

Editorial E Coosh EEWA:

(The way it is)
Letters to the Editor—



Public awareness necessary for wilderness safety

To the Editor,

The popularity, attitudes, and standards of outdoor adventure sports have taken many new directions over the past decade. Personally I've been involved with outdoor sports for the better part of my life and a professional outdoor guide for the past eight summers. The company I own conducts guided whitewater rafting, wilderness horse packing, hunting and fishing trips with a staff of three managers and fifteen guides. Over 8,000 people will take my trips this summer.

In order for me to conduct business as a guide, I have to be registered with the state, operate under permits from the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, sign a notarized statement that all my guides have met state requirements of first aid training, provide detailed operating plans and be fully insured. The real purpose for making this boasting statement is to lend some credibility to some of my professional observations concerning participation in outdoor adventure activities.

It is my opinion that with the dramatic increase in participation in rafting, climbing, hiking, hunting, etc. more and more organizations facilitating these activities spring up all the time. Not only guide services, but, company sponsored clubs, church groups, parks and recreation departments, colleges and

high schools, state run correctional facilities, YMCA type programs and Boy and Girl Scout groups.

In light of the recent Mt. Hood disaster, I feel compelled to bring to the public's attention that individuals who participate in dangerous activities through any organization automatically presume, along with their spouses and parents, that the leaders are qualified to lead such trips.

I have all too often observed groups conducting unsafe trips, and I have even had the occasion to assist such groups in time of need.

I'm sure that there are programs that have very competent and experienced leaders. However, it is the unfortunate victims of accidents who suffer from the one trip leader who wasn't qualified.

The concept of exposing the public to these special activities is great, yet it draws many organizations and individuals into activities they are not qualified to participate in.

This is not to say that I'm the most experienced or my trips are without risk. Guide services; however, do have, in my opinion, a greater degree of public and government scrutiny, and the operators have investments which mean greater motivation for conducting safe trips.

Programs that are initiated by organizations with directors not sufficiently experienced in the activities they want to conduct, can have a difficult time understanding all

the ramifications associated with these activities. They can also have a difficult time in finding qualified trip leaders within their organization.

Rather than pushing for strict government regulations on organizations conducting these types of trips, I would first encourage each organization to seek qualified consulting on whether or not they should be involved in these activities or be better off contracting with someone more qualified.

Secondly, I would encourage the public and group member's to be very aware of the risks and seek professional advice concerning the particular program they want to participate in.

Thirdly, I would get documentation on leaders qualifications, organizations insurance, and all safety practices the trip leader follows.

Fourthly, I would encourage insurance companies to evaluate whether or not to cover these types of

organizations. This year my liability insurance premium went up 700 percent and the coverage was reduced to one third of last years policy. My rates have gone up primarily because of claims associated with accidents caused by inexperienced leaders. I'm not even sure that I'll be able to get insurance next year.

The biggest problem with this whole thing is the vast number of people who are being taught improper procedures while in the outdoors

and passing this bad information onto others.

Hopefully public awareness can be increased to the point accidents won't happen.

Sincerely,
Joe Gaber
Cascade Adventures
Sisters, Oregon

Students honored at Longhouse dinner

by Pat Leno-Baker

"To fly with the eagles, one can't stay in the barnyard with the chickens," could sum up what speaker, Hattie Kauffman, anchor woman for KING-TV of Seattle, expressed to Warm Springs graduates attending the honor dinner held at the Simnasho Longhouse May 28. The dinner, held each year to honor local Indian students, is sponsored by the Warm Springs Education Committee and the Tribal Council.

Kauffman told a story of an eagle that was raised with chickens and when the time came for the eagle to soar freely in the skies, the eagle kept flying back to the barnyard. It was only after the lady who

cared for the eagle took him high on a mountainside that the eagle finally realized that he could soar. The moral was that the eagle first had to discover who he was before he could leave the barnyard. Students were advised to discover who they were and not to be afraid of the world or to be afraid to try their own wings. Kauffman said leaving high school is the beginning of adult life.

Kauffman is an enrolled Nez Perce Indian who works for KING-TV in Seattle.

