

When you ask yourself, why have I never helped celebrate the Dalai Lama's birthday, are you stuck for an answer? Serious about thinking globaly, acting locally, and asking snotty questions of authority? Help's on the way. The second annual Tibetan Cultural Festival hits Portland (the big city in the Valley) July 6th-11th

Why the big fuss?

In 1949, the Chinese military occupied Tibet. Arivederci, Shangri La. The planet's and federal fish managers had they migrate to salt water as oldest theocracy was, there's no nice way to put it, violently swept away. In the political adjustment that followed, 1.2 million Tibetans, one sixth of the population, have died. More than 6,000 monasteries have been destroyed (take a moment to think about this), their art pillaged, their gold statuary--once a treasure of the planet--either sold on the Asian antiquities market or melted down for bullion. Sixty percent of Tibet's literature was thrown onto Chinese built bonfires. Schools and hospitals were closed. By the 1970's, one out of ten Tibetans had been imprisoned. One hundred thousand remain in forced labor camps.

Thinking locally, if the Chinese government was Weyerhauser, the Tibetans would be spotted owls

In 1959, 100,000 Tibetans followed the Dalai Lama, sprititual leader of the oldest root of Buddhism, into exile in Dharmsala, India. The fourteenth reincarnation of the Compassionate Buddha and winner of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize turns 58 on the sixth of July. The second annual Tibetan Cultural Festival is a gift. Proceeds go to the Tibetan Foundation of Oregon and SW Washington and to the US Resettlement Project. Portland is one of 20 American cities hosting and sponsoring immigrants.

The amazing thing about these people. says Rhonda Kennedy, festival organizer, is the complete lack of bitterness, either to the Chinese people or their government. With their nation deforested, plagued by floods, and suffering from famines unknown throughout their country's 2,000 year history, the universal compassion that forms the heart of the religion hasn't so much as flickered.

Once again, three monks -- personal emissaries of His Holiness, the Dalai Lama -- will sanctify the proceedings by constructing a sand mandala. The Fire Kalachakra is a ritual geometric figure of boggling beauty and complexity. A devotion, a meditation, and evocation of universal peace, it will be ritually swept away.

Impermanence under pattern, pushing upward.

Our thought for the month comes from Edward Abbey, pushy environmentalist: Where there is no joy, there can be no courage; and without courage, all other virtues are useless.



THE SEEDS OF EXTINCTION

Opinion

Ninteen sixty eight, was a moulder away fish. Salmon, the Coho. traveling north from feeding waters usually off Newport about July 4 '68 they arrived in numbers nearly unimaginable given the the a condition and after day, other dory fishermen left docks at dawn, filled our fish boxes, often by noon, (mine held 300 lbs) returned to sell then lunch, bite to catch more fish, lay the streams late in the fall, operate hatcheries up more bucks for the (then) laying their eggs usually in enough fish 120 days of closed season from December and early January, commercial gill net fisheries November til March.

had generation. They and (they to spawn. closing the small said) inefficient hatcheries capable of supporting a run of flow, Coho and replacing them with available nutrients, even centralised factories they promised would latter evidenced fill the rivers with fish.

of gold silver left desolate ghost sagebrush flats, legacy; mouldering the fishermen. weren't storekeepers who could abandon sea and returned heavy with the ghost towns and move on. eggs or milt, that They were family men, often offspring would not increase, hatcheries.

operating a boat built by a they stood. They held them in father or grandfather. had wives. house children in school. pumping until the doom created winter another group of professional arrive managers cinches off the log flume until the egg sack In supply

What happened? Maybe this ... "short river" fish. the dozens or scores of miles from the way the lower tributaries longer rivers are The young remain in the rivers existed in most of the streams It was the bonanza the state until May or early June when they served into the 1950's. been promising for nearly a smolts. Two years later they with the fish factories. been return to their natal streams the big hatcheries it

in gradient, fish the taste of the water. by to stocks' ability This bonanza, just as those unerringly return to and home stream.

