

Generations work together on horse project

By Brian Mortensen
Spilyay Tymoo

Watching 21 people, both from the reservation and off the reservation, boys and girls, others older and rough stock-hardened, brought a smile to Chris Buller's face last week.

Buller, director of the newly formed Faith Trails Association, oversaw and participated in the branding and castration of 26 wild horses that had been transported to Warm Springs from the Sheldon Wildlife Refuge in northern Nevada on Sept. 21.

The horses, after they were brought from Nevada Aug. 13, were corralled at the residence of local horseman and rodeo cowboy Clint Bruised Head on Wolfe Point Road. A ring, constructed out of timber logs, about 30 feet across, was erected to both break the horses and for the



A group, led by Harry Hisatake, help bring a horse down.

castration.

The horses were trucked from Nevada after a group of kids from Warm Springs rode in the Sisters Rodeo Parade in July. Buller met a couple from Sisters who had connections to a horse gatherer at the Sheldon refuge. People in Nevada caught and delivered the horses for free — with the catch being

Buller's group would have to take a full trailer-load of 39 horses.

The horses were all wild stallions. Thirteen were ages 2-to-3 years old, another thirteen were 3-and-4 years old, and the other thirteen were ages 4-to-7 years old, all strong and stout.

About half of the horses will be sold, while the other half will

be given to kids from the reservation who Buller says will earn them.

"Some kids have welded and cut pipe, and worked with the Ditch Witch (digging machine)," he said. "They did all that even before they got the horses."

"We castrated 26 horses in six and a half hours," Buller said of the work. Starting at 2:30 p.m., the group worked until after dark, using lights that had been set up along the ring.

For Buller, the work was a culmination of his ministry efforts since he started working with Warm Springs youth and their families in the summer of 2003.

"The whole experience has been a work of faith," he said. "We had people 12 years old to 60. You had Jacob Frank, who's in his 60s, to Jason Smith, who's 38, an 'up-and-comer,' to 13-year-olds getting in the ring," Buller said. "It was multi-gen-

erational learning. The multi-generational learning is the key to what I'm doing."

The process involved rounding a group of three to five horses into a pen, roping one and bringing it down to its side, where it would be castrated and vaccinated. These were horses nearly 1,000 pounds that had no experience with humans. The work required the vigilance of everyone present.

Each horse was completed in 10 to 15 minutes, and after each animal was loosed, it would gently rise up and walk into a holding corral.

Jeff Purdy, 14, who lives at Lake Simustus, said he's been working with Buller for the past year. A stocky kid, he had been in the pen getting dirty helping hold the horses down.

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Museum tourney on Oct. 1

The Museum At Warm Springs Annual Benefit Golf Tournament has been rescheduled for Sat., Oct. 1. The benefit golf tournament, and annual chili contest, will be held at the Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino Golf Course.

There will be four people per team; or individuals can sign up and be paired off. It is a scramble tournament with a shot gun start at 9:30 a.m.

The cost is \$300 per team of four, or \$75 per individual player.

Chili connoisseurs have an opportunity to show their stuff at the museum's annual chili contest, held in conjunction with the golf tourney. It is open to the public.

Please call the Museum At Warm Springs if you would like to sponsor a hole, or donate a prize at (541) 553-3331.

Smith wins Columbia all-around honor

J.R. Smith of Warm Springs was on the winning Century roping team and the second-best overall roping team to win the All-Around Cowboy award at the Columbia Regional Indian Rodeo Finals in The Dalles Sept. 9-10.

Smith teamed up with Edison Yazzie to win the Century team roping, the event where the combined age of each roper must equal or better 100 years, in a combined time of 20.59 seconds over two go-rounds. Smith and Yazzie had a first-go time of 10 seconds, just edging John Lavallie and Junior Adams in less than a second. In the total competition, however, Smith and Yazzie finished almost three full seconds ahead of runners-up Roger Flander and Joe Moses, in 23.6 seconds.

Smith teamed with Terry

Squiemphen in the overall team roping event and registered a cumulative time of 21.43 seconds over two go-rounds to take second, finishing behind the strong team of Jesse Reese and Justin Tom, who won both go-rounds with a total time of 14.25 seconds.

Smith also teamed with Yazzie to finish sixth in the team roping.

Mary Anne Frazier, of Touchet, Wash., was named All-Around Cowgirl, as she won both barrel racing and breakaway roping. Frazier won both go-rounds in the barrel racing for a cumulative time of 34.884.

She then had the best cumulative time in the breakaway roping with a 22.67 time, despite not placing among the top three in either of the two go-rounds.

Kayonie Badone of Wapato, Wash., was named Rookie of the Year. She wrapped up the Columbia season winning the Junior Barrel Racing with a time of 35.668 seconds, sweeping the two go-rounds. Further results of the rodeo are as follows:

Bareback riding: First go: Thomas Jensen, 64. Second go: Thomas Jensen, 56. Average: Thomas Jensen, 120.

Saddle bronc: Second go: Ralph Moses, 72. Average: 1. Ralph Moses, 72.

Calf Roping: First go: first, Casey Green, 12.67; second, Cort Herrera, 17.18; third, Lawrence Crawler, 20.73.

Second go: first, Casey Green, 13.87; second, Cort Herrera, 15.55; third, Cody Barney, 16.65.

(More results in the next Spilyay.)

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Young Achiever
Nicole Goudy
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A favorite part of school for Nicole Goudy is writing. She likes writing stories about school, and she draws pictures to go with the stories.

Nicole was nominated as Young Achiever, "because she's a very responsible student, and has gotten off to a great start this year," said Elementary School Principal Dawn Smith.

So far this year, Nicole has done great on a recent spelling test,

"and she always tries her best."
Nicole, age 7, is a second-grader. Her parents are Stacy and Rusty. Congratulations and keep up the good work, Nicole!

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