

BLEACHER REPORT

McLeod Brings Home State Championship!

Wins 800 meters in state meet record time

Vernonia head coach John Roady's Logger track and field teams won one individual title at the Oregon 2A State Championship meet on Thursday and Friday, May 29-30 at the University of Oregon's Hayward Field, with two 2nd place finishes and a 3rd place, along with several other medals.

Senior Cannon McLeod won the 800 meters and set a new 2A state meet record in a time of 1:56.96, and then anchored the boys 4x400 meter relay team to a 2nd place finish. Seniors Wyatt Miller took 2nd in the boys 400 meters and Momi Leininger finished 3rd in the javelin for the girls.

Overall it was a fine performance by the Loggers. The boys finished 6th in the team standings with 43 points and two girls made it to the medal stand.

The Loggers had 12 athletes qualify to compete at the State Championships at their District Meet on May 22-23. The boys team finished 2nd in the District behind defending State Champion Delphian, and Roady was named Boys Coach of the Year.

Two girls qualified for the State Championship in two events each, with senior Leininger breaking her own school record in the javelin with a throw of 123' 2" as she won the District Championship, and finishing 4th in the 300 hurdles, while

sophomore Addie Draeger finished 2nd in both the 1500 and 3000 meter events.

For the boys at District, McLeod led the way, winning the 800 meters in a time of 2:00.4. Senior Wyatt Miller finished 2nd in the 400 meters in 51.1 with junior Zach Franco finishing 4th in 52.4 and both earning a spot at State. Senior Cody Buehrer placed 3rd in the 110 hurdles and 4th in the 300 hurdles, earning a spot at State in both events, while senior Stone Williams placed 3rd in the 300 hurdles and secured a berth at State. Senior Matthew Taylor finished 4th in the 800 in a time of 2:05.2 and qualified for State. The boys 4x400 relay team, of Franco, Miller, Taylor, and McLeod, won in 3:30.4, breaking the District record set by Vernonia's 2012 State Championship winning team.

In field events, the surprise of the day was freshman Sam Hough clearing 11' 11" in the pole vault, and throwing the javelin 151', earning 2nd place and a spot at State in both events. Sophomore Brody Campo placed 3rd in the pole vault after clearing 11' 8" and earned a trip to State. Junior Elam Cieloha



Cannon McLeod after winning the 800 meters in a new state meet record time of 1:56.96. Photo credit: Maggie Pedersen.

placed 2nd in the high jump after clearing 5' 9.75" and 3rd in the long jump with 19' 9" and qualified for State in both events.

At the State Championships the Loggers again put in strong individual performances, including a number of Personal Records (PR), headlined by McLeod's historic run in the 800 meters.

In the 800 preliminary races, McLeod ran a slow (for him) time of 2:04.86 and qualified for the final with the 5th best time; teammate Taylor did not qualify for the 800 finals after running a time of 2:09.21. In the final McLeod led for the entire race, was ahead at

continued on page 4

Logger Stadium Committee Kicks Off Fall Campaign

After five years of work, the Logger Stadium Committee is continuing their efforts to build a covered seating area for the Vernonia community on the Vernonia Schools campus at Logger Field.

The campaign has raised over \$800,000 and completed Phase I of the project with the construction of the Logger Snack Shack and restroom facility, which is now being used during high school sporting events.

With almost \$460,000 in net income, the project is aiming to raise \$40,000 during this Fall Campaign, before December 31, giving the project \$500,000 with which to seek matching grants to break ground in June of 2026 and construct the covered seating

area.

The Committee says the seating area could be broken into two additional phases, with one phase placing new bleachers at Logger Field, followed by a second phase to construct a cover for the seating; the order of those phases could be reversed.

The Logger Stadium Committee is working in partnership with the Vernonia Boosters, a 501(c)(3) organization, as their financial agent, and all donations to the project are tax deductible.

In an effort to make donating to the project more accessible, the Stadium Committee has now made a digital option available for both one-time or recurring

donations through Zeffy, where 100% of your dollars go to our project. Just scan the QR code on page 5.

The Committee continues to meet monthly, and remains committed to completing this project which will benefit the entire Vernonia community.

