

Equestrian team brings home trophies for skill, sportsmanship

The Vernonia High School Equestrian Team finished the season on a high, earning the Sportsmanship Trophy at the State Meet in Salem, in competition with teams from all around the state...nearly 500 horses and riders. The team also competed well, bringing home a third place bronze medal in Drill, placing fourth in the In-Hand Obstacle Relay out of 29 teams competing, and taking sixth place in Canadian Flags out of 27 teams. Jessica Allison, the only Vernonia participant to qualify for individual State competition, finished 14th in Barrels in a crowd of 52 barrel racers.

During the season, the team—Allison, Brandi Abney, Torie Clement, Gina Cropp, Megan Jennings, Sasha Mack, Kendell Nelson, Adelaide Schmitt, Jessica Sook and Sarah Sook—competed against 13 other high schools in OHSET's (Oregon High School Equestrian Teams) Northwest District. Teams in the district are from Amity, Banks, Century, Forest Grove, Gaston, Glencoe, Hillsboro, Newberg, Rainier, Scappoose, Sherwood, St. Helens and Tualatin High Schools. District competitions were held at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds in McMinnville.

District results for the team include first in Drill Team (Allison, Clement, Cropp, Jennings, Mack, Nelson, Schmitt, and S.Sook), third in In-Hand Obstacle Relay (S.Sook, Nelson, Cropp, Clement), and fifth in Canadian Flags (Allison, Nelson, Mack, S.Sook).

Allison qualified for state competition by taking first place in District in Barrels.

In the team awards ceremony, Coach Barb Carr presented

Ridge Riders Poker Run, June 22nd

The Vernonia Ridge Riders Annual Poker Ride will be Saturday, June 22, starting at the Anderson Park Arena. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with the last rider out at 11:30 a.m. No studs or dogs allowed.



Happy VHS Equestrian team members include, front from left, Jessica Allison, Torie Clement, Kendell Nelson, Jessica Sook and Sarah Sook. Back row, from left, are Coach Barb

Carr, Gina Cropp, Megan Jennings, Sasha Mack, Adelaide Schmitt and Brandi Abney. The large trophy held by two team members is for the State Sportsmanship Award.

team members with high school letters and certificates, with Jessica Allison named Most Valuable, Sarah Sook Most Inspirational, and Adelaide Schmitt Most Improved.

Earning their first letters, and team belt buckles donated by Walter "Verne" Ferguson, were freshmen Clement, Cropp, Jennings and Mack, sophomore J.

Sook, and senior Schmitt. They also received Teammates gave

a special award—a scrapbook of memories—to Adelaide Schmitt, who is a foreign exchange student from France.

Head Start registration is open for a limited time

Head Start, a federally funded preschool program, is seeking students for the 2002/2003 school year. Head Start incorporates a family program that includes nutrition, education, medical and dental services for the enrolled child, as well as home visits.

Applications will be accepted for three or four year-old children in Columbia County.

Children must be three years old by Sept. 1 to qualify. Recruitment for fall enrollment will end soon.

Head Start serves USDA approved meals twice daily. The program is open to all children, regardless of race, sex, creed, nationality or disabling condi-

tion.

In order to qualify, children must be from limited income households, or have a disability and or special need.

The Vernonia Center is at 500 California Ave. For more information, call Gina Dixon at 503-429-9243.



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