

Spilyay Speaks

Sports action goes into spring seasons

Just a rambling on what's happening in the day's activities. First off let's start off by saying, we have a lot of children going to high school in Madras.

Madras High School has a good basketball program and almost every year they make it to the state playoffs. Madras holds the record over all the schools in the state of Oregon for making it to the state tournament. Sometimes they don't do well, and are eliminated, but still they have made it to the state tournament and that in itself is a big accomplishment.

We have been fortunate to produce some good talent on the basketball team each year. This year was another great year as we had a boy to be chosen player of the year from the Oregon All-Star selection and another receiving honorable mention. Basketball is not the only sport kids can vie in.

Well; what I'm focusing on is during the spring season there is track, baseball and softball and we don't seem to excel in of those sports. Let's look at baseball for instance: Each year all the baseball fields are full of Minor, Major and Little League teams. We know there is good talent out there. Each year they participate well in league play and compete well at state all-star playoffs.

They may not be state champions but they show well in the game. They play their heart out and win or lose they do their best. The All-Star team is picked out of all the teams from the Jefferson County, and believe me they produce some good teams. There is a lot of volunteer coaching from parents, friends and interested individuals that keep the ball rolling. We appreciate those efforts from these people who take interest in the youngsters.

It's the same way with the girls' softball program - there are always several teams that play real hard and at the end of the season they choose the All-Star team, that shows well in the playoffs. There are some exceptional players that play but at the end of the season what happens to all those fine players and as they enter high school they just seem to fade away unknown, and when the softball season rolls around we don't seem to do well recruiting players for that sport.

What happens to them; have they lost interest in the game or what?

It's the same way with the track and field events. There is no turnout it appears. Each year the team has no depth like other schools, especially in the running events. In the running events each school has three or four entries to Madras' one. There has to be depth in each event in order to build up points. The larger the representation the better chance there is to take a large team to the state track meet. The schools that win the state championship are those who have had the most to qualify for the state meet.

Track is a very fine sport and can be enjoyable if a person would put his/her mind to it. In each event its an individual event, you can't depend on another to do the running for you, or you can't depend on someone else to throw the shot or javelin for you; everyone must do it on his own. When you accomplish things like that, it's a good feeling.

Just think how Billy Mills must have felt after winning the 10,000-meter race at the Olympic games in Tokyo, and to top it all he was the first American to ever win the 10,000-meter event. Or what Jim Thorpe must have felt like being proclaimed the greatest athlete in the world by a king.

Who knows, if a kid or kids would take interest and work hard they could see their names in all the papers of their accomplishments. But who knows what's in the future. ...

Editor's Note

Spilyay Tymoo welcomes letters from its readers.

All letters, preferably 350 words or less, must be signed by the author and need to include a phone number for verification or questions.

Letters will not be printed unless signed. All letters are the opinion of the author and do not reflect in any way the opinion of Spilyay Tymoo.

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Letters to the editor

Thanks to council staff

To the staff at Tribal Council,
I would like to thank each of you for your commitment to the department and the work that you produce. You all deserve pat on the back for the long hours that you put in without complaining or griping about having to stay in during noon hour, before eight and after five. When I need people to depend on you are the first that come to mind.

Happy Secretary's Day to:
Norma Miller-Heath, Rhonda Smith, Kristi Miller, Roberta Tufti, Muriel Suppah, Dinah Merrifield and Loren Suppah.

Once again thank you.
Myrtle Adams

Prayers touched heart

To all my people,
I just want to thank all the people that prayed for me and prayed while I went through my surgery. I came out good and the little machine that watches my heart is working good now after I messed up the first time. The second time around was a lot easier then the first.

Just a BIG THANK YOU to all the medicine society Was click people, and I can't forget my mom Maxine for standing by me all the way through and being by my side, also Phyllis I owe you too. A special BIG thanks.

"Washumps" aka Alex Tohet

Gratitude for help

To the editor,
Our family would like to extend our sincerest appreciation to everyone that helped us in our time of sorrow. We thank everyone that helped our family throughout the funeral, be it money, food donations, giveaway donations, candles or your prayers. This was all needed and useful, especially your blessings and prayers.

Again thank you all for what you could do in and out of the church and home. God Bless you all.

Sincerely,
Lucei family, Hoptowit family,
Hance family, Rudder family &
the Yazzie family

Basketball squad, Class of 2001 thanks

To the editor:
Blackhawks Basketball and the Native Class of 2001 would like to thank the sponsors, teams and officials who participated in the "Slam and Jam 2001" held at the Warm Springs Community Wellness Center April 20-22. We would like to thank Warm Springs Forest Products Industries and Warm Springs Power Enterprises for sponsorship of the tournament awards. Also we would like to thank Bear Prints in Bend for the printing job done on the awards. This was a fundraiser tournament to help in our graduation trip to Southern California this coming June. We would like to thank volunteers who took some time to help out in the tourney: Verleen Kalama (scorekeeper), Corwin Howtopat (scorekeeper), and referees Rick Minthorn, Jeff Wagon, Bruce Eidemann and Alfredo Estimo. It's always a hard job to do and thanks for the help. We appreciate all the help that you gave us for the tournament. I would like to thank Andy Leonard for providing the sounds for the tournament dances held on Friday and Saturday nights.

