

Nusux Snwit Fish Talk



U.S.—Canada Treaty

by Cris Stainbrook

The fisheries community of the Pacific Northwest is still buzzing this week over the news that a salmon harvest treaty between the U.S. and Canada is imminent. Negotiations on the treaty have been going on for the past two decades and now the end appears to be in sight. The few remaining points of contention and language will be dealt with during a two-week session in January. From this meeting the final draft will go to the U.S. and Canadian governments for ratification. Everyone is hopeful that implementation of the treaty will begin in early 1985.

There is still a bit of caution among all this optimism however. In 1982 it appeared that a treaty would soon be presented for ratification but a strong effort by Alaska politicians blocked the process. That type of action is unlikely now because of the stronger position that has been taken by the federal government. Still, everyone will breathe easier once the treaty is formally adopted.

In essence, what the treaty would do is to temporarily reduce and limit interception fisheries. Since the major interception fisheries on salmon occur from Puget Sound, north to Alaska, those fishing entities south of Puget Sound have the most to gain from the treaty. Oregon fishermen, south coast of Washington fishermen and Columbia

River Tribal fishermen will have gained a great deal with the treaty while giving up virtually nothing.

The northern Washington fishermen gave up substantially more. The number of chinook and coho returning from waters further north will increase, but in turn, there will be decreased harvest of Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon by Washington fishermen. That doesn't sit well with some commercial fishermen like the purse seiners who concentrate on sockeye and pinks.

The Canadians both gained and gave. The Fraser River fish not intercepted by Washington fishermen will now accrue to the British Columbia fishery and recruitment. The chinook stocks produced in Canada's streams are among the most depressed. The treaty calls for reduced catch on these stocks by Alaskan fishermen. In return for these gains, Canadian fisheries will harvest fewer chinook and coho originating in Washington and Oregon streams.

The Alaska fishermen will give up the most. Therefore, their resistance to the treaty in 1982 and continued foot dragging in the latest negotiations is understandable. For reducing and limiting the Alaska catch of southern-originating chinook stocks, the Alaskans will benefit by healthier chinook populations in the future.

What, then, can tribal fishermen expect in the future? The statements coming from Jack

Donaldson, director of Oregon Department Fisheries and Wildlife and Bill Wilkerson, Washington Department Fisheries director, are encouraging. It is of course, easier to divide the fish if there are more fish available. The euphoric talk may lean a bit too hard toward dividing the increased number of fish available. The spirit of the treaty is to provide first, for healthier fish populations and secondly, for a more equitable allocation of fish. I would encourage biologists not to get so caught up in the excitement of the moment that their constituency is unintentionally misled. The rebuilding of fish stocks will be slow.

Under the treaty, the rebuilding of chinook stocks is on a schedule of three reproductive cycles. That translates to gradual increases until 1998. Given the current state of most stocks, there will be only very modest increases in the number of fish available for harvest during the next several years. This is especially true of Columbia River spring and summer chinook.

In conclusion, I would not recommend that everyone rush out and buy new nets and boats. There will be more fish for escapement, Indian and non-Indian harvest but those numbers will grow slowly. At the same time I do not want to give the impression that the treaty is not a major step forward. It is. In fact, it may be the saving grace for many salmon stocks. The treaty, combined with the Northwest Power Planning Act Fish and Wildlife Program should produce some very exciting results in the Columbia River basin.

My only other problem is with the semantics of the agreement. Must the accord be called a "treaty"? After all, given the disposition of the federal and state governments toward certain other treaties...



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Miller

Geo-Quiz

Although snow covers many areas of the Warm Springs reservation this time of the year the location of this geo-quiz photo shouldn't be difficult to identify. Be the first caller to identify the location on Tuesday, January 8 and win a year's subscription to Spilyay Tymoo for yourself or a friend. Call 553-1644 or 553-1161.

Humorous outlook shown by Indian tales

"The Moccasin Telegraph and Other Tales" by W.P. Kinsella

by Susan Matheny

Hot off the presses and just in at the Jefferson County Library are two copies of "The Moccasin Telegraph and Other Tales," a hilarious collection of 15 individual yet connected slices of reservation life on the Cree, Ermineskin Reservation in Western Canada.

Canadian author, W.P. Kinsella, has written four books of Indian tales and has been widely published in Canadian and American magazines. In this latest work, written in reservation jargon, Kinsella lets a sensitive, thoughtful character, Silas Ermineskin, and his outrageous, outspoken, prankish buddy, Frank Fencepost, confront and cavort with such things as poverty, loyalty, government hypocrisy, land grabbers, gawking tourists and news media, insensitive schools, bureaucrats,

churches, doctors, and parents. But this time we see things from the reservation residents point of view.

