

Contestants show their talents and share their knowledge of Warm Springs tribes



Outgoing Queen, Jocelyn Moses crowns 1999 Miss Warm Springs Rebecca Soliz.



Sunmiet Minnick performs during break of the pageant.



Tribute to all Miss Warm Springs. Those in attendance (left to right) were, Dorothy "Pebbles" George, Minnie Yahtin, Elfreda Mitchell, Sara Scott, Arlissa Rhoan, Sunmiet Minnick, Jocelyn Moses, Yvonne Earl (first runner up 1999), and the new Miss Warm Springs, Rebecca Soliz.



First Runner up Yvonne Earl performed the "Traditional" dance before the modernization of the traditional dance.



Sunmiet Minnick's Performing Arts Dance group performed a Jazz number during one of breaks.

Miss Warm Springs pageant held some close competition between Rebecca Soliz and Yvonne Earl. Their knowledge of the tribes was tested, they showed off their dancing ability and they performed their talent individually. All were performed with a good attitude and

confidence. Soliz was crowned Miss Warm Springs 1999. She is the daughter of Marcia Soliz, WEDD Program. She is currently a student and coaches the Chemewa girls basketball team. Her interests have taken her into the field of Education.

Boise promoted at Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery

Randy Boise has been a Fish Culturist for seven years at the Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery. Randy was recently chosen as the new Maintenance Worker.

Being a Fish Culturist was very complex and Boise attended training to assist in his knowledge of fish biology and water chemistry. He has been learning about the maintenance of machinery from Levi Keo during his years as a Fish Culturist and was chosen to replace Levi upon his retirement. His experience in mechanics and prior knowledge of fisheries as a tribal fisherman also helped him.

As a Fish Culturist Boise was required to know how to take care of all the fish at the fish hatchery, sometimes as many as one and one-half million salmon! He had to know how much to feed them, the right water temperature, and their metabolism.

Randy inventoried the fish, determined their size and noted how many died. He also took care of nets, stored the fish food properly, and took care of food waste.

He had to know their biology-health, nutrition and primary needs. The size of fish varies. There are little fish about one and one-half inches in length. There are fish five or six inches long that have different needs. Boise had to understand the life history of all the fish. "He attended a lot of training, he's very good at it and he's sensitive to their needs," says Manager Mike Paiya.

He had to know water chemistry. Keeping records of water flows, measuring and

keeping temperatures of water flow. He kept track of and measured solids in the water and measured outflowing water after filtering.

"It was a pretty complex job and he did it well," says Paiya.

Boise's new job as a maintenance worker is just as complex because he is in charge of all the facility's complicated machinery.

"Boise was a mechanic in prior years and that experience helped him get this job. He does a lot of things; maintains pumps with 75 hp motors. He's very good at that and he's really taken to this new job," adds Paiya. He goes on to say, "Activities can be dangerous, he's very conscious of safety, we made a good choice in selecting him."

Boise's job is very important because at least 15,000 gallons of water per minute are pumped. The lives of all the fish are reliant on those pumps and the screens and filtering systems. He has to keep ahead of this equipment.

According to the manager, Boise has shown that he's got a lot of initiative to take care of this equipment, making sure that it's running as well as it possibly can. He notices small changes in the equipment that indicates that there's something wrong. "Very impressive to me," says the manager.

Boise initiated a new program of preventative maintenance scheduling which he will enter into a computer.

Boise has always been interested in the natural resources of the Warm Springs Reservation. He applied for jobs in the Department of Natural Resources

but never qualified. With the help of Assistant Manager, Mavis Shaw, Boise turned in an application with her recommendation and was hired as the fish Culturist seven years ago. Shaw says, "Randy is a natural for working in fisheries. I'll miss his expertise in working with the fish, but knowing he's taking care of the equipment is reassuring. I count on him a lot!"

Boise is a tribal fisherman who fished the Columbia River and Sheras Bridge most of his life. "I didn't know the basics of fish, but I knew and understood their cycles-when they would leave the river and return," says Boise. These are things he learned from his grandmother, Gladys Thompson, after his grandfather died.

The hatchery goal is 750,000 healthy smolts and they're right on the numbers. Their fish come from Warm Springs River stock. "The question always arises about



The smallest of all the fish at the Fish Hatchery.

genetics of fish hatchery and wild fish. People say it tastes different or cuts different," says Boise. The fish hatchery started with all wild stock at the beginning.