Students honored were: Judy Charley who received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Community Health Management from the University of Oregon; Dorothy Coversup, certification in Mixology from the International Bartending Institute; Susan Guerin, certificate in modeling from Barzian School of Modeling; Fay Hurtado, certificate in horse management from Lamar Community College; Reva Johnson, certificate in floral design from Ara School of Floral Design; Tom LeClaire, auto mechanic degree

from Lewis and Clark State College; Sophie L. Manion, certificate in secretarial training from Northwestern College of Business; Aurolyn Stwyer, Associate Degree in Business Technology from Central Oregon Community College; Lorraine Suppah, certificate in Computers from Chemeketa Community College and; Roscoe Thompson, Jr., certificate in Management, Data Processing and Computer Programming from Western Business College.

Ronnie Suppah and Terry Squiempfen were honored for obtaining their journeyman tickets in the Tribe's apprenticeship program.

Graduating high school students from Chemawa were Dion Minthorn and Dean Sohapp. Warm Springs students graduating from high schools other than Madras were Tina Polk, Paula Smith, Bryan A. Mitchell Sharp, Melva Tanewasha and Bridgette Kalama.

Indian students who graduated from Madras Senior High with the class of 1986 were honored. Those

students were: Donald Bagley, Bruce Brunoe, Lavina Colwash, John Courtney, Donetta Danzuka, Phillip Florendo, Sonya Heath, Paul Henderson, Don Hoaglin, Gina Jackson, Angela Jefferson, Minnie Johnson, Mary Kay Leno, Stacey Leonard, Edward Lucei, Leander Lucero, Jason Palmer, Marv Patrick, Geraldine Polk, Leonard Red Fox, Rosanna Sanders, Alvis Smith, III, Joseph Smith, Shirelle Smith, Veronica Smith, Rick Starr, Solomon Stewart, Loren Suppah, Aurel Surface, Sheldon Sutterlee, Danelle Tailfeathers, Jeannine Thompson, William Trimble, Michelle Wells, Lauren Wolf, Jackie Woods and Annette Wulf.

Students who received their GEDs were also honored: Roosevelt Heath, Hazel Smith, Lowell Thompson, Annette Starr, Jennifer Yazzie, and Virgil Culps.

All honorees were presented a flower, certificate and words of praise from Council. The Tribe has ordered travel garment bags for each of the students.



Seatbelts prevent injury

Warm Springs Elementary students observe demonstration of seatbelt safety given by Oregon State Police. Police tour schools emphasizing importance of wearing seatbelts to prevent injury.

YIKES YIKES Toe Ness YIKES YIKES

In the court room, the attorney for the defendent jumped up and said, "I object to all the witness said."
The judge: "Why?"
Attorney: "Well, it makes it look like I was listening." YIKES

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Lawyer: "Here's my bill. Give me \$5,000 as down payment and twelve monthly payments at \$500."
The client: "Sounds like buying a car."
Lawyer: "I am." YIKES

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Tom shot a guy in a brawl in the Dirty Moc. He called a shyster lawyer from Portland to defend him. Answer, "I'll be there for the trial. Don't worry, I'm bringing two eye witnesses." YIKES

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A jury: "A group of twelve people selected to decide who has the best lawyer." YIKES

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MOIHS seeking member

Resumes are now being accepted for a non-tribal member position on the Middle Oregon Indian Historical Society Board of Directors. This position will expire January, 1987.

The Society is formed solely for educational purposes as follows: To preserve and perpetuate the heritage and culture of the Indians of Middle Oregon; to provide facilities for the safe-keeping and display of articles and artifacts relating to the heritage and culture of the Indians of Middle Oregon; to provide educational opportunities to students and scholars interested in the study of the heritage and culture of the Indians of Middle Oregon; and, to ensure that the contributions of the first inhabitants of Middle Oregon to the development and history of the area receive their proper recognition.

This Class I position is a one-year term and is subject to reappointment at the end of the term

Appointment is made by the Tribal Council.

For further information and to turn in your resume/letter of interest, contact Beulah N. Wahpat in the Tribal Council office or call 553-1161, ext. 258. Deadline date to apply is June 30, 1986.



Not all livestock action occurs in rodeo arena. Whitney Miller brands colt at Four Corners corral.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Spilyay Tymoo welcomes articles and letters from its readers. All letters, preferably 300 words or less, must include the writer's signature and address. Thank you letters and poetry will be published at the editor's discretion.

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