In this issue >>

- VHS Hall of Fame Ceremony
- Senior Stars
- In Memoriam Gifts
- VHS Spring Sports Awards

The Latest Stadium Update

Supporters, Donors, and the Vernonia Community – Fall is upon us and that means one more season, one more year, and one more fundraising effort closer to this Committee's goal of reaching the \$500,000 mark. Reaching that mark in December will enable us to stay on track to break ground in June 2026, enabling this Vernonia community project to move forward, benefiting everyone. Townspeople, students, and those folks coming to Vernonia from out of town will be able to enjoy the finished product of this Committee's work and your support when

this stadium is completed.

I have been in contact with contractors to discuss the site prep needed and cost to develop this portion of the project. When those conversations are complete the Committee will make the decision, with input from the School District, when to begin ground preparations for the stadium. It will not be ready this year for this season but we are getting very close to having the funds to get it ready for upcoming seasons.

I want to again thank our supporters and this community for stepping up and donating to this project. Through your

support since June 2020 we have raised over \$800,000 which includes in-kind donations. We have built the concession restroom facility with some of those funds and are looking forward to getting the next step started on this journey to finish this community project.

I and the Committee hope we can count on your continued support to finish this phase. Please donate what you can, any amount will help.

Thank you again,
Gordon Jarman,
Chairman Stadium Committee

VHS Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony Honors Inductees

On May 9, 2025 the Vernonia community gathered in the Vernonia Schools Commons to induct the members of the Vernonia High School Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2025.

The event was organized by Vernonia School District Athletic Directors Justin Ward and Teresa Williams. Vernonia student Koa Leininger served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Retired NBA player and Vernonia resident Larry Steele, a member of the 1977 NBA Champion Portland Trail Blazers, was the guest speaker and spoke about what it takes to become a champion.

The VHS Hall of Fame Class of 2025 included five inductees.

Bill Hanson, a member of the VHS Class of 1967, was inducted as a Community Member for his continuing support of VHS athletic programs by Hall of Fame member Randy Holce. Holce noted Hanson was also an accomplished athlete who at one time held a school track and field record himself, and has also been an active donor to the Logger Stadium campaign.

Gary Curtis, the Boys Basketball Coach from 1970 to 1978 and the head coach of the 1977 and 1978 State Champion teams was inducted by former player John Beamish. Beamish, who attended remotely from Italy, noted Coach Curtis's leadership which helped his teams

win 40 consecutive games spread over three years during those championship seasons, an Oregon scholastic record.

Donald Naeve, a member of the VHS Class of 1991 and the 3,000 meter State Champion in 1990, was inducted remotely from Iowa by former coach and Hall of Fame member Mel Nice, who noted Naeve was also a cross country star who finished 4th at the State meet in 1989 and 2nd in 1990.

Clay Sullivan, a member of the VHS Class of 2018, was inducted for his success in both basketball and track and field by former track

coach Byron Brown and current boys basketball coach David Weller. Sullivan was a member of the 2016 State Champion Basketball Team and the 2018 2A Player of the Year during the season when the 11th ranked Loggers finished 3rd in the State. In track and field, Sullivan is a three-time 100 meter hurdles

State Champion, 2016 State Champion in the 4x100 relay, 2018 300 meter hurdles State Champion, and 2nd place finisher at the 2017 State Meet in the 300 hurdles and long jump. Brown noted he considers Sullivan the best natural athlete he has

ever coached and maybe the best athlete VHS has ever produced, and Weller noted Sullivan's natural ability that was evident from a young age and his team leadership and unselfishness, while also noting Sullivan is probably the best basketball player VHS has ever had.



Community Member Bill Hanson



Members of the 2016 State Champion Boys Basketball Team: (l-r) Brett Jones, Tristan Adams, Clay Sullivan, Andrew Vasquez, Jared Medearis, and head coach David Weller, along with Arne Schiemann and Francesco Mian who joined remotely.

The 2016 State Champion Boys Basketball Team was inducted by their head coach David Weller. Members of the team included Clay Sullivan, Jared Medearis, Brett Jones, Tristan Adams, Andrew Vasquez, Francesco Mian, Arne Schiemann, Blake Clark, Robert Connor, Brett Elliot, and Luke McCallum. Sullivan, Medearis, Jones, Adams, and Vasquez were all in attendance, and Mian and Schiemann, who were foreign exchange students during the season, attended remotely from Europe. Weller emphasized how his players came together as a team to win their State Championship.