Over the millenia of their han existence, nature and periodic that have natural catastrophes winnowed bastardised and out those fish less efficient specific. in surviving the conditions of their like streams If a fish wasn't prospectors, bartenders, among those who prospered itinerant the stream. went strongly others better able. stressful times, to born. Fish originating in the fish managers circumstances

> from the Coast Range. The small hatcheries, ones that were closed in the he's home every night

sinuosities of a Trask.

the flatter,

the

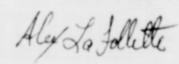
They a pond til the eggs in payments, bellies ripened, stripped the They too eggs, fertilized gas, spread them in gravels very different year than is frying burgers, driving gravel flume through which the stream Silver trucks or working in a sawmill water flowed. After the eggs by hatched, the remained in the gravels of the used up. They then went down the flume and entered Silver salmon are primarily stream to begin life on their The own. The only real difference rivers that flow for a few between natural spawning and these the coastal mountains to the operated was that an average Pacific and to a lesser extent of 75% of the eggs taken by a of hatchery hatched as opposed to their 10-15% for natural went back out for the evening natural homes. Spawners enter These low tech, tiny, cheap to

We haven't been so fortunate possible, in Each stream is unique. There efficiency, to bring fish from gracing nearly every stream are differences in size, in hundreds of streams, mature in them, keep them separate in other stocks and return their The offspring to native waters. In native many cases, what they had was nearly what they planted in their stream was scheduled to get a dose of smolts that day. crested into genetic travesties unfit to live anywhere home the bottom lines listing so many smolts raised, in so many released, at a cost of

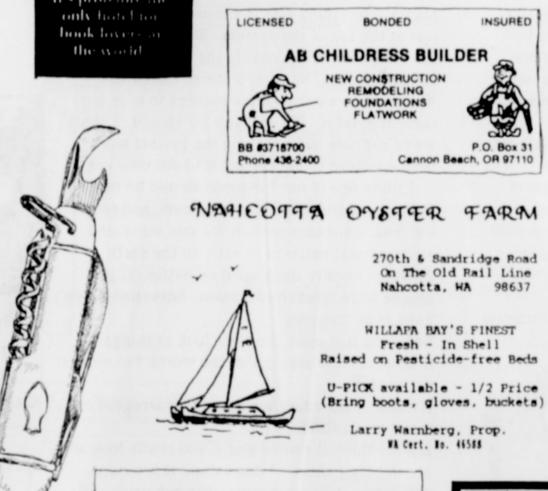
to so many dollars per ...

fish managers But the fish's politicians love The They would be crowded out by love the neatly trimmed acres during of lawn dotted with cement utilise pools filled with pretty fish the habitat to which they were to impress visiting VIP's. The brawling mountain waters of a government subsidised housing Toutle or Clackamas river are on site and not having to fit for an entirely different bumble up dozens of gravel than roads to check on employees at sedate ridiculous little hatcheries a along the streams. Much easier Coos, a Yaquina easing down to mosey over to the coffee ancient valleys room or go check out the guy running the lawnmower the office is air conditioned '50's, trapped fish dinner. He gets to meet a native to the streams on which of politicians and VIP's too. That can't burt career.

So the Coho have had their cultures of brawling mountain creeks and quiet rivers stolen from them. As the Sioux, the Cherokees other tribes were forced their lands to wither and die under government supervision on reservations, so the Coho Native Americans hire or educate their people as lawyers to protect their remaining heritage. Coho haven't that ability would seem, a comparatively few dollars should be spent to re-open some of the hatcheries on streams native runs remain. think it's worth a try. Not to try, let the wild Coho disappear, is criminal



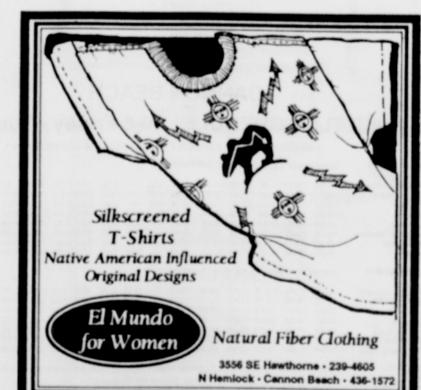








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