

Across the Wire....

Lummi tribe closes casino due to competition

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (AP)—The Lummi Casino is closing, hard hit by losses brought on by competition from expanded Canadian gaming, the tribe said Monday. The casino was scheduled to close at 3 a.m. Tuesday, putting 238 people out of work. The Lummi Indian Business Council voted last weekend to close the casino because of the declining Canadian market. "There have been severe financial losses because of a reduction in customers," casino manager Joe Mace said. "This is directly related to expanded gaming activities in Brit-

ish Columbia. Eighty percent of (our) customers came from Canada." In recent months, British Columbia has upped wager limits, approved new games and extended hours for casinos. More changes, including the addition of slot machines to casinos, are planned in Canada. Gaming opportunities also are on the rise in Washington state. "We've tried everything to make the operation successful. There just weren't enough players to allow the business to succeed," Mace said.

Suit possible over sale of fish to non-Indians

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—At least two Columbia River Indian tribes plan to sue the state of Oregon for refusing to allow the tribes to sell steelhead to consumers.

The Warm Springs and Yakama tribes plan to take their arguments to federal court, and may be joined by the Umatilla and Nez Perce tribes, said Ted Strong, executive director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

The tribes had planned to start selling steelhead to the public Wednesday at parks or riverside docks along the Columbia River for \$2 a pound.

But state law prohibits non-Indian residents from buying steelhead from tribal sellers. A treaty agreement allows the tribes to sell the fish to licensed commercial buyers and canneries, but because of heavily stocked runs this year, fishermen can expect just 22 cents a pound.

Last fall, tribal gill-netters found they could make more money selling fish directly to the public than to local stores.

"We're losing a hell of a market here. We're losing it to an over-regulated Oregon state fish industry," Strong said.

The lawsuit was prompted by the Oregon Fish Commission's decision Friday to uphold the ban on the public's ability to buy the steelhead from the tribes.

Strong claimed the state Fish & Wildlife Department was going out of its way to enforce the law, which has rarely been used since it was passed in 1976 by voters who wanted to designate the steelhead as a game fish.

State police have issued fliers and public-service announcements warning Oregonians that they, not the tribal fishermen, would be committing a crime if they bought the fish.

Capt. Lindsay Ball, in charge of the Or-

egon State Police's fish and wildlife enforcement division, said he is only enforcing a law that has been in effect for over two decades.

"If those people are saying that I'm targeting them, that is absolutely false," Ball said. "We did not want people to innocently go down and purchase a fish in violation of the law."

The penalty for buying a steelhead in Oregon is up to one year in jail or a \$5,000 fine, or both. Three citations were issued last year.

The four tribes still plan to legally sell other non-game fish, such as steelhead, chinook and shad, caught in tribal gill nets between the Bonneville and McNary dams. They have set up a toll-free phone number to handle the business.

They'll haul ice in semi trucks from Washington state to chill the fish and begin selling from boats and pickups at Cascade Locks on Wednesday, when the next fishing season starts. The season ends once the tribes have harvested their limit of 27,000 steelhead.

Strong estimates the tribes could sell up to 68,000 pounds of steelhead to the public, if the law permitted. At \$2 a pound, they could make about \$136,000 for the harvest, compared to \$14,900 at the 22 cents they expect to get from commercial buyers.

The tribes have been able to sell steelhead legally to individuals across the river in Washington state for the last two years. In Oregon, commercial buyers can only sell the fish out of state.

Strong said even though salmon and steelhead runs are declining in the Columbia, the current glut is reason enough for the state to rescind the rules.

"We've done this ever since white settlers came out to the West," Strong said. "This is not a conservation issue. This is not about fish that are endangered."

For Eastside and Upper Columbia River Basin EIS....

Formal public comment period extended 120 days

Federal officials recently announced a 120-day extension of the formal public comment period of the Eastside and Upper Columbia River Basin Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The Project's Regional Executives have decided to extend the comment period from October 6, 1997 until February 6, 1998. The two DEIS have been available for public review since the first week of June.

"We want to provide a reasonable opportunity and quality time for the public to read, comprehend, and comment on one or both of the two DEIS," said Martha Hahn, Idaho State Director for the BLM. Hahn chairs a panel of Federal executives in the Pacific Northwest who oversee the effort known as the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project. "We feel these documents are a culmination of a significant effort on the part of the Federal agen-

cies involved in this project. We have tried to give people as long as possible to comment, and still keep project costs down."

"Now it is the public's turn to review and provide us comments on how to manage these important public lands," said Bob Williams, Regional Forester of the Pacific Northwest Region of the Forest Service. "We sincerely want to hear how we can improve the management strategy between the draft and final EIS."

During the first two months of the comments period, the Project has received several requests for extension of the original 120-day comment period. Many of these requests have cited the length and complexity of the two DEIS. It has also been noted that many of the people most interested in public land management are very busy this time of year either recreating or working on the very

lands these DEIS will affect. This extension will carry the comment period beyond the critical work and recreation months and provide additional time for [people to read and comment on the DEIS. Extension of the formal public comment period will be officially announced with a notice in the Federal Register.

The two DEIS address the management of more than 72 million acres of Forest Service- and BLM-administered land in the interior Columbia River Basin and portions of the Klamath and Great Basins. One DEIS covers these public lands in eastern Oregon and Washington, and the other DEIS covers much of Idaho, western Montana, Northern Nevada and parts of Utah and Wyoming.

Federal officials were quick to point out that public comments are essential to mold the final strategy, due to be completed in 1998. "We need to remember that these are draft

documents," said Forest Service Intermountain Regional Forester Dale Bosworth. "We want the final direction to reflect the public's comments. This extension of the public comments period will provide more opportunities to ask questions about the documents and give comments over the next few months."

The Project was launched in 1993 by the Forest Service and BLM to address environmental and economic issues, such as recovery of Snake River salmon, declining forest and rangeland health and changing economies and social conditions of local communities, that affect larger areas than traditional administrative boundaries. Comprehensive science reports were issued in December 1996.

For further information please contact the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project at (509) 522-4030 or (208) 334-1770.

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Then turn it around.

Adjust it to sit upright when used facing forward.

Move harness straps to the top-most slots when the seat faces forward.

For more information, call the Child Safety Seat Resource Center at 1-800-772-1315



Physical Therapy office makes changes

Warm Springs Physical Therapy made some changes in their office recently. There are three new staff members and therapy is held on Mondays and Wednesdays rather than Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The scheduling has changed to fit the schedule of the new therapist, Fred Sackett, who is new to the Physical Therapy Associates.

Sackett studied Physical Therapy at the Washington State University at the Mayo Clinic for six years. He then taught at a Community College for five years.

Sackett then worked at a private practice in Eugene before he owned his own private practice in Physical Therapy.

About six weeks ago he and his wife decided to sell his private practice and move to Sunriver, just because they wanted to live here. He made a call the Physical Therapy Associates and they decided to hire him. "It's a nice clinic, well equipped," says Sackett of Physical Therapy Associates.

Both Cathy and Susie who were the Physical Therapists are now working in the Bend and Sisters area. They no longer come here to Warm Springs.

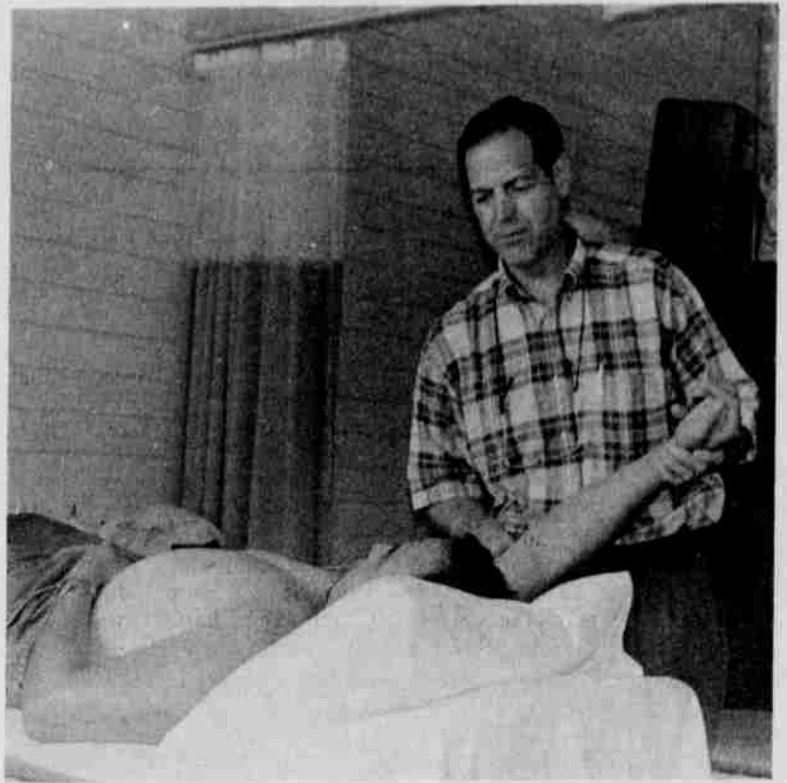
The new Physical Therapy Aide is Rachelle Smith, of Warm Springs. She works part-time on Mondays and Wednesdays and is enjoying her

work so far.