Senior Stars: Brylie Hewitt

Recognizing excellence in our Logger student/athletes

Brylie Hewitt is a homeschool student who participates in the Logger sports programs as a three sport athlete. She plays volleyball, basketball, and softball.

This fall Brylie is a team captain on the volleyball squad and has been the Lady Loggers' main offensive weapon as an outside hitter and has helped out defensively, occasionally sliding over and playing middle blocker in the rotation.

In basketball Brylie's height has helped make her a key player in the middle for the Lady Loggers, and she'll be expected to play a more important role in the upcoming season.

Brylie was somewhat new to the sport of softball and has been learning to play in the outfield. Last season her play earned her the Most Improved player award on the team.

Brylie says volleyball is her favorite sport of the three she plays.

When she's not busy with sports practices, Brylie says she enjoys hanging out with friends, and works cleaning houses. She also enjoys hunting for deer and elk.

Next year Brylie says she hopes to go to college, maybe to study business, and says she hopes to continue playing volleyball.



In Memoriam Gifts

Several of our Donors have submitted their financial gifts in memory of a friend, relative, loved one, or classmate.

The Donors and those who were remembered during the past 60 months, include:

- Family of Milton Dennis in memory of Milton Dennis, Class of 1977;
- Randy & Vicki Tovey donated in memory of Tammy Vanderzanden, Class of 1975;
- Kathi Knowles donated in memory of Tammy Vanderzanden, Class of 1975;
- Jim Peters donated in memory of friend Joe Taylor, Class of 1956;
- Jim Peters donated in memory of classmate Bob Crowston, Class of 1957;
- Marv Crowston donated in memory of brother Bob Crowston, Class of 1957;
- Margaret Eby donated in memory of her husband Marvin Eby, Class of 1951;
- Dick & Kathleen Gwin donated in memory of son Darrell Gwin, class of 1979;
- Bill Hanson donated in memory of brother Steve Hanson, Class of 1970;
- Jim & Kathy Eckland donated in memory of friend and classmate Bill Pringle, Class of 1965;
- Sherri Dooney donated in memory of Uncle Bill Pringle, Class of 1965;
- Donna MacDonald donated in memory of husband Bill MacDonald, Class of 1953;
- Thomas & Joanie Jones donated in memory of mother Diana Jones, Class of 1965;
- Thomas & Joanie Jones donated in memory of grandmother Irene Jones, Class of 1940;
- Ken Roberts donated in memory of friend Collen Oneal (former teacher);
- Patricia McEntire Peterson donated in memory of her parents Harold & Ann McEntire;
- Darlene McLeod donated in memory of her husband Bryan McLeod;
- Ginger Johns donated in memory of her husband Jim Johns, Class of 1945;
- Patty Wells Adsit donated in memory of classmate Ken Nanson, Class of 1954;
- Larry & Janice Bernardi donated in memory of her mother Eleanor Thompson;
- Sue Garner donated in memory of Diana Medges Marusa, Class of 1971;
- Steve & Marilyn Landers donated in memory of classmate Diana Medges Marusa, Class of 1971;
- John & Danna Sorenson donated in memory of Diana Medges Marusa, Class of 1971;
- J & W Benson donated in memory of Diana Medges Marusa, Class of 1971;
- Leonard & Betty Schmidlin donated in memory of classmate Freddy Mangat, Class of 1962.

In Honor of Gifts:

Bill Hanson donated in honor of his older brother Jerry Hanson, Class of 1966.

McLeod Brings Home State Championship! *continued*

the 400 meter mark by two full seconds, and ran away from the field to finish in 1:56.96, breaking the state meet record and the Vernonia school record of 1:57.10 set by Vernonia's own Nathan Fleck in 2013; McLeod finished over three and a half seconds faster than the 2nd place finisher.

The 4x400 relay was the final event of the two day meet and might have been the most exciting. Franco led off for the Loggers and ran a solid 53.29 in his leg, handing the baton to Miller in 3rd place. Miller ran a quick 51.31 leg and grabbed a lead for the Loggers before handing it to Taylor. Taylor's 55.14 leg left McLeod as the anchor in 3rd place. McLeod ran a heroic 50.12, the second fastest leg of the entire race, but it wasn't quite enough, as the Logger's season best time of 3:29.87 was less than a tenth of a second behind winner Delphian.



