

Truancy up to parents

By Marsha Shewczyk

There are times when daydreaming about being indoors rather than sitting in a classroom can be overpowering. The majority of students, however, resist the compulsion to escape the confines of corridors and classroom cubicles. A few don't.

Truancy in the Jefferson county school district is not prevalent for two reasons; there is no policy on law enforcement statutes regarding it and the schools act to prevent it.

David McGory, Jefferson county juvenile counselor, says "truancy is not considered delinquent behavior in this state." There is no policy regarding it as such in this county. If, as a counselor, he sees a student in his office it is usually because of other deviant behavior. Truancy might be only a part of that.

The Madras police department does not concentrate on truant youngsters because of the low manpower force during the day. Only one officer is on duty during the day and he is normally not on patrol. If a student is seen on the street while school is in session and a police officer does see him, the standard procedure is to ask him for a pass. If the pass cannot be produced the child is then returned to school.

Madras High School has an open campus policy, meaning students are allowed to leave the school at lunch time. Attendance is taken during each class period. If a student misses eight classes his parents are notified along with his having to meet with the vice-principal and counselor at the school.

At Madras Junior High School there are a few truancy problems. Vice-principal Bill Cordill deals with truancy by making the truant student make up time at noon and after school. Parents are then notified of the child's behavior. Only occasionally do the city police bring a student back to school, Cordill mentioned.

The policy at the Jr. High according to Cordill is consistent with the entire

district. A warning is issued if there are eight days of absence reported. After 15 absences the child is suspended. Cordill says he tries to avoid this action by working with the child and parents.

If, after this procedure is followed, the child is still absent or continues to be truant the case is referred to the court. In Madras, Cordill says, there is a compulsory education law making it mandatory for children to be in school until they are 16 years of age. In Warm Springs the compulsory education law requires students to stay in school until 18. Cordill says, "this is not enforced."

According to former juvenile officer Rick Souers, in Warm Springs a truant child is picked up by the police and taken to the station where the school or the parents are called. Truancy complaints go to juvenile court.

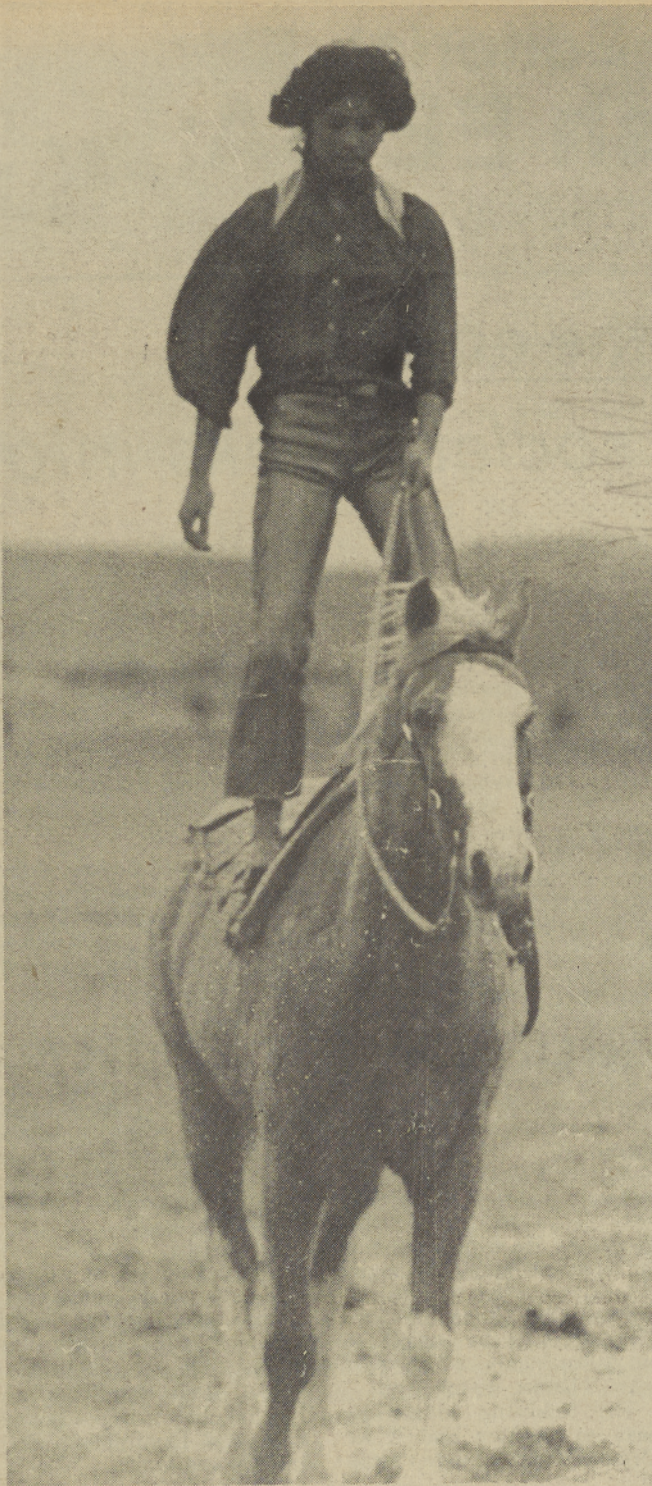
The community wants to maintain certain types of behavior including children's attendance at school, Souers explained.