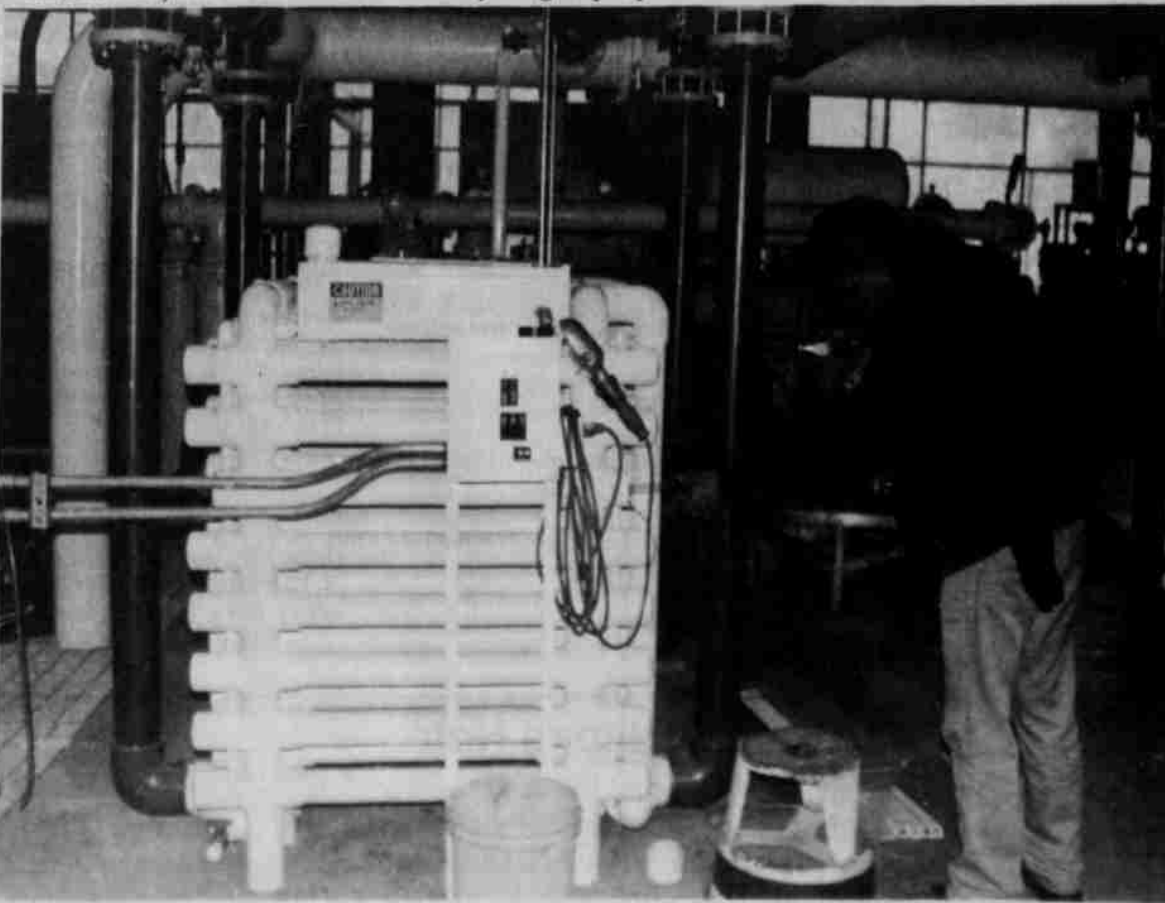
Boise likes his new job, "It's getting to be more intense, but seems to be working out good. I still get to work with the fish. Everything I work with takes care of the fish," he says.

Other employment in his job history includes: WSFPI janitorial work, and odd jobs here and there.

Boise says, "Working here helped me along personally. I received support from my wife and family and co-workers regarding my alcohol and drug problem. They covered for me while I completed a treatment program. There was a lot of encouragement. The old maintenance man was a man of few words but the words he had for me were good words. He was employed here for thirteen years."

Boise would like to encourage more younger people on our

reservation to become involved in the natural resources on the reservation - trees, fish, wildlife. "They all intertwine in the culture of our people. We need more Native Americans involved with fisheries. The cultural values for Northwest tribes are salmon. If we're not careful, we won't have any say-so about what's going to happen with the salmon. Seek employment and training in biology or forestry," concludes Boise.



Randy Boise changes the the bulbs on this piece of machinery at the Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery.