

Rogue Beaver in ELC

Paul Ulmen
Staff Writer

Despite efforts of a trapper from city animal control, a good sized hungry beaver was at large damaging trees at the Environmental Learning Center.

According to Nursery Supervisor and Grounds Keeper John Swigert, both the beaver and an otter have been driven from their home, the headwaters on New Oak Creek, because of construction.

"They're nice animals in their own environment," said Swigert, who referred to the beaver as 'our destructive little friend.'

"He's burrowed into the bank of the pond and is causing parts of the footpaths to collapse. You can see where he's been; he leaves a mud trail. He only comes out at night when nobody is around," said Swigert, explaining why they are so hard to catch.

Beavers like to chew young saplings for food, but this one seems to be especially hungry. Recycling Manager Batch Downing related how the beaver destroyed a stand of young willow trees.

"They were like finger candy to him. Completely wiped it out. He's got big teeth--good size chompers. Got to be a big one. Has to be at least three to four feet long, not counting his tail. He's cutting three or four feet up from the base of the tree," he said. Other trees, including a cork-screw willow, were so badly damaged they had to be cut down.

It's not just saplings that he

is ruining, it's also larger expensive donated trees, two feet or more in diameter. "You donate a tree in the memory of someone and he cuts it down," said Swigert.

"He is already starting to hit on larger poplar trees and a weeping birch. I put wire around the base of the tree and he climbed above it and chewed on it. He ruined a flowering dogwood, cut it clear down."

The trapper from animal control uses a clamshell type trap, that live-traps the animal and then they are released into the wild.

Swigert mentioned a noose and rope type trap at one time were used. They were discontinued after a beaver somehow wrapped himself around a tree and accidentally hung himself and is now stuffed in the convention hall at ELC.

Bucky Beaver remained at large for quite sometime and dined on the smorgasbord of yummy saplings.

"Guess he's more intelligent than we are; we haven't been able to catch him," said Downing. "If he has been trapped before, he's probably trap-wise," stated Swigert.

The trapper put a male beaver scent in the trap to lure what he thought was a female. "It attracted the ducks instead. We got some weird ducks here. The beaver is so smart, he probably led the ducks into the trap."

Bucky was finally apprehended last Friday; measured at 4 to 4 1/2 feet long and about 40 to 45 lbs. She will be released into a more suitable habitat.

Student defeats adversity

Damon Fouts
Staff Writer

Laney Fouse has been both imbued with the spirit and wounded by the cruelty of her birthplace.

Now a Clackamas Community College (CCC) student and Canby resident, the 43 year-old Native American was born to the land of her father's fathers, by a lake in a valley enveloped by the towering Redwood forests of Northern California. Her ancestors fished the lake, hunted the forests and tilled the valley soil for a century before her birth.

Laney remembers her grandfather tilling the same soil, growing apples, almonds, walnuts, prunes and pears.

"He never took from the land more than he needed," she said.

But a lot has changed since the time of her descendants. The land has become the Pinoleville Indian Reservation. The land she loved on the one hand, was like a prison on the other.

"People don't know what it's like to grow up on a reservation where you're fenced in like an animal," she said. "The snickering in the school hallways, being called an 'injun' by the other kids. Even as a little kid, you always knew what you were."

That's why at age seven, Laney turned her brown skin rash-red, trying to scour the "injun" off with Chlorox. And that's why Laney thought she didn't have a mom, because Laney was an Indian, and it was bad to be an Indian. Her mom died when she was three months old.

Things are better now, maybe the best they've ever been. She is in her second year at CCC carrying a 3.8 grade point average, and she's a member of a half-dozen



contributed photo

Laney Fouse has strived through the problems of discrimination and homelessness.

campus organizations. She is president of CCC's Native American Club; she is the secretary of Phi Theta Kappa, a campus honors organization; she is a member of the campus Honors Society; she is a CCC finalist for the All USA academic team; and she is a Staff Writer on the school newspaper, the Clackamas Print.

Laney's also a prolific poet, a singer, a photographer and she has finished 120 pages of a book she hopes to publish. She's a wife for the third time, married to a man who, for the first time, recognizes her gifts. According to her, her two greatest gifts are her daughters: 17 year-old Kacey, and 16 year-old Kelly.

Laney credits her talents to her family. There was always music, laughter and love in her home. Her grandfather was a

fiddle player and her father played the harmonica and the guitar, and had a great singing voice, she says.

"When you live on the reservation, you're related to everyone. My grandpa threw a Christmas party one year that lasted all night. Everyone came. Everyone was singing. It didn't matter if you could sing or not... I can still see my grandpa playing the fiddle, and my dad playing the guitar. I was 13. It was wonderful," she recalled.

Laney was eager to taste life beyond the reservation at an early age. When she was 15, she moved to Ukiah, California, a mile from the reservation. She immediately got a job at a local radio station, and within a year at age 16, she was one of the first women disc

See Laney on page 5



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THE MINDBENDER

by Matt Jones and Jon Roberts

A to Z

Move your way though the letter maze from A in the top left to Z in the bottom right according to these rules:

1. You can only move one space at a time, right, left, up, down, but not diagonally.
2. You can move to a space only if it's either the next letter in the alphabet or it rhymes with the letter. For example, from an E you can move to an F, or to a rhyming letter like T, P, C, etc.
3. Don't double back or retrace your path.

A	K	L	M	R	Q	U	V	W	X
B	C	D	N	O	P	H	C	D	Y
P	U	T	O	B	T	G	F	E	I
Q	R	S	P	V	F	E	B	A	J
U	X	H	G	W	X	P	K	L	M
V	W	I	E	F	Y	I	J	O	N
I	H	G	F	D	C	B	A	G	H
J	A	B	C	R	Q	P	Q	R	I
K	L	M	D	E	R	G	U	X	Y
A	B	N	O	P	Q	H	V	W	Z

The right path to take is A-K-L-M-N-O-P-V-W-X-Y-I-J-A-B-P-Q-U-W-X-Y-Z.