

Job Corps offers education to at-risk youth

By Shannon Keaveny
Spilyay Tymo

Judy Allstott estimates that 35 to 40 Warm Springs students have graduated from Job Corps in the last three years.

"I get a lot of kids from here and want to let them know this resource is available to them."

Allstott comes to the reservation each Tuesday where she conducts interviews by appointment. Potential students can also 'speed up the process' by visiting her in Bend. Students ages 16-25 may enroll.

Seventy thousand students attend Job Corps every year at 119 Job Corps locations throughout the country. It offers job readiness, resume and application classes, and job placement services. Students can choose from thirty different jobs and pursue their studies at one of the five campuses located Oregon.

"It's similar to a college situation, but there is no charge. This is a terrific alternative." Alcott said.

Former Job Corps student Charlyne Spino, who attended Springdale Center in Troutdale, and acquired her G.E.D. and training to do clerical work, said, "The program makes it really easy for you. It gives you a money allowance, covers most of your food, housing and, it's awesome, they even give you clothes allowance. I don't know why anybody else hasn't thought of this."

She reminisced about gaining her independence, a goal Job Corps has for its students. "The biggest thing was the culture shock, there wasn't any Indians or at least very few. It was getting used to all those different kinds of people but by the time I was finished I didn't want to leave."

Today Spino uses her acquired clerical skills and works at the front desk at Kah-Nee-Ta.

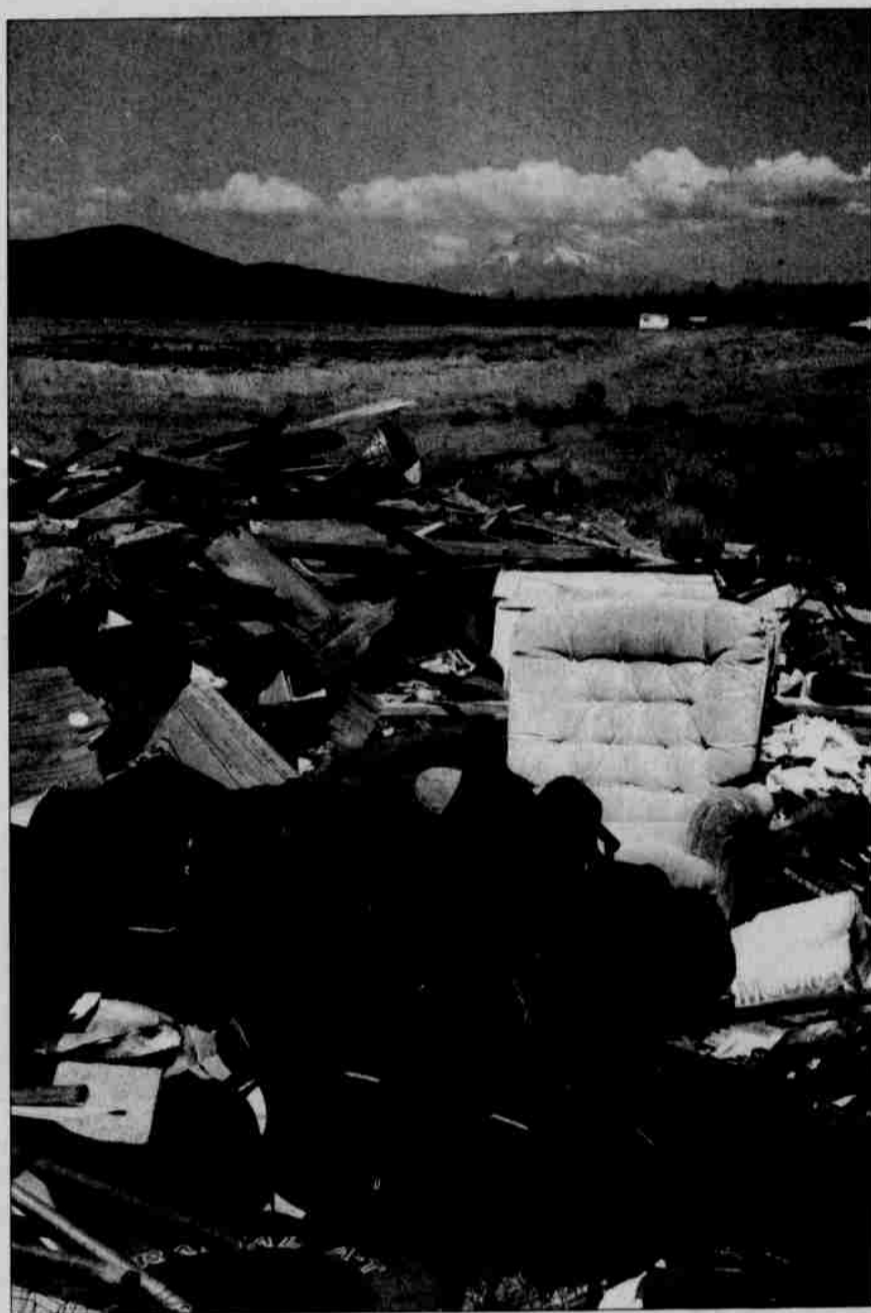
Allstott boasted that success rates are very high and a high percentage of the students not only find jobs, but also maintain their jobs longer than a year.

