



Spilyay Tymoo

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Chief shares view on Ancient One

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

Wasco Chief Nelson Wallulatum has a unique and interesting perspective on the ancient skeleton known as Kennewick man.

Chief Wallulatum believes that the remains of Kennewick man, or "the Ancient One" as he is also called, should be reburied.

However, the skeleton should also be available for study before the reburial.

"I've always wanted to know how our people lived back then," said Chief Wallulatum.

Controversy over the Ancient One began six years ago, when the remains were discovered in a reservoir on the Columbia River.

From that time until the present, some Columbia River tribes have resisted the attempts of scientists to study the remains.

The issue ended up in court, with federal agencies supporting the position of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Colville and Yakama tribes.

Recently, the judge in the case ruled that the skeleton should be made available for scientific study prior to being reburied.

The Nez Perce, Umatilla, Colville and Yakama tribes have indicated they intend to appeal this decision. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are not a part of the lawsuit.

An interesting point in the case is that the remains of the Ancient One were discovered in an area that is the ancestral homeland of Chief Wallulatum.

The area, in fact, is known as the Wallulapam.

The reservoir where the bones were found is known as the Wallula reservoir. Wallula Lake is nearby.

The Wallula people had fisheries along the Columbia in the area where the remains of the ancient one were uncovered.

The area is near where the Snake and Yakima rivers flow into the Columbia.

The remains of the ancient one are 9,300 years old. The town of Kennewick, Wash., is near the reservoir where the bones were located, which prompted the name Kennewick man.

After the discovery, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Department of the Interior determined the bones should be turned over to the tribes for reburial.

A group of anthropologists then filed suit in federal court in hopes of being allowed to study the skeleton.

The case was litigated in the U.S. District Court in Portland. In large part because of Chief Wallulatum's position, the Confederated Tribes have remained neutral in the case.

Clock change

A week from Sunday, on Oct. 27, please do not forget to set your clock back one hour, as Daylight Savings Time will end.

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"We're right on the edge of a breakthrough. The sky is the limit." - Jim Crocker

Geo Visions lands big grant

Revenue potential is \$5 million

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

The newest tribal enterprise, not yet one year old, has the potential for great accomplishments.

Geo Visions staff were busy during the fire season, providing mapping technology to the fire-fighting agencies.

The work with the fire teams will continue next year, but helping the fire fighters may be just the beginning for Geo Visions.

For instance, through the U.S. Army, the federal government has set aside \$5 million for development of resource plans for federal installations across the nation. Geo Visions has the right of first refusal on contracts for develop-

ing the plans.

"They recognize our skill in this field," said Jim Crocker, general manager of Geo Visions. "This could be a great thing for the tribes."

