

TRIBAL MEMBER NEWS



Aaron McCord and Brett Blundon

McCord, Blundon Near Paramedic Degrees

by Aaron McCord

Recently, Brett Blundon and I were sent to Detroit, Mich., for 11 days for our paramedic internship. We interned at Henry Ford Teaching Hospital.

We were sent there because the area of Detroit we were interning in has a 90 percent African American population and has on the average 10-15 gunshot wounds in a single week. For years, Detroit was the murder capital of the world, but that is no longer the case as of two years ago.

While in Detroit, both Brett and I pulled 12-hour shifts in the emergency room, where we started IVs (more than 200), administered medication under the supervision of the nursing staff, and participated in emergency treatment in the resuscitation rooms.

We also pulled shifts in the intensive care unit, pediatrics, labor and delivery (we saw at least 12 births in two days). Overall, it was a very worthwhile experience.

We got to see things in Detroit that we wouldn't see in a 20-year career here in Oregon, thank God!

Both Brett and I are students at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Ore., and are set to graduate

June 10 with our AA in emergency medicine – paramedic.

It's been a long three years and I can't wait until it's over. Even though we only receive a two-year degree, the paramedic program is three years long. The first two years just get your general education completed, then the paramedic class is five terms by itself.

Both Brett and I live outside the area. I live in Medford, Ore., which is an hour-and-a-half drive to Roseburg, so I have been driving three hours two and sometimes three times a week for almost a year. Brett lives in Eugene, Ore., and has the same turn-around time.

We both would like to thank all the members of the tribe and Mona Fisher and her staff in the tribal education office. It's been a tough road, but we are almost done.

Plans after graduation include working for a fire department or maybe coming back to Siletz and starting an ambulance company. Waiting for a unit to come from Newport when we could have immediate care in town seems like a good idea, especially when time is so critical with strokes and heart attacks.

DePoe-Thompson Officiates Championship Game

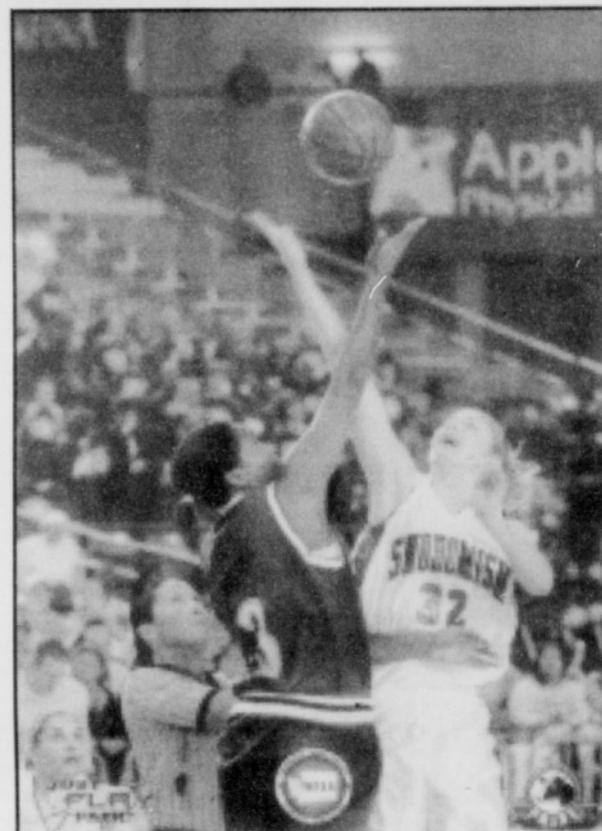
Suzanne DePoe-Thompson was selected to officiate at the Washington 4A girls basketball high school tournament held at the Tacoma Dome on March 9-12.

She was selected through evaluations as the No. 1 official at the tournament and awarded the referee position to toss the ball in the championship game between Snohomish and Garfield. Garfield won that game 63-58 in overtime.

Suzanne then traveled to Juneau, Alaska, on March 20-26 for the 59th Annual Juneau Lions Club 2005 Gold Medal Tournament held at the Douglas High School gymnasium.

All proceeds raised by this tournament provide financial assistance to further education of students attending colleges, attending leadership seminars, and involved with the Youth Exchange Program.

This tournament has been held each year since 1946 with teams representing Southeast Alaska Native communities, as well as a few local teams open to non-Native players.



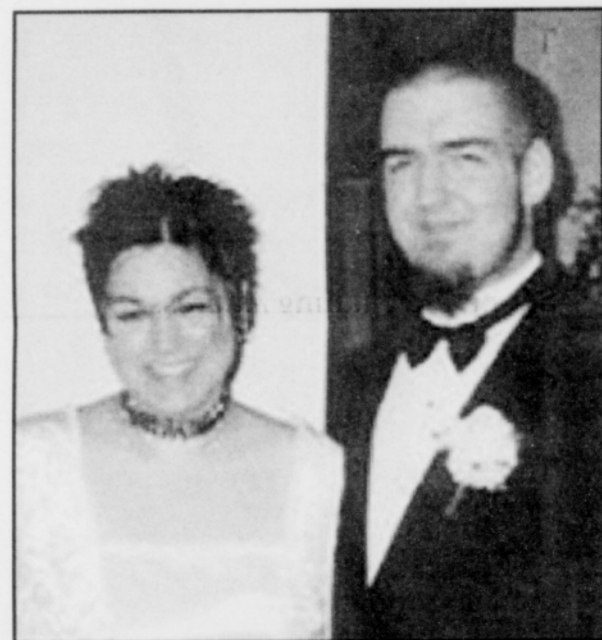
Suzanne DePoe Thompson tosses the ball at the Washington 4-A girls state championship game at the Tacoma Dome. She is the daughter of Chief William DePoe Jr. and granddaughter of the late Chief William DePoe Sr.

