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WARM SPRINGS, OREGON

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Gasoline truck spill threatens river, halts traffic

by Marsha Shewczyk

An overturned tanker and the leakage of 6,000 gallons of gasoline between Madras and Warm Springs caused a seven-hour highway closure and heightened concern for the purity of the Deschutes River.

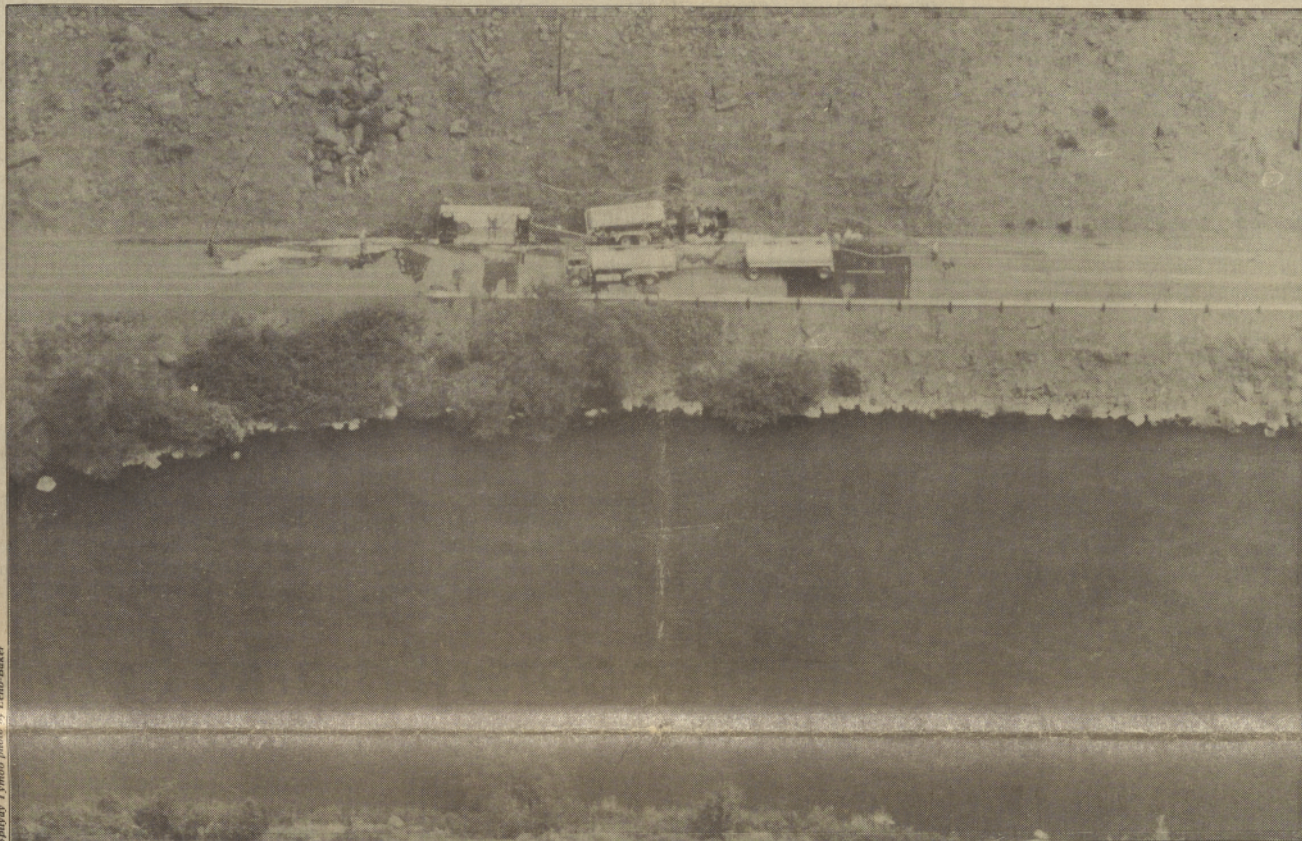
The truck, driven by Gerald Miller, of Cummings Transfer from Albany, Oregon was east-bound on Highway 26 when the left front tire blew. Pulling two trailers loaded with 9,550 gallons of gasoline, the truck crossed into the westbound lane and turned onto its side in the ditch. The tank on the tractor was ripped off the frame and crashed into the tractor. Both tanks were ripped open. Miller was not injured.

Warm Springs Fire and Safety arrived at the scene at 11:10 a.m. contacting Jefferson County Rural Fire Department who closed the highway at 11:35 due to the danger involved with leakage of the flammable substance.

The Hazardous Materials Team from Redmond Fire Department was dispatched and, upon arrival, attempted to stop the gasoline leak but were able only to slow it down. The pooling gasoline was covered with a blanket of foam.

Eventually the arrival of an empty tanker allowed removal of the remaining 3,500 gallons of gasoline.

Concern that gasoline might



A blown out front tire on a gasoline tanker stopped west and east bound traffic on highway 26 for seven hours. The tanker carried 9,550 gallons of fuel. A tanker from Prineville was called to the scene of the accident to transfer the remainder of the fuel. Many motorists traveling on highway 26 just stopped along side the seep into the river prompted notification of the Department of Environmental Quality. "We

were worried about it going under the road into the river," says Warm Springs Fire and

Safety chief Jerry Huff.

