

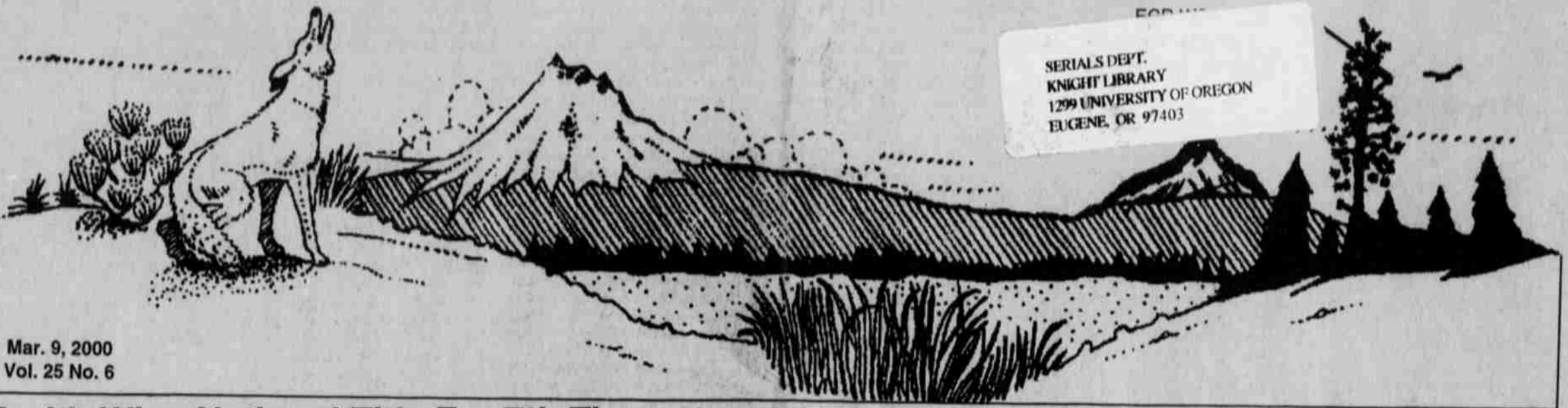
Spilyay Tymoo

(Coyote News)

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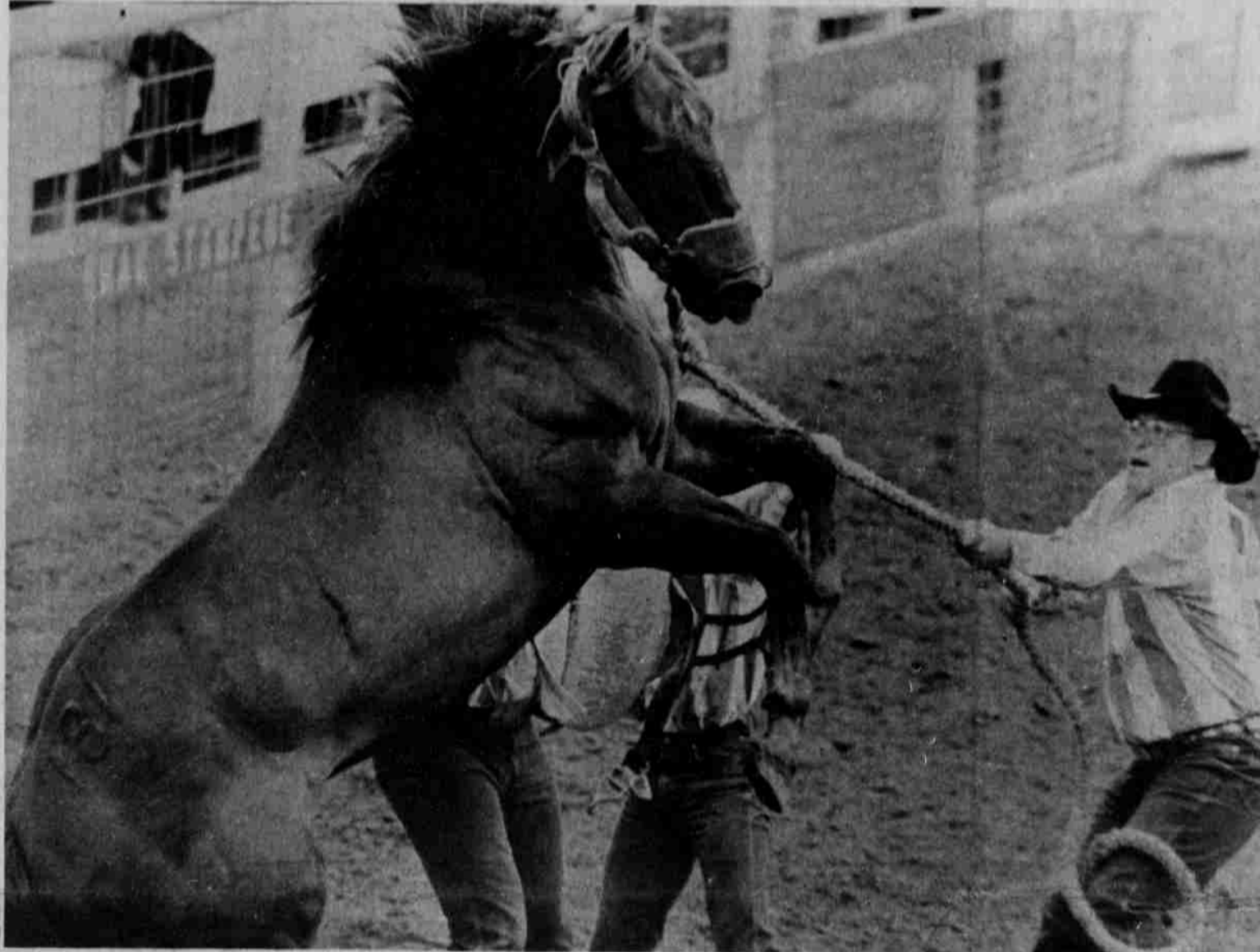
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Smith Wins National Title For 7th Time, story on page 10---



Spring Break Sale at the Warm Springs Plaza.

Bargain hunters quadruple your bargains with us!!!
Twice As Nice Thriftshop 25% off
Marcia's Hair Salon \$5 clipper cuts for boys 12 & under
Pebbles teepee Palace 25% off
Sidaiktba Native Collectables 25% off
Beginning March 20th to 24th, 2000 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
For more information call 1-541-553-7907.

Driving Course offered

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), is sponsoring another 55 Alive/Mature Driving Course, which will be hosted by Mountain View Hospital District. The 8 hour course will be held on Friday, March 10 from 4 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the hospital's Multi-Purpose room.

The AARP 55 Alive/Mature Driving Course is designed to meet the specific needs of older drivers. It covers age related physical changes, declining perceptual skills, rules of the road, local driving problems and license renewal requirements. All automobile insurance companies conducting business in Oregon are required to provide a premium dis-

count to graduates of the AARP 55 Alive/Mature Driving course. There is a course fee of \$8 payable to the American Association of Retired Persons.

The instructor for the Mountain View 55 Alive program is AARP volunteer Dick Montee. For more information or to pre-register, call the Mountain View Hospital District Wellness office at 475-3882 ext. 2307.

If you are interested in attending any District community education classes and will require assistive aids, please contact the District Wellness Office at 475-3882 extension 2307 or 475-3882 extension 2350 (TTY/TDD) to request such aids. Please call in advance so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Tribes deliver clear messages to federal officials

Dissatisfied with the federal government's stalled efforts regarding Columbia Basin salmon, leaders of the four Columbia River treaty-fishing tribes told the federal government it must immediately implement a comprehensive salmon recovery program that will yield returns of four million salmon above Bonneville Dam within twenty-five years. These are the recovery standards tribes say would begin to meet federal treaty obligations.

"We went to Washington to have a good faith dialogue," said James Holt, Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee member and Chair of the Columbia River Inter-tribal Fish Commission. "We were very clear, the Administration must fulfill its legal and moral extinction levels for the next one hundred years is not acceptable," he added.

Tribal officials reminded the Administration that it (the administration) has not delivered on promises to produce a recovery plan despite twenty years of legislation (the Northwest Power Act, the Endangered Species Act) requiring it to do so. Solutions, in the form of Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit, the tribal salmon restoration plan, were emphasized in the two-hour dialogue. Tribes emphasized the need for certainty in rebuilding salmon stocks.

And it must come soon.

"The Administration has to hit the

stop button on the 'no decision' merry-go-round," said Alan Crawford, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Fish and Wildlife Committee member, "and abandon 'blank check' policies allowing expensive, unsuccessful tinkering of the federal hydrosystem."

