

Record number of visitors at Eagle Watch

By Brian Mortensen
Spilyay Tymoo

Respect for each other and respect for Mother Earth are what makes an event like Eagle Watch 2005 so important, Warm Springs tribal member Rudy Clements said Sunday.

Clements' talk was part of the Warm Springs' Native American presentation at the 10th annual Eagle Watch at Round Butte Overlook Park Sunday.

The weekend-long event gave the nearly 450 visitors the opportunity to see bald and golden eagles at various points overlooking Lake Billy Chinook and learn about the birds that frequent the area in several demonstrations and talks from local biologists. The number of visitors this year was the most ever for Eagle Watch.

Part of the celebration each year is the Native American pro-

gram, hosted by Clements and highlighted by tribal dancers led by the renowned Joe Tuckta.

"When we use the Mother Earth, that what it's here for," Clements said. "We shouldn't feel bad about using it, but one of the things that we have to keep in mind when we do use Mother Earth is that we revere it, that it's very sacred.

"If we can do that the best we can every day, the seven generations of the future will be provided for. The better we can get along, the better we can work together, the better we can take care of Mother Earth, the better we can keep from fighting one another and having wars and destruction of things, the better that seven generations are going to be."

That, he said, is what he valued about Eagle Watch, as "one of the most important events of

the year for this area".

Eagle Watch, presented every year the last weekend of February since 1996, exists "to educate and build awareness," Eagle Watch organizer Paul Patton, of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, said.

"The eagle is the focal point," he said, as the weekend is a celebration of the land and environment and its wildlife.

In the sunny and balmy Sunday afternoon, the majority of attendees indicated they had seen eagles flying over Lake Billy Chinook. And if they hadn't brought binoculars, one flew low to the ground above the overlook to give the assembled a good look and a final salute to the weekend.

Along with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Eagle Watch is sponsored by several state and federal agencies, a

number of Madras and Jefferson County businesses and a few wildlife and raptor enthusiast groups, along with Warm Springs Power Enterprises, The Museum At Warm Springs, and Kah Nee Ta High Desert Resort and Casino.

Tuckta and other dancers from the Quartz Creek Drummers and Dancers performed in full regalia, including members of the audience gathered around, including the serpentine Eel Dance, intended to cleanse and dedicate the spot for the presentation.

The presentation included Tuckta's moving Eagle Dance and concluded with a traditional round dance. Clements told the assembled group that he, as a matter of Native tradition, gave the first drum he had ever made to Patton, for his work at presenting Eagle Watch each year.

More powwow results

Results of the 2005 Lincoln's Birthday Powwow at Simnasho (in order, first, second and third):

Women's Traditional: Leah McGurk, Sacramento; Katrina Wasley, Granger, Wash.; Dolly Heemsah, Harrah.

Men's Fancy: Stan Whiteman Sr., Browning, Mont.; Stanley Whiteman, Browning; Wilson Totus, Granger.

Men's Grass, Tsosie Nordwall, Apple Valley, Calif.; Charley Wesley, Toppenish; Dave Madera, Spokane Valley.

Men's Traditional: Ardell Scalplock, Sacramento; Merle Eaglespeaker, Blackfoot, Idaho; Russel McCloud, Harrah.

2005 Lincoln's Powwow Specials Results:

Round Bustle 13 and under:

Son-Son Heemsah, Toppenish; Dustin Sam, Owyhee, Nev.; Dillon Begay, Satus, Wash.

Tom "Mackie" Begay sponsored: Round Bustle 14 and up:

Shawn Scabby Robe, White Swan; Dakota McGurk, Sacramento; Tsosie Nordwall, Apple Valley.

Laritta Greene, Jermayne Tuckta, Tiyanna Tuckta, Charles Wolfe, Norene Sampson; Jodene Boise; Atcity Begay sponsored: Sidney Greene Memorial Open Teen Boys:

Stanley Whiteman, Browning, Mont.; Dakota McGurk, Sacramento; Charles Wesley, Toppenish; Mason McGurk, Sacramento; Mario Hawley, Seattle.

Consolation: Buck Wallahe, Toppenish; Dillon Begay, Satus; Lee Eaglespeaker, Yelm; Terry Heemsah Jr., Harrah; Jarvis Stwyer, Brownstown, Wash.

