



Elbow Grease—Headstart parents and teachers joined forces to get playground equipment put up near the Headstart trailer. There will be more chances to join in the fun next Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, May 5 and 6.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Eye care clinic in operation

Good vision is an essential part of feeling good no matter what a person's age may be. Children as well as adults should have a special interest in caring for their own sight.

The Indian Health Service is concerned that all tribal members, young and old, receive adequate eye care. IHS through the Portland Area Office has contracted Pacific University to provide such eye care through the optometry clinic, now in operation at the Warm Springs Health Clinic.

The eye care clinic is a program designed to give Pacific University optometry students an intense learning experience while serving the eye care needs of the people in Warm Springs. Pacific University has been involved in this program since 1978, serving the same needs for the people on other reservations.

Pacific University faculty member Dr. William Berman works with interns on a rotation basis in an effort to

provide practical experience in the field of optometry. The students are able to gain from the experience along with the tribal members.

The services provided according to Dr. Berman range from vision screening to a full optometric examination. The vision screening — "is a test designed to give us an overview of the visual status of the patient which will determine whether a full eye examination is necessary or not." Dr. Berman goes on to say, "If a full examination is required the patient can obtain that service at the clinic as well."

The screening is available to all tribal members. Indian children at all grade levels will be seen along with children in the Headstart and Daycare programs. "We can see 14 people for examinations and screening daily," Dr. Berman says, "along with other walk-in patients who come in for emergency care or who are in for the dispensing of frames"

which are available through the clinic.

The clinic has been in operation since April 15, having recently been moved from the Colville reservation in Washington where it was located for the last year-and-a-half. It will be in Warm Springs for up to six months, according to Dr. Berman, or until the needs of the community are met.

Indian students particularly interested in optometry or other health professions "are encouraged to ask questions about what we do and what's entailed in the educations" for health professions, Dr. Berman remarked. He says Pacific University has a minority recruitment program, not just in optometry, but in other health fields such as dentistry and medicine.

To make an appointment for vision screening for any time during the week phone the clinic at 553-1196 and ask for the eye care clinic.

Chemawa's future not threatened by fund shortage

by Pat Leno

The Chemawa Indian School is faced with a short-fall of funds amounting to over \$200,000, but this will not create any real threat to the future of the Bureau of Indian Affairs-operated school, according to Van Peters, Area Education Administrator of the BIA.

In a recent article which appeared in the *Oregon Journal* Peters is quoted as saying that drastic measures would have to be taken. This is not really the case, but it does mean there will be a change in

the schedule for the remainder of this school year. The school will not hold a summer session as was originally planned. The school will be putting some employees on furloughs for the summer months and keeping key personnel that are necessary to maintain the school's summer business.

Peters said in a recent phone interview that the school officials had made a tentative student count on April of last year and that count was based with the allowance of the dormitories being finished in time for the start of the school year in August of 1980. The

dorms were not finished and this caused the student-count to fall below the number expected.

It is this count of students that is a big factor in the amount of federal funds received to operate the school. The count is made at the beginning of the fiscal year in October, and for each student there is an allocation given to the school.

The school received \$1.6 million in January to run the program and it needed an additional \$500,000 for the year-round program, as planned. In order to make it

through the fiscal year the school officials have decided to close for the summer. This will leave funds with which to operate for the next school year, which will start two months before the end of this fiscal year.

Since the dorms have been completed the school has room for 400-plus students. This will give the school the necessary student-count for the next fiscal year.

There still remains a problem of having enough funds to staff the dorms to cover the remaining two months of this fiscal year, those months being

August and September of this year.

Earlier, the BIA had been asked for additional funds to assist with the short-fall, but this was denied. Van Peters, as the time of this article, is in Washington D.C. to appeal for additional funds. Olney Patt, Sr., Oregon Representative on the Chemawa School Board, is also in Washington D.C. this week and will be assisting Peters with his appeal.

Chemawa School will go in full swing for the school year of 1981-82. This year's program will end at the finish of the spring term.

Seniors pleased with their new houses

by Marsha Shewczyk

Matilda Mitchell reflects on the days when she lived in a house built by her father. That house and all others at that time were heated only with wood and flour sacks hung on the walls to keep the heat in. Only the section of the body facing the stove stayed warm.

With these memories in mind Matilda, an elder, is very pleased with the new two-bedroom home she now occupies in Simnasho. She says, "I sure like this house." Matilda previously lived in one of the small houses in Simnasho with her sister. These houses have since been moved and are having garages added onto them. She says her other house "was too small for my things. I had to put things outside."

Even new houses have a few problems. Small but important things have been going wrong, so her satisfaction with her home is not complete. Matilda says she has a short in her lights and she's having trouble with the stove. She says, "I thought I picked out the nicest stove."

One other thing that bothers her is the drying racks. She

says when drying fish the racks should be in a shady place. But the drying racks at her home are in the sunshine and "the wind comes the wrong way," she says. "It's my own fault. I thought they would know" when they built it.

Asked if she would be pleased when a yard is put in she gave an affirmative reply. She she said she hopes they "fence our houses. The entire group of houses would be good" because there are a lot of horses around Simnasho.

Sylvia Wallulatum, Matilda's next door neighbor and sister looks forward to a yard. "It would be easier to keep the house clean, especially when the grandchildren come" to see her, she says. She, too, is happy with her house but hasn't experienced quite so many small problems with her new house as Matilda has. Her only complaint is that her door will sometimes come open when the wind blows.

Sylvia enjoys the space her new home affords and she says she "likes this kind of heat." She likes having a fire going and having it last throughout the night. "The only thing I don't like is carrying that wood

in," she says.

Three of the new houses have not yet been occupied. Social Services supervisor Gayle Rodgers feels confident the houses will be filled in the near

future. There has been some talk of retaining one of the houses in order to hire someone to live in Simnasho who could help the senior citizens with maintenance problems and

attend to emergency needs. Some inquiries have already been made about such a position but Rodgers says, "It is still on the drawing board," the funds as yet are not available.



Home Sweet Home—Home is where you can sit by the stove, listen to soap operas and peel roots as Matilda Mitchell has been doing lately. It's particularly enjoyable when home is one of the houses recently built for senior citizens in Simnasho.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk