

## Langnese excelled in college

Kira Langnese recently graduated from Western Oregon University with a bachelors of science in health education and a minor in physical education.

Langnese was on the Western Oregon University track team. She is number three on the all-time top 10 list for pole vault, with a vault of 10 feet 10 and three-quarters inches. Langnese is also number five on the all-time top list for javelin, with a throw of 125 feet and seven inches.

Langnese also excelled at academics, making the honor role 30 of 37 terms. She received the Who's Who among students in American universities and colleges for 2003-04. This is awarded to stu-



photo submitted by Lupe Samuels

Kira is joined by her mother and sisters at graduation.

dents for academic, athletic and volunteer work in the community.

Her plan now is to attend the University of Portland and complete the family nurse practitioner program. Her mother Roxanne Langnese Chinook and her grandmother Lupe Samuels are very proud of Kira for her accomplishments.

## Birth announcements

**Pierre McCloud**  
Andrew McCloud IV and Barbie Jackson are pleased to announce the birth of their son Pierre Sincere Warchild McCloud, born July 2.

**Adam Rubio Jr.**  
Adam Gabriel Rubio and Kaliska Rose Rubio are pleased to announce the birth of their son Adam Gabriel Rubio Jr., born June 21.

**Marilyn Mary Jareen Tom**  
Corbett Isaac Tom Sr. and Sharon Tara Katchia are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Marilyn Mary Jareen Tom, born June 28.

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## Tribes present concerns to BPA

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

The tribes own several thousand acres of property on the John Day River that is to be managed for restoration of fisheries habitat.

The necessary restoration work on the land is being delayed by the Bonneville Power Administration, according to tribal officials.

This was a main point of discussion during a recent meeting among natural resource officials of the Confederated Tribes, and representatives of the BPA.

The meeting at Kah-Nee-Ta was a chance for the tribes to express concern regarding watershed restoration and related management issues on some of the tribes' off-reservation lands.

The tribes' fish, wildlife and parks manager Terry Luther said that management of the tribes' Pine Creek Ranch on the John Day River provides examples of the problems the tribes have been having with BPA in management of off-reservation properties.

Luther said that he has been working for the past 20 years with the BPA on fish and wildlife restoration projects within the ceded lands of the tribes. During most of that time the working relationship between the tribes and the BPA has been excellent, said Luther.

"But in recent years there have been serious problems," he said, adding, "Keep in mind that we have a long and good relationship."

The tribes took title to the 26,000-acre Pine Creek Ranch in 1998. The purchase was funded by the BPA for the benefit of tribal interests, particu-

larly fisheries habitat restoration. This and other mitigation measures are intended to make up in part for damage to tribal fisheries caused by construction of hydro-projects on the Columbia River.

The tribes took title to the land, along with management responsibilities. Another example of this kind of project is the 10,000-acre Wagner Ranch property, along with two grazing allotments. These properties created a 20-mile corridor along the John Day, to be managed for fisheries restoration. The property collectively is called the "Pine Creek Conservation Area."

The properties had been damaged by cattle grazing over many years. The purpose of the transfer to the tribes was to rehabilitate the land for the benefit of fish.

The BPA received mitigation "credits" for the transactions that created the Pine Creek Conservation Area.

Luther said that the tribal management plan for the area has been delayed by BPA inaction. The property is being overrun by juniper, but is intended to be managed as shrub steppe.

The BPA received the mitigation credits but the land was not intended to be juniper woodland, but shrub steppe.

He suggested that the BPA approve the tribes' proposed management plan, which calls for reducing the juniper encroachment. He said that controlled burning would be the best way to restore the shrub steppe landscape.

But the tribal management plan cannot be implemented with BPA approval, and the pro-

*"People want to see the property improved for fisheries but we spend all our time on budget exercises."*

**Terry Luther**  
Fish, wildlife & parks manager

cess is dragging on, said Luther.

There was discussion regarding potential legal liability posed by the controlled-burn aspect of the management plan. Luther said that he and his staff are spending too much time on budget exercises required by the BPA.

"We're biologists," he said. "People want to see the property improved for fisheries but we spend all our time on budget exercises."

He said, "I've seen some dramatic changes in recent years in working with BPA. I feel we don't have your support."

The problem is that BPA funding for restoration work would come only after the management plan is approved. If the management plan is not approved, there is no funding to carry out the restoration work.

Tribal Natural Resources General Manager Bobby Brunoe said that the delay in implementing the mitigation management plan is affecting the tribes' working relationship with local governments that also need to be a part of the project.

The tribes have discussed the mitigation plans with the local

governments, and then there is no follow-through in getting the projects done.

This tends to make the local governments skeptical, said Brunoe; whereas in the past, he said, "We have had a very good track record in getting things done."

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