

47J picks four interview candidates

Elementary school Principal Aaron Miller told the Vernonia school board, at their January 12 meeting, that the grade school had a mini clinic for meningococcal disease, in addition to sanitizing the common areas. Miller also said that Homework Club and Twilight School started this week with Homework Club on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

High school Principal Curt Scholl let the board know that Clatskanie did not come to Vernonia for a game due to the meningitis case here, and it is unknown whether that will be determined to be a forfeit. In addition, it was decided that the leadership students from Vernonia would not go to Clatskanie for a meeting there.

Acting Superintendent Anne Kingsley reported that the Standards Review had been completed and the only item not met was the media element, because 47J does not have a certified Librarian due to budget constraints. However, she continued, due to the size of the high school, a media specialist is not required for accreditation.

The Long Range Planning Committee has chosen an architectural firm for work on the district's facility needs assessment. The board unanimously approved just over \$10,000 for the assessment, which will address what facilities the district will need 10 years from now and whether existing buildings will meet those needs.

Kingsley proclaimed January as School Board Recognition Month and told the board their volunteer efforts are appreciated.

Scholl provided information about House Bill 3129, which will require four years of foreign language and three years of math for graduates after 2010. Scholl told the board that VHS already has four years of language but will need to offer two

more math classes per year and should probably start the extra math in 2009 to be sure all graduates meet the requirements.

Scholl also explained Senate Bill 300, called the "expanded options" bill, which requires that all 'at risk' and dropout students, 16 years and older, are to be notified by February 1 that

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Now is time for Soccer sign-ups

Sign-ups for Spring Soccer for ages 5-9 will be held February 23 and March 16, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Vernonia Public Library.

All games will be in Vernonia and will take place on April 8, 15, 22 and 29. Fall Soccer Season sign-ups will be available at the last game, April 29, at Spencer Park.

The cost for Spring Soccer will be \$30 per child. For more information, call Mary Roumanos-MacDiarmid at 503-429-0412 or Lisa Brewer at 503-429-4250.

4-H wants fair photos in contest

The National 4-H Council is looking for winning photos from state and county fairs (2000-2006) to create the 2008 4-H Calendar.

Thirteen photographs will be selected. These original photographs will be gallery mounted and framed, and a brass plate engraved with the photographer's name will be attached. The winning photos will be on display at the National 4-H Conference Center from September 2006 through November 2006 and also posted on their website.

For more information, contact the Extension Office for your county.

Vernonia Sports Report

by Ben Schorzman

Girls Basketball

The Lady Loggers have been playing opponents close the past two weeks, pulling out a thriller against Jefferson, but losing to De La Salle and Warrenton. They never quit working, and their tenacity has kept them in games.

January 3, they played Jefferson at home. Junior Nandi Vanmeter sparked the team late in the game, hitting two key three-pointers to put the Loggers ahead. The Loggers really came on in the second half after going into halftime down by 12. Vanmeter made a three pointer late in the fourth with Vernonia up by one. With the Loggers up four, Jefferson made a basket with 20 seconds left to cut the lead to two, but the girls battled and kept the lead, winning 53-51. Junior Jor-eigh Landers had 17 points, Seniors Laura Brookins and Kristin Cota each had eight, and Vanmeter had six.

That Friday, January 6, both teams traveled to De la Salle. It was a very low scoring game, with both teams missing a lot of shots close to the basket. The girls played hard, but lost 31-26. Landers and Brookins had eight and seven points respectively.

The next night, they were on the road again, this time in Warrenton. It was mostly a defensive game in the first half, with Vernonia holding Warrenton to one point in the first quar-

ter. But missed shots plagued them for the second night in a row. They had only five points after the first quarter. The Lady Loggers kept the game close, but Warrenton pulled away on late free throws, winning 48-39.

Boys Basketball

The Loggers are still struggling to put a complete game together. After getting their first win, the boys have shown flashes of brilliance, but only put them together in spurts. An anemic offense hasn't helped issues much. Even though the Loggers are third in the league in defense, holding opponents to 52 points a game, their offense is dead last—averaging only 37 points a game.

January 3, they traveled to Jefferson. They kept the score close for the entire game, but could not get any closer than nine points. Not stopping the drive and rebounding were their biggest issues, and Jefferson cruised to 57-41 win. Senior Tim Hein and Junior Brent Thompson led the team in scoring with 14 and eight points.

January 6, at De La Salle,

the Loggers didn't start well, scoring only 13 points in the first half. The Knights never looked back, beating Vernonia 65-33. Hein led the Loggers with 16 points.

January 7, in Warrenton, the Loggers played one of the best first halves of the year. They were up by as much as 10, and were making plays. But they let up, letting Warrenton come back to take the lead at the half by five. The run Warrenton had really took the fight out of Vernonia. The Warriors built on their lead, winning 56-33. Senior Ben Schorzman was high scorer on the team with 10 points.

Wrestling

The past two weeks have been quiet for the wrestlers, who have been focusing on the Oregon Classic on January 13-14. They wrestled in only two meets, one at Warrenton on January 5, and a tournament at Willamina on January 7. The next newspaper will carry these results along with extensive results for the Classic.



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Pet of the Month

Columbia Humane Society in St. Helens has a variety of wonderful pets available for adoption. Find the pet that's right for you in the shelter at 2084 Oregon St. Monday through Saturday, 11 am. to 5 pm. 503-397-4353

Tux is an adult black and white tuxedo male. He is handsome, if a bit overweight, and has a great set of white whiskers that show up beautifully against the black of his face. He can be a bit shy a first, but quickly warms up and loves petting. Tux is up to date with routine shots, and is house trained



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