

Graduates '79

# Four grads end five-year effort with degrees

by Donna Behrend



**THE GRADUATES** — These four Warm springs residents, after five years, graduated from Mt. Hood Community College with Associate of Arts Degrees June 2. The years of hard work and dedication earned them the honor they are all proud of. Left to right are Hamilton Greeley, who is Juvenile Judge for the tribal court. Cheryl Kennedy, Evelyn Greeley and Arlene Boileau all work for the Family and Childrens Services Department. Spiiyay Tymoo Photo by Behrend

Fifteen people began their adventure into higher education during the winter term of 1974 commuting to Mt. Hood Community College. On June 2, four of those people graduated with an Associate of Arts degree. Hamilton Greeley, Arlene Boileau, Cheryl Kennedy and Evelyn Greeley, dressed in cap and gown, marched with over 600 other Mt. Hood Community College graduates to receive their diplomas.

Arlene, Cheryl and Evelyn are employed by the Family and Children's Services Department and Hamilton is Juvenile Judge for the Tribal court.

Four others of the original 15 students, Lola Sohappy, Mildred Kirk, Prunie Williams and Urbana Manion, will graduate with the class of 1980, also from Mt. Hood. The remaining seven apparently dropped the courses.

During the winter term icy roads and foul weather often made it difficult to travel to Portland. But by the end of the term all of the students had accumulated six credit hours, thus beginning a long, difficult struggle to their eventual degrees.

The next years came a little easier, since traveling was somewhat less and several of the classes were brought to Warm Springs. They continued their studies in psychology,

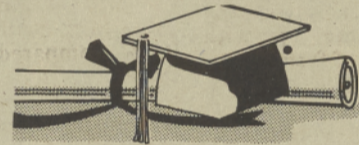
sociology and human development as well as adding writing and mental health care and skills. They accumulated credits from COCC, Portland State University, Eastern Oregon State College and LaVerne College in California.

"We appreciate the help and support the tribe has given us," said all the students. But because of the length of time it has taken for them to get their degrees and because they were not continually involved in a campus situation, they feel the accomplishment was not as exciting and rewarding as it could have been.

All the graduates attribute the privilege of a college education to former Mental Health Director Bill Jordan and Gloria Edelhart. "Gloria really pushed," says Arlene. "So much so that I nearly resented her." Arlene, as well as the others, say that their families were very supportive. "Without their support, we wouldn't have been able to continue," they said.

The day that culminated the entire five years was June 2. What was really exciting about graduation was all the tribal people who showed up to congratulate us," said Cheryl. "Some of them weren't even invited. It was great!"

Those connected with the Group Home or Tribal Court can be assured of a job well done because of those four people who worked so hard to obtain their degrees.



## Macy studying management

The desk of the operations manager at Warm springs Forest Products Industries will be empty most of the summer. Its occupant, Bob Macy, is taking an eight-week leave to gather more experience in management.

Macy is joining 180 other managers from around the world for Stanford University's executive program. For eight hours a day, they will

"exchange ideas and problems," increasing their exposure to the business end of management, said Macy.

Team training will bring managers together to find solutions to case problems similar to those they may encounter on the job. The intensive course is equivalent to a regular year-long course.

Macy has a degree in forest management from Oregon State University, but seeks to

strengthen his business skills. While the course does not offer graduate credits, "in the business world it carries the weight of academic credentials," said WSFPI manager Ralph DeMoisy.

The operations manager is not expecting a salary increase or job change upon completion of the course, but hopes to bring even more skills to his present role in WSFPI management.

# NAIWA annual conference a display of unity

by Donna Behrer

Several Warm Springs tribal members traveled to Yakima Washington to attend the ninth annual North American Indian Womens's Association conference June 17-20, joining more than 400 other Indian women from across the nation. As the association's preamble states, the women united "with the determination to promote, through unity of purpose, the general well-being of Indian People."

Warm Springs was well represented by Miss Oregon NAIWA Lucinda Heath and her court Lyda Scott, Sheila Wahnetah and Melissa Johnson; Miss Warm Springs Sally Rhoan; as well as local chapter members and officers.

As guest speaker, Veronica Murdock, President of National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), urged unity and organization. "Indians need to get their act together before presenting anything to Congress. It has been the common opinion (of Congress) that Indians don't have their act together." She continued, saying that all national organizations should support each other and that each "should prove their accountability and responsibility."

Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Forrest Gerard and Helen Schierbeck, a member of the U.S. Commission on International Year of the Child

were scheduled to speak at the conference, but apparently there were conflicts which made it impossible for them to attend.

Yakima Nation members gave brief but complete descriptions of their reservation and membership. Martha Yallup, Yakima Tribal Education Director, listed statistics concerning the Yakima nation. "The average education level of Yakimas is seventh grade," she stated. "Seventy-five percent of those living on the reservation are non-Indians. Alcohol, in one way or another, affect 75 percent of our tribal members." The crowd appeared to agree, recognizing the fact that similar things were happening on their reservations.

Because the theme of this year's conference was "International Year of the Child" (IYC), three workshops were presented concerning children: "Child Abuse and Neglect," "Recent Developments in Indian Education for the Handicapped Child", and "Suicide and the Indian Child".

Those at the conference had the choice of attending one of the three. The suicide workshop was presented by Prunie Williams of Warm Springs, and had the highest attendance.

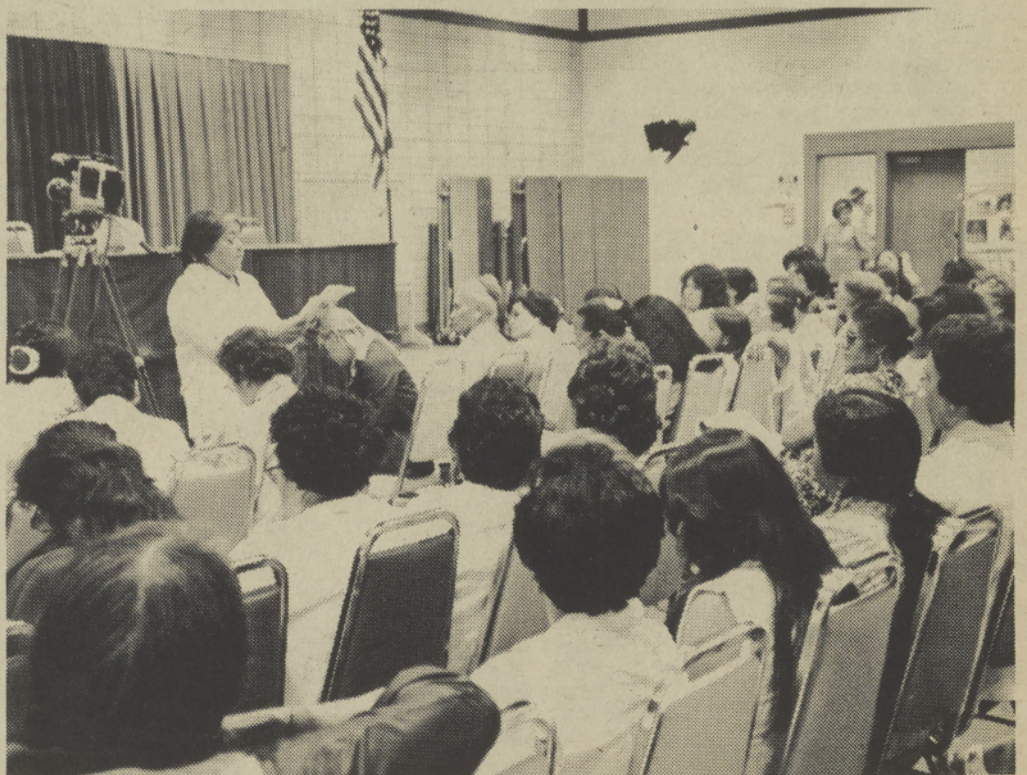
Prunie, drawing an analogy between traditional ways and land, stated, "There is an erosion of our culture and heritage—just like the land-

it's slowly disappearing." She advised to "teach the very young about their culture, language and religion. They have a longtime to learn other things in life." Concluding, she said, "If we are ever going to feel comfortable, we must

return to our traditional ways." The conference and workshops stirred awareness of the Indian women, as many indicated that more information should be available on the subject of child abuse and neglect and suicide.

There are over 1,000 NAIWA members, with 115 different tribes represented. With six regions, Arizona has the largest number of members, comprising 30 percent of the

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**WHEN PRUNIE TALKS, PEOPLE LISTEN** - At the recent annual conference of the North American Indian Womens Association in Yakima, Prunie Williams gave a brief workshop on "Suicide and the Indian Child". Prunie, whose workshop was well attended, said one way to prevent suicide is to make something positive happen in the life of a person who threatens suicide. Spiiyay Tymoo Photo by Behrend