

National Indian News Briefs

by Vince Lovett

PRESIDENT SIGNS EDUCATION AMENDMENTS ACT, INTERIOR BEGINS IMPLEMENTATION H.R.15, the Education Amendments Act of 1978 (now P.L. 95-561) was signed into law by President Carter November 1. Though Title XI of the Act affects Indians most directly, other titles dealing with special education, bilingual education, etc., have a major bearing on Indian education. Interior Assistant Secretary Forrest Gerard announced following the signing that the Department has invited tribal leaders to nominate persons to work on implementing task forces for Title XI of the Act. This title strongly emphasizes local community control of Indian education programs in BIA programs and in public schools — with Johnson-O'Malley and Impact Aid Federal funds. Deputy Assistant Secretary Rick Lavis has been directed by Gerard to head up the implementation process for BIA.

RULING UPHOLDS RIGHTS OF INDIAN FISHERMEN: A ruling that treaty Indians in the Pacific Northwest should be exempt from salmon fishing regulations issued by the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission was upheld yesterday by the 9th U.S. Court of Appeals. Non-Indian commercial salmon fishermen in Washington state had sued to prevent the Federal Government from exempting the Indians and from issuing separate regulations for Indians. The appeals court said the real attack of the suit was on a court ruling which said Indians should have an opportunity to take one-half of the salmon catch. The court noted that interpretation of that ruling was now a question before the U.S. Supreme Court, and said it would be inappropriate for the appeals court to pursue the issues further.

DELORIA HAS PRESCRIPTION FOR HEALING STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS: Prescribing a dose of "realism and practicality" to improve relations between state governments and Indian governments, Sam Deloria, director of the American Indian Law Center at the University of New Mexico, told an Indian affairs subcommittee that too often the lunatics on both sides get the headlines and "nobody knows what the serious politicians on either side are saying." Deloria told the subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Study Committee that a foundation-financed project has begun to bring state and Indian politicians together to work out agreements on issues apart from the questions over state and tribal sovereignty. The project is operated by the Commission on Tribal-State Relations formed by the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Congress of American Indians the National Tribal Chairmen's Association. "Quite frankly, we're going to pick easy areas in order to snow some victories," Deloria said. "We want to show that there are areas where there is very little dispute over jurisdiction."

NORTHWEST INDIAN NEWS ASSOCIATION (NINA) HAS MEETING: The first annual meeting of the Northwest Indian News Association was held in Seattle October 25-26. The new organization doubled its active membership from 11 papers or news organizations to 22. Plans for a regional Indian news service, a cooperative advertising sales effort and other approaches to improving services were discussed at the meeting. Officers elected were: Mark Trahan, Sho-Ban News, President; Andy DeLos Angeles, Indians in Communication, Vice President; Su Harms, Council Fires, Secretary-Treasurer; Bertha Medicine Bull, Tsistsistas Press, Montana; Deanne Hansell, Columbia River Fish Commission, Oregon; Roger Jack, Tribal Tribune, Washington; and Bob Johnson, Indian Voice, at-large.

Since the meeting, NINA hired a chief for its news bureau. Formerly with the Lummi TV station, Nick Nichols is facilitating news sharing and looking for funding.

Spilyay Speaks

TOE NESS

There was this lady who had a woman supervisor which was getting a little nervous because of the young girls progress with the company. All the men were really trying to be as helpful as they could. Finally the supervisor called the young beauty into her office and said, "I would appreciate it if you would cut down on your low cut dresses." "Oh!" said the young girl, "I have them cut down as far as I dare at the present time." YIKES

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THERE WERE THESE TWO people who were discussing the problems of money. The first said to the other, "If you found a bag that had a million dollars in it, what would you do with it? The second said, "If I knew that it belonged to a poor person I'd return it." YIKES

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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN a fine and income tax is, "A fine is a tax one has to pay for doing wrong; income tax is a fine one pays for doing good." YIKES

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A WIFE TO HER husband: "You may be over the hill in your earnings; me I'm right at the peak of my spending years." YIKES