I would like to thank the Native Class of 2001 for the help in this tournament with providing the concessions and doing the admissions gate. I hope this tournament helped you in raising funds for the trip in June and I hope you have a good time down there. Your help in that part of the tournament was really appreciated and you did a good job throughout and also in cleaning up the gym area. I would like to thank the teams who came to play, as there were competitive games throughout the tournament, some came on a last minute contact and that was appreciated. Parent volunteers who helped the kids in their efforts are also appreciated as they spent a lot of time with the kids. I thank you and your help is appreciated. Those who helped were Viola Vaeth, Florence Scott and also a big thanks to the Native Class of 2001 advisor Tray Leonard in helping coordinate the kids in their jobs throughout the

weekend. If I have forgotten anyone it is not intentional but all the help for the tournament is appreciated. Thanks to all.

Again I thank the Native Class of 2001: CeCe Herrera, CeCe Polk, Shamona Charley, Matt Vaeth, Larry Squiemphen, Jerry Brunoe and David White. There were a couple of others but I do not know the names (sorry), but your help is appreciated. Have a good trip in June and have a good time, as I know that you have worked hard throughout the year to make this happen. Bring me back a Mickey T-shirt (just kidding).

Sam Kentura,
Tournament Director

Theft caused pain

Letter to the public,
This is a note to the person that took all the food from the Warm Springs Shaker church on Monday, April 23, 2001. Because Janice Lucei talked against anger and violence (physical and/or verbal), our family will respect her ways and just say that maybe you can make it up by helping a family in need when it will be needed.

And God be with you and we pray that God will touch you and you do not do this again. We have to say though that this was a very hurtful action both to the church and the family in mourning. We do thank Warm Springs Market, Tina Spino and everyone that helped replace the stolen food. God Bless you all.

Lucei Family

Challenge to council

To the Editor
All those high winds that occurred the day after the elections wasn't Mother Nature. I think it was a "sigh of relief" from management, especially Kah-Nee-Ta/Gaming, a few incumbents, the White Brothers and Sisters of Larry, Curly and Moe, sometimes Shemp too.

I think the people should remind our representatives just who they were elected to be representing. From the start this time. In fact since the day after, I've seen nothing but

white lawyers with maps of Hood River, crowding into council room. While most was on "travel status" again. It appears tribal members legitimate complaints are on the back burner as usual. Because when we asked, after being put on the agenda and then getting bumped, a certain re-elected councilman told me they had more pressing matters to take care of. What I'm saying is that we all helped elect them, so we should all keep putting that proverbial boot in that part of their anatomy to make them work for all tribal members.

Regarding the casino after the merger, that the majority of voters didn't want, why did our wise council allow the old Kah-Nee-Ta staff of Indian Fighters to remain? Just because they are under a new title, you think they are going to change? All I see them doing is contaminating the new merger worse than it already is. After this, the only Indians to be seen at Kah-Nee-Ta will be tribal members stuffing the machines, just to support these people.

Look at all these different departments, who are now separate from the tribes. All called separate moneymaking enterprises. The only people they can prey on is tribal members, who aren't part of this management's inner circle. Under Larry, Moe, Curly and sometimes Shemp, hopefully this council won't declare itself a separate money making enterprise.

This same council is always brawling about education. Why wouldn't they chip in a little of their travel per diem to honor these kids that went to the state tournament? Were they worried about being re-elected, or was it because these tribal members weren't old enough to vote.

People have asked me why a few of this council members is so obsessed with putting the casino in Hood River, where it will mostly benefit non-Indians and just a few of our leaders, with the reservation getting a few scraps that our gaming enterprise decides to throw our way. All I could think of was that they heard that Hood River was once the "Apple Capital" of the Northwest, and they think that it means them.

Victor Moses



Fountain of life

Spring runoff courses through Badger Creek on a recent damp and gray day. Although recent rain and mountain snows have slightly improved the outlook, it is expected that streamflows will drop to very low levels this summer because of the unusually dry winter.

For the future, look for the loving truth

Hello from Pastor Rick.
On March 25, I was reading the Sunday Bulletin. It was in the "Perspective" section. Its title was "The geography of growth."

The article was the findings of the 2000 Federal census. It was the comparison of the 1990 census versus the new 2000 census. The numbers showed tremendous growth, except Warm Springs and the Warm Springs Reservation. Warm Springs grew 6 percent, the reservation grew 9 percent.

My thoughts had been that there were 5,000 or 6,000 people living on the reservation. Were the numbers wrong? I knew when the census was being taken in Warm Springs Vesta

Miller had a strong crew working really hard to get the numbers. And you know if the numbers were wrong. If the growth was 12 percent and 18 percent, that still is small growth for a 10-year period. Is the community dying?

Human history is full of stories of towns, cities and nations dying. They become a part of an archeology dig, or a tourist attraction.

Is the future of Warm Springs one hundred years from now a dig location for an archeology group? I thought and prayed to our God what is the truth?

Warm Springs is in such a great time of decisions. Its leadership has so much to do. Is the community

dying? Well, I had a talk with people in government. The Planning Department is a small group who are saying "NO" to the question of dying. They know that a community in financial trouble or even rolling in money still needs a plan for the future.

A people always needs to know that there is a reason for getting up in the morning. A future keeps a person, a town, or a nation from dying. You know after talking to planning the answer to the questions; "Is Warm Springs a dying community?" for me is NO.

If you want to work on the future of the community get involved in the government. Go to commit-

tee meetings. Ask questions. Finally look for the truth. Look for the loving truth.

And also do this (I am so pushy): Hug someone you love. Hug someone you dislike. No alcohol or tobacco for children. One day at a time. Buckle up the kids and yourselves. Don't hit or beat on yourself. Pay your bills before gambling, then stay home. Read the Bible for its effect on your heart. Pray to God to the point of your hearing Him. Honor someone each day. Love yourself. Like yourself. See you in church. Warm Springs Presbyterian Church Worship at 11 a.m. On the campus.

Pastor Rick R. Ribeiro