*The boys 4x400 meter relay team (clockwise: Cannon McLeod, Matthew Taylor, Zach Franco, and Cody Buehrer accepting for Wyatt Miller) placed 2nd.
Photo credit: Maggie Pedersen.*



*Momi Leiningering set a new school record and finished 3rd in the javelin.
Photo credit: Anicia Ruiz.*

In the 400 meters Miller ran 51.93 in the preliminary race to qualify for the finals with the third best time, and then finished 2nd in the final in a time of 50.74, while Franco ran a time of 52.96 in the prelim and finished 6th in the final in 53.56.

Leiningering took 3rd in the javelin, once again breaking her own school record with a throw of 126' 5", but did not qualify for the finals in the 300 hurdles.

Draeger ran a great race and finished 5th in the 3000 in a PR of 11:18.3, and then finished 9th in the 1500.

Hough again surprised the field on Friday with a PR throw of 157' 7" in the javelin to earn 4th place. On Thursday both Hough and teammate Campo, along with seven other competitors, failed to clear the opening height of 11' 5" in the pole vault.

In the 300 hurdles Williams ran a season best time of 42.56 to qualify for the final, and then finished 5th in a PR of 41.83. Buehrer ran a PR of 16.49 to finish 6th in the finals of the 110 meter event. An hour later in the 300 hurdles Buehrer finished 7th in a time of 43.78.

Cieloha finished 9th in the high jump after clearing the opening height of 5' 9.25". In the long jump he struggled and finished 12th, fouling twice before jumping 18' 9.25".

2025 VHS Spring Sports Awards

Boys Volleyball

Team Awards

MVP

Blake Pultz

Most Inspirational

Sam Hough

Most Improved

Cody Buehrer

Baseball

Northwest League Awards

First Team

Jarryn Marine

Second Team

Gage Erhardt

Honorable Mention

Joshua LaBelle

Brock Johnson

Max Crabtree

Dilyn Lardy

Elam Cieloha

James Busch

Team Awards

MVP

Jarryn Marine and

Gage Erhardt

Most Inspirational

James Busch

Most Improved

Dilyn Lardy

Softball

Northwest League Awards

First Team

Momi Leiningering

Second Team

Chloe Schaumburg

Katie Crabtree

Julia Busch

Lila Eckert

Honorable Mention

Team Awards

MVP

Momi Leiningering

Most Inspirational

Momi Leiningering

Most Improved

Brylie Hewitt and

Campbell Zavales

Best Offensive Player

Chloe Schaumburg

Best Defensive Player

Layla Abbott

Track and Field

Team Awards

Female Athletes

MVP

Addilyn Draeger

Most Inspirational

Momi Leiningering

Most Improved

Sabrina Pedersen

Male Athletes

MVP

Cannon McLeod

Most Inspirational

Cody Buehrer

Most Improved

Matthew Welch-Taylor

Athlete of the Spring Season

Female Athlete

Momi Leiningering

Male Athlete

Cannon McLeod

Vernonia Logger Stadium Campaign

Parade of Classes

At the urging of a few VHS Alumni, and just for fun, we have compiled a list of classes whose members have stepped forward in making contributions to the Logger Stadium Campaign. We have assigned one point for each dollar contributed. If a married couple are in different classes, we split their points to each of their class. As of September 1, 2025, here are the top 21 classes:

#1	Class of 1967	\$458,875	#12	Class of 1970	\$3,500
#2	Class of 1963	\$ 20,400	#13	Class of 1979	\$2,600
#3	Class of 1954	\$ 17,360	#14	Class of 1955	\$2,275
#4	Class of 1966	\$ 11,600	#15	Class of 1964	\$2,200
#5	Class of 1965	\$ 11,154	#16	Class of 1961	\$1,700
#6	Class of 1962	\$ 9,072	#17	Class of 1969	\$1,625
#7	Class of 1973	\$ 7,398	#18	Class of 1952	\$1,600
#8	Class of 1978	\$ 6,650	#19	Class of 2004	\$1,500
#9	Class of 1960	\$ 6,490	#20	Class of 1957	\$1,030
#10	Class of 1959	\$ 5,575	#21	Class of 2000	\$1,000
#11	Class of 1977	\$ 4,625			

Total Revenues from these 21 Classes: \$578,226

WE DID IT! WE COMPLETED PHASE I OF THE LOGGER STADIUM PROJECT!