Job Corps is the nation's largest and most comprehensive residential, education, and job training program for at-risk youth. Inaugurated in 1964, it has provided more than 2 million disadvantaged young people with academic, vocational, and social skills training they need to gain independence and find quality, long-term jobs or just further their education.

For more information check out website www.jobcorps.org or call 1-888-505-9684 or (541) 389-3381.

Trashing the rez

From tin cans to old furniture to abandoned campsites to hazardous waste, refuse riddles pristine areas



LEFT: The Sidwalter unofficial dumpsite. Oliver Kirk, Natural Resources law enforcement officer, says, 'I'd like them to make it official, if they are going to use it. That way garbage sorting can be addressed accordingly.' Public Utilities has plans to clean it up in one year. RIGHT: Waste thrown in the woods on the reservation from a building project.



The one official dumpsite on the reservation has troubles with outsiders dumping their garbage for free. It's free for tribal members only.

By Shannon Keaveny
Spilyay Tymo

The drive to Mount Wilson is stunning. Mount Hood's snow capped peak looms in the background. The crisp fresh blue water of Lake Taylor is seen off in the distance. Fields of tall pink flowers sway gently in the mountain breeze. Large hemlock, fir and pine tower over the winding dirt logging roads.

And then there's the trash. Bottles and cans are scattered alongside the road. The metal from a dug up culvert lies in a pile. An abandoned out-house crooks to the side about to collapse. A leftover camper shell slacks like a crushed can after enduring years of harsh climate changes. An old logging campsite, complete with mattresses, pillows, clothes, tents, sleeping bags, coolers, cans, bottles, metal pans and a suitcase slowly melts into the forest duff.

It's the campsite that perturbs Oliver Kirk, Natural Resources law enforcement officer, the most.

"The main thing I am after is tribal members who trash their own home. We're supposed to be the first conservationists."

Oliver Kirk
Natural Resources law officer

"These are tribal members who are independent contractors working for the tribal forestry department," he said.

He explains emphatically, "This is a problem that should be addressed. Much of the highway litter is from incoming traffic, but tribal members are responsible for a lot of the back roads stuff."

Employed with the Fish and Wildlife Department before his current job, Kirk has witnessed a variety of trash scenes on the reservation over the years.

He tells stories of 5-8 discarded dynamite sticks once found under the Mill Creek Bridge and another site with two dozen sticks of dynamite

near Mount Wilson. In both cases, the dynamite was carefully removed to prevent an explosion.

Dynamite, says Kirk, will often crystallize and turn to nitrous glyceride that could blow with just a small bump. He thinks loggers use it make logging roads.

Despite it all, he maintains his good humor and points out an old chair and mattress on the side of the road and jokes, "Need a rest. There's a rest area."

He passes by old construction sites. Old paint cans, a bath, some tile and some old kitchen cabinets remain at one site. Old appliances, like stoves and fridges, are often discarded in the woods.

Logger trash, he says, like old oil containers and hazardous materials is another problem.

And "toilet paper flowers" are scattered alongside wooded highway areas.

