

The INDEPENDENT

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Opinion

Jamboree events bring the generations together

The horse gaming show is always a great deal of fun for both participants and spectators. Definitely a family affair, sometimes with three generations of a family competing, the Sunday event is run by the Vernonia Ridge Riders at the Anderson Park horse arena. While the dust may fly in the arena, most spectators relax and enjoy the show from the shade of large trees.

There will be a lot more music to brighten your day, too. Saturday afternoon and evening a Christian concert may be enjoyed on the lawn between the Community Church and the First Baptist Church and, a couple of miles north of town, Cedar Ridge is presenting a Country Jubilee on Saturday night. Before the country concert, you can also catch a demonstration of synchronized swimming at the Cedar Ridge pool.

Also Saturday night, there's a teen dance at the high school, an adult concert and dance, with a local band, on the lawn between the schools, more music at the Alternative Stage and bands at two of the local businesses (Yes, there is child care for Friday and Saturday nights. Check the Jamboree publication for details.)

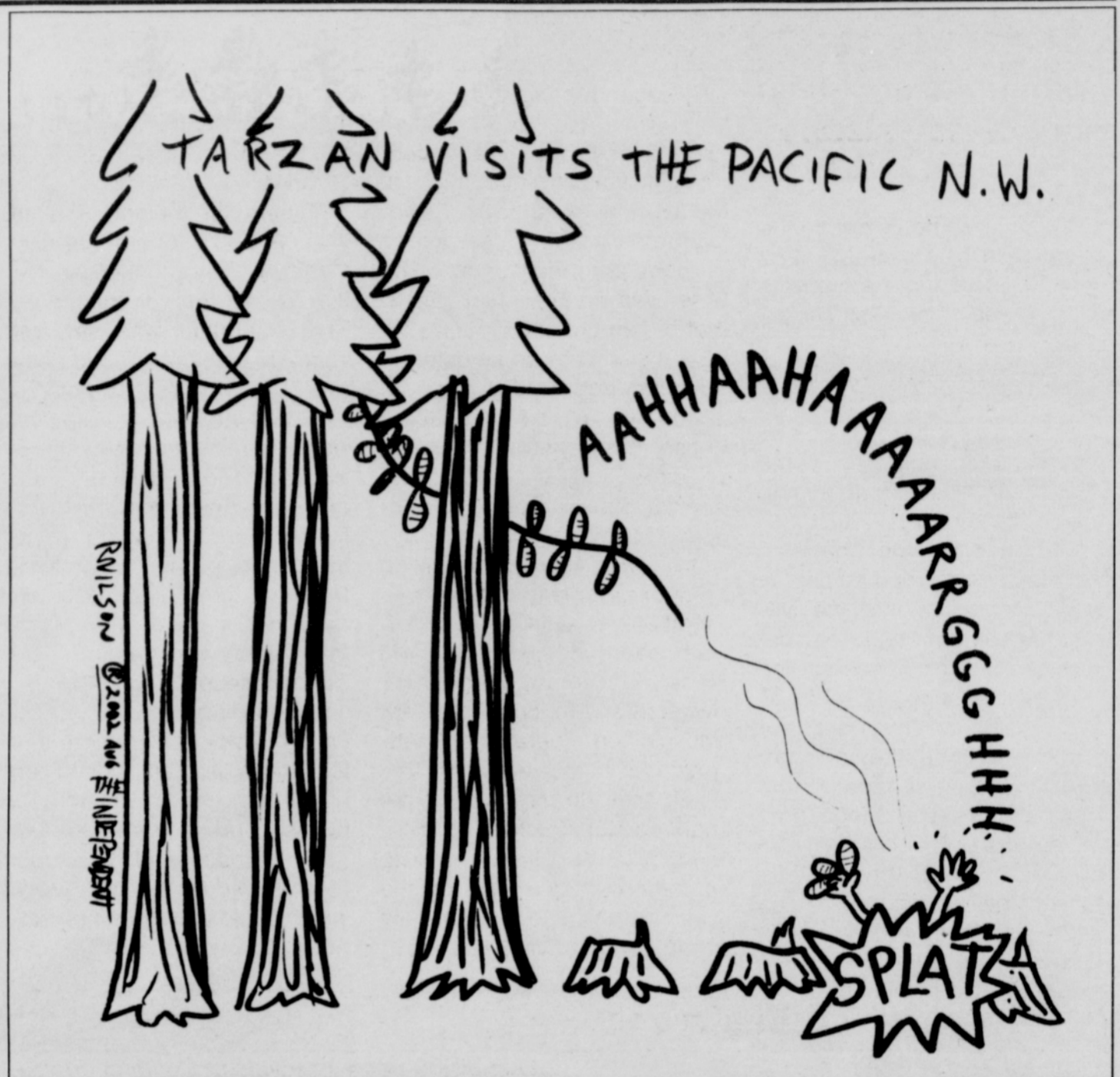
Before you even get to Saturday night, you will want to stop in at the Arts and Crafts show, with all original works, and at the book sale organized by the Friends of the Vernonia Library. There will also be food galore! Vernonia Lions will again prepare their great barbecued beef sandwiches and commercial vendors will be offering all sorts of goodies.