Nikki Courtney is the new transcriptionist for Physical Therapy. She works at the Physical Therapy office Mondays and Wednesdays, she then works at the Maternal Child

Health office.

Anyone who needs physical therapy is welcome to make an appointment, with a referral from Managed Care office at the Health & Wellness Center.



New Physical Therapist Fred Sackett helps Michael Leecy exercise his shoulder.

Young leaders strengthening northwest tribes

SPOKANE (AP)—The promise of better jobs and growing economies is bringing a new generation of leaders to inland Northwest Indian tribes.

The well-educated young men and women—who once might have had to look elsewhere for work—are now combining more sophisticated management with profits from casinos, logging and other tribal ventures to improve the odds of a better life for long-improverished American Indians.

"It's a lot different. A lot better," said Lawrence Aripa, an elder and vice president of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. "I don't think the people of 20 years ago ever imagined we'd have the opportunities that we have now."

David Matheson, chief executive officer of the Coeur d'Alenes' gambling operations, is an example.

"Today, we have a monthly meeting with the governor. We know our congressional delegation, and they know us," Matheson said. "We know how the game is played, and we're getting good at it."

Matheson became his tribe's youngest-ever chairman at 31 in 1981. The tribal pig farm, sawmill and retail center were bankrupt. Today, tribal enterprises are booming.

"They wanted somebody who could do something," he said of his election. "I think that's why they were ready for a youngster."

After four terms on the tribal council, Matheson took his political science and MBA degrees to Washington, D.C., where he worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, eventually becoming its director under Presi-

dent Bush.

Matheson turned down lucrative management offers to return home to the Idaho reservation.

So, too, did Tim Peone, fish hatchery manager of the Spokane Tribe of Indians.

Peone wanted to be a veterinarian, but was attracted by the good-paying fisheries job. "All of my family wants to live here," said Peone, one of eight children.

There are adjustments when one returns to the reservation after getting a degree or spending time away.

Ideas brought back from college often clash with native culture, said Michael Pavel, a Washington State University professor and Skokomish Indian.

"A child leaves the reservation and gets an MBA, and knows one lifeline of the tribe is economic development," Pavel said. "So he comes back to the reservation and says, 'Let's log those trees, because the timber will give us good money to support tribal enterprises or build desperately needed homes.'"

Traditional tribal leaders often object, but are influenced nonetheless, Pavel said.

"What happens now is people will listen to the MBA and say, 'Maybe we should take a few of those trees.'"

Jaime Pinkham once swore he would never raise his family on a reservation. But at 41, he's helping to run the place.

Pinkham got a forestry degree and worked for the federal government, industry and for

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Baby Bottle Tooth Decay a problem for children

Did you know that 4 out of every 10 Indian children in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho suffer from Baby Bottle Tooth Decay?

Baby Bottle Tooth Decay can be caused by giving your child a bedtime bottle with soda pop, formula, fruit juice, or even milk.

And Baby Bottle Tooth

Decay hurts!

You can keep your child from getting Baby Bottle Tooth Decay by following these three simple rules:

1. Put your child to bed without a bottle.
2. Do not let your child walk around or sit with a bottle during the day.
3. Trade the bottle for a cup by one year of age.

For more information about how to prevent Baby Bottle Tooth Decay, call the Indian Health Service Dental Program in Portland at (503) 326-2016 or call your local Indian Health Service or tribal dentist, public health nurse, Maternal and Child Health, CHR, or WIC representative.



Anna Hurtado does the song, "Singing in the Rain," with a few extra body motions and with their tongue sticking out.



Third and Fourth grade kids at the Vacation Bible School did a skit called, "Lady by the Well." Jesus would like a drink from the well.

"Good News Stampede," theme of this year's Vacation Bible School

The Warm Springs Baptist Church held their annual Vacation Bible School August 18-22 at the Baptist Church.

This year's theme was "Good News Stampede." The children began the week with a parade from the campus area to the Baptist Church that included clowns, horses and decorations.

Games played were done in the western theme—barrel racing with stick horses, and their menus were prepared with a western theme.

Throughout the week the children prepared for a play or songs that were performed for the parents. At that time a barbecue was prepared for those attending. The children had a good and time and look forward to next year.