



Jenna Johnson is the 2002 Pi-Ume-Sha Rodeo Queen, and this year will be passing the title to 2003 queen.

Calling Indian cowgirls

Applications are being accepted for 2003 Pi-Ume-Sha Rodeo Queen. Rules for applicants are as follows: You must be a member of the Confederated Tribes, between the ages of 13 and 17. You cannot be pregnant or have children. You must have a horse, and be able to travel to rodeos in central Oregon and

the Northwest. You must have beaded attire for horse and rider. Applicants will be judged on horsemanship, ticket sales and an interview. Please contact Brigette Whipple for an application. The deadline to apply is June 1. Whipple can be reached at 553-1216 (h), or 553-2004 (w).

Local team takes fourth at Yakama

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

The Warm Springs Ridgerunners basketball squad took fourth place at the recent Yakama Nation All-Indian Basketball Tournament of Champions. Fourth-place is an outstanding finish in the Yakama tournament, said James Scott, player and coach of the Ridgerunners.

"The Yakama tourney in my opinion is one of the most competitive adult basketball tournaments in the country," said Scott, who has been playing in the tournament for 22 years.

"I've yet to find a tournament with as much of a competitive atmosphere," said Scott, "and the quality of the players continues to grow year after year."

The Yakama Nation All-Indian tournament this year marked its 48th anniversary. In past years the tournament was held in the Wapato High School gym.

This year, though, the event took place at the Yakama Nation Legends Ca-



James Scott of Warm Springs received the Most Assists Award at the Yakama Nation basketball tournament. His team the Ridgerunners took fourth place at the recent toumey.

sino Event Center, in Toppenish.

The Lapwai, Idaho, team took

first place. The Lapwai team is consistently among the very best Indian teams in the nation,

said Scott.

Besides Scott, players from Warm Springs who are on the Ridgerunners team are Travis Tsosie, Michael Jackson, Kahseus Jackson, Aaron Greene, Ty Eaglespeaker and Reemo Smith. Manager is Sam Kentura.

Scott said that over the years he has had loyal sponsorship for his team. Sponsors he wishes to thank include Benson Heath, Howard Arnett, Safeway, Sentry, Les Schwab Tires Center, the Museum at Warm Springs, Community First Bank, Bright Wood Corp., Roadhouse and Kayo's of Bend.

Scott said he welcomes any future sponsorship help from any local businesses or individuals.

Scott received a trophy during the tournament for having the most assists in 2002. "I never expected that," said Scott.

Scott said he would like to see Warm Springs host more adult basketball tournaments.

Warm Springs boxers compete at Spokane

By Austin Smith
Boxing coach

In April the boxing club from our community went to compete in the Inland Washington State Championships, hosted by the Triple-A Boxing Club of Spokane. Regardless of how I got us lost on the road coming back home, the trip itself seemed to be a success. Almost everyone got to box except Austin Smith Jr. He had no one in his age and weight class that matched up with him. This is one rule that is applied to all the competitors. You must be within two years of one another and you also must be within five pounds of weight of one another. For some odd reason Austin just didn't have anyone there at his age or weight to box with. Then something happened with Trevor Tewee, Jasper Smith and Leonard American Horse, they also got walk through recognitions, although they did get some match bout competition during the tournament, and they all won

these matches. Wesley Graybael had two boxers in his weight class at 106 pounds. They boxed for the championship on Saturday night. It was a good bout for Graybael, he missed many punches, but the other fella did too. Wesley carried the action and the third round showed heavy to the red corner and we won that bout and the 106 pound championship plus five points for a team win. Johnny Smith of the Warm Springs Boxing Club and Justin Evans of the Central Oregon Boxing Club ended up the only two 131 pounders in their weight division, so they boxed for that championship spot on Sunday afternoon in the blue ring and in the red corner. A bloody fight it was, but it wasn't native blood. It was a close boxing match with some good turning and tagging done by Evans, who scored with his jab a lot. But Johnny landed all the power punches from his slower set

pace. Johnny seemed in better condition in this competition. So being in shape is the key to having confidence to win. The 131-pound championship match in the junior open division came to the red corner and we brought it home. Leander Smith on Saturday night boxed his way to Sunday's open junior cadet championship match by first defeating the Delarosa boxing club's 85-pound entry. His next opponent on Sunday afternoon was another native boxer from the Colville Boxing Club of Nespelem, Wash., and it was for the championship match for the open junior 85-pound division. Leander was perfect mentally. He was very game to win, but it was just not his time to defeat this opponent. It was good and close and had me hoping, yet hoping isn't for the judges to score. Leander got the second place medal, but sounded like a winner after the match and when the talk resumed. In the 145-pound match bouts, Trevor Tewee was the first Warm Springs winner. It took Trevor one round to soften him up more and in round two Trevor stuck him with a stiff jab a few times and that got him ducking, but only into his hard right upper cuts. Before the third man stepped in Trevor had him down, but he got up by the count of eight and took some

more hard punches that sent him down and no more getting up this time. No boxing match is easy. When they are over, you can take it easy. Trevor did pretty good. Jasper Smith won two match bouts in the 114-pound weight class. One victory was against Tyson Bruce from the Kelowna Boxing Club and another was from a boxer out of the Tacoma Boxing Club. Both bouts became exciting, or maybe it just appeared to me like that. Anyhow Jasper kept his training next to him and it all paid off. Leonard American Horse, I think his name had a lot to do with his winning. He and Omar, his sparring partner from Culver, they went all the way up to Spokane to spar again, but this time they had a crowd, peers, and pressure to win. Plus, it wasn't a sparring session this time either, and there was a prize if you could beat the other guy at this game. So I think our man American Horse had it scouted out already and knew how much had to be done to wrap up the win. It couldn't have been accomplished without his unique perspective in doing it right. Thank you Warm Springs Fire Management for lending us the big van that we frequently ask permission to use. God bless Warm Springs for all of the support.

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