Letters of apology

I am writing this letter of apology to the Tribal Courts and the Warm Springs tribal members. I currently have an exclusion order from the reservation through the Tribal Court system. I have been dealing with matters for the last eight years for I have family and friends here. I violated this order on Feb. 4, 2005 due to a tribal member bringing, leaving me on the reservation. Now I am serving six months jail sentence for this. So once again I apologize. **Clara Kennedy.**

I would like to write this letter of apology for being found carrying a concealed weapon, especially when I just posted bail. It happened to be one day fresh from jail. I admit I deserved what I was sentenced. Thank you for being lenient. **Antonio Becerra.**

To the community of Warm Springs, I am writing this letter of apology for not returning from my pass that I was allowed. As a result I was put on escape status. Again, I apologize. **A. Robinson.**

This is a letter of apology to Diamond T., Forest T. Edgar B. and last but not least Joni W. I'm sorry for the reckless and irresponsible behavior exhibited back in November 2004. I would also like to apologize to the officers who responded to the call for help. I'm sorry for the EMT's who assisted in this incident. And most of all a big "I'm sorry" to the Confederated Tribes, Tribal Court for their time. Once again I'm truly sorry. Sincerely, **Davis Stwyer Sr. LaWat-LaWat.**

To the people of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and officer Rochell. I would like to apologize for my actions on the night of August 24, 2004 for assaulting an officer and M. Courtez while defending myself. **VRS.**

I would like to write this in regards to my NDDHD. I would like to apologize for my wrong action that I put upon myself, I understand it was totally wrong, and that now I have to pay for it. Again, I apologize and want life to move on. **Allen Charley.**

To the community and the staff of Kah-Nee-Ta and the police officer that I gave a bad time to on the way in. I would like to apologize for my actions when I was intoxicated. I would also like to apologize to anyone else I offended that night. **Raphael Caldera.**

To whom it may concern: Here is my apology to the Warm Springs tribes. I'm sorry to you all for my DUI on 1-17-05. I know it was wrong. Thanks for the leniency, Judge Langnese, and I'll better myself for the sake of my kids and my people. Thank you. **T.V. Spino.**

I am writing this letter because of a bad decision that I made. I got behind the wheel of an automobile intoxicated. Because of this choice I got a DUI. I apologize to the Warm Springs community and the courts for putting their lives in danger. **Ruben Johnson Jr.**

I'm writing this in regard to apologizing to the tribes of

Warm Springs. I got pulled over for no turn signal and had a smell of alcohol on my breath. I was going to the lounge on New Years. I was going to have fun but maybe it would not be fun if I got in a car crash or something like that. So maybe it was a good thing the police pulled me over. I'm sincerely sorry for driving under the influence of alcohol. **E. Lawson.**

To the Warm Springs community, I don't even know how to begin this letter. I'm sitting here trying to think how do I write a letter that I feel so ashamed of. I owe the Warm Springs people an apology for a "poor" choice I made on February 11, 2005. I can't change the past, but my hope is not to make the same mistake. So Warm Springs people, I am sorry. Keep me in your prayers. **Melinda Frank.**

I am sorry for giving a fake name. I will not do it again. **Antonio Brito Jr.**

To the people of the Confederated Tribes, although my actions of driving under the influence, reckless driving and failing to perform the duties of a driver by leaving the scene of an accident, are unacceptable, I'd like to apologize for the stupidity of jeopardizing the lives of our community, especially the elders and children. **Curtis Brown.**

I hereby apologize for my actions and reactions to and against the courts of the Confederated Tribes, and would like to take the chance that I am given to let my future actions show for me my full or proceeding rehabilitation and compliance with myself and society. **Agustin Pedraza.**

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Wilferd Tom Yallup - I'Yax'Sa' Memorial and Stonesetting
12/25/31 - 03/31/04

We're inviting all family, friends, relatives to the memorial to be held June 9, 2005 at the Toppenish Creek Longhouse in White Swan, Wash.

Stonesetting will be held Saturday, June 11.

Everyone attending will meet at 7 a.m. at the Toppenish Longhouse in Toppenish, Wash. for continental breakfast, then caravan to the Celilo Cemetery II for Stonesetting. A reminder that 4-wheel drives will be needed to drive up there, as it is pretty rocky. A dinner will be held at the Treaty Days Powwow camping grounds.

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