The juvenile is not arrested in a truancy violation. He is returned to the custody of his parents or guardian. A notice of hearing is issued requiring the juvenile and parents to appear in court generally within a 24-hour period. This behavior problem is usually handled by putting the child on a diversion program or in a community service program if it is a serious consistent problem.

Truancy offenses at the Warm Springs Elementary warrant parental contact. Community Liaison Delson Suppah or counselor Ed Roley are important in making contacts.

Warm Springs Elementary principal John Trujillo comments that "at the elementary age, truancy is the responsibility of the parent." The child is "not being sent to school" or encouraged to attend.

All school personnel spoken with feel that truancy is a problem that should be dealt with. It is a family problem as well as a school problem.



Help support a dream

It takes a lot of hard work to make a dream come true and Eliza "Hotdog" Greene is still working on gaining her dream. She has been accepted as a student in a trick riding school during spring vacation, but it is going to cost her the price of airfare and tuition.

She and her family have put together several ways to earn the money—a raffle, a sack lunch sale and a pancake supper. The cost of the raffle tickets is 3 for \$1.00.

Eliza is out in the community selling tickets for a raffle to be held during the pancake supper. Offered in the raffle are a multi-colored shawl and a set of wampum earrings with matching necklace and a wampum necklace with turquoise nuggets. Other items will be added by other family members.

The pancake supper will be held at the Agency Longhouse on March 18. The sack lunches will be sold at Macy's Store and the Administration Building on March 16.

The trick riding school is located in Bakersfield, California. It is run by the Hardin Family, a well-known trick riding family who have performed in many rodeos in Oregon.

Hatchery helping save fish

by Marsha Shewczyk

Four years ago the Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery began operation. That year, 1978, 178,000 chinook fries were released. 1982 is the year the first return on hatchery-reared fish will occur in great numbers.

Of the thousands of chinook that were originally released, Gary White, manager of the hatchery, estimates 400-500 fish to be returning. "Optimistically, we will look for more," he added.

This number is two-tenths of one-percent of the original release. This is a standard return in looking at the return of other upstream hatchery reared fish. It's just "hard to guess," White says.

There have been no major problems in fish rearing at the hatchery since its opening four years ago, comments animal caretaker at the hatchery Kenny Calica. Calica has worked at the hatchery since its opening.

But even with the return of the first year's release it will be

10-15 years before "really getting anything going," according to Calica. There are efforts yearly to improve the quality of the hatchery fish along with decreasing the mortality.

This year improvement comes with the low sediment levels found at the hatchery. Muddy water both irritates the gills of the fish as well as making it difficult for fish to see food.

The low levels of sediment have been the result of several factors determined by hatchery assistant manager Paul Hemerick. 1) The quality of logging operations has minimized sediment movement; 2) horse numbers have been reduced by the EIA program to a point where improved vegetation is protecting the soil from excessive erosion; and, 3) sediment levels in the Coyote Creek drainage have been reduced by our sediment retention structures constructed in 1979 and 1980.

The hatchery has certain standards it must meet to maintain environmental

quality. Employees at the hatchery check sediment levels once or twice a month for sediment levels. "We have to make sure we aren't putting more than we should back into the river," Calica explained. The water released from the hatchery is filtered through a lagoon to remove much of the sediment before its being pumped back into the river.

Sixty-five thousand chinook were released in the fall of 1981. One hundred fifty thousand are being released this spring. The return expected will again be small because mortality is high during the salmon's three to five year cycle. Natural predators along with commercial and sports fishermen greatly reduce the numbers of returning salmon. Technology has also taken its toll in fish numbers.

The Warm Springs fish hatchery was constructed to keep the fish stocks from diminishing. The salmon is still very important to the local culture. This long range plan by the Confederated Tribes and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is just seeing its first returns. It will eventually benefit everyone.



CHOW TIME—Feeding fish at the Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery is a daily chore but necessary to keep local streams stocked for the future. Animal caretaker Kenny Calica is shown here feeding juveniles. Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk