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Spilyay Tymoo

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News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation

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Spilyay parade photos by Selena Boise, bottom left dancing photo by Tina Aguilar, and top center and bottom right photos by Mike Van Meter

Pi-Ume-Sha Celebration

Participants in the Pi-Ume-Sha Parade and Powwow put on a show of color and celebration this past weekend as Warm Springs became a focus of sporting events, dancing, music, food and more.

Results and more photos from the events of the extended weekend of festivities may be found on Pages 6, 7, 10 and 12 of this edition of the Spilyay Tymoo.



Miss Pi-Ume-Sha reigns in school too

By Jerry Brunoe

In the past year Cece Herrera, a recent graduate of Madras High School, actively participated in many school-oriented clubs and last weekend she was appointed "Miss Pi-Ume-Sha 2001."

She was appointed after selling 1,325 raffle tickets in three weeks.

Herrera was Junior Miss Warm Springs last year and she spent much of her reign traveling as an ambassador of Warm Springs to pow-wows, conferences and many other "get-togethers." She went to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, for a National Indian Education Association conference and placed first in the Oratory Competition with her speech "My Indian Identity," which included how she spends time at the longhouse for various traditional functions.

"It was fun, I met a lot of people from different reservations," said Herrera about the conference.

Over the next year she will be doing the same thing as "Miss Pi-Ume-Sha," traveling and representing Warm Springs.

She says she plans on campaigning for Miss Warm Springs next year, "I've been groomed for this since I was 4 years old," she said.

Herrera also attended the National Young Leaders Conference, which she said is about politics. She was nominated by Stephen Hillis, her former College Prep English

teacher, and was one of the three students from Oregon to attend the National conference of 350 students.

During her senior year in high school she was an active member in Junior Reserve Officer Training Core (JROTC) as the Command Sergeant Major and Upward Bound as the president. She obtained a cumulative GPA of 3.11 and mentioned that College Prep was her hardest class. "We had more assignments, it required us to do research and to think," and then she added with a laugh, "I think Mr. Hillis was the hard part." She also mentioned Hillis was her favorite teacher.

Herrera currently works at Early Childhood Education Center as a teacher aide. She was hired through Higher Education's student training fund and says she mainly helps the kids with reading and communication skills. "I think it's fun ... I like it. I like kids, so I'm having fun," said Herrera.

She plans on attending University of Colorado - Boulder and two of her former teachers from MHS, Mack Gardner, former JROTC teacher and Lynn Gassner, the former Upward Bound Advisor, feel she will do well at the collegiate level. She perseveres, said Gassner, "She doesn't give up."

"She's tenacious, she sticks with things and she accomplishes her goals, which is really hard for students to do," added Gardner.



K-5 school referendum gets an 'A'

Tribal members, by a ratio of more than four-to-one, on June 21 approved a referendum that will result in a new elementary school being built in Warm Springs and opening by the fall of 2003.

The vote was 655 to 157, with 13 spoiled ballots. A May 16 election, with similar support, was not valid because voter turnout fell short of the numbers necessary for Tribal Council certification. The 825 voters who turned out on the eve of Pi-Ume-Sha weekend handily exceeded the one-third, 712-vote requirement.

Council chairman Olney "J.P." Patt Jr. said that Tribal Council certified the election results late on the morning after the election after they attended a repatriation ceremony that was held near the Columbia River at Horse Thief Lake. The election board presented the results in a brief meeting.

The vote authorizes expenditure of up to \$8 million to build a 600-student school on a hill overlooking the tribal Health and Wellness Center and the Early Childhood Education Center.

The Jefferson County 509-J School District will pay half of the school's cost through lease payments to the tribe over a period of 20 years.