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Spilyay Tymoo

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Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Spring is baseball

Post office site may change

A general meeting was held at the Agency Longhouse on Wednesday, June 6 at which time the Land Use Committee and Planning Department reviewed the proposed road plan for the Agency area and the impacts it could have on the new Post Office location.

A second site east of the Old Administration building was proposed for the Post Office building. The first site proposed was across from Macy's store at the present site of the VFW hall. Both options were discussed at length.

including the benefits and disadvantages. People attending the meeting were presented with the possible option of the new Post Office being a modular building with the possibility of eventually having the Post Office later located in the proposed Commercial Center.

The Land Use Committee will meet Thursday, June 14, to prepare its recommendation to Tribal Council. Those Recommendations will be presented to Council June 18 at 1:30 p.m.

**Chief's Dinner
Father's Day Dinner
June 17, 1984
Simnasho Longhouse
Everyone is invited!**

Smith speaks at Chamber meeting

Managing a \$1 billion budget and 15,000 employees is not just an eight to five job. Political appointees put in much more time than that, according to Assistant Secretary of the Interior Ken Smith.

Speaking at the Madras Chamber of Commerce meeting June 4, Smith described a typical day as starting at 5:30 a.m. with a good physical workout. He arrives at the office, fifteen minutes from home, at 7:15 a.m. and doesn't get out until 7:00 p.m. "All day long, it's go, go, go," he added.

Despite the extensive time and energy expended with daily activities over the last two years he has served, Smith affirmed "it's still a challenge to me and I still love to do it. I'd probably make the same decision."

In the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, "488 tribes are dealt with," explained Smith. Fifty-two million acres are owned by these tribes. Land holdings by individual tribes range from 25 thousand square miles in the Navajo reservation with 160,000 people to smaller reservations encompassing 10 to 30 acres on which reside less than 100 people.

"Madras has been spoiled" with its location next to Warm Springs. "Warm Springs has been fortunate," but "not all reservations are like Warm Springs," said Smith.

Many reservations have no resources other than people, with which to work. Economic development is limited due to this. An example of this would be reservations that use ranching for economic purposes. "The land can support only so much. What do you do after that?"

"When I went into my job everyone thought I going to turn everything around." He has created some animosity but basically he has tried to do two things.

First, elaborated Smith, Tribes need a foundation on which to build. The government has made the mistake of giving money away without creating real, sound economy. "What we're trying to do is build a foundation on every reservation... with a good, local government."

Second, to improve the economy, Smith explained. He has asked the administration for funds for economic development. Tribes would match federal dollars three to

one for use in development enterprises. Tribes previously have been spoiled with 80 to 90 percent funding.

The first year in office, Smith asked for \$10 million and got \$5 million receiving 47 applications for the funds. "We funded 21 projects" and "generated \$25 million worth of production" with that \$5 million.

In 1983, \$5 million was again allotted. Smith is asking for \$10 million in the 1985 fiscal year.

Reorganization of the internal structure of the BIA was also begun, according to Smith. Strong managers were moved to key positions requiring strong leadership. Smith figured seven area offices were all that were needed over the 12 existing offices.

Many of his ideas were met with opposition. One particular idea was received with much hostility by both Congress and Indian country, said Smith. One-third of the budget goes toward education. With boarding schools only

partially filled, he felt it would be possible to close some schools and still adequately meet the needs of remaining students. "No one wanted to close their facilities." Only two of the suggested number of schools were closed.

"It's too bad Congress can't get together and agree... to cleaning up our area and reduce the federal deficit."

Smith gave credit to former Secretary of the Interior James Watt and present Secretary William Clark for their expertise in managing the department. "The job has to be done." These are merely the guys wearing the "black hats," as Smith put it.

Working in the Department of the Interior has widened Smith's perspective. He said, "I think I've got an education. I'm still learning. I'm still growing."

As far as living in Washington D.C., with its cold winters and humid atmosphere, Smith says, "I'm not going to stay away from Central Oregon. This is my home... I will get back to Oregon."

Hatfield stresses improved domestic programs, spending

"The strength of the nation is in its economy. The economy is as fundamental to national defense as a national arsenal."

Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield (Republican) addressing a group of area citizens stressed his desire to see money going back into the country through domestic programs while at the same time working towards a balanced budget. Hatfield spoke to area residents at the Stag restaurant during a breakfast meeting May 29 while on a speaking tour in Central Oregon.

Several times Hatfield stressed the need to limit defense spending and get domestic programs going again. Other components of national security besides defense have been neglected, Hatfield advised. Even though economists agree that the ratio between national debt and Gross National Product has not changed over the years, there are still factors to consider, says Hatfield.

Last year's trade deficit of \$69 billion is estimated to increase to \$110 billion in the next budget period. He reported "We are losing the

competitive edge in the national market."

Accompanying this deficit we are failing to provide funds for private capital investment. Funds are being used for other purposes. The government "can't provide capital at an interest rate people can afford," adds Hatfield.

"We no longer owe ourselves." Fifteen percent of the national debt is owned by foreign countries. Eight years ago it was five percent. This trend has been occurring since Roosevelt's New Deal program was initiated in 1932. Our national debt is now one trillion, 700 billion dollars.

The interest on our national debt today equals the total budget of the last year of the Eisenhower administration—\$150 billion. Hatfield emphasized, "We're paying interest on interest."

In the last three years, the defense budget has increased 82 percent. At the same time non-defense budgets for domestic programs have remained frozen with only a one percent increase.

Congress has agreed to maintain entitlement programs

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