

Native Americans protest prejudice

by Catherine Siegner

Citing a "campaign of smear and prejudice" directed against Native Americans by *Outdoor Life* magazine, the National Tribal Chairmen's Association in Washington, D.C., has called for a boycott of all Times-Mirror publications.

The NTCA said in a resolution passed at its convention in Oklahoma City, June 28th, that Times-Mirror has "allowed their publication (*Outdoor Life*) ... to publish editorials and articles which are based on racial prejudice and which (are) based on anti-Indian propaganda...."

The resolution further said *Outdoor Life* is leading a nationwide campaign intended to "inflammatory anti-Indian feeling" in the U.S. and strip American Indian tribes of their special status and treaty rights such as hunting, fishing and the right to occupy certain lands on which to conduct their lifestyle.

Portland Attorney Jack Schwartz, who is representing Native Americans in current lawsuits over fishing rights along the Columbia River, said he was not surprised by the *Outdoor Life* articles cited by the NTCA.

"The interesting thing is that the *LA Times* (another Times-Mirror publication) was cooperating with the National Marine Fisheries agency years ago. They used the government as a sole source of information and printed it totally uncritically."

Schwartz added there has been "pretty good coverage lately," of Native American issues compared to several years ago.

Maureen Manning of the Urban Indian Council in Portland had a strong statement to make on the boycott.

"The *Outdoor Life* writers are very stupid. They are making some very erroneous statements."

Manyfingers said she had read *Outdoor Life* articles warning readers about the power of the "Indian lobby" in Washington, D.C., and that the warnings are completely exaggerated.

"Our lobby is working mainly on health and welfare issues and in keeping life and limb together at this time."

She added that the Urban Indian Council in Portland had discussed

the boycott, but had not yet taken a stand. "It would be fantastic if there would be a united thing we could go for as a nation, but because of diverse interests, we're split (on the issue)." Manyfingers said the boycott call is not well known, partly because "*Outdoor Life* magazine is not on the top ten of magazines people read," so many Indians may not be aware of the articles.

The NTCA resolution quoted from articles and editorials printed over the past year by *Outdoor Life*, including, "Indians are all powerful ...and they must be stopped;" "It is time to end the treaties with Indians before the situation gets worse ...otherwise we might yet give this country back to the Indians;" and, "No state is safe...."

In response, Times-Mirror management has stated editors of their publications have "free rein" to print what they want to, according to the resolution. The NTCA is asking *Outdoor Life* editors Clare Conley and Lonnie Williamson to meet with its board for a "fair exchange of views so that they may become educated as to the true nature of the legal and sovereign rights of the American Indian Tribes...."

In addition to the boycott, the NTCA is asking that a public apology be made to American Indian Tribes and that an agreement acceptable to the NTCA board of directors be signed by Times-Mirror, Incorporated, management.

Meanwhile, information about the *Outdoor Life* articles and the NTCA boycott request is slowly sifting down to the individual tribes across the country. Helen Peterson, of the Portland Bureau of Indian Affairs, said she knows of no development toward a unified boycott in the Northwest, but that she had provided copies of the articles to tribes within the BIA's jurisdiction. These include the Yakima, Colville, and Lummi Tribes in Washington; the Warm Springs in Oregon, and the Fort Hall Tribe in Idaho.

Peterson stressed she is not taking sides because of her status as a federal official, but said, "I can tell you there has been widespread astonishment and concern by tribes over what they call 'half-truths' in those articles because they deal with

such fundamental issues as treaty rights."

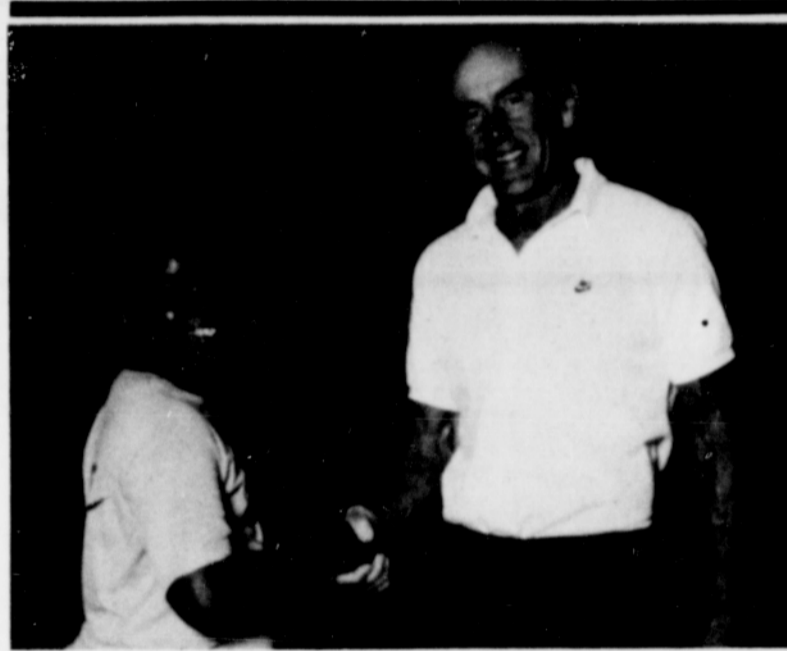
Although he knew of the *Outdoor Life* articles, Sid Miller of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and editor of the tribe's newspaper *Spilyay Tymoo* ("Coyote News" in the Warm Springs language), said he hadn't heard about the call for a boycott.

