

Environmental Council meets--Continued from page 1

The National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC), was formed two years ago as a membership organization with the vision of enhancing tribes ability to protect, preserve and promote the wise management of our air, land and water for the benefit of present and future generations. The organization plays a vital role with Indian tribes as well as with in the U.S. environmental Community at large. NTEC is open to membership for federally recognized Tribes throughout the country. There was a survey made throughout Indian country to enhance the organization's ability to serve tribal interest. Environmental information will support tribal efforts to develop factual information. Environmental information will support tribal efforts to advocate for increased federal funds to develop and support environmental programs.

This survey asked tribes to rank their top environmental challenges and the following three were most referred to. 1. Water quality, 2. Solid waste/landfills; 3. Financial assistance, technical assistance, wet land protection.

The survey asked tribes to rank their most crucial funding priorities. The three most listed were: 1. Environment staff and development of environmental programs. 2. Environmental training and funding; 3. Legal support.

A presentation was made concerning the issues, that all the Indian Tribes have never received any funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency during the past two decades to clean up the environment. As they claimed tribal governments were the ones to take care of the environmental regulation on Indian lands.

Don Wharton, a lawyer for the Native American Rights Fund of Boulder Colo. went on to say, since the formation of the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970, established a bureaucracy for enforcement

of federal environmental laws. But it has excluded Native Americans and Indian reservations all along. Each year EPA has received funds but has given it to the larger cultures and left tribal governments out. Failure to fund Indian tribes is significant as it denies tribes to deal with air, water and other problems tribes face.

The Mescalero-Apache tribe is one of three Indian tribes that received federal money for studies of placing high-level nuclear waste tanks on tribal lands. There was some controversy over the issue among tribal representatives opposing the idea, because of some spiritual and cultural meaning over the situation. There were some who felt that we should not miss treat mother earth and not do damage by placing high level nuclear waste tanks under ground.

Bill Yellowtail, a Wyola, Mont. cattle rancher and member of the Crow tribe, was nominated to head the U.S. Environmental Protection agency's Region 8, which includes Colorado, North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Utah, who said Indian tribes should line up with the Clinton administration to lobby Congress for more environmental money rather than trying to take it from the cash strapped states. Yellowtail said the overriding theme of the conference has been the federal government's failure to fund tribes to carry out the environmental regulatory programs they are supposed to run on Indian lands. "It has been demonstrated here there's not even a shadow of parity," he said. But going after the funding states receive from the EPA for air, water, waste and other pollution programs isn't the solution. Yellowtail said.

States already complain to EPA leaders that regulatory programs are shoved down on them from federal heights—but with no funding to perform the dictated functions. The overall answer lies in devoting more money to environment, and tribes should view the new administration in Washington as an ally, and offer a

plan for how it should approach their environmental problems.

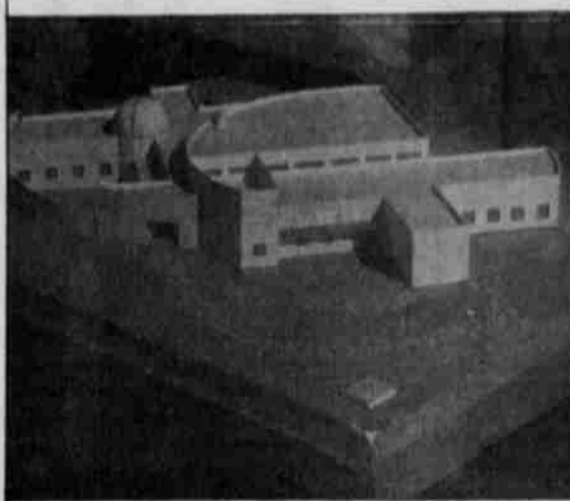
Tribes should inventory reservations' environmental needs, then set priorities for fixing problems, he said. Addressing environmental degradation on Indian lands won't benefit only Indian people, because many reservations are situated at headwaters. In his state, the headwaters of the Missouri River system are mostly on Indian lands.

LaDonna Harris, President and founder of Americans for Indian Opportunity, spoke to the group at the National Tribal Environmental Council.

Tribes have attempted for a long time to have their sovereignty recognized. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has been one of the problems even though there have been many requests presented to the federal agency to develop an Indian Policy statement, but there hasn't been any attempts to complete it and carry it out. Federal Agencies are not accustomed in dealing with Indian tribes as Political units of government. Its up to the tribal leaders to take all issues to each new Presidential administration about sovereignty and the environment. Federal policies formerly recognize Indian Tribes as sovereign governments but those policies are not followed through. Its like one un-ending battle for the tribes.

Elizabeth Bell, of the EPA's office of Environmental Equality in Washington D. C., said, her office is starting to deal with environmental justice, a movement to apply environmental protection equally across the country, particularly in areas where poor and minority groups live. Her office has a coordinator in each of EPA's regions. She urged Indian environmental leaders to work with her office to address their concerns. She said the agency's goal is to help them take environmental protections into their own hands.

The meeting was very productive for the first of its kind and another is being planned for the future.



Top Photo: Rodney Grant, one of the leading actors in the movie, "Dances With Wolves," his name, "Wind In His Hair," speaking at the ground-breaking ceremonies for a learning center for the, "Futures For Children," with the theme, "Realizing a dream." The 16,000 square foot building, model lower left photo, will serve as a greenhouse attracting Indian Communities across the country, serving deprived Indian children. Funds of \$250,000, from Ron McDonalds, Children's Charities were accepted for the construction of the facilities.
Lower Right Photo: Ted Strong, Executive Director for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission, was one of the featured speakers at the National Tribal Economic Council meeting at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Diabetes Awareness Day to be held December 9

The Warm Springs Diabetes Program would like to invite you to learn more about diabetes by attending a Diabetes Awareness Day on Thursday, December 9, 1993, from 8:30 to 4:00 p.m. at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center in the Community Health conference room. The emphasis of the presentations will be how to cope with the stresses of the holiday season. Between 8:30 and

9:00 a.m. you can have your blood pressure and blood sugar tested. Lunch will be served during the nutrition presentation at noon. If you and your family and friends would like to attend the Diabetes Awareness Day, please call Colleen at 553-1196 to register. In order for us to plan for enough food and handouts, you must register by Monday, December 6.

Warm Springs Elementary news

- November 24 — Morning Kindergarten only! No afternoon kindergarten. Early teacher/student dismissal.
- November 25, 26, — No School, Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 8 — Christmas Program, 6-8 p.m. at the Community Center.
- December 16 — Winter Carnival 6-8 p.m. at the WSE Gym. Detailed information will be coming home with students.
- December 17 — Last full day of

- school before Christmas Break.
- December 18 to January 2 — Christmas Break.
- Thank you to parents
A very big thank you goes out to each and every parent, guardian, and community member who attended parent conferences November 4 and 5.
- Career Fair
The Natural Resources Career Fair held at Warm Springs Elementary on November 8, was a big success again this year. Students, parents and community members participated by walking through the gym and gaining information about careers in Natural Resources.

CORRECTION
In the November 5th newsletter it was incorrectly reported that KWSI would broadcast school closures or emergency releases. The notification should have said KWSO radio will

- begin broadcasting school closure, delay notification beginning at 6:00 a.m. Thank you Kenman Miller for keeping us up-to-date.
- Early morning arrivals
The door to the cafeteria does not open until 7:20 a.m., when the first bus pulls up. Please don't send your child to school before that time if they walk or ride with you. Supervision for children before that time is not available. Also, with the weather turning colder, please remember to dress your child warmly for the playground and walking to and from the cafeteria.
- Christmas Program
Wednesday, December 8 beginning at 6:00 p.m.
Warm Springs Community Center
This is an important date for WSE students and parents as this is the evening of the Christmas Program.

Miss Edmonds would like everyone attending to know that this year they will try and keep the program to approximately an hour so parents will be able to stay for the whole program. Time will be made available after each performance from classes for those interested to take pictures.
Parents help requested
Recently, the number of children who have chew at school has increased. Please assist the school by talking with your child and reinforcing the "no chew allowed at WSE" policy. Thank you.
Emergency Messages
Please send a not with your child when there is a change in their usual destination after school, rather than calling the office. Emergency messages can be delivered to students if circumstances change after your child has left for school.



