in one or more of these activities, to help this hard working group of young people who provide so much enjoyment at high school games.

Jamboree 2001 tee shirts now available

Vernonia Friendship Jamboree tee shirts for 2001, with a new design by J. Angus McLean, are available at Country Kitchen, Creative Impulse, Serenity Garden Herbals and US Bank. The shirts are \$10.00 for Small, Medium, Large, and Ex-large; \$12.00 for XX-Large and XXX-Large.

All proceeds go to the Jamboree Committee

Anyone who keeps a chip on his shoulder isn't chopping much wood.

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