"I saw a couple of the articles published. At first, I felt a little hostility, but then I realized the people didn't know what they were talking about. The things are really

not true...."

The NTCA resolution calls upon "all minority people who suffer from similar prejudicial oppression, civil rights groups, churches, and the many friends of American Indians ...in the U.S. and Canada" to join the boycott of Times-Mirror publications.

These include: *Outdoor Life*; *The Los Angeles Times*; *The Dallas Times-Herald*; *Newsday*; *Golf Magazine*; *Popular Science Magazine*; *Ski Magazine*, and *Sporting News*.



Al Daniels, Jr. of Portland, attended the Jack Ramsay Basketball Camp at Willamette University, in Salem, from August 5-10th. Al was one of 350 students who received first hand information from Ramsay and Trailblazer's Sam Bowie, Jim Paxson, Darnell Valentine and Mychal Thompson. This was a week Al will always remember, thanks to his uncle Michael Jackson, of Portland, his father Alfred, an engineer for the BPA, and his mother Rosemary, who is the principal of Abernathy School.

BUF holds annual festival

The Black United Front 5th Annual Robert Bowden Community Unity Day Festival will be held again at Peninsula Park, 6400 N. Albina, Saturday, August 25, 1984, from 12 noon until 6:00 p.m. Robert Bowden was a dedicated member of the Albina Community. A graduate of Jefferson High School, Robert was a positive role model for our community. He represented the spirit of the Black struggle for equality here in the state

of Oregon. Community Unity Day is a Portland Black United Front "thank you" to its many supporters throughout the Northeast area and the state. There will be athletic events and intellectual competition for grade school through high school seniors. Food will be available for a small donation and live entertainment will be provided by CHAZ (a B.E.A.N. Production). The Black United Front hopes to see you at this family event.

Jackson speaks to Nicaragua State Council

by Bill Collins

On June 28th, Jesse Jackson addressed the Nicaraguan Council of State, a legislative body similar to the U.S. Congress. His visit to Nicaragua was part of a whirlwind tour of Central America and Cuba, referred to by Jackson as a "peace mission" to "launch a summer moral offensive to hold back the threat of war in the fall." Jackson's speech culminated his meetings with Nicaraguan government representatives, church leaders, and opposition leaders, and a sensitivity to Nicaragua's particular history was revealed in the content of his speech.

Jackson began by recognizing the courageousness of the Nicaraguan leadership and thanking them for the warm welcome he had received. Many of those present in the Council of State had suffered jail terms and torture under the Somoza dictatorship which had been supported by the U.S. and which was overthrown by the Sandinista movement in 1979. "You have a special place in the hearts of freedom-loving people," said Jackson, and this recognition set a tone of respect lasting throughout the rest of his speech.

Stating that "all countries have the right to territorial integrity, to national sovereignty," Jackson condemned the CIA mining of the Nicaraguan harbors and the "arming of mercenaries" attacking her borders. Jackson further condemned the use of U.S. dollars causing tremendous suffering which "could instead be used to feed poor people."

"Human rights," Jackson declared, "must be measured by one yardstick." His implication was that the Reagan administration is inconsistent in its tolerance of massive human rights violations in El Salvador while attacking human rights violations in Nicaragua which has one of the best human rights records in the region.

Frequently returning to his theme of "the moral offensive," Jackson

predicted that "if attitudes persist of retaliation, domination, and occupation, our hemisphere could go up in flames." Jackson called for the "building of bridges" between Nicaragua and the U.S. as part of "the moral offensive" necessary for peace. Toward this process, he and the Nicaraguan National Government of Reconstruction reached nine points of agreement in areas of contention between the two countries. One point included the commitment to convene a summit meeting between the leaderships of the Nicaraguan government, the Protestant Church, and the Catholic Church, to promote dialogue. Other points concerned the reaffirmation of elections as scheduled in Nicaragua, the desire to proceed with negotiations with the U.S. at the bargaining table as opposed to the battlefield, and a commitment to pursue the Contradora process,



Jesse Jackson addresses the Nicaraguan Council of State during June 1984 visit.

(Photos: Bill Collins)



among others.

The most intense moment of Jackson's speech occurred when he addressed the assembled government representatives directly, "I'm all too aware of your years of pain under Somoza and the role of the U.S. during this period

...somehow you survived ...jail cells could not contain the truth. Now you sit here rebuilding a great nation because you were morally right. Your moral authority is in feeding programs, education programs, health programs, and housing programs, big programs of

self-respect."

Today, two months later, the "threat of war in the fall" remains. Perhaps the effectiveness of Jackson's "peace mission" can be measured by the degree to which the American people actively join the "moral offensive."

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