Next up - Phase II – We are already working to raise the estimated \$1 million to construct the covered seating area so Logger fans can sit together in comfort to enjoy the games and cheer on their teams.

A BIG thank you – We couldn't have done it without the support of everyone who has donated to this worthy project so far!

Haven't donated yet? – Please consider joining your friends, neighbors, and classmates who have stepped up to help build a new Vernonia Logger legacy.

Let's Go Loggers!

If you wish to receive this newsletter electronically please email: mtman6672@yahoo.com.



Yes, we can help build Vernonia Logger Stadium

____\$25 ____\$50 ____\$100 ____\$250 ____\$500 ____\$1,000 ____Other \$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address for receipt _____



Make checks payable to: Vernonia Boosters, Memo: Stadium

Mail to: Vernonia Boosters, PO Box 73, Vernonia, OR 97064

The Stadium Committee has now made a digital option available for both one-time or recurring donations through Zeffy, where 100% of your dollars go to our project. Just scan the QR code.



Vernonia Logger Stadium Campaign

Our Donors as of September 1, 2025

STADIUM CLUB

\$100,000 AND ABOVE:

Randy Holce (67)

Bill Hanson (67)

Total: \$458,100

PLATINUM LEVEL

\$50,000-\$99,999:

Ford Family Foundation

Total: \$50,000

DIAMOND LEVEL

\$25,000-\$49,999:

Vernonia Education Foundation

Vernonia School District

Total: \$55,280

GOLD LEVEL

\$10,000-\$24,999:

Columbia County Economic Team

Michael Cowan

Boxer & Pam Cox (63)

Jim & Kathy Eckland (62/65)

Mr Electric-Ben Pelster \$16,280

Dick* & Kathleen Gwin (54) Samuel S

Johnson Foundation

Marsha Krieger King (66)

Total: \$106,880

SILVER LEVEL

\$5,000-\$9,999:

Fred Bender* (60)

Gwin & Sons Logging (77 & 79)

Teri Bellingham-Holm (78)

Kathi Medges-Knowles (73)

Mel & Marguerite* Nice

Stimson Lumber Co

Vernonia Lions Club

Wauna Credit Union

Total: \$43,325

BRONZE LEVEL

\$1,000-\$4,999:

American Legion Post 119

Bellingham Logging (65)

Larry & Jan Bernardi (55&59)

Dado & Janet Briones (69&67)

Jason Busch Trucking (2000)

Marian Mathews Clark (63)

Suzi Connor (63)

John G Crowston (52)

Marv Crowston (62)

Bryan & Katy Dennis (2004)

Sheri Dooney

Greg Duyck

Elsie Berg Freerks (65)

Ginger Johns

Gary Johnston (63)

Lloyd Johnston (65)

Thomas & Joanie Jones

Bob Mathews (61)

Linda Sue Maxon (70)

Darlene Welch McLeod (65)

Jim Mullins (62)

Roger & Pat Ostrander (59)

Sandra Rogers

Judy Ruiz

Leonard* & Betty Schmidlin (62&64)

Kelly Smith Birthday Fundraiser (77)

Mike Pihl Logging

RSG Forest Products

USG Products

Vernonia Dental

Weyerhaeuser Company

Zipty Fiber

Total: \$56,879

PAUL BUNYAN CLUB

\$500-\$999:

Ken & Odean Anderson (47-53)

Joyce Bautovich (65)

Nick* & Leann Berg (64)

Cash Sales for Raffle Tickets

Class of 2024

Carol Cole Davis (69)

Marion Christianson

Pat & Brenda Dean (82)

Kathy DeWitt (74)

Deborah Banta Dustman (73)

Marvin Eby* Family Trust (51)

Jerry Hanson (66)

Jamboree Booth & Misc Cash Donations

Wayne Larson (61)

Brandi Littler

Bill* & Donna MacDonald (53)

Larry & Claudia Oblack (63 & 66)

Carol Ray (57)

John & Betty Roady (77)