Rilatos, Matheny Engaged

The engagement of Teala Rilatos, daughter of Linda Rilatos and the late Daniel Rilatos of Siletz, Ore., to Michael Matheny, son of Daryl and Celeste Holland of Vancouver, Wash., and Chuck Matheny of Ogden, Utah, is announced by the bride's mother.

Teala is 2003 graduate of Toledo High School and currently attends classes at Oregon Coast Community College. Michael is a 1997 graduate of Mt. View High School of Vancouver and is employed at JC Thriftway in Newport, Ore.

A wedding date has not yet been set.



Teala Rilatos and Michael Matheny

Benny

*A year has come and gone since
you left us.*

*In life you walked your own path
Answered to no one but to God.*

And you did.

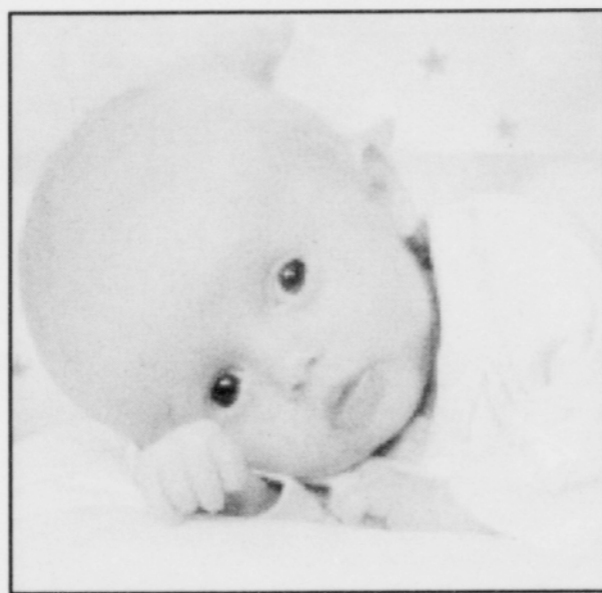
*A year has come and gone
The tears still fall.*

*If not from our eyes
From our hearts.*

I miss you.

*Your little brother,
Jerry*

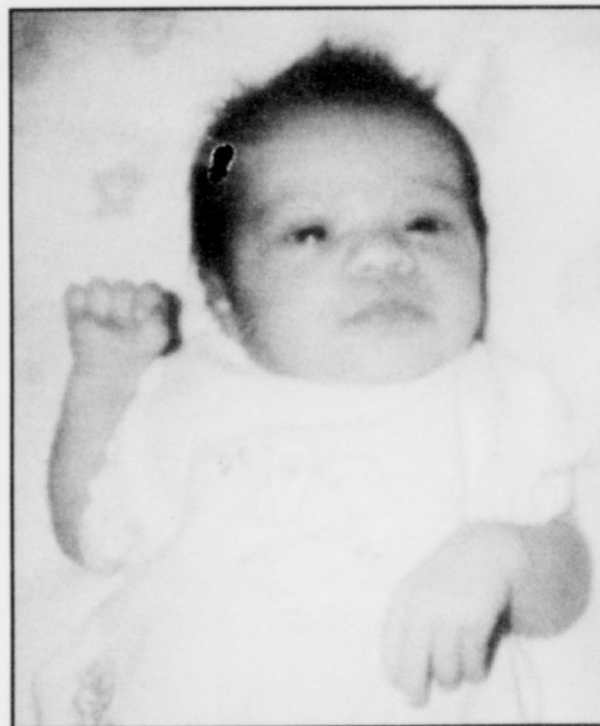
New Babies!



Alexander Lucky Miles

Alexander Lucky Miles was born Jan. 14, 2005, at 11:14 p.m. at Salem Hospital. His parents are Jamey and Melissa Miles.

His grandparents are Charles "Lucky" and Anne Miles.



Consuelo Olivia-Marie Garcia

Consuelo Olivia-Marie Garcia

The Garcia, Parr, Case, Jackson, and Grant families proudly announce the birth of our newest addition, Consuelo Olivia-Marie Garcia.

Chelo was born March 24 at 5:30 a.m. at her home on Umpqua Street in Siletz, Ore. She was born to Jessica and Oscar Garcia and her big brothers Treigh and Gus Garcia. She weighed 7 pounds and was 20 inches long.

Proud grandparents include Ardella Parr of Siletz, Byron (Gus) Parr of Willamina, Ore., and the late Vincente Garcia-Castillo and Consuelo Medina-Pilacios of Mexico; great-grandma Elouise Case of Siletz and Lavern Parr of Salem, Ore.; and lots and lots of aunts, uncles, and big cousins.

We're all so happy and blessed with her.

Bad new day