An investigation at the time of the accident by Warm Springs

watermaster Deepak Sehgal showed no culverts or direct openings to the river where gaso-

line might flow. By Wednesday, however, evidence of small amounts of petroleum in the water was reported by Tom Hall, the DEQ representative from Portland.

The amount of seepage is disappearing rapidly, according to Hall, within 15 feet of entering the water. A boom with petroleum absorbing material is planned to be placed in the river by DEQ Thursday to minimize contamination.

Cummings Transfer has contracted a Madras firm to remove contaminated soil as much as possible on the roadside. "It may be that 50-70 percent (of the petroleum) may be below that," said Hall. "This may gradually work its way through. If gasoline reaches the river in small quantities it will be diluted enough to prevent any problems. It will be watched," added Hall.

During highway closure automobile traffic was rerouted over the Pelton reregulating dam allowing Warm Springs employees an opportunity to get to Madras. Buses carried Warm Springs students from Madras over the dam. The highway was reopened to all traffic by 6:30 p.m.

At the request of Jefferson County Fire Department the State Highway Department covered the spill area with sand and gravel to avoid ignition of the gasoline saturated areas with increased traffic flow.

Tribe to open FM station

by Donna Behrend

In a few short months, radio listeners will be able to turn their radio dials to KWSI at 96.5 FM and hear programming from Warm Springs. Initial testing and application for an operating license will be carried out by the September deadline for Central Oregon's newest commercial FM radio station.

Talk of an FM station began in 1981 when a Bend radio station approached the Tribe regarding a station. There was a channel available in the Madras area and the Bend station wanted the Tribe to be a co-applicant for a grant with the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) under minority provisions. Upon considering the substantial economic value of the

license, the Tribe decided to go into the venture on their own. The Tribe acted quickly to prevent some other organization from obtaining the license. After being granted the license by the FCC, the Tribe had to "use it or lose it" to off-reservation control.

In December, 1981, Bill Marsh, of Rocky/Marsh Public Relations, began a year-long study to determine the feasibility of an educational radio station and a low power television station. The \$30,000 study, funded by the National Telecommunication and Information Administration, found that both stations would be feasible and beneficial for education programs on the reservation.

At approximately the same time of the study, the Tribe ap-

plied for an FCC educational radio station license, which was granted in 1984. Call letters will be KWSO. With the preliminary ground work behind them, the Tribe has since received construction permits for both stations. The Tribe also received a \$102,000 grant for the purchase of the educational station's tower and equipment. This is beneficial since the commercial station will be using some of the same equipment, such as the tower.

The Tribe has received three construction deadline extensions on the commercial station and no further extensions can be

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Father's Day Breakfast set

Mother's Day Breakfast turned out so well, that the Warm Springs 4-H Leaders decided to try a Father's Day Breakfast.

The cost is still \$2.50 per person and \$10.00 per family. A

family ticket is limited to seven persons, eighteen and under, or single, unmarried children living at home. Fathers are free.

Door prizes will be drawn throughout the morning.

All proceeds will help fund

future 4-H camps, field trips, fairs and other educational 4-H activities.

Tickets will be sold at the door and through the Extension Office. Call 553-1161 ext. 238.

Simnasho Sunday June 16

The Warm Springs Presbyterian Church is planning a "Simnasho Sunday" June 16. The gathering was postponed twice, before due to conflicts.

Regular services will be held at 10 a.m. followed by a potluck. During the potluck, the possibility of reviving the Simnasho church building and services will be discussed.

"We're not saying we will start services in Simnasho," said interim pastor Jim McGugin. "We're exploring the possibility." Owen Panner, chairman of the Presbyterian advisory committee, will be present to help evaluate the interest. Also to be discussed is a report on the estimated cost of remodeling the Simnasho church building.

KPTV to feature W.S.

Warm Springs will be featured on KPTV channel 12 June 9 from 10 to 11 p.m. Viewers Digest. The segment will be titled "Direction of the American Indian."

Included will be information on Kah-Nee-Ta and WSFPI and possibly other footage.

D.P. powwow June 7

June 7 through June 9 marks the dates of the 1985 Delta Park Powwow sponsored by Portland

Inter-Tribal.

A \$1.00 registration fee will provide entry into competition dancing. Daily raffle drawings will take place also.

Events begin at 5:00 p.m. June 7 with Grand Entry taking place at 8:00 p.m. Events on June 8 take place from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Coronation of the queen and court occurs at 2:00 p.m. Worship services begin at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, June 9. Dancing begins at 10:00 a.m. and continues to 5:00 p.m.

Admission is \$1.00 per person. No alcohol or drugs will be permitted.

For more information contact powwow chairman Stoney Weeks, 289-2449.

WEATHER

| MAY | HI | LOW |
|------|----|-----|
| 23 | 87 | 59 |
| 24 | 74 | 53 |
| 25 | 75 | 42 |
| 26 | 78 | 36 |
| 27 | 72 | 44 |
| 28 | 64 | 45 |
| 29 | 56 | 42 |
| 30 | 66 | 36 |
| 31 | 64 | 52 |
| JUNE | HI | LOW |
| 1 | 63 | 44 |
| 2 | 74 | 38 |
| 3 | 78 | 45 |
| 4 | 73 | 54 |



Powwow concludes year of study

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Last day school activities at Warm Springs Elementary included a powwow attended by students, parents and community members.