

SILETZ NEWS



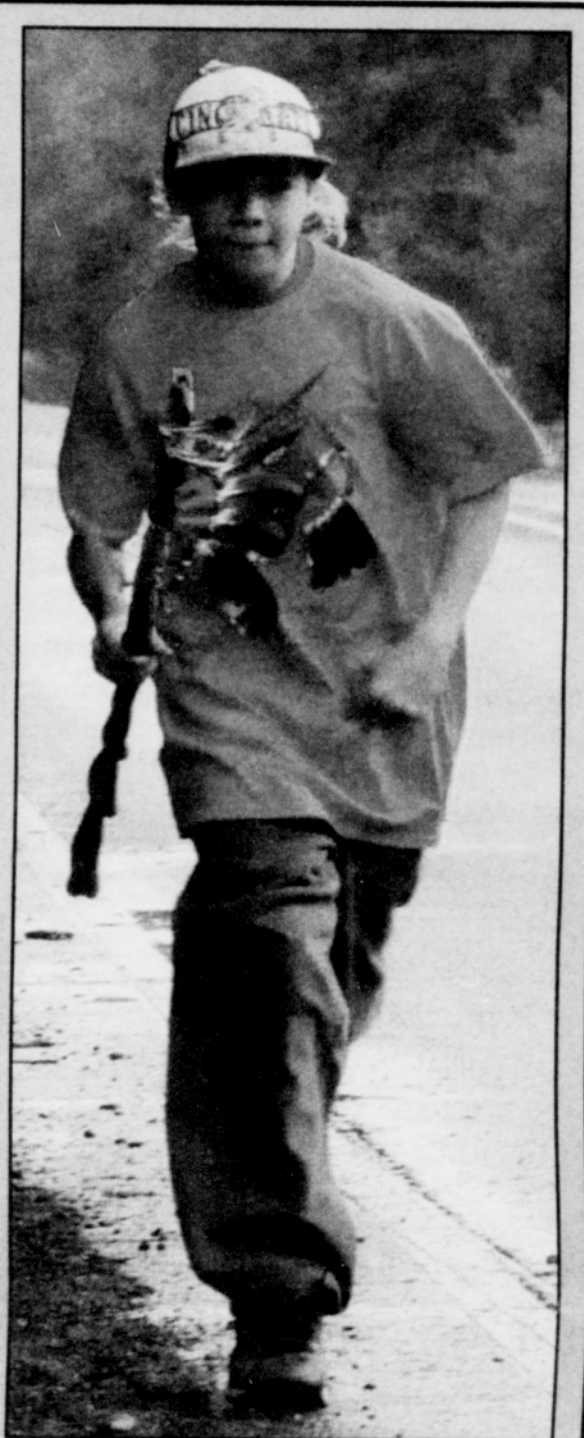
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
Vol. 41, No. 10 October 2013

