

Young hunter honors seniors

(Last week, young tribal member Tim Kalama provided elders and guests with meat from his first hunting kill. The following article is by George Aguilar, one of the guests at the event.)

By George Aguilar

When a boy catches his first salmon, or has a first deer kill, this is a sign of a turning point in the young person's career. This is the first product of a young person's labors, a sort of introduction into maturity.

The first-kill ceremony is a rejoicing, a display of public recognition by calling together an assembly. A feast is given and valuable gifts are given.

After the feast, the old men are then the recipients of gifts - blankets and other gifts - provided by the parents of the youngster. It was believed this gave the youngster success in his future catches or deer hunting skills. This was a custom of the Wascos. (Excerpt, Edward Sapir, vol. V11.)



Aurelia Stacona introduces Tim Kalama at High Lookee.

The ceremony took place Dec. 6 at the High Lookee Lodge. Aurelia Stacona explained the custom of the first kill ceremony. The Wasco orator, or news bearer, Richard Tohet performed the ceremony and a Wasco song. The young hunter and his

associates made a dance around the room. This was an inaugural dance into adulthood, to become successful in the youngsters' future deer kills.

The young hunter, Timothy, was called upon to re-enact the hunt of the first kill.

With this completed, the rifle that was used to make the

kill was given away. The young hunter was then instructed to give away the clothes that he had worn during the hunt. All this was done after the meal. After the meal was the give-away, with the older people receiving gifts. The giving away of the animal was also used to instill in the youngster what the old people called "Wah-pah-ni-sha," the gift of giving and sharing.

This sharing experience then follows the youngsters throughout their lifetimes.

Example: If an individual had an abundance of dried meat, they shared it with other family members. They, the donors, expected nothing in return. This was called wah-pah-ni-sha. Example: in 1937, grandmother visited another elder. At the time we had an abundance of dried eels. Grandmother gave this elder some, and explained in the Indian tongue to me that this was called "wah-pah-ni-sha."

Christmas Bazaar is this Saturday

The Warm Springs Christmas Bazaar is this Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Community Wellness Center.

The Christmas Bazaar will be from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m.

Vendors are asked to show up early, so they can set up between 8 and 10 a.m.

There is still time for local vendors to sign up for a booth.

The person to contact is

Carol Allison at 553-3243. Or stop by the office of the Community Wellness Center.

The Warm Springs Christmas Bazaar this year is celebrating its 26th anniversary.

The event features Native American crafts, plus homemade holiday food.

The bazaar is held in the gym and the social hall at the Community Wellness Center.

Culture camps at Simnasho

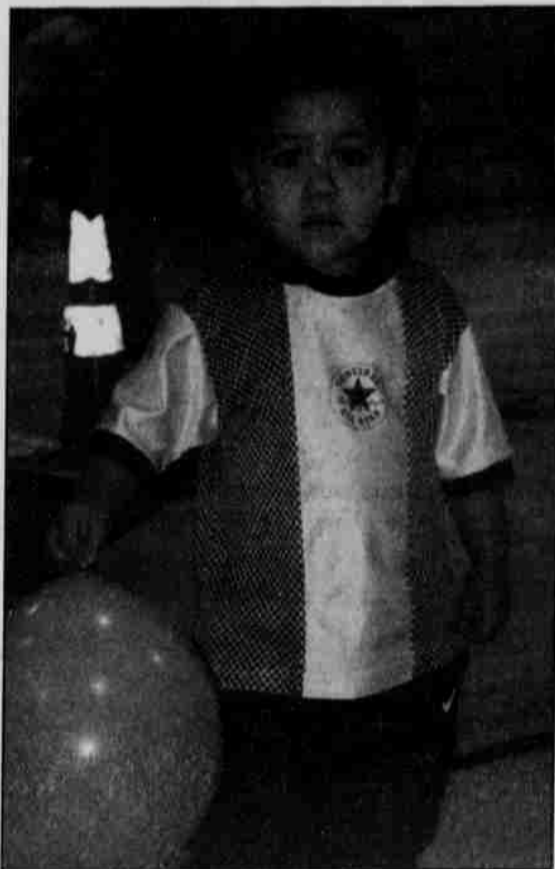
The Winter Nites Culture Camp program is happening at the Simnasho Longhouse.

The camps are held Mon-

days, from 5 till 8 p.m.

For more information on the camps, call Char Herkshan at 553-3205

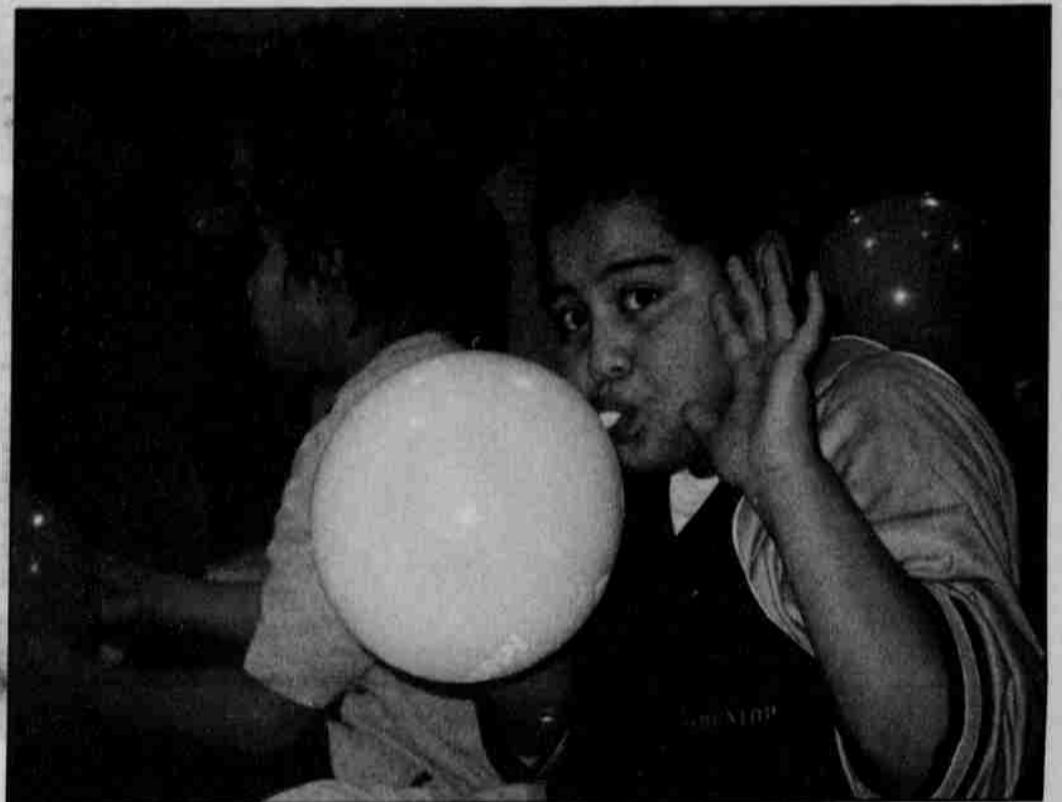
At the Family Fun Bash



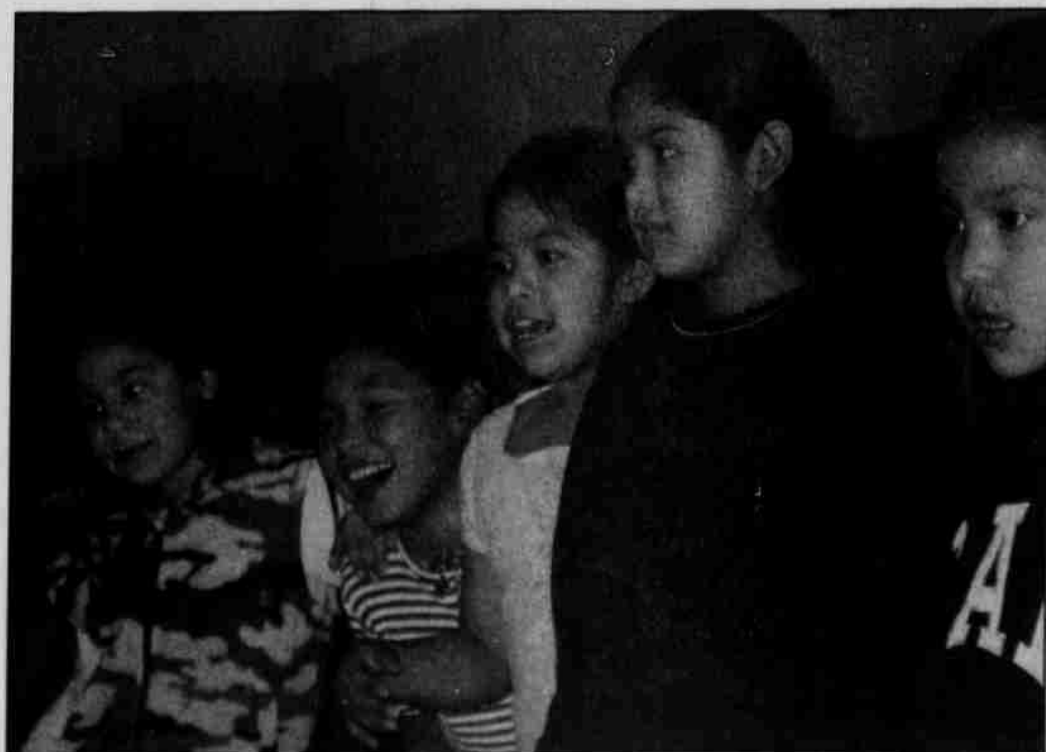
The activities included a balloon stomping contest, and a race to see which team could push a peanut the fastest with team members using only their noses.

There was a poster signing, and snacks and refreshments. Some parents turned out to watch, but the people who participated were kids.

The Family Fun Night Bash was held last week at the Community Wellness Center. The event is a fun opportunity for families, especially the kids.



Blowing up the balloon at top is Ford Fuiava; and at top left, holding the balloon is young Miles Davis. In the photos at left, Shanina Made takes part in the peanut contest, as friends look on, below. Jumping rope (above) is Jodene "Bubs" Boise.



Photos by Dave McMechan

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