Sunday morning, you'll need to get out early to enjoy the rest of the weekend! In addition to the horse show starting at 9:30, a community worship service will be at 10:30 in the covered play area adjacent to Washington Grade School. A taekwon-do exhibition, at 11:30 in front of the high school, will carry you through until the logging show starts at noon. If the kids get hot and tired, sitting at the logging show, there will be water games for them at the Hawkins Park wading pool from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

The logging show will end between 4 and 5:00 p.m. and the concessions, softball games and other activities will wind down about the same time.

The town is sparkling clean when Jamboree starts out and generally pretty messy when it's over. But people have fun, old friends get together, and the trash is easy to pick up.

**Welcome to the
46th annual Vernonia
Friendship Jamboree.
Have fun, everybody, but
Please don't drink and drive.
We want to see you again, next year.**



It's Says...

By Dale Webb, member
Nehalem Valley Chapter Izaak Walton League



Last week I was traveling home down I-84 and got to see a pretty good lightning show. As I write this article, a lot of Oregon is burning up. While this is always bad news for homeowners and people that may lose timber, it is not so bad for wildlife.

I was traveling home last week from a vacation/family reunion trip to Montana. Donna's family has big family reunions, this one was at Bozeman. We stayed at a KOA campground in a neat log cabin. Right next door was the Bozeman Hot Springs, a very nice facility. Since we were in Montana, we decided to tour Yellowstone Park. Donna had never been there before so we hit the usual highlights, mud pots, Yellowstone Lake, and Old Faithful. (I did notice some good kayaking water, I wonder if you can tour Yellowstone Park by boat?)

Donna was keeping an eagle eye out for moose. Donna is a moose freak, but has never seen one alive. We entered at the north entrance to the park and soon were seeing buffalo. Then we came to a bunch of cars all pulled over to the side of the road and Donna yelled out "Moose!" I had to turn the car around to go back and get a better look. Not moose, elk! Hey, it was a long way off; anybody could have made that mistake.

Later we came to another group of cars, with people sneaking out through the underbrush toward a swampy meadow. When we asked one of

the people standing by the road what they were seeing, she replied, "I think it is a moose." As we drove past and were able to get a better look into the swamp. Donna blurted out, "Moose!" I pulled over and hopped out...NOT MOOSE, ELK! As we made our way out of the park toward the west entrance, we encountered another pile up of cars in the road. This time, we kept driving and observed people standing next to a nice bull elk in the velvet, next to a river.

We decided to spend the night in a motel instead of camping. There were a bunch of other guests in the lobby while we were checking in, and Donna and I heard one woman talking about the moose they had seen next to the road, on the way out of the park. Donna and I looked at each other in disappointment, thinking we had missed this moose. Upon further conversation, we realized she was referring to the last bunch of cars we had just come through. That's when another man and I said, in unison, "That wasn't a moose, it was an elk!"

The fires that ripped through Yellowstone are very evident, in fact there are very few places you can go without seeing fire damage. To my eye, though, the fires have revitalized the park. Lush undergrowth is everywhere and this must be a bounty for the parks wildlife. I mentioned to Donna, many times, that the fire actually improved the ability to see grand views, which would have been screened by trees before.

While traveling through Montana, there were two things that grabbed my eye. The first was all the river access points. It seemed that every available access point to a river had a sign pointing the way and terminated in an undeveloped

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