

Casino brings fight between Indians

By Selena Boise
Management Successor

Have you read about the shots being taken at the Cowlitz casino? It appears that this casino will take business away from the Spirit Mountain profits.

Spilyay Speaks

John Barnett, Chairman of the Cowlitz tribe, said that it is a sad thing because there are Indians fighting Indians. Grand Ronde with their economic reasons for opposing this new casino, disputed the "Indians fighting Indians" comment that was made. Siobhan Taylor, Grand Ronde's public affairs director, stated that that's not what it's about, that it's directed against outside interests, out-of-state big money interests.

The cable TV commercials were used to oppose this casino project, much like the ones that opposed the Cascade Locks casino project. Bankrolled by the Grand Ronde.

George Skibine, director of Indian gaming in the Interior Department, said, "there's a lot of money at stake, I think you will see people try to make efforts to protect their turf. Whether it's right or wrong," though he didn't have an opinion on that.

It was also stated that these type of Indian versus Indian disputes happen across the country, and what happens is political consultants are the ones who end up chuckling all the way to the bank.

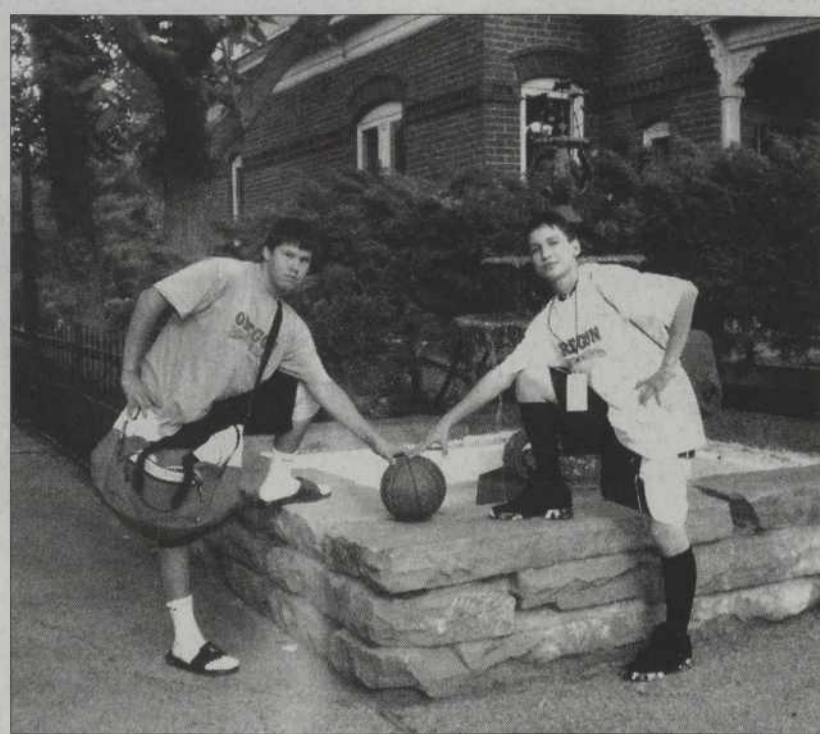
But, the Cowlitz do not have a casino at the present time. This would be their first and I would think that for economic reasons, they are interested in taking care of their people. A lot like the Warm Springs want to, or any other tribe for that matter.

From my standpoint I believe that taking care of our people means assuring that we have money for health care, for housing, for the security of our children's children, and to take care of our elders. Right now we are depending on this new "Bridge of the Gods" casino to assist us with this plus much more.

For now we struggle and we rely on our leaders to do what's right for us all.

When I was in boarding school we used to celebrate Native American week really big with athletic competitions, and everything surrounding the fact that we were Native Americans. The student body was around 500. We would do this together as a group. We were Native Americans, not Sho-Bans, Utes, Navajos - we were all Indians.

Letters to the Editor



Ray Jackson (left) and Craig Smith at the Games.

Great experience at Games

My name is Craig Smith Jr., and I had the opportunity to travel with Team Oregon 15-16 Boys Basketball to the 2006 Native American Indigenous Games in Denver, Colo, July 3-7. This is the first for Oregon to win a medal in basketball in the Indigenous Games and the team came home with the Bronze Medal. Our coach was Ed Case Jr. of Chiloquin. Team players were from Chiloquin/Klamath Falls, and two of us from Warm Springs, Tanner Yallup and I.

This was a great experience and opportunity to meet other Natives from across Indian Country. I had a lot of fun and would like to thank those who sponsored me: Fish's Shuttle/Tim and Susan Surgeon; Craig Smith Sr.; Buttons and Roosevelt Heath; Heather and Donnie Elder; Robert Macy; Marcia Soliz; Martin Smith and Suyenn and Rick Walker; Warm Springs Forest Products Industries; Darryl Smith and Anna Hurtado for the uniforms.

Protect resource

Even though this winter was rainy, the Shitike Creek was at a lower level than normal, who knows why. It could be from global warming, the melting of the glaciers on Mt. Jefferson.

Last year while out hunting I observed a lot of mini caterpillars drifting by in the air currents, they were on a long silken web (like a spider web) that is how these caterpillars, unstoppable tree killers, travel from one area to another. The adults have wings.

Recently I drove on Highway 26 towards Portland, the amount of dying and dead trees was alarming. Tree bark beetles appear to be out of control killing trees causing the forest to be more of an extreme fire hazard than before.

Anyway we need to take better care of our resources. A bottled water project on the rez would benefit tribal members with good clean drinking water and a source of revenue. Global consumption of water is doubling every 20 years. Every year around the world freshwater is becoming more and more scarce. It is one of our most valuable resources, even more so than petrol or gold, you can't drink gold. We are dependent on drinking water the same as we

are on the air to breathe.

We must secure and protect our most precious asset, water, therefore it is not a good idea to sell our rivers, like millions of acre feet, volumes to be diverted or pumped off the rez, including underground water because in the long run it would cause tremendous irreparable ecological damage.

The Rez could be facing the end of our livelihood which are the endangered and Scared Wild Chinook Salmon etc.

Everybody wants all of our resources, jobs, etc. Indian water is under law private property, we must protect it and not relinquish it. Respectfully,

Tony Littleleaf.

From a parent

I, as a parent, have experienced one of the worst possible fears involving one of my children. On April 29th while I was

in Bend, my daughter was babysitting a young child. My cell phone rang; someone on the other end stated that my 13-year-old had been arrested. A feeling of anxiousness overwhelmed me. Why was my 13-year-old arrested? She had never been in trouble. She was a responsible young adult. I called the dispatch center in Madras to find out that she not only had been arrested, she was unconscious and being transported to Mountain View Hospital.

I immediately returned to Madras, heading towards Mountain View Hospital. I arrived at the emergency room to find my daughter laying on a gurney, foaming at the mouth, unable to open her eyes, unable to speak to me.

After speaking with the officer, I found that she had been given a gift for her 13th birthday from a family member (not an immediate family member), an aunt who has an alcohol problem. This gift was a bottle of tequila. My daughter drank half the bottle celebrating her birthday.

As my daughter lay in the hospital with a blood alcohol level of .35, she was recovering from her night of almost dying in front of my eyes. I later find out that this is not the first time she has tried alcohol.

As a parent, you teach your children right from wrong and hope they are able to stand up to peer pressures when it comes to alcohol or any other type of drug. You have faith that they will make the right decisions. But, