

TRIBAL MEMBER NEWS

SVS Students Score Well on Assessment Tests

by Joe Scott, SVS

Greetings from the Siletz Valley Middle School annex!

March and April were busy months. The sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders have been hard at work on the OSAT (Oregon State Assessment Test – a standard measure of student skills and achievement). Early results are in and kids in all three grades are doing extremely well.

School Principal Van Peters offered cash rewards to kids meeting or exceeding benchmark, and they pretty well cleaned him out. The whole testing operation took place in the computer lab, and special thanks go out to all the dedicated people who helped out in there.

Planning is under way for the school-wide carnival May 7 in the big gym. If you are interested, you can catch the last planning meeting on May 4 at the school.

This should be a great chance for kids and adults to have fun and for students to completely humiliate their teachers! See you there!

Tribal Culture Reaches School

My sixth-grade class took an exciting and educational trip to Seal Rock on April 26. Bud Lane has been coming to Siletz Valley School every week to teach Athabaskan and the trip was a great opportunity to learn language, traditional foods, and Siletz ways.

The kids also have enjoyed trips to the dance house. Nichole Fisher noted, "It's the coolest thing, but last time my socks got dirty."

Mr. Hallmark took the seventh- and eighth-graders on an Oregon Coast Aquarium "Marine Discovery Tour" on April 20. The trip included plenty of ma-

rine science learning opportunities – a tour of the Newport harbor and Yaquina Bay, as well as a trip across the bar into the ocean.

Selene Rilatos from Culture has been visiting to talk about Siletz history and Native philosophy. She's also been sharing some of her fantastic poetry. Special thanks to Bud, Selene, and Robert in the Siletz Culture Department for their contributions throughout the year.

Transitions Aboard

Mrs. McGraw has been pushing the eighth-graders to excel, stressing work habits to prepare them for the transition to high school.

The kids are ready, says Kallee Abbas. "It's going to be a big challenge, but I'm looking forward to it!" The eighth-graders are organizing fund-raisers for the year-end ceremony. The ceremony will be in mid-June – check back for details.

Student of the Month awards are given to kids for academic excellence and good citizenship. Last month, awards went to sixth-grader Casee Case, seventh-grader Loy Marthaller, and eighth-graders Tabietha Little and James Nelson. Nice job!

We are finally in the last quarter of the 2004-2005 school year here at Siletz Valley School. The sun is shining a bit more, and summer is on the way.

The seventh-graders are looking forward to being the "big kids on campus," the sixth-graders are eager to move up a step on the ladder, and the eighth-graders are dreaming of high school. We are working hard, learning many things, and having a lot of fun.

It's amazing how much growth the kids have shown – not just in shoe size, but also in achievement, quality, and character.



Mr. Scott's sixth-graders visit the dance house with Bud Lane from the Siletz Culture Department.



Eighth-graders hard at work on quilts in Mrs. McGraw's sewing class



Howell Finishes Second in Series

Love; Dad, Brenda, Jason, Ryan, Felisha, Apolinar, and Joshley (BRAAAAP) Howell

Congratulations to Corey Howell of Siletz, Ore. He finished in second place in the winter indoor motocross series in spite of breaking his right femur toward the end of the season.

The photo above is Corey's first race back, and the first race of the outdoor season. He finished this race in fourth place even though his leg hadn't completely healed yet.

Great job, Corey!

Corey Howell, left

Butler Earns High Honors

Congratulations to Ronald B. Butler Jr., who made the honor roll with high honors at Logsdan Christian School for the third time this school year.

He is averaging at least 95 percent in six areas: Bible reading, math, English, social studies, science, and word building.

Ronald also received a score of excellent in the following categories: does not disturb others, completes homework required, achieves goals for the quarter, shows respect for authority, promotes school spirit, and successfully reaches goals.