Siletz News
Confederated Tribes of
Siletz Indians
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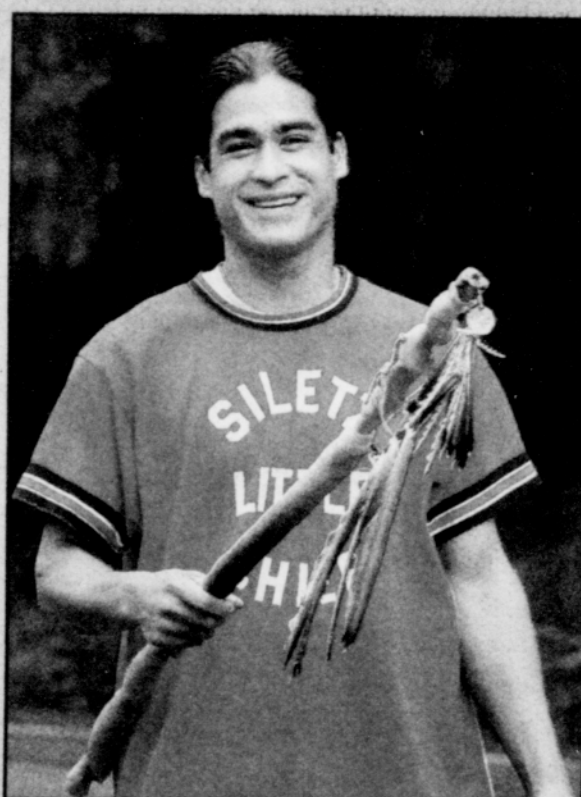
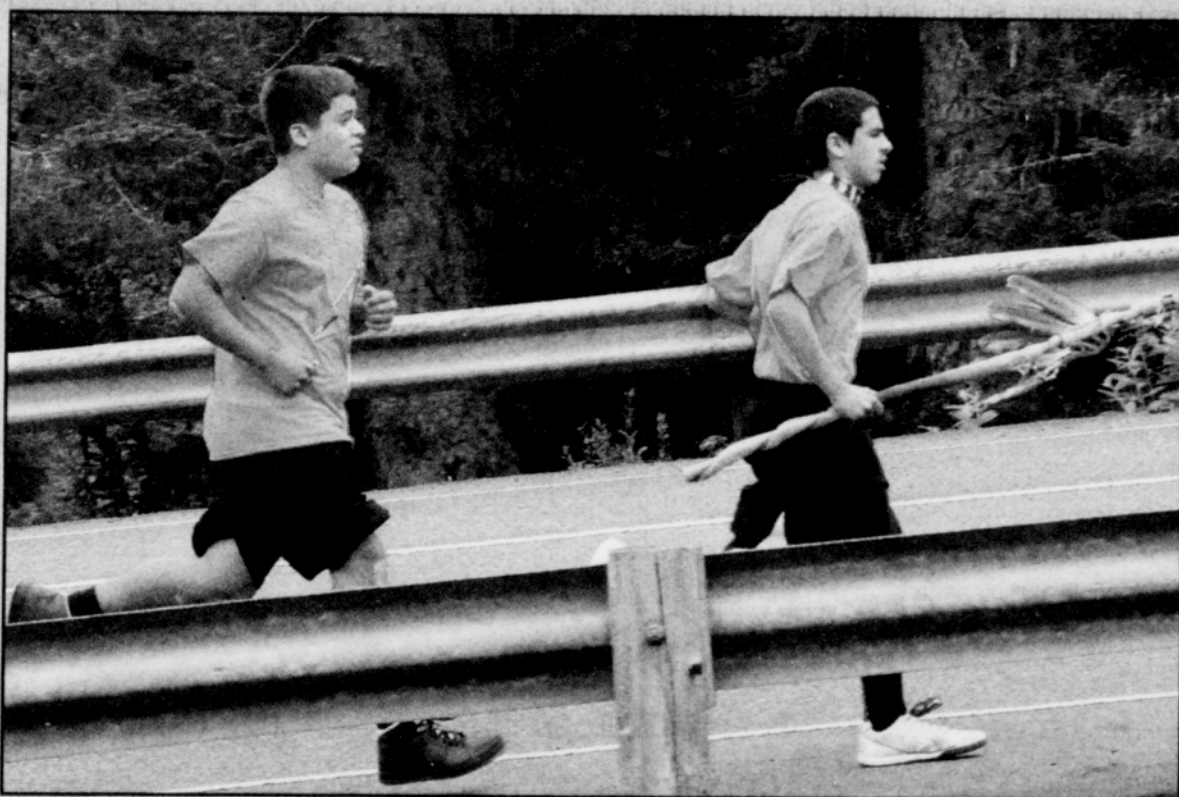


Courtesy photo above by Debbie Williams

Other courtesy photos by Ann Goddard

Run to the Rogue

Sept. 6-8, 2013 • Siletz, Ore., to Agness, Ore.



Clockwise from top left: Izayah Aviles and Tony Blomstrom; Arthur Butler; Kaye Stainbrook; Jordan Hoover; Jessie Cordova; and Micah Grant and Jessie Rocha join a team of runners and walkers to carry the eagle staff back to the homeland of many Siletz Tribal ancestors in Southern Oregon.

See more photos of this year's Run to the Rogue on pages 9-16.

Tribal Unity gathering encourages Congress to stand on common ground with Indian Country, keep trust responsibility amid partisanship

WASHINGTON – For a third time in as many years, Indian Country advocates and leaders came together in Washington, D.C., in September with unified messages and policy priorities for the start of the fall session of Congress.

Tribal Unity Impact Days have been instrumental in communicating the key Indian policy priorities for Congress to address. In recent years, the effort was critical to advocating for successful amendments to the Stafford Act and the Violence Against Women Act.

This year, Tribal leaders stood together to remind Congress of the federal trust responsibility and that, amid partisan

division in other areas, Indian Country is common ground for all Americans.

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) joined the Alaska Federation of Natives, California Association of Tribal Governments, Coalition of Large Tribes, Eight Northern Pueblos Council, Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association, Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes, Navajo Nation and the United South and Eastern Tribes in hosting the events.

This year, Tribal Unity focused on the protection of treaty promises in the federal budget, Tribal tax policy and land restoration – including a Carcierri fix.

Tribal Unity Impact Days kicked off in the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs hearing room with more than 130 attendees participating in the Tribal briefing. Tribal leaders heard from Sens. Mark Begich (AK), Heidi Heitkamp (ND) and Jon Tester (MT) and Reps. Xavier Becerra (CA), Tom Cole (OK), Betty McCollum (MN), Steve Pearce (NM), and Raul Ruiz (CA).

Many members thanked Tribal leaders for their dedication in traveling to the nation's capital to share how policy decisions are affecting Tribal communities, especially the impact of sequestration on health, education, public safety and other Tribal governmental services. Cole and

McCollum emphasized their support for protecting Tribal treaty obligations from indiscriminate reductions.

NCAI and its partners also sought broad support from Congress to assist in providing more fair treatment for Tribal governments under the tax code. The Internal Revenue Code has included Indian Tribes in a piecemeal fashion, which chooses when and where to acknowledge Tribes' taxing authority.

Several Tribal tax bills have been introduced during the 113th Congress – HR 2332, HR 3030 and HR 3042.

See Tribal Unity on page 3.