

## Military knowledge in the race for candidacy important factor

By Sid Miller  
Publisher Emeritus

I am no politician and will never be one, but it disturbs me on how the Bush supporters are attacking presidential nominee, John Kerry, and even going as far as to question Kerry's military participation in Vietnam.

It's just like playing dirty pool, when one stoops so low trying to unseat an individual from public favor on the presidential trail.

What kind of war experience does Bush have? Has he any idea of what it is like to see combat in any military conflict?

Election year is always like dirty pool in trying to gain the public's interest at any cost. Digging into a person's background like that. It was said that Bush did not want to speak on the past.

Well what would he have to say about the past? There really isn't much to mention in terms of what he has done.

Running for the President of the United States of America is a very big step. In this day and age we really need good leadership. We need someone who understands the conditions of any situation, both pro and con in order to lead our country.

There are things that need explaining of what's happening today in Iraq. Is this going to be another Vietnam, where many, many lives will be lost? So far our military personnel are being killed in Iraq and it seems there is nothing being done about it.

We get casualty lists every day but we never hear about the other side; are our soldiers killing any enemy in Iraq?

It would be interesting to know in layman's terms, what kind of staff the Bush Administration has at the present time. Mainly in the military advisory team and what kind of military experience does President Bush have? Is he capable of making military decisions?

Some Vietnam veterans are speaking against John Kerry's Vietnam experience. These individuals are tied in on the Bush Administration. These individuals will be well compensated in one way or another.

No matter what war a person is involved in there is always that possibility of being killed.

I would not want to participate in any debate on Senator John Kerry's military record because I have no idea what his role was in Vietnam, but he must have had some good experience of the war while he was in active duty.

Well, as far as the presidential race is concerned, I'm going to vote on whomever I feel is the best guy and let it go at that!! AHH-NAH-CHITON!!

## Toe Ness

The Senators son asked: "Dad, do all politicians lie, or is it that just liars are politicians?" YIKES

## Letters to the Editor

### Works crew

The Community Works Crew would like to publicly thank people who have sponsored paint for the Community Wellness Center Paint Project so far. Big thank you to:

Lloyd Phillips Jr., Ray Rangila, Jim Manion, Jolene Atencio, Jamie Burleigh, Lisa Sledge and Rita Squiemphen.

Come on, Warm Springs Community, we still need more sponsors!

We also would like to thank all the volunteers who have helped out by coming over to paint. We would not have gotten as much painting done without this much appreciated help. Thank you to the following folks:

Adele and Johnny Holliday, Sonja Scott, Ray Shike Jr., Tiffany Henry, Kim LeClaire, and several children whose names were not gotten.

Also: Missy David, Minnie Yahtin, Corina Brunoe, Guy Chienden, Austin Greene, Shamona Charley, Andy Leonard, Lonnie Caldera and Otis Iverson.

And thank you, Terren McDonald, Preston Tom,

Annie Kalama, Samantha Pennington and Winona Strong.

We want to let the community know that if you want to still get involved, you are more than welcome to. Just contact Marcia Soliz at 553-3298 or drop by her office next to the Personnel Department at the Administration Building.

We will still be cleaning roadsides, clearing hazardous areas in the community, helping elders with their home areas, helping cut meat for the lockers in October, helping Utilities and the Housing departments when assistance is needed or requested.

We will also be making kindling bundles. When winter comes, we will be clearing driveways for elders and making sure they can get out of their homes safely by clearing pathways and sidewalks and just checking on them.

If elders or people with physical disabilities need fire wood blocks split [that they already have], we can take requests through Marcia's office. So, we have a busy fall/winter schedule ahead of us.

We are the Community Works Crew. We hope the crew

is funded and still around in 2005, because the kind of things we do are needed every year, and we're putting tribal members to work now, not years down the road.

Sincerely, the Community Works Crew, Bets Thompson (foreman), Marlen Miller, William Culpus, Aaron Eaglespeaker, Frances Smith, Craig Smith, and Michele Gonzales.

### Powwow results

These are the results of the Huckleberry Feast Powwow for Saturday, August 7:

Girls, age 7-12: first Delvina Heath; second Kristi Olney; third Viola Wallulatum; consolation, Katie Mae Fraizer and April Rose Berry.

Boys, age 7-12: first Larry Merritt; second Neal Morning Owl; third Nolan Berry; consolation, Billy Joe Berry Jr., Morgan Frank, Cy Frank, Jacob Berry and Martin Frank.

Teen girls: first Dawn Wahneka; second Nicole Stwyer.

Teen boys: first Forrest Stwyer; second Rolin Morning Owl.

Drums: West Spur. Results for Sunday, August 8: Ladies, 20 years and up: first Carolyn Owyhee; second Lavina Colwash; third Liya Davis; consolation, 12 contestants.

Men, 20 and up: first, Gene Harvey; second Jarvis Stwyer; third Gene Sampson.

Drums: West Spur; Simnasho; Pine Grove Juniors; Eagle Thunder; North Ends Studs.

Seniors Honorarium: Delvis Heath Sr., Jacob Frank Sr., Hamilton Greeley, J-Mouse Mitchell, Shirley Heath, Winona Frank, Nola Queahpama and Freda Mitchell.

Heap big thanks to Captain Moody for being the floor manager, and all the "volunteer" judges without whom this small but very important occasion would not have been possible.

Hope to see more commu-

nity members participate in the 2005 powwow.

Benson Heath

### With love

This is to my baby girl, Keverly Angel. I miss you so much. I promise to make everything up to you. You are my one and only. I thank God for you. I love you. Thank you, Mom, for helping me. I love you guys so much. Love, Marsha Givens.

### Thank you

To my Auntie Laura Switzler, I want to say thank you very much for taking the time to take me to Portland. I still owe you Auntie, which will be paid in full when I get out of jail. You're on my visiting list and also thank you for bringing Josh back that day. I love and miss you. I am so sorry for the loss too. Love, your niece Tamara Henry.

### Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor can be sent to Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs, 97761. Or dropped off at 1100 Wasco St. E-mail is

spilyaytymoo@wstribes.org. Letters can be no longer than 350 words in length, and can contain no libel against any person.

## Among Native people tobacco use is prevalent and harmful

By Mary Anette Pember

(This article was submitted for publication to the Spilyay by the Warm Springs Community Health Education Team, CHET.)

Tobacco is sacred to most Native Americans. We use it in ceremonies and individual prayers, and we believe it carries our words to the Creator. My mother and I regularly use it in our prayers. We used it on the day my brother died from lung cancer. A heavy smoker, he died at age 56, just two years ago this spring.

My big brother was beautiful. He was a powerful man, handsome, invincible, charming and a little bit dangerous. He embodied the mystique of the Indian warrior, which prides our young people on their ability to live hard and believe foolishly that they are somehow immune from injury and disease.

At the time of his death, my brother had a regular physician. For him, seeking medical help would have been an admission of weakness. By the time the cancer was found, it was far too late.

When I saw him in the intensive care unit, I would not have recognized him, if it were not for his many tattoos. Those jailhouse rebel markings looked so incongruous now against his thin grey arms full of tubes.

He had signed a do-not-resuscitate order but had changed his mind at the last minute when the breathing tube was taken from him.

It's one thing to sign such an order and quite another to slowly drown in dry air. Only after a long, painful procedure in which a stint was placed in his lungs, allowing him to breathe on his own for a short time, could he let go.

We took him to a hospice and gently bathed him and combed his hair. And we sat with him as he passed. We offered tobacco to the Creator in prayer for him. His brave, embattled struggle ended with so little dignity, nothing of the mythical warrior spirit to which he so aspired.

Our ancestors never intended that tobacco be abused as it is today. With its chemical additives and ready availability, cigarettes

have turned tobacco into a deadly substance. It is a dreadful irony, then, that Native people have the highest percentage of cigarette smokers, 40 percent, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention January 2004 report.

Fifty-three percent of our men and 33 percent of our women are smokers.

The reasons for the high rates of smoking among Native people are not simple. Social and economic class plays a major role in the problem, as it does among other groups. The role of tobacco in the cultural life of Native people, however, adds an especially challenging aspect to programs aimed at smoking cessation.

Fortunately, Native communities are beginning to address the problem from the inside with programs such as "Keep Tobacco Sacred," a project sponsored by the University of Montana and created by Native people to fight tobacco abuse.

On additional irony is that many tribes can earn income from sales of tax-free tobacco products.

Several tribes use income from tobacco sales to underwrite health programming.

On the day my brother died, my mother and I used tobacco in the way our ancestors use it, as a gift from the Creator to take our hopes and wishes to him. I will use tobacco today when I pray for a new warrior mystique to emerge, one like the warrior

ideal of our ancestors who were brave enough to honor that most sacred gift - our lives.

Mary Anette Pember, Red Cliff Ojibwe, is past president of the Native American Journalists Association. She currently lives and works as an independent journalist in Ohio. She can be reached at: pmproj@progressive.org.

### Apologies

To the Warm Springs community, I would like to apologize for my actions on June 16, 2004. I made the decision to operate a vehicle after consuming an alcoholic beverage. I am thankful that no one was hurt due to my wrong decision. Thank you. **Connie Johnson.**

To the Warm Springs community, I, Renita Harvey, would like to apologize for driving under the influence of alcohol on February 28, 2004, in the Warm Springs community. Endangering myself and everyone else.

It was a wrong choice I made and I am sorry for doing so. Also, I would like to apologize to the officer who stopped and cited me with a DUII for my behavior toward him. It was my fault I made the choice I did. Again, I would like to apologize to everyone. Thank you. **Renita Harvey.**

On June 21 on Highway 26 near East Tenino Road I was arrested by Sgt. Sam Williams for DUII. I plead guilty to this crime. I know driving while drinking is dangerous. Please accept my apology. **Tyrone Lewis.**

To husband Marvin, I am asking you to forgive me for my actions.

I am truly regretful of the things that were said and the things that were done. I am never going to do anything to hurt you like that again. Your wife, **Michele.**

## Question: What did you learn from your summer job?



**Doriann Miller**  
Early Childhood Education

"I learned how to use a computer and a multi phone system."



**Meredith Polk**  
Community Center

"I learned how to play with kids and participate in group activities."



**Ted Barney Jr.**  
High Lookee Lodge

"I learned how to do kitchen duty. Mainly I learned to clean."

By summer workers Jessica Longknife and Tonya Boise

## Happy birthday to you...

To sister Glenda Fisher, Happy Birthday. I want to wish you a belated sweet birthday and I pray that you're in good health

and in the safety of the greatest love of Godreach. I miss you very much my little sister, and no matter what you do in life, I

still love you. Write me. Love, your sister Tamara Henry, 675 NW Cherry Ln., Madras, OR 97741.

Spilyay Tymoo  
(Coyote News, Est. 1976)

Publisher Emeritus: Sid Miller

Editor: Dave McMechan  
Management Successor: Selena T. Boise  
Advertising Manager: Sam Howard  
Media Advisor: Bill Rhoades

Spilyay Tymoo is published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Our offices are located in the white house at 1100 Wasco Street.

Any written materials submitted to Spilyay Tymoo should be addressed to:

Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs, OR 97761. Phone: (541) 553-1644 or 553-3274.

FAX No. (541) 553-3539.

E-Mail: spilyaytymoo@wstribes.org. Annual Subscription rates: Within U.S.: \$15.00.