

Male Secretaries Reflect Attitude Change

Across the nation there is a fairly unpublicized and subtle movement occurring and it's beginning to unlock minds and open doors to new employment opportunities for both men and women.

Recent surveys reveal that the American public is tired of reading and hearing about Women's Lib. Perhaps this is because only half of the population was taken into consideration. The new and less rowdy movement following in the wake of the Women's Lib storm might be termed People's Lib.

There are four young men on the Warm Springs Reservation who, perhaps as a part of that trend, may be breaking down some stereotype male-female occupational barriers.

All four — Darryl Scott, David Wolf, Ricky Graybael and Greg Smith are working in secretarial positions here. They generally agree that due to a change in social attitudes and because of the growing needs of tribal government, men are now seeking and landing positions which, until recently, have been held by women.

It is somewhat ironical that this should seem such a breakthrough, or at all unusual, because prior to World War I most secretarial and clerical jobs were held by men.

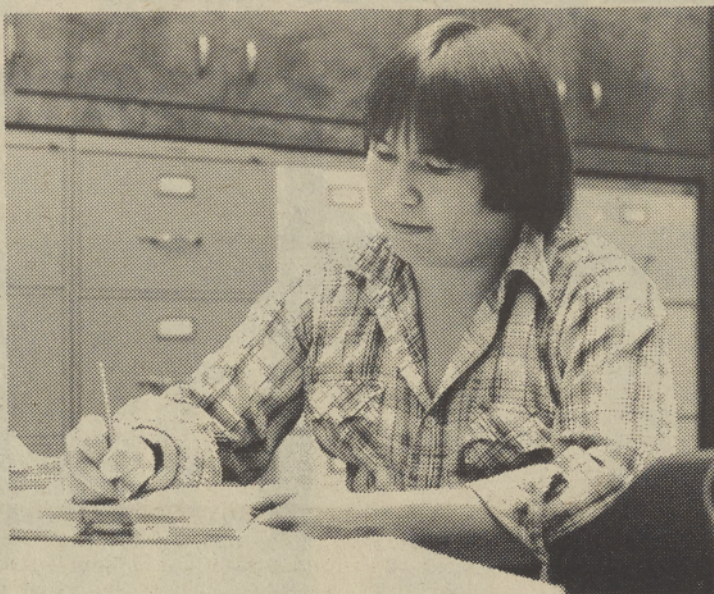
Before then, a woman who wanted to work in an office was considered a bit of a rebel, if not worse. It was deemed unseemly and improper for a woman to work for wages.

The war forced an attitude change which resulted in an almost entirely female-dominated secretarial and clerical field. Only recently have men been breaking back into this field of work and discovering its rewards.

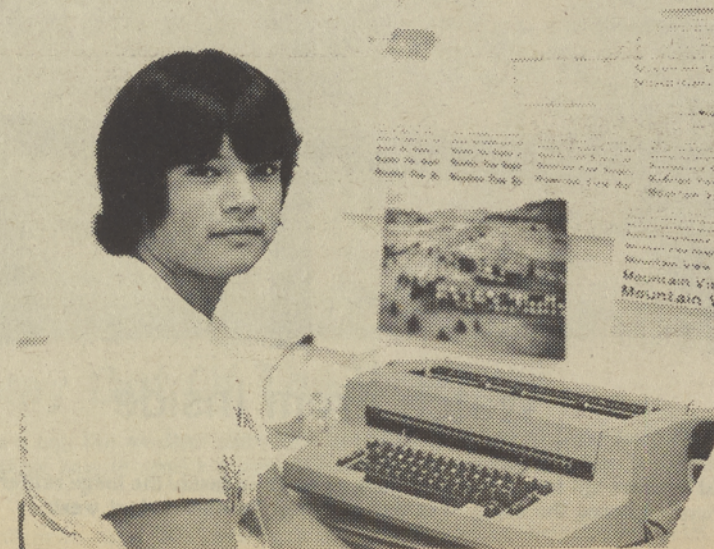
"I was looking for something to build up my mind and not just my muscles," said seventeen year-old Darryl Scott, court clerk aide. "I think a lot of guys would be applying for jobs like this if they knew they wouldn't get teased by the men."

Scott's work includes filling out subpoenas, warrants, and other paperwork at the Tribal Court. He also answers the telephone, types, files, and acts as receptionist.

A CETA employee, he just started his job September 22 and admits that it is a little confusing because there is a lot to remember and he's still catching on. But he says it is interesting work and he wants to



DARRYL SCOTT



GREG SMITH

stick with it.

"On the outside there are more men in clerical positions than on the reservation," remarked Scott. He feels that this could be because of the way boys are brought up here — their dads pound it into them that they have to become men.

He said the money he could earn in the woods or at the mill interests him, but that the hazards do not. He explained that his cousin, while working at the mill, had a thumb chopped off.

Before being hired to work at the Tribal Court, Scott was working as a janitor from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. and the hours didn't appeal to him or his wife, Vanessa.

Not only is Scott a family man with a seven month-old daughter (Stacy), but is also finishing up his GED and taking

typing and shorthand in addition.

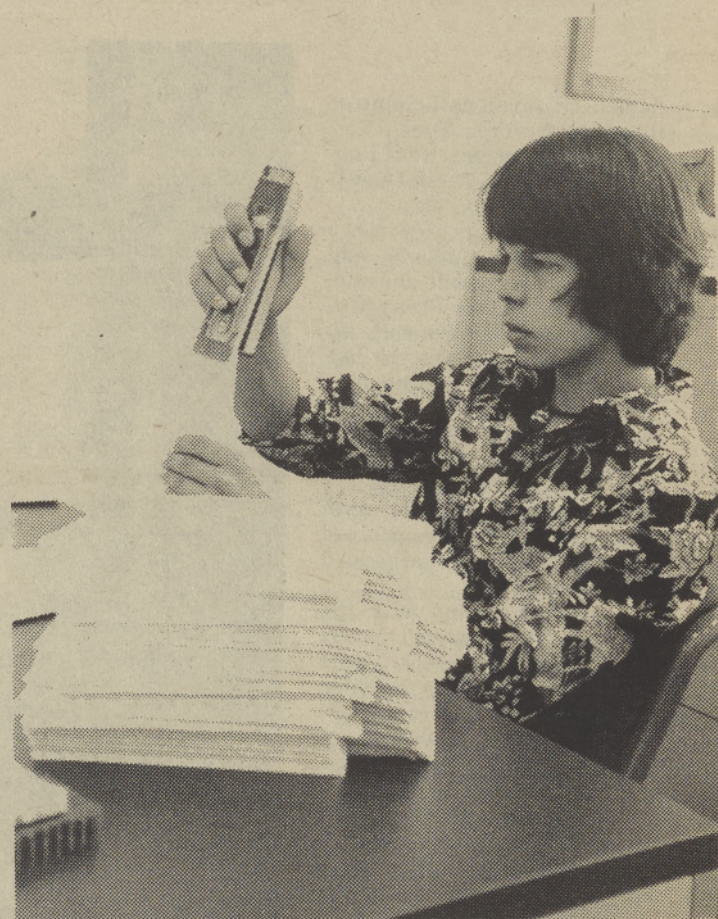
David Wolf, a clerk-typist in the forestry department since February, points to some of the advantages office work offers. "You're not out in the weather all the time like you are in the woods. Last year we had early snow and it can get pretty wet and miserable out there."

He noted also that an office job is not seasonal work. In the woods the working year usually runs just from April to mid-December.

Wolf's job involves most aspects of secretarial work. He types up reports of all sorts, types up outgoing correspondence, scale tickets, and monthly scale reports for the McQuinn Strip.

He also answers the phone, acts as receptionist and time-keeper, and takes care of filing.

PHOTOS & TEXT BY SANDY RANGILA



RICKY GRAYBAEL

The twenty six year-old gained his experience in the service where he did clerical work for the Army for two years.

On the subject of People's Lib, Wolf says, "A lot of people might think a man should be out in the woods, but I think it should be left to the individual to do whatever work he chooses, regardless of what people think."

He asks where Warm Springs Forest Products Industries or the tribal government would be if all the men were out in the woods? "Not all people were meant to be laborers," he notes.

But he also feels that not all people are good office workers. He thinks that men are generally more efficient and better able to effectively supervise.

"In most cases women are the better typists and some are fairly efficient, but the majority are mediocre," he states.

He sees a need for more efficient office personnel and suggests that those working for the people should get things done on time and be halfway efficient about it.

"There are some people who, after five or ten years at the same job, get lax and take things for granted," he commented. "They just put in time for their paychecks and go home."

Right now, Wolf is mostly concerned with getting some experience behind him, and may consider going into a management position after further schooling.

Greg Smith, 18, worked as a secretary-receptionist at the Information Center, Gift Shop this summer and has just applied for a clerical position elsewhere within the tribal organization.

Although he types 90 words per minute Smith says, "It's hard for me to get a clerical job because of my lack of experience. And there is some discrimination because of sex — that's what I run into a lot."

But Dave Jordan, his boss this past summer says, "He's

better than any women secretaries I've had. He's got tons of awards for typing, he's a fast learner and dependable."

Smith's interest in typing was sparked in high school where, in 1975, he took the State Championship for typing and went to the national finals in Miami. In 1977 he took fourth in the highest level of typing at the State Championships.

Smith values the experience he has gained in secretarial and clerical jobs during the summers. He is interested in eventually obtaining a management position and remarks, "At least I will know what a secretary has to go through."

He plans to attend college next Fall and will major in Business Administration and Business Management.

Ricky Graybael, 18, is another who feels that a person, man or woman, should be able to choose whatever kind of work he wants to do. He has been working as Assistant Tribal Council Aide (half days since February 1976, and full-time since this summer).

His aspirations lie in becoming an attorney. He figures on attending law school after a couple of years at a community college.

Meanwhile he feels he is getting some experience and has learned quite a bit about the Tribal Council and committees. And he feels it is more educational working in an office than at the mill, even though it doesn't pay as well.

His duties include most phases of secretarial work except taking minutes. The thing he dislikes most about his job is running copy work. "It's boring," he states. He said what he'd really like to be doing is helping his grandmother with the cattle and horses.

These four men do not consider themselves rebels, even though some people might think it is a bit strange for a man to be working as a secretary here on the reservation. And they may be reflecting a change in attitude, especially among the younger generation.



DAVID WOLF