

# Indian journalists gather at Penn State



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Behrend

Indian journalists from the United States and Canada gathered at Penn State University in June to discuss formulating the Native American Press Association. (NAPA).

by Donna Behrend

Communicating to non-Indians accurate and factual information about the Indian community surfaced as one of the most important aspects of Indian journalism at the organizational meeting of Native American Press Association (NAPA). The

three-day meeting, co-funded by the Gannett Foundation and Penn State University, was held at Penn State in State College, Pennsylvania and was attended by approximately 30 editors, reporters and publishers from throughout the United States and Canada. Indians have been stereotyped, said many of the

participants. And there's a definite lack of knowledge about Indians. "Either the Indian is romanticized as the noble red man or he is made out to be a howling savage," said Tim Giago, publisher of the Lakota Times of Martin, South Dakota. "We want people to understand that we can live in houses, drive cars,

love our families, like everyone else."

The importance of Indian media outlets, especially newspapers, cannot be overstated. A paper can influence congressional actions in Washington, D.C. and can also influence towns bordering reservations, change tribal thinking and policies. One conference attendee stated that newspapers should "stay away from the negative things and feature the positive. We should pick up on the achievers—establish role models for young people."

Not only could NAPA improve Indian/non-Indian communications, but NAPA could also provide an Indian news service, educational services and mutual support. An ultimate goal of NAPA is to establish a network news system, possibly a wire service, to disseminate information on various tribes throughout the United States and Canada and at the same time maintain high professional standards.

Participants were asked to define the purpose of NAPA. Three large blackboards were filled with recommendations ranging from serving as a "watchdog" group, presenting awards and recognizing achievements, establish a data bank of information, defining

legal rights and responsibilities and identify and clarify native-related issues. All recommendations will be categorized so that a constitution and by-laws, code of ethics, business plan and plan of operation can be formulated.

The question of Canadian membership arose. Some participants felt that Canadians should be allowed membership, but that the membership be held at the associate level for fear that federal funding would be jeopardized if Canadians were allowed an active, voting membership.

A 13-member steering committee was formulated at the first-annual meeting. The committee's duties will be to "think together" and make NAPA "happen." They will meet in August in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma to colate the recommendations.

The idea of a nation-wide native American press association is not new—there have been other such organizations. However, with more and more electronic media available to people, a new-found association specifically for the native American press will be very useful, if not essential.

## Huckleberry Feast

Sunday, August 5

He He Longhouse

Noon Time

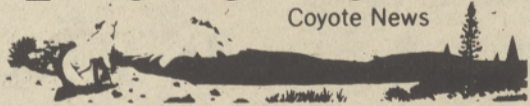
## Picnic planned

The Warm Springs chapter of Serenity Lane alumni is hosting a picnic for alumni and their families. The picnic will be held at Dry Creek Campground on Sunday, July 29,

beginning at noon. Eugene alumni will be spending the weekend at Kah-Nee-Ta and all local alumni are invited and encouraged to attend.

## Spilyay Tymoo

Coyote News



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FOUNDED IN MARCH OF 1976

Published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon. Warm Springs, Oregon 97761. Located in the Old Administration Building. Any written material to Spilyay Tymoo should be addressed to:

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Subscription Rate: \$6.00 per year

## Resort offering rafting



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Kah-Nee-Ta resort is now offering Deschutes River rafting to their guests.

by Donna Behrend

Rafting—it's a way for some to relax. For others, it's an exhilarating and exciting challenge. For Kah-Nee-Ta, it's a way, hopefully, to attract more people to the resort and to enhance business as well as offer resort guests something special and different to do.

In October of last year, Tribal Council and the Kah-Nee-Ta Board of Directors approved to allow Hunter Expeditions of Bend to be the concessionaire providing raft trips for guests of Kah-Nee-Ta. Through the Council and Board action, the old Hiram Smith residence can be used to put in, as well as Dry Creek Campground. They also approved the takeout point as

being at Moody's, which the Tribe purchased in 1981.

The rafting trips can be run seven days a week, but guests take advantage of the trips mostly on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The mini-expeditions run from Dry Creek Campground to the takeout point just past Moody's, on tribal land. The trip takes about three hours and costs \$20 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under.

The half-day trip, which runs from the Maupin City park to the sandy beach five miles downstream, takes about four to four-and-one-half hours and costs \$46 per person, including lunch. There is also an all-day trip that runs from three miles above

Maupin down to the sandy beach five miles below Maupin. Cost for the all-day trip is \$54 per person.

Brad Hunter, owner of Hunter Expedition, says that business has been fairly busy this season. However, it could be better. "It's always slow the first year," says Hunter.

When Hunter first started the raft trips, there was some confusion on the part of the Warm Springs Police Department if Hunter had authorization to takeout on tribal lands. "There was some miscommunication," says Hunter. But once everything was straightend out, things have run smoothly. "We haven't had any trouble," says Hunter. "Tribal members have been very cordial."