

Florendo studying in Puerto Rico

Marielle Florendo, daughter of James and Sylvie Florendo, is studying this year in Puerto Rico. Marielle is enrolled at the University of Oregon.

She graduated from South Eugene High School in 2001. During her junior and senior years in high school, she took classes at Lane Community College and also at the University of Oregon (U of O).

When she graduated high school she already had 45 college credits. She was then accepted at the University of Oregon, and was awarded a four-year tuition scholarship through the Diversity Building Scholarship program.

For her first term in college, in the fall of 2001, she decided to travel to Central and South America. She traveled from Mexico to Brazil. Her trip was cut short by the attacks of Sept.



James and Sylvie Florendo, Jo Ann Smith, Marielle and Loren Florendo (from left).

11, 2001.

When she returned to Oregon she began taking classes at the U of O. She has a double major, in Spanish and sociology,

with a minor in business. She is set to graduate in the spring of next year.

Recently, she decided to participate in an exchange program

for the rest of this school year. She is attending the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico in San German.

Marielle is a member of the U of O Native American Student Union (NASU), and is involved in various community projects at the University of Oregon Multi-Cultural Center and Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs.

Her parents live in Eugene. James Florendo works at University of Oregon, and Sylvia works at Lane Community College.

Marielle has numerous relatives in Warm Springs, including three brothers, plus nieces and nephews.

"I'm very proud of her for going forward with her education," said Jo Ann Smith, Marielle's aunt.

Pageant provides many opportunities

By Dixie Lorange
Chinook Winds Casino

The Miss Native America Oregon Scholarship Program is an organization empowering young women to achieve their educational, personal and professional goals.

Whether you want to become a doctor or a dancer, and accountant or an architect, we have an opportunity that will help bring you closer to achieving your goals - whatever they may be. We are part of the Miss Oregon Organization.

This year's pageant will take place August 20-21 at Chinook Winds Casino and Convention Center in Lincoln City.

If you are between the ages of 17 to 24 years old, have never been married, are enrolled in a college or university or plan to continue your secondary education, a resident of the state of Oregon, an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe, and have never been convicted of any criminal offense and there are no criminal charges presently pending against you, then please consider entering our pageant.

By winning a title you automatically become eligible to compete for the title of Miss Oregon 2005 at Seaside in July 2005. The ultimate goal is that of competing for the title of Miss America 2006 in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Many young women dream of scholarships to help pay for college. Every year the Miss Oregon Scholarship Program offers its contestants over \$100,000 in cash and in-kind tuition scholarships.

These scholarships are

awarded to any competitor, not just the ultimate titleholder. Scholarships are available for academic achievement, community service, talent, fitness, speaking skills and more.

The Miss Native America Oregon Scholarship Program offers contestants a forum for raising awareness and effecting change on important social issues.

To compete in our program, contestants are required to clearly define a social issue to which they are sincerely committed and for which each will be an activist during their year of service. Perhaps you've been serving as a mentor to young people in your community, or volunteering time to an AIDS clinic, a drug abuse treatment center, or tackling any one of countless other important issues facing the youth in our society.

Competing in the Miss Native America Oregon Scholarship Program will give you a chance to learn more about your chosen issue, meet influential people who are working on the front lines of these causes, and add your voice and views to those of other leaders.

The four categories of the Miss Native America Oregon competition are: interview, evening wear, talent and lifestyle, and fitness in swimsuit. This program can and will help with gaining and perfecting public speaking, interviewing and performance skills.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by calling me at (541) 996-2826, or toll free at 1-888-CHINOOK ext. 2826 or emailing: dixiel@chinookwindsgaming.com.

Tribes oppose BPA dam spill plan

PORTLAND (AP) - Northwest Indian tribes last week approved a joint resolution to oppose federal plans to reduce the level of water spilled at Columbia River hydroelectric dams this summer.

The 54 members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians also criticized the Bonneville Power Administration for engaging in a "vague, unwritten yet aggressive campaign" to eliminate the safest means of fish passage around

the turbines that generate electricity.

Tribal biologists estimate that summer spill curtailment would kill as many as 50,000 adult salmon each year, said Jay Minthorn, vice chairman of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

"Water is the number one resource for our people," Minthorn said. "It's critical to our ceremonies."

A Bonneville spokesman said tribal concerns would be addressed.

"This is about trying to find the most cost-effective way of achieving the same biological objectives, which is salmon survival," said Mike Hansen, spokesman at the federal agency's Portland headquarters.

A decision on spill levels is expected by April, Hansen said. Alfred Nomee, Coeur d'Alene tribal member and natural resources committee chairman for the Affiliated Tribes, said the resolution will be sent

to the National Congress of American Indians later this month.

"The tribes have stated a position that treats the Columbia River as a single living unit and one that must be managed and protected as such," Nomee said.

"Tribes have a living culture. It's water, fish and forests, every day. They're not artifacts, they're here and now," he said.

Letters to the editor continued

Sharing concern

A wise elder always told me to look at the whole picture when dealing with making choices and decisions. So members of Warm Springs I would like to share this picture with you.

It all began the school year 2000. I was working under three different acting supervisors until that position was refilled.

That was a difficult school year because I also lost a dependable and supportive co-worker.

I had to carry a lot of responsibilities that applied to me as a Tribal Pre-School (TPS) teacher.

School year 2002, TPS got reorganized. Wasn't sure what I was returning to. I was informed incorrectly, which caused me to worry. I spoke with Julie Q. and she clarified my position (felt relieved).

That year I began feeling stable and very competent as a TPS teacher, I got a reliable co-worker and supportive supervisors.

Well this school year 2003-04, I'm back to feeling distracted

because of a concern going on in our program.

I still have a reliable co-worker, but just recently I was informed that I may be losing my supervisors who have been very supportive to me.

What is so frustrating is that I've shared with my Tribal Councilman at my district meeting and also at the general Council meeting at Agency. The COO has not come to listen to us or ask us what's happening.

One of my Tribal Councilmen came to see me. I did request a meeting for all staff at ECE and interested councilmen, but nothing has been done yet.

I was concerned because I feel there was some "division" occurring at our building. We should be all working as a team. We did try to be included on the Tribal Council agenda on Jan. 5, and we were denied. Why?

I've been a TPS teacher since September 1985. I enjoy working with children and parents. I've worked with a lot of different teachers in Head Start and TPS, and under eight different supervisors.

I've gained a lot of wisdom and knowledge from some of these people which has helped me become the teacher I am today.

Now Julie Quaid is being removed and I feel the way her situation was handled is unfair. Julie has been with ECE for 22 years. She has all the degrees that are required to carry her position at ECE.

She has never left us. She has hung tough with us and never bailed ship. Now someone is removing her in a way that I feel is unfair.

I don't want to lose Julie or Charlene because they've allowed me to do my job. They have confidence in my abilities as a teacher. I respect that. They don't try to "control" me.

In the past I've always gone to Elders with my concerns because they are wise. Today, I come to my Warm Springs community to share my picture with you.

Do you see something wrong with this picture?

Melinda Frank

Gathering at High Lookie

The informational series Tribes, Treaties and Truths continues this week at High Lookie Lodge.

The meeting is this Thursday afternoon, Feb. 19, starting at noon.

If you want to buy lunch, call in advance, extension 1182. Topic this week is the language program in Warm Springs. For information call 553-1428.

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