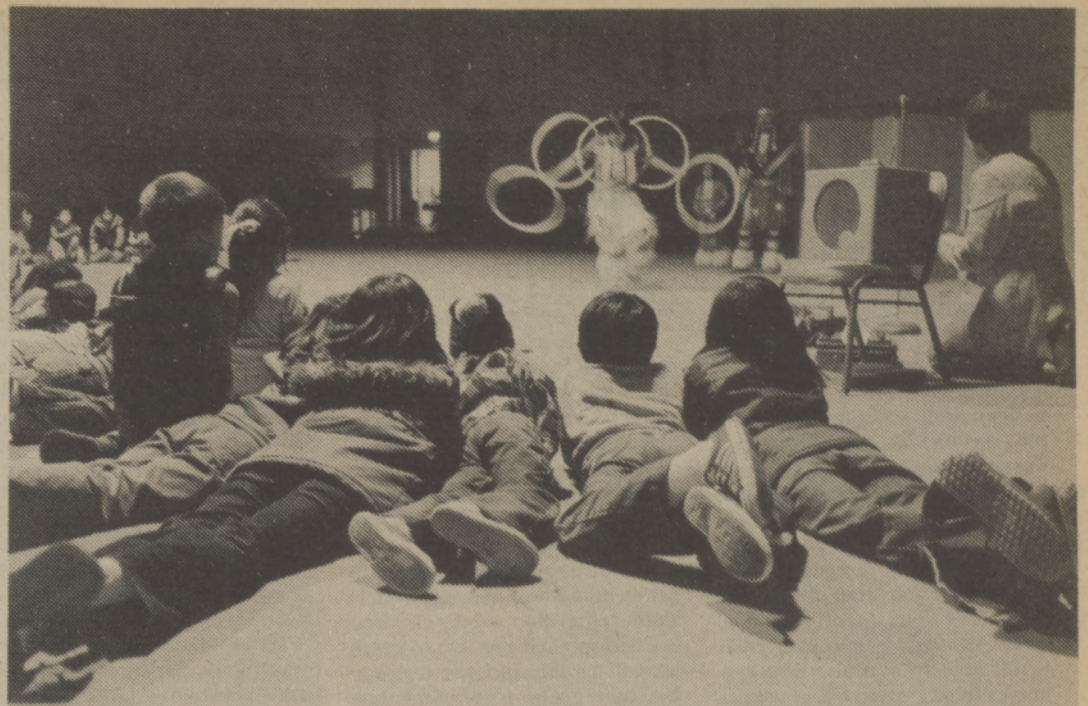
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A FATHER TELLS his son, "One more bite like that and you'll have to leave the dinner table." The boy's reply, "That's ok, one more bite like that and I'll be through." YIKES

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THERE WAS THIS little girl who was denied a bike which she was really counting on for her birthday. That night as she was saying her prayers for bed she added: "And God, please don't give daddy any more kid's because he doesn't know how to treat the one's he has now." YIKES

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Show and Tell

Scores of kids and parents watched intently as community people displayed their talents at the first "Warm Springs Show and Tell" at the community center Thursday night. The grade schools played a big role, offering samples of their "Indianized" music and drama programs. The Show and Tell also included many booths featuring services available locally.

Spilyay Photo by CDS

Petition Before FCC to Reserve Radio and TV Frequencies

Washington — (NINA) — Leading Indian Organizations and four agencies of the United Church of Christ today petitioned the Federal Communications Commission to set aside radio and television frequencies to be operated by Indians to serve the major Federal Reservations throughout the country.

Over 200 tribes would be benefitted educationally and culturally by having their own broadcasting facilities, according to the petition which was filed by the Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium, the National Indian Youth Council, the Native American Theological Association and the 4 United Church of Christ Agencies: The Council for American Indian Ministries, the board for Homeland Ministries, the office of Communication and the Office for Church in Society.

The petition asks the FCC to

"freeze" at least one FM and AM Radio frequency to cover each of the 54 Indian Reservations with 1,000 or more inhabitants and to "freeze" one television frequency for each of the 19 reservations with a population of 3,000 or more. Most of these reservations are west of the Mississippi River. The reserved frequencies requested would be held as long as necessary for Indians to get the resources to build and operate stations. The stations would be licensed only to Indians.

Indian owned and operated Broadcasting Stations could materially raise the living standard of Indians on reservations, according to Gerald Wilkinson, Albuquerque, New Mexico, director of the National Indian Youth Council "as media consumers we are in a particularly harmful position. We consume the thoughts of others about ourselves and the world.

"Since we are not allowed

access to the non-Indian media, we cannot correct distortions about us or pay anything back of ourselves into American society unless Indian people develop their own media.

"Not only will outsiders control our tribal affairs, but the hearts and minds of ourselves and our children as well. This effort to set aside radio and television frequencies for tribes who may at some time in the future have the potentiality of operating their own stations could turn this situation," he says.

The petition points out that Indians probably receive the worst service from radio and television of any group in the population. Only 6 radio stations, of which only one is Indian controlled, have substantial programming directed to Indians, according to the National Indian Educational survey.

Solar Energy Conference Upcoming

The Native American Natural Resources Development Federation (NANRDF) will host a conference on the use of solar and alternate energy on Indian Reservations at the Albuquerque, N.M. Convention Center on Dec. 5, 6 and 7.

The purpose of the conference is to conserve the deposits of oil-gas, coal, uranium, and other natural resources through developing the use of solar energy, wind power, renewable

energy sources such as crops, and the utilization of organic wastes to produce methane gas for cooking, and heating.

An unusual feature of the conference is the "hands-on" learning experience that will be acquired by 23 youths from various reservations. They will arrive before the conference begins and will start construction of five solar and alternate energy devices and projects,

such as a solar air heater, water heater, food dryer, solar reliant greenhouse.

The registration fee for attendees is \$55.00 which includes attendance at all sessions and reduced prices for a banquet and luncheon banquet. For more details contact: Native American Natural Resources Development Federation, 910 Fifteenth Street, Suite 840, Denver, Colorado 80202. Telephone (303) 534-4484.

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