

Wilkinson advocates Indian rights

by Pat Leno

"Keep up the good work," was the message renowned Indian law expert Charles Wilkinson left with the people of Warm Springs as he finished his speech on March 24 at the Agency Longhouse. Wilkinson gave praise to the Confederated Tribes and the work they have done to keep their treaty rights in tact during times of major changes in Indian country.

He gave a history of Indian country and treaties and the impact they have had on the rights Indians have or don't have. He defined the rights as being real, hard earned, bargained for, supreme and based on laws older than the treaties between the tribes and the federal government. Indian tribes are treated on the same basis as a foreign country. The

treaties with the Indian people in this country were not because of the color of their skin but because they were held as a nation.

Wilkinson warned that Indians need to be aware in their dealings with the government because so many of the programs in the past have been a step toward termination. He said to look for termination under other names, for he warned the government seeks many ways to disguise it. Indian people need to continue to look at each new piece of legislation presented and each new program presented. To beat any move of termination, tribes need to be on top of all new developments concerning laws about Indians and their lands. Warm Springs has been a leader in preserving and restoring their rights,

according to Wilkinson.

Indian law is a relatively new course taught in law schools and it needs further development. The knowledge and education on treaties and their interpretation are of major importance to all Indian people. They are best handled by the Indians themselves and their lawyers, related Wilkinson.

Wilkinson was sponsored to speak at Warm Springs through the joint efforts of Central Oregon Community College, the Warm Springs Education Committee and the Lewis Pitt Sr. Memorial Fund. Nancy Pitt, COCC adult education coordinator, stated if there is a further interest in Wilkinson and his presentation to contact her as it is possible to have Wilkinson return for another presentation.



SIGNS FOR THE STREETS

Gerald Chichenoff (left) and Claude Smith Sr. (Right) were busy last week installing road signs in the Campus area. A total of 96 signs will be put up in all residential areas of Warm Springs. Chichenoff and Smith are putting the sign up as their other daily roads department duties allow.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Behrend

Sturgeon setline regulations

The Oregon and Washington state compact today refused to change its regulation closing the treaty Indian sturgeon setline fishery during May.

In January, the Compact adopted regulations to close the setline fishery during May, in addition to June and July this year. The states testified that the regulation is necessary

to protect spawning sturgeon, and is needed to make regulations consistent with lower river commercial setline fishery closures.

The Columbia River tribes objected to this regulation and requested a re-hearing of the matter on the basis that the fishery has already been closed in June and July for this reason, and there is no evidence

to indicate the sturgeon population in Zone 6 requires additional protection from commercial fisheries during May. Regardless of this objection, the season regulation was not changed by the Compact.

The Zone 6 sturgeon setline fishery is therefore scheduled to close from noon April 30 through noon August 1, 1982.



Reservation nursery

Spring is the time to start your yardwork and start planting shrubs, potted plants and trees.

David Greene and Nelson Wallulatum have opened a nursery on Shitike Creek and welcome you to browse

through their assortment of greenery. Many are already in bloom. Don't forget that Mother's Day and Memorial Day are just around the corner.

Greene and Wallulatum will also do landscaping and soil tests.

Princess life a tough, busy one

by Donna Behrend

The life of a Portland Rose Festival Princess is a busy and demanding one. So Tami Nelson has found out since being selected as Madison High School's Rose Festival Princess.

Tami is the daughter of Tom and Vickie Nelson. Tami's mother, Vickie and her two brothers, Ron and Dan and her sister Lori Day are all members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. However, due to a change in adoption rules, Tami is not. Tami's grandmother is Jeanette Brunoe Garcia.

In a telephone interview last week, Mrs. Nelson said Tami is handling the honor very well. "But the family is still up in the air."

Tami and five other girls were selected by five judges as finalists. Student body members voted for their favorite, and Tami won.

Tami, a senior at Madison who has a 3.5 GPA, is presently class president and was homecoming queen last fall. She was sophomore class treasurer and sophomore Mid-winter Formal Queen. She is on the year book staff, a member of the Pep Club and Girl's



League. Among all these activities, she still finds time to be a part-time department store model. She also has tutored handicapped children.

Tami also enjoys golf, collecting ceramic cats and tea cups, swimming and reading.

For her princess selection, Tami received a \$1,000 scholarship which she tentatively is planning to use at OSU. She plans to major in

business and political science.

Tami will also receive a wardrobe valued at about \$2,000. Her princess duties from now and throughout the Rose Festival will include attending dinners, lunches and a visit to Kah-Nee-Ta sometime in May for a dinner with the Tribal Council. All activities and expenses are sponsored by the Portland Rose Festival Association.

Spilyay Tymoo
Coyote News

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