Stella Stern Satern (46)

Vernonia Boosters (Food Booth)

Vernonia's Voice

Earl Wantland* (49)

Brian Wilson (78)

Total: \$13,965

CENTURY CLUB

\$100-\$499:

Absolute Marble & Granite

Patty Wells Adsit (54)

All Inn Pub (78 & 82)

Anonymous Donor

Randy Aultman (62)

Ken & Helen Bateman (65)

Steve & Diane Bateman (61)

Duane Bates (79)

Joann Beamish

Gordon Blackburn (66)

Susan Smejkal Brill (73)

Ed & Dawn Buckner (76)

Martha Bush (64)

Cash Donations, 5/9/25 HOF

C&C Logging, LTD

Michael Calhoun (2008)

Amy & Frank Cieloha (91 & 89)

Chris & Kala Cota (80)

Kyle & Ingrid Cota (02)

Ray & Jennifer Cota (87)

Norm Crawford (73)

Gordy Crowston (75)

Brett Costley

Rick Davis (73)

Milton Dennis (77)

Barry & Catherine East (81)

Owen Eneveldson (59)

Phil Eggert (65)

Jack & Tobie Finzel

Dan* & Fran Fletcher (57)

Jim Fletcher (62)

Lynn Fulgham

George Gans

Sue Garner (73)

Bev & Larry Goodreau

John & Kathy Griffith

Mary Andrus Gross (66)

Larry Hickman* (59)

Rick Hobart

Jack & Glenda Holsey (62 & 61)

Betty Hart

Cathy Howard (59)

Dana & Tony Hyde

Mackenzie Carr Ivie (2008)

Gordon & Kelly Jarman

Mary Kay Johnson

Gerry Brady Kelly (66)

Jerry & Dolly Keenon

Carolyn Heath Ladd (58)

Steve & Marilyn Landers (71)

Cathy Barker Lekas (64)

Marylyn Good May (54)

Gerald Millis* (51)

Stuart Munro (76)

Terry Newton

Delbert & Mary Jane Nyman

Carol Ostrander (58)

Randy Parrow (76)

Jim Peters (57)

Chris Quigley

Jeff Reck (73)

Ken Roberts

Bud & Marcie* Robertson (67 & 69)

Lillian Schmidlin (59)

Larry & Diane Shirk

Ken* & Penny* Smejkal (55 & 58)

Maxine Oblack Stark (54)

Randy & Vicki Tovey (74)

Arnie & Mary Tolonen

Don Tunnell (58)

Nate Underwood

Sue Vandehey

Tammy Smith-Vanderzanden* (75)

Susan Wagner

Gene Wall (50)

Caroline Garlock Wallace (59)

Jeff Walton-Vernonia Springs

Delores Webb (52)

Pete Weisel

Larry Welch (60)

Teresa Williams

Diane Paul Wlson (59)

Otis Wilson*

Total: \$15,550

BLUE & GOLD CLUB

\$25-\$99:

J&W Benson

Dean Bernardi (78)

Mary Steen Boeger (63)

Brett Bunke

Rick Bush* (55)

Ann Bergerson Carson (66)

Necia DeWitt* (42)

Fred & Pat Drips (54&53)

Brad Eckland (78)

Bruce Elam

Steve Frischman

Rick Fulton (53)

Ilene Grady*

Sally Harrison* (59)

Frank & Penny Hill (78)

Carl* & Betty* Holsey (55)

Clint Holsey (75)

Ron & Alice King

Marion & Diana Knoll (58 & 62)

Jim Krahn

Randall Larson (68)

Terry Larson (65)

Tom Lawler (68)

Ronda Smith Lennon (74)

Jim Lindsey (64)

Jim McKenzie

Tim & Allison McLeod (80)

Gaynelle Scott Nielson (64)

Cory Parsons

Dennis & Marilyn Pederson (66)

Patricia McEntire Peterson (60)

Kristen Landers Schleich (68)

John & Danna Sorensen

Kelly Sparks

Scot & Julie Thomas

Joseph Wojno

Melissa Zavalas

Total: \$1,547

231 Total Donors =

75% are VHS Alumni

(00) VHS Class

*Deceased since donating

Individual donor's totals available upon request.

Levels Total: \$810,032 Thank you for your continued support!