On November 16 and 17, Water and Soil personnel (Buzz Scott, Cy Jim, Perriann Russell, Chris Gannon) and Fish and Wildlife staff (Mark Fritsch, Doug Calvin, Lester Poitra, Harry Miller) cleaned up an illegal dump site in Tenino Creek. Three trucks with winches and the two-ton

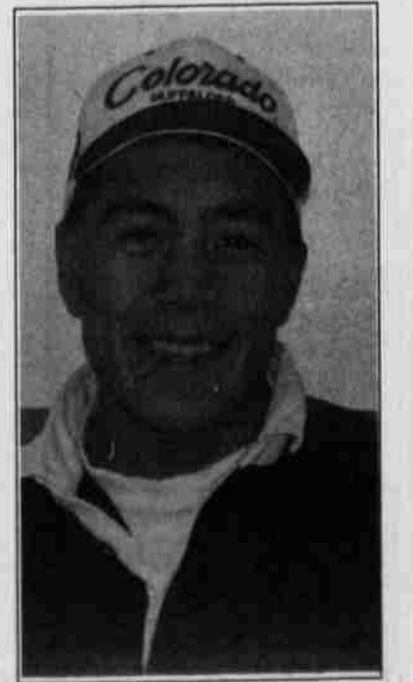
Students encourage others to "Try hard all through high school"



Bobbie Calica
Madras High School seniors being featured this issue include Bobbie Calica and Izaak Esquiro.
Seventeen year old, Bobbie Jean Calica of Warm Springs is the daughter of Nadine Mitchell, her legal guardian is Charlene Heath. Her grandparents are Art and Bernice Mitchell and Inez Calica of Warm Springs. Calica is of the Warm Springs Wasco and Paiute descent. She has two brothers; Lee Calica who is 13, and Harley Andrews and he is 11. Her sisters include, twelve year old Carmel Andrews, six year old Bernice Mitchell, Mercedes Mitchell who is three and Cassy Alvarado who is nine months old.
She is currently involved in Native American Student Union under the direction of Jeff Bury. She enjoys playing basketball and softball, she

played basketball for MHS her freshman and sophomore years and plans on playing her senior year. She also played softball for MHS her junior year and plans to go out next spring. Calica feels that basketball is her favorite sport because she likes the competition.
Her favorite classes are Psychology and Be Yourself 2 with John Billingsly. Calica's outlook of the past school years she feels she did too much messing around. She feels this last year is her best year, as she stated, "The Baddest!". She will miss friends and the environment when she leaves MHS.
Her field she would like to pursue as a career is becoming a physical therapist or perhaps a Physical Education teacher. She would like to study for either of these fields at Portland State University, Oregon State, or Haskell. She would like to comment to the remaining class, "Try hard, don't mess around too much, it counts in the end." In five to ten years from now Calica sees her self still in school (college).
Izaak Jack Esquiro is seventeen years old and is the son of George and Eunice Esquiro of Warm Springs. His grandparents are Stella Azure and Julia Wolfe of Salem, Oregon. He has two brothers; half brother John Mather who is 22, and William Esquiro who is 11. His sister is Jessie Esquiro who is fourteen. Esquiro is a member of the Warm Springs tribe.
He has been a member of the MHS golf team and basketball team since his freshman year, and he played basketball his freshman year. His favorite sport is football, he stated, "There is more self-discipline, you work harder as a team and individually."
Esquiro feels his favorite classes in school are Civics with Darryl Smith and Business Law with Joe Blincoe.

He has received such awards as varsity letters in golf his freshman through junior years, and football his junior and senior years. His outlook of the past school years he felt his freshman and sophomore years were kind of bad but his last two were better that the first two, but went by too fast. He feels his last year in high school would go by slower than his previous years. Sports and being around his friends is what he will miss when he leaves MHS.
Esquiro would like to pursue a career in teaching, but is undecided about a college choice. He would like to comment to the remaining lower classmen, "Try harder all your four years instead of trying to come back your last year." In five to ten years he sees himself done with college and working.



Izaak Esquiro

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