Options to the problem
There aren't many signs while driving through the

reservation on highway 26. The first bathroom after Warm Springs is Government Camp.

Cars stop on the side of the road and passengers disappear into the trees.

Before the McQuinn Strip acquisition, there was a rest area called Robinson Park. After it became reservation land, there were not sufficient funds to keep it up. The bathrooms were eventually removed and a fence was put up.

Yet, a surprised Kirk comments snidely, "No bathrooms, and a fence doesn't stop people. They use it like the rest area is still there."

A quick look while driving by reveals a forest meadow of what Kirk refers to as 'toilet paper flowers.'

The problem may be lack of infrastructure for refuse.

Kirk thinks, maybe more signs on the highway letting people know where the next bathroom is, would be helpful. There is some talk, he says, of constructing a gas station and convenience store somewhere before Government Camp.

But, Kirk's real concern is

not visitors.

"The main thing I am after," he clarifies, "is tribal members who trash their own home. We're supposed to be the first conservationists. We need to have more respect for the land where we live and play."

Right now there is one official dumpsite on the reservation, the Warm Springs sanitary landfill, located on the way to Kah-Nee-Ta on Dry Creek Road. It's free to tribal members. Pick up service at reservation homes is also complimentary.

There is also one unofficial dumpsite on Sidwalter Road, says Kirk.

Herb Graybael, director of Public Utilities, says the Sidwalter site is just one of many of the 'wildcat' dumpsites on the reservation. Wildcat is a term he uses to refer to unofficial dumpsites.

At least 20 years ago, he says, we put large bins out there to stop use of the site.

In the next year Warm Springs Public Utilities will implement a solid waste plan. It will include three sites throughout the reservation, including the Sidwalter site.

School: Warm Springs annual test results improve

(Continued from page 1)

But the veto will also eliminate a \$175 million statewide safety net in case a further economic downturn causes another budget deficit.

Including this figure, budget shortfalls for the 509-J district are estimated to be \$400 per student, totaling approximately \$1.6 million for the district, said Riley.

Cuts could increase if voters on Sept. 17 reject Measure 19.

This measure would provide \$150 million to offset cuts this school year. If the measure fails, budget shortfalls would expand

to \$2.5 million for the 509-J district, amounting to another \$230 per student.

The district board has decided to wait on official cuts until after the Sept. 17 vote.

Meanwhile, the board is reviewing its options. Board member Jim Manion said some possibilities are shorter school years, building maintenance, delay purchases of new buses, building new schools and "the last thing, but definitely on the table, cutting teachers."

Some districts are already making cuts, such as the Sisters district, which decided to start

school this year two weeks late.

Warm Springs Elementary annual test results up

Assistant Superintendent Keith Johnson presented annual test results for the district. Good news was Warm Springs Elementary third graders jumped from 60 percent passing math and reading tests to 70 percent.

The schools district third grades are now within the state average for math. District-wide fifth grade average math scores reached the state benchmark, jumping 15 percent from the previous year. Eighth and tenth

grade scores unveiled a lapse in the system, with half as many students passing the math tests in comparison to the state.

Manion suggested the high school might need to make math mandatory for freshman. Johnson was open to looking into it further, but also indicated that despite math not being mandatory, most kids opt to take it.

Other strengths revealed by the tests included 27 Madras High School students passing all five subtests needed to earn a Certificate of Initial Mastery (CIM).

Johnson related three improvement strategies to the board for the coming year. Using Title 1A funds a School Improvement Specialist was hired to address problem areas; three elementary schools are completing school-wide improvement plans; and student performance data will be analyzed (by ethnicity, income, etc) to make sure all categories of students benefit from the school system.

Also from last week's district meeting:

Construction projects for the schools will be substantially

completed for the new school year, reported Dick Junge. Teachers will be able to use new classrooms at Madras Elementary where the breezeways were enclosed, securing the building. Exterior construction, such as painting and gutters, won't be finished until about two weeks after school starts. Gym floors at Madras Elementary and Metolius Elementary won't be ready until the second week of school due to delays with the installers and contractors. Construction this summer was paid for with bond money amounting to \$530,250.