"It'll take hard decisions now to rebuild and get fish back in the river. Options have to be weighed against time. Time is what salmon have the least of," said Olney Patt Jr., Chairman of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.

Further, the Administration must proceed toward breaching of the lower Snake River dams. To do so requires: moving forward with engineering work; completing economic mitigation plans for impacted communities; implementing interim actions for hydro (i.e. more spill, flow and surface bypass); reforming hatchery policies; implementing and enforcing protective habitat standards on federal lands; funding habitat restoration; maintaining harvest controls while meeting treaty fishing needs. If these interim actions are implemented and achieve salmon rebuilding goals, then there are opportunities to avoid more drastic options such as breaching.

With out these actions, deconstruction of the lower Snake River dams must be completed with

all due speed.

The National Marine Fisheries Services' (NMFS) hatchery policies and motives were also taken to task. Current policy allows for killing of 'surplus' hatchery fish deemed inappropriate to spawn naturally. Tribes have successfully restored and rebuilt runs using supplementation of carefully managed hatchery stocks.

"All fish, both naturally spawned and hatchery-reared must contribute to rebuilding these runs," said Randy Settler, Yakama Nations Council member. "There are two basic choices: accept supplementation as a rebuilding tool, so NMFS can give the region back to the people, or, they can hunker down and we can expect to live with them, ESA and fishing restrictions for a helluva long time. It's genetic gridlock now, extinction tomorrow," he added.

The tribes were clear to point out that restrictions to treaty fisheries were unacceptable either by treaty standards or as a conservation option. The Columbia River treaty-fishing tribes voluntarily ceased commercial harvest of Summer Chinook (1964) and Spring Chinook (1977). Neither stock has recovered.

Additionally, the tribes demanded that actions in all "H's", the conservation regimes, be equitable and accountable. Recommendations included:

- Increasing use of surface bypass

- and spill technology,
- Making improvements in adult passage,
- Committing to comply with Clean Water Act standards,
- Requiring Bonneville Power Administration to pay for fish and wildlife restoration as well as its Treasury debt, on time and in full,
- Transitioning federal hatchery operations and maintenance to tribal control,
- Reforming NMFS hatchery policies to discontinue the killing returning salmon and use them for rebuilding,
- Upgrading inferior ICBEMP standards with review by the Independent Scientific Advisory Board,
- Protecting and restoring watersheds through quantitative standards and monitoring,
- Protecting, not dredging, the Columbia River estuary,
- Committing to reasonable multi-year fisheries agreements that reflect tribal needs.

"It's premature to declare any victories for salmon," said Donald Sampson, Executive Director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, "there's a long way to go but we might be getting on the right road. At the same time the Tribes will prepare to act if the Administration does not."

You are invited to a Grand Opening at Phil's Ace Hardware 13 SW "H" Street Madras, OR 97741 541-475-9392 on Friday, March 10, 2000 Board cutting ceremony is at 9 a.m. Hope you can help us celebrate!

District Meetings

Simnasho-Thursdays,
March 9, 2000
6 p.m. dinner 7 p.m. meeting
at the Simnasho Longhouse
Agenda: Relicensing/PGE
General Council Meeting

Agency Lighthouse
Thursdays, March 16, 2000
6 p.m. dinner 7 p.m. meeting
at the Agency Lighthouse
Agenda: Relicensing/PGE
General Council Meeting

Simnasho Longhouse
Tuesdays, March 21, 2000
6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. meeting
Agenda: Relicensing/PGE
All tribal members invited!!

Forestry seeking gopher trappers

Warm Springs Forestry has determined Gopher control is necessary because gophers cause excessive damage to young trees in plantations and in many cases require replanting. The gopher-trapping program developed in 1992 as an alternative to using pesticides to poison gophers. In the event you wish to submit your name you will have to be qualified in the following criteria:

1. Be an enrolled tribal member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.
2. Be certified by the Warm Springs Forestry Department, or have written proof of two years trapping experience.
3. Will have knowledge of the Contract Bidding Procedure.
4. Will have your own gopher traps.
5. Will have basic map reading knowledge.
6. In addition, will be responsible for your own transportation, and incurring insurance costs.

Have your name submitted by March 20, 2000. Mail response to Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Forestry Department, attn: Forest Development; PO Box 1239; Warm Springs, OR 97761 or contact the Forestry Department (541) 553-2416. Thank you.

Test Required first

Pursuant to the Warm Springs Tribal Courts "Rules of Court" passed by Tribal Council, all persons seeking admission to practice law in Tribal Court in addition to filing fees, must pass a prescribed test.

In order to assist lawyers and advocates to prepare for the upcoming "test" the Tribal Court will schedule a minimum of two sessions. These sessions are intended to help potential practitioners to learn what material needs to be reviewed and studied in order to gain a passing score on the exam.

The first session is scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, March 16th in Court Room one.

Pelton ownership referendum "matter of great importance"

The tribal constitution states that all "matters of great importance" are to be decided by eligible tribal voters. The decision to approve the Settlement Agreement between Portland General Electric (PGE), the Tribes, and the US Department of the Interior is indeed of great importance, offering the potential for significant economic benefits.

The agreement defines the price and conditions under which the Tribes would buy a majority stake in the Pelton Hydroelectric Project from PGE. One-third of the Pelton project, the largest privately owned hydro facility in Oregon, is located on tribal lands.

In a referendum on March 28, tribal members will vote on approval of the Settlement Agreement. Every vote counts. It is important to the future of the Tribes that all eligible voters familiarize themselves with the referendum question and the issues. See related story for additional information.

March 28, 2000 referendum explanation

Charles Jackson recently answered questions about the

agreement's link to economic self-reliance.

As Secretary-Treasurer, Charles was a key participant on the negotiating team, under the direction of the Tribal Council, which worked on this agreement with PGE for over a year. This article is excerpted from a recent radio interview with Charles by Nat Shaw on KWSO.

Spilyay Tymoo (ST): Why is the Tribal Council endorsing the Settlement Agreement?

JACKSON: The Tribal Council has had experts studying this matter for a number of years. They have concluded that the only realistic way to move toward the goal of economic self-reliance is to have control over tribal resources with revenue-generating potential. PGE is selling part of the project to the Tribes for well-below market value. Thus, the Tribal Council believes this Settlement Agreement is a good investment for the future.

ST: Why is economic self-reliance important?

JACKSON: Political sovereignty is enhanced through economic strength and the accompanying so-

cial stability. We need to turn our assets into dollars and then reinvest those dollars to develop jobs, homes, roads, water and other utilities, schools and governmental services. This will help develop a true homeland for our people.

ST: What do you envision as an economic future for the Tribes?

JACKSON: The Tribes are blessed with abundant natural resources on and off the reservation. These resources have enormous economic potential and we are prepared to successfully develop and manage those resources. Those resources can provide the "spring board" we need to create jobs and opportunities well into the future.

Some day, with careful planning, the Tribes will become economically self-reliant. This means that future generations will be able to live in Central Oregon and our young people will not be forced to leave the reservation in search of economic opportunity.

Purchasing a majority ownership interest in the Pelton project is an essential first step towards realizing that future.

Members to vote March 28, 2000

"Shall the proposed Settlement Agreement between the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Portland General Electric Company, and the United States Department of the Interior relating to the ownership and operation of the Pelton Project (FERC Project 2030) be approved and

Shall the Confederated Tribes be authorized to issue tribal bonds in one or more series or by other borrowing on such terms as may be approved by the Tribal Council in an outstanding aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$90 million (including any refinancing), adjusted by the Consumer Price Index for all items in all U.S. urban consumers, beginning January 1, 2000 for purchase of Pelton Project ownership interests from Portland General Electric company, its successor and assigns, finance costs for mitigation and enhancement measures, capital construction, equipment and improvements, reserve funds, borrowing costs and costs for operation and

maintenance.

Any tribal borrowing for the project shall be legal, valid, and binding special obligation of the Tribe, not subject to impairment by any future action of the Tribe, but shall be secured solely by the project, the project revenues, the proceeds of such borrowing, and any assets of Warm Springs Power Enterprises specifically pledged thereto.

In no event, shall the General Fund or the full faith and credit of the Confederated Tribes be pledged or used to secure or repay such borrowing."

A YES vote means you approve the agreement under which the Tribes can acquire a majority interest in the Pelton project from PGE.

A NO vote means that you disapprove settlement agreement with PGE and the Tribes' ownership of the Pelton Project is undecided.

Tribal members will vote March 28, 2000 on the above referendum question.

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Spilyay tymoo.