

Vernonia tae-kwon-do gives wrap-up of 2007 events OSU honor roll

As the school year comes to a close, so do the tae-kwon-do classes. This year, Vernonia tae-kwon-do hosted Grandmaster Tesdal's Annual Friendship Tournament on February 24. The unofficial head count for participants was around 200 martial artists with another 100-200 people as spectators.

Tournaments offer participants an opportunity to spar against people they haven't sparred with during training.

Local area participants who attended and placed in their division include: Jacob Alf, 1st in sparring; Amy Donaldson, 1st in sparring and also placed in hyungs; Soul Donaldson, 1st in sparring; Hera Hopkins, 1st in

sparring; Jarred White, 2nd in sparring; Caleb Olsen, 3rd in sparring; Samuel Thornton, 2nd in sparring.

There was also a team component to the tournament, with over seven teams represented at the Friendship Tournament. The teams who placed were: The East Portland team placed 1st, followed by Vernonia - 2nd place; OHSU - 3rd place, and Forest Grove - 4th place. There were teams from as far off as Olympia and Walla Walla, Washington. In past years teams have come from as far as Arizona.

The Vernonia Team included Orissa Burghard, Natalie Wallace, Josh Butcher and Kaytee

Burghard. Teams must perform three separate demonstrations. First the team completes a simultaneous Hyung, or Form, demonstration where all the members must be in sync with each other. This is followed by a breaking demonstration. The Vernonia team did outward and inward elbow strikes and each person made their strike. Finally, teams end with a sparring or self-defense demonstration. The self-defense skit the team put on was enjoyed as light-hearted comedy.

Vernonia tae-kwon-do had 22 new students, 12 who finished the full year. Over the course of the year, eight students were sent up for promotion, some of them twice. Each

student went in-front of Great-grandmaster Kim at his downtown Portland Dojang to earn the newest rank and belt.

May 21, will be the last night for this school year and the annual picnic will be May 23, at Anderson Park at 6:30 p.m.

Vernonia instructors Ruth Brown and Orissa Burghard said, "We look forward to seeing everyone in the fall when we start back up in September or October. Perhaps we will even see each other at Grandmaster Tesdal's Dojang in Forest Grove over the summer months."

For information about Vernonia Tae-kwon-do, call Orissa Burghard at 503-429-6022.

Names of students who have made the Scholastic Honor Roll Winter term have been announced by Oregon State University.

A total of 535 students earned straight-A (4.0). Another 2,314 earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make the listing. To be on the Honor Roll, students must carry at least 12 graded hours of course work.

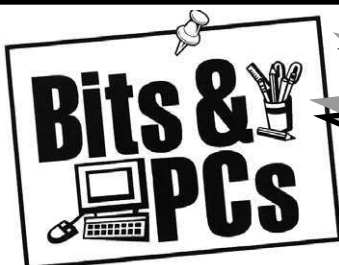
Vernonia students on the Honor Roll included:

Straight-A Average; Shawn S. Hillyer, Junior, Business Administration.

3.5 or Better; Laura R. Brookins, Freshman, University Exploratory Studies; and Kari L. Hoerauf, Sophomore, Psychology.



Vernonia's tae-kwon-do group in a picture taken at the tournament. Photo courtesy of Orissa Burghard.



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