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Spilyay Tymoo

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Scratching for food

It was feeding time out at the Schoolie Ranger Station for the Wilderness Program's 13 Rhode Island Reds. One of the resident cats stayed close by as Bev Snow tossed out the scratch. Since the layers aren't kept in a chicken coop they roam freely, creating daily egg-hunts. For photos and details on the start-up of the Wilderness Program, see page 8.

Spilyay Tymoo Photo by Rangila

Second fisherman found on river

The body of another member of the three-man fishing crew lost in a boating accident on the Columbia River March 25, 1978 was found this week and identified as Leonard Polk, Jr., a member of the Confederated Tribes.

Polk, 34, was found September 16 three miles east of Rowena. His was the second body to be located since the accident, which apparently involved a small fishing boat and a tug. The body of Eli Culps, 35, was found in August 1978 near The Dalles. The third fisherman, Donald Isadore, 29, is still missing.

A CB call from Phillip David, a Warm Springs fisherman, alerted the state police of a "possible body" at about 7:30 a.m. September 16. According to the state police report, David had been checking his net when his

spotlight hit an object on the beach. Upon closer inspection, David found that the object looked like a body.

At 8:10 a.m. State and Wasco County officials were dispatched to the location, near Light #60 east of Rowena. Polk's body was transported by jet sled to The Dalles, and later taken to Portland on the recommendation of Wasco County Medical Examiner Dr. Skirving. Positive identification was made by Dr. William Brady, Multnomah County Medical Examiner, who found a tribal enrollment card on the body.

The search for the three men began immediately after the accident and continued for several weeks. The Warm Springs and Yakima tribes, businesses in The Dalles, and friends and relatives contributed to the effort, which was engineered by state and county police.

A U.S. Coast Guard investigation into the incident has turned up only a probable cause. According to a Coast Guard spokesman, the state-numbered boat owned by Eli Culps was running in the dark without lights when it collided with a tugboat and barge. Reports made to the Coast Guard indicated that the fishermen were under the influence of alcohol when they left shore to check their gillnets. The accident occurred at around 5:00 a.m.

Polk, who grew up along the Columbia, had fished all his life and had lost his father to the river in 1952. He is survived by

six children, one brother and three sisters. Funeral services were held at the White Swan Shaker Church and burial was in the Toppenish Creek Cemetery September 21.

Study to reveal reservation's impact on 509-J

Superintendent Darrell Wright announced September 10 that a study has been initiated which he hopes will finally settle the question of what the reservation's financial impact is on school district 509-J.

"We need to get more facts," said Assistant Superintendent Dr. Ernest Weber, who will be heading up the study committee. Weber noted that there are currently "no blacks and whites available"—no facts upon which to base assumptions. "We just have some general feelings" in the community, that's all," he told Spilyay Tymoo.

The issue of whether or not the reservation is carrying its share of the school district's financial burden surfaced at a regular school board meeting August 27. The board voted to postpone plans for remodeling and additions at Warm Springs Elementary "pending a response from the Tribal Council to help finance the new construction."

"I think the study will be very revealing," Wright told the Tribal Council September 14. "We need accurate, documented, factual data—something that Madras and

Kah-Nee-Ta water O.K.

Kah-Nee-Ta's domestic water system is "adequate with some minor modifications," according to a study just completed by Century West Engineering Corporation in Bend. "Basically it's a fine water system," said Jeff Daggett, a professional engineer with the firm.

But Daggett recommended some specific physical and operational changes that would make the water quality more consistent and reliable. Operators should be better trained in water treatment, he suggested, and water should have lengthier contact with chlorine. In addition, Daggett recommended that a "general clean-up and maintenance program" be launched right away.

Century West was called in August 14 by Kah-Nee-Ta manager Bill Pauli to evaluate the water system after an inspection by the Oregon State Health Division pointed out numerous problems with the water quality and system design. The Health Division withdrew its license from the resort shortly after the inspection, saying it had no jurisdiction on the reservation.

At the time of the Health Division's visit, some of Kah-Nee-Ta's water was going to consumers unfiltered, a problem corrected immediately. All of Century West's

tests were taken after this change and showed no contamination. The 31 filtered water samples taken at various sites at the resort between August 14 and August 28 all turned out negative for bacteriological content. Tests of raw river water, however, were positive for fecal coliforms, indicating a source of contamination upstream from the water intake.

Tests for turbidity, or visible impurities, were "high on a couple of days," said Daggett. The turbidity "varied more than it should" primarily because filters were not being flushed frequently enough, and not due to any structural defects in the system.

Pauli was pleased with Century West's findings and has plans to follow up on the recommendations. At least two operators will be sent to Linn-Benton Community College in Albany next March to attend a short course in water treatment. If they fulfill all the requirements they will be certified as "water treatment plant operators grade II," a standard suggested, but not mandated, by the State Health Division.

The proposed 1980 capitalized budget includes \$10,000 for a larger holding tank at the Village. Such a tank would increase the water's contact

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Weather

SEPT.	HI	LO
7	93	52
8	78	61
9	72	49
10	77	41
11	80	43
12	86	30
13	88	42
14	94	49
15	99	58
16	91	58
17	89	48
18	91	54
19	92	64
20	94	65

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Warm Springs can agree to. He said in an earlier conversation that he hopes the results of the study "will put the question to rest."

Dr. Weber said he believes the last study of this type was done in about 1950. "I think it is timely that we take a new look at it," he remarked. The deadline for the report has been set at November 15.

"The study is not meant to cover up, taint or create any bias," Weber stressed. "The purpose is not to make recommendations—just to present facts. Noting that the study will provide a data base for upcoming considerations, he said, "I think we need it."

Weber said the study will be comprehensive and that he thinks people will be surprised when the results are made public. He went so far as to say, "It may be balanced toward Warm Springs."

The bottom line of the study should reveal what the impact on the taxpayers would be if the reservation was not in the school district, according to Weber. Although the entire scope has not yet been nailed down, the committee will be looking at the financial impact of tribal decisions, taxes paid to

the district because of the dams, and the impact of Tribal employment and economic relationship on the Madras community.

General Manager Ken Smith said he thinks the study sounds good as long as capable people will be putting it together. "I think people will be surprised," he commented.

He indicated that people tend to forget how much the Tribes are contributing to the district. "Taxes on the dams represent a third of the county valuation," he mentioned. "And the dams are there because of the Tribes."

Weber said he will be pulling together a small committee which will probably consist of seven members. He said no one has been appointed yet, but he plans to select someone from the school board, a representative from Tribal management, the B.I.A., and someone from the county assessor's office. Weber will also select people from the communities to fill two at-large seats.

Weber, who is in the process of contacting individuals, said he is excited about the study. "Hopefully it will be a milestone study that we can use in the future," he concluded.