The feelings of Mad Etta, the 400 lb. medicine lady, Lester Brown the assimilated Indian who has to sneak down into a root cellar to practice the old ways so no one will see him, the bureaucratic Chief Tom and his girlfriend Samathan Yellowknees swindle funds from the Reserve and then smooth it over, Bedelia the young militant, all their feelings are explored.

The stereotyping of Indians by whites is taken advantage of instead of resented by Frank

Fencepost when two city hunters come looking for a guide: Putting up his hand Tonto style Frank tries to keep a straight face and begins, "You are in luck, white man," Frank said slow and clear. "I am Fencepost, Chief of the Onagotchies. We are mountain people, all born to hunt and to guide." And what a hunt!

Often the results is either humorous or disastrous. But more often, seen through the eyes of Silas, the result is a feeling of courage, dignity, heritage, and togetherness bound together by his mocking, humorous outlook on life that helps him cope and persevere.

Spilyay Calendars available



The Spilyay Tymoo calendars are now on sale at the Spilyay Tymoo office. The cost of the calendars will be \$2.00 each.

This year, the calendars feature old photos of people and families of the Warm Springs reservation. Photographs chosen for the calendars were from the

Middle Oregon Indian Historical Society, Elvina Switzler's photo album, Flora Thompson's albums and a photograph belonging to Frances Allen.

This year's calendar will include important events of Warm Springs history.

Resort in need

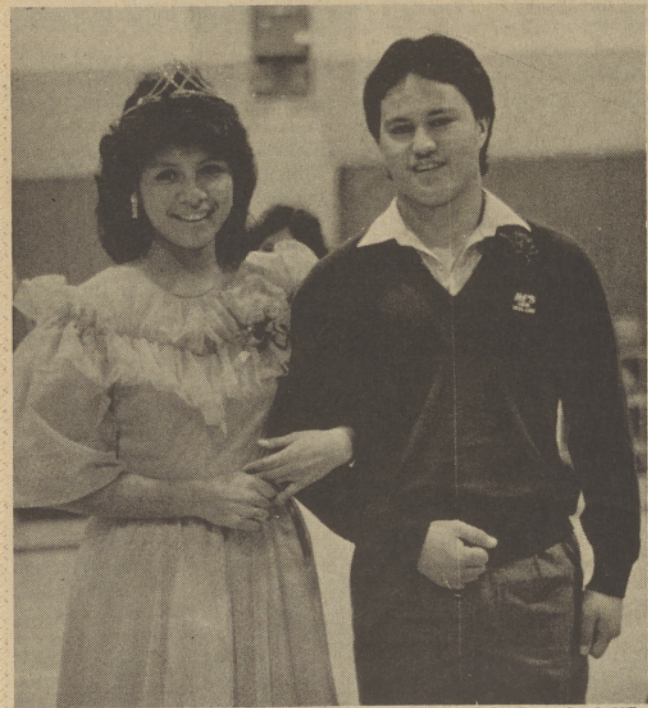
Kah-Nee-Ta Resort is seeking an individual to run the stable concession at the resort.

"Any individual experienced in horse stable operations with own stock, tack and capital, desiring to operate the horse stable concession at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort should contact Garland Brunoe at 553-1112, ext 435. Application closing date is January 31, 1985."

MHS Wrestling Schedule

Varsity and JV wrestling continue through February 1985. Their schedule includes matches against Wasco County at Madras January 4; Grant Union at Madras January 10; Nels Ochs Memorial Tourney at Madras January 12; Culver at Culver January 17; Stevenson, Washington at Stevenson January 19; Burns and Burns January 26; Madras Tourney February 2; Mac Hi at Mac Hi February 9; Lakeview Tourney February 16; District at Mac Hi February 22 and 23; State Tournament at Springfield February 28 - March 2.

Royalty chosen to reign at Holiday Tournament



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Miller

Lana Shike, escorted by Willie TeAho, reigns as Sr. queen during the 1984 Holiday Basketball Tournament.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Miller

Jr. Queen at the 1984 Holiday tournament is Lynn Tanewasha, escorted by Carlos Calica.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Leno-Baker

Warning icy conditions

The Warm Springs police department would like to remind drivers that this time of year the highways can become icy and dangerous following a sunny afternoon. This accident occurred on highway #26 just northwest of Warm Springs. The roads became icy following a warm sunny afternoon followed by the chill of late afternoon.

Spilyay Tymoo

Coyote News

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