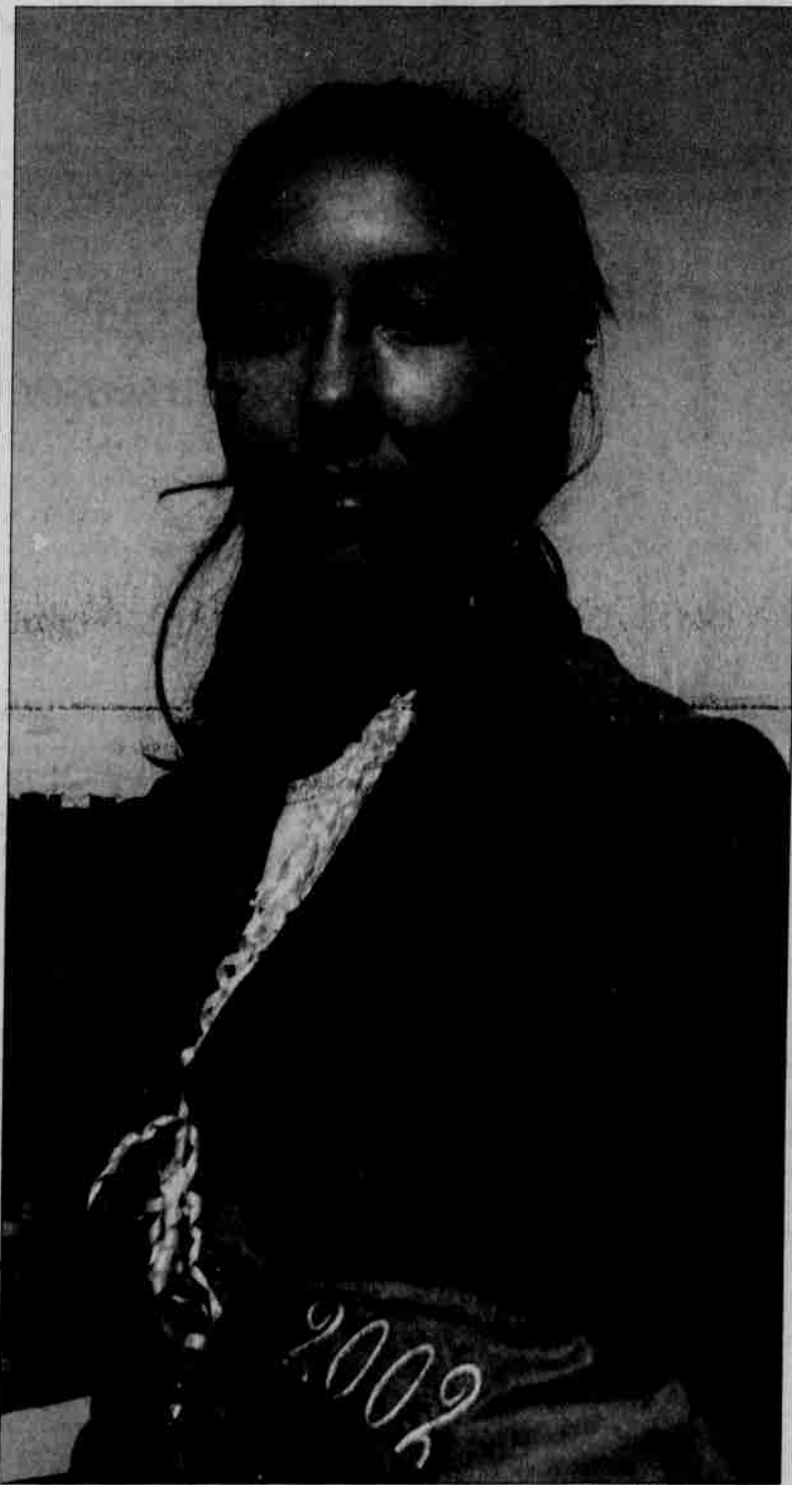
If all goes as planned, Geo Visions will be hiring new employees, and providing training, said Crocker. "We have a chance to create good jobs," he said. "I'm very excited about this."

The Tribal Council formed Geo Visions in the spring of this year.

Funding came from Warm Springs Ventures, the economic development corporation that Council formed about two years ago.

Geo Visions grew out of Global Information Systems (GIS) division of the Confederated Tribes Natural Resources Branch. Geo Visions is a new enterprise, but one of great potential, said Crocker. "We're right on the edge of a breakthrough, and the sky is the limit," he said.

Homecoming princess



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Sophie Smith was the Madras High School Freshman Class Princess at Homecoming this year. Above, she is pictured just before the start of the Homecoming Parade. Gary Villa was the Homecoming King.

Plan to guide Council

How well are the enterprises and other tribal entities implementing the tribal member hiring preference?

Of the local unemployed workforce, what percent is actively seeking work?

How well are culture and traditions - languages, traditional foods and history - being maintained?

How many community members are directly and adversely affected by substance abuse?

These are some of the important issues that make up the Confederated Tribes Comprehensive Strategic Plan. The Tribal Council last week spent a day reviewing and revising the plan, which will serve as a guiding document for the Council. The plan is a more specific extension of the Council Goals and Objectives, which were put into writing a few years ago. A copy of the goals and objectives hangs in the Council chambers.

The goals and objectives, and the new Comprehensive Strategic Plan, are

a means of carrying out the wishes of the tribal members, as stated in documents such as The People's Plan.

The purpose of the Strategic Plan is stated as follows:

"To establish a coordinated and consistent system of plans and actions that maximize human, financial and material capital, and support performance based management and results by building on previous plans... resulting in a shared vision, missions and goals with actions, benchmarks and outputs."

The Council began work on the plan in August, and continued the work last week.

A final version is expected to be complete by the end of the year. The plan addresses many issues and aspects of reservation life, including sovereignty, culture and tradition, economy and employment, community safety, youth and family development, the federal government trust responsibility, natural resources and housing, among other subjects.

Board approves 509-J goals

Statistics will be reported according to ethnicity for first time, said Supt. Riley

By Shannon Keaveny
Spilyay Tymoo

The School District 509-J Board of Directors this week approved the proposed 2002-2005 district goals.

The goals are intended to help battle lack of attendance and lower-than-benchmark reading and math skills among the district students.

For the first time the statistics will reflect the three main ethnic groups of the student body, Native American, Hispanic and Anglo.

The purpose is to account for each group separately, and then target and address the problems. The new goals are stated as follows:

The average number of absences for Hispanic, Native American and Anglo students at each school will decrease by 10 percent in each of the next three years.

The number of Hispanic, Native American and Anglo students achieving benchmarks in reading and math

See SCHOOL on page 7

Powwow is cancelled

There was some bad news in the community last week, as powwow organizers announced that the Veterans Powwow has been cancelled this year.

The problem is one of money, as budgets throughout the tribal organization are being cut. The Veterans Powwow is short about \$8,400.

The dance specials that had been planned for the Veterans Powwow are being transferred to the Lincoln's Birthday Powwow, to be held early next year. A men's Fancy Dance Special, and a Jingle Dance Special had been planned for the Veterans Powwow, but instead will be held at the Lincoln's Birthday Powwow.

The Ike family started the Veterans Powwow in 1989. The event was in memory of Benjamin Dick and Roscoe Dick, who were killed in World War II.

Atwai Nathan "Eight Ball" Jim was a strong supporter of the Veterans Powwow in the early years, when the event was just getting off the ground. "There were some years

when not a lot of people came," said Leona Ike, Veterans Powwow chairwoman. "Eight Ball told us that as long as we had one drummer and one dancer, we had a powwow."

Over the years, the Veterans Powwow has grown in popularity, which is one reason why the announcement of the cancellation was particularly bad news.

"We had hoped we could continue on, but we don't want to be negative," said Ike. "We don't want to have to beg for money, that's not what the powwow is about. It's about feeling good, and coming together and healing together."

Powwows originated from warriors going to or coming back from war, which is why the Veterans Powwow was a special event, said Ike.

Ike said that she and her family would like to thank all those who supported and sponsored the powwow over the years. This includes all businesses of the Confederated Tribes, and Tribal Council. See page 4 for a Letter to the Editor from Leona Ike.

District meetings Oct. 21-23

District meetings on the 2003 tribal government budget are set for next week. The meeting schedule is as follows:

Monday, Oct. 21, Simnasho District Meeting, Simnasho Longhouse; Tuesday, Oct. 22, Agency District Meeting at the Agency Longhouse; and Wednesday, Oct. 23, Seekseequa District Meeting at the Agency Longhouse.

The proposed 2003 budget includes a 7-percent overall decrease in expenditures from the current year's approved budget levels. Tribal operations would see an overall reduction of about \$1 million.

Nearly all departments of the tribal government would see reduced budgets.

The 2003 budget proposal does, however, include a slight increase in the per capita fund.

Per capita will see an increase of \$128,000, from \$5.144 million this year to \$5.272 million next year.

High Lookee Lodge would also see an increase in funding by \$250,000 under the proposal.

Tribal funding for K-5 school would see an increase of \$250,000, to \$450,000, in order to cover the tribes' anticipated annual share of building the new elementary school.

The main reason why the reductions are needed is the weak market for electric power.

Revenue from power is being adjusted downward by \$4 million, based on the weak power market. The ongoing drop in timber revenue is another factor.

At the same time Secretary-Treasurer Charles Jackson is reviewing all potential new sources of revenue, including existing enterprise reserves, as well as additional grants.

The Tribal Council will approve a final version of the new budget probably around Thanksgiving.

The final budget is then posted, for at least 30 days.

The new budget year begins in January 2003.

Anyone who wishes to comment on the 2003 budget should attend one of the upcoming district meetings.