

Spilyay Tymoo

(Coyote News)

SERIALS DEPARTMENT
KNIGHT DEPT.
1299 UNIVERSITY OF OR
EUGENE, OR 97403



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Coyote News In Brief

Smokey celebrated
Smokey Bear has long been an effective fire prevention icon. Smokey's history is offered.

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Dioxin levels too high?

Columbia River Treaty Tribes are concerned about dioxin levels in the river.

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Circus appears

The circus came to town last week, and boy, did they put on a show.

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A pilot among us

Clarence Jefferson recently attained his private pilot's license.

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Voc/Rehab offers assistance

The local program offers job placement assistance and much more to those in need.

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Sturza named athletic coordinator

Long-time coach and physical education teacher Margaret Sturza was recently selected MHS coordinator of the school's athletic program.

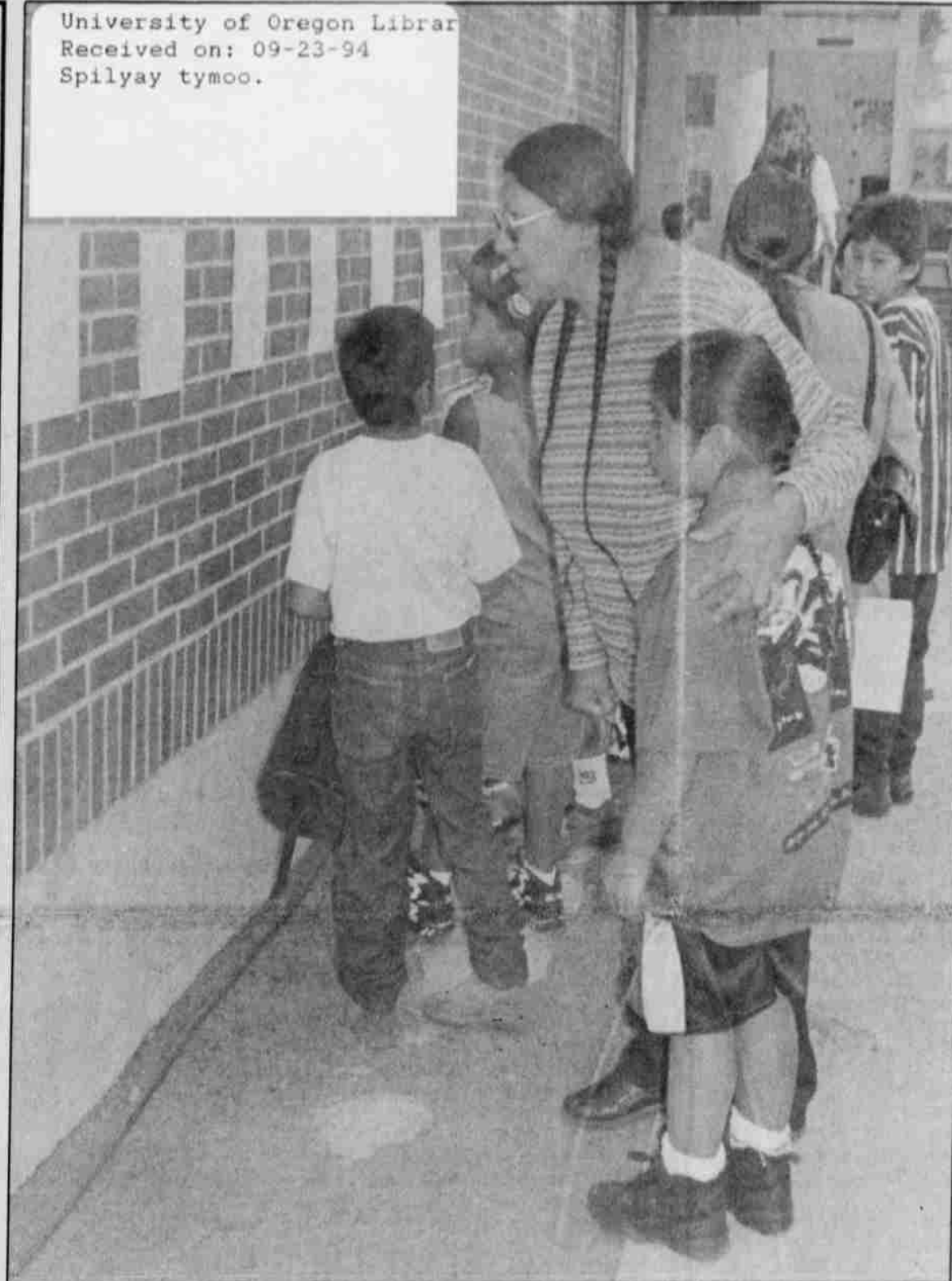
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Recipes offered

Scalloped corn and macaroni and meat salad recipes, containing commodity food stuffs, were prepared and tested by OSU home economist Norma Simpson.

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University of Oregon Library
Received on: 09-23-94
Spilyay tymoo.



Spilyay Photo by Selena Boise

The first day of school at Warm Springs Elementary brought parents and students to the wall to check room assignments.

Yakamas win salmon restoration suit

"The 9th Circuit basically gutted the Northwest Power Planning Council's Strategy for Salmon," said Tim Weaver, attorney for the Yakama Indian Nation.

The tribe and environmental organizations learned recently that they had won the lawsuits they brought two years ago against the council's salmon restoration program, which is also called the Strategy for Salmon.

"We won a major victory for salmon," said Jerry Meninick, Yakama tribal chairman. "With the litigation, we were telling the power council that to recover the salmon,

strong, comprehensive measures have to be taken by all the water and land users."

The 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals sent the plan back to the council for redrafting, saying that the council must give "strong deference" to the recommendations of the tribes and the fish agencies when developing a program.

"This could be the beginning of a real salmon recovery plan that puts fish on an equal footing with the hydrosystem as the Northwest Power Act directed," said Weaver.

In the same ruling, the 9th circuit

also rejected aluminum and industry claims, including the industry's contention that the council should have measured the costs and benefits of each fish protection measure and that economic impacts and drawdown measures violate the Northwest Power Act.

The "record reveals few profound successes," the court said about the program's 10-year history. The council has sometimes been "sacrificing the act's fish and wildlife goals for what is, in the essence, the lowest common denominator acceptable to power interest and DSIs (the aluminum and metal industries)," the opinion stated.

"There is no more time for the duct tape approach—no more time for patching up what isn't working," said Weaver. "It's time to totally revise the way they've been doing business. But don't misunderstand, the tribes believe that this region can have salmon without the lights going out."

"The Columbia River tribes have submitted detailed plans after detailed plans on how basin-wide restoration should proceed. The Yakama tribe hopes this is a new start because they are tired of going to court to try to make it happen," said Weaver.

We're looking for interesting stories and photos (if available) of the 1964 flood. The 30-year anniversary of the "Big One" is coming this winter. Keep Spilyay in mind when remembering the good ol' days. Call us at 553-3274 with your memories.

Injunction favors tribes

Federal District Judge Malcom Marsh issued a preliminary injunction.

Friday, September 2 to prevent the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Washington/Oregon Columbia River Compact from interfering with additional tribal fishing days.

At the judge's urging, the four Columbia River treaty tribes, including Warm Springs, and the federal agency came to an agreement that only 26 more Snake River wild fall Chinook could be incidentally caught during the tribes' fall Chinook fishery. That decision could mean two fewer fishing days and 5,000 to 10,000 fewer Chinook and 2,000 to 3,000 fewer steelhead for tribal members than originally proposed by the four tribal governments.

NMFS also agreed to continue discussion with the tribes about hatchery reforms, particularly trapping fall Chinook at Lower Granite Dam, and changes in hydro operations.

The agreement was reached after the judge suggested that if fish weren't being trapped at Lower Granite Dam, more Snake River fall Chinook would escape to spawning grounds than would be caught in the tribes' proposed fishing season. The tribes had earlier recommended that fall Chinook not be trapped and instead allowed to continue to spawning grounds. But NMFS had ignored this proposal and others related to hydrosystem operations.

"We are pleased that now attention can be brought back to real salmon restoration," said Ted Strong, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission Executive Director. "If treaty rights, as affirmed by US v Oregon, had been followed all along, neither the tribes nor the salmon would be an issue before the court today."

Without trapping, an estimated 489 Snake River fall Chinook would head for the spawning grounds. With trapping, only 280 are projected to cross Lower Granite Dam, which is the last passable dam before the river areas where fall Chinook spawn. Trapping is done to take fish for research and for hatchery broodstock and to remove hatchery-origin Snake River Chinook.

Tribal and state biologists report that more Snake River wild fall Chinook would also pass over Lower Granite Dam this year if more cold water were released from upper Snake River reservoirs and if fish

passage improvements were made.

In their fall fishery, tribal members are entitled to harvest as many as 32,500 fall Chinook and 12,000 steelhead—fish which are in excess of spawning needs. In what will probably be a total of 10 or 11 days of fishing, the tribes will take an estimated 48 Snake River wild fall Chinook that would have otherwise reached their spawning grounds above Lower Granite Dam.

This fall fishing dispute was resolved in United States v. Oregon, a treaty fishing rights case under the continuing jurisdiction of the federal court since 1968. "The treaties, the Columbia River Fish Management Plan (CRFMP) and the Endangered Species Act all have strong principles for salmon conservation," said CRITFC's executive director.

At September 2's hearing, Judge Marsh expressed his confidence in the CRFMP and was proud of the parties' ability to reach an agreement to resolve the fishing dispute without further litigation. After five years of negotiations, the tribal, state and federal parties to US v Oregon agreed to the CRFMP, which was then endorsed by Judge March in 1988.

The four tribes and the Columbia River Compact met about specific fishing dates on September 6 at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The dates for tribal commercial fishing were set as follows:

From 6 a.m. September 8 to 6 p.m. September 10. A second fishery will be discussed at the September 19 Compact hearing.

Open Area: All of Zone 6 (Bonneville, the Dalles and John Day pools)

Restrictions: No mesh restriction

Continued on page 2

Parents group to meet 9/20

There will be a Parent Advisory Committee meeting at 7:00 P.M., in the Warm Springs Elementary Library, September 20, 1994.

Dr. Steve Nelson, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory will be the featured speaker. New members will be elected to the committee.

If you have a disability, please contact Stan Pine at 475-6192, at the 509-J Support Service Office Building, for special arrangements that may allow you to participate in the meeting.

Back
to

School
Yard Sale
and

Kids Front Yard Carnival
Saturday, September 24

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Community Center

Carnival Admission: Two toys

Volunteers needed to run carnival booths.

Call Carol at 553-3243 to reserve a table or to volunteer at the carnival.

Deadline for the
next Spilyay Tymoo
will be
Friday,
September 23



Here's looking at you—One of the main attractions of the King Royal Brothers circus was the elephants. Their wrinkled hides and long trunks amazed all.