

Vernonia Youth Drama Club debuts with well-received comedy

An enthusiastic audience enjoyed the Vernonia Youth Drama Club's presentation of the lighthearted comedy, "I Hate Hamlet," May 1-3 at the Vernonia Grange Hall.

Set in New York City, the two act play was directed by

George Ray, with a cast of six student actors. Many other students and townspeople helped with set building, lights, sound, makeup and publicity, in addition to volunteering as stage managers, prop handlers and other necessary assistance.



Above: L-R, Casey Waltz as Andrew Rally, is comforted by his girl friend Deirdre McDavey, played by Holly Hillyer, while ace acting agent Gary Peter Lefkowitz (Jacob Rice) tells him of better opportunities in Hollywood. Sarah Johnston, playing the part of real estate broker Felicia Dantine, looks on.

Left: John Barrymore's ghost (Jake Brock) reminisces with a long-lost love, Lillian Troy, played by Rachel Bentsen.

Photos by Robb Wilson

In the Service

Teresa Lynn Stamper-McMillen

Teresa Lynn Stamper-McMillen, a 1981 Vernonia High School graduate, joined

the U.S. Marine Corps in 1981 and served 11 years on active duty. She joined the Navy Reserves in 1996 and has presently completed seven years of Naval Reserve duty and will retire in four years.

McMillen is currently an activated reservist stationed in Kuwait with ACB-1/Supply as a Navy Petty Officer, 2nd Class.

Contest open for Jamboree theme T-shirts

"The Best Little Town In America" has been selected as the theme for the 2003 Vernonia Friendship Jamboree. The winning entry was submitted by Ilene Grady's fifth grade class at Washington Grade School. For their efforts, the class will enjoy a pizza party at Leonetti's Pizza & Grill.

The next step in this year's

annual event is the Jamboree T-Shirt Design Contest. The contest is open to all. Entries must be designed to incorporate the theme, "The Best Little Town In America," and "47th Annual Vernonia Friendship Jamboree." The design may contain up to three colors. The rest is up to the imagination. Submissions may range from freehand drawing to camera-ready art. The winning entry will receive a \$50 savings bond.

Mail entries by May 31 to The Vernonia Friendship Jamboree Committee, P.O. Box 166, Vernonia, OR 97064. Indicate if the submission is to be returned.

The next Jamboree committee meeting will be May 8 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Washington Grade School Library. Event times and places will be finalized for advertising and all

groups that wish to be included in the advertising should have a representative present.

For more information, call Glen Purvee at 503-429-9400 or Randy Parrow at 503-429-1093.

Top spellers go to county contest

Two Vernonia students placed in the 2003 Columbia County Spelling Contest this week, with Marshall King placing third in Division III and Brittanie Roberts placing third in Division II.

Winners of the 2003 Spelling Contest for the Vernonia School District are as follows:

Division I, Grades K-5: Gabriel Rule and Timothy Brown
 Division II, Grades 6-8: Brittanie Roberts and Alex Bittinger
 Division III, Grades 9-12: Marshall King and Stephanie Lane

VHS graduation date

The 2003 Vernonia High School Commencement will be held outdoors, in the Vernonia High School grandstands, on June 8, at 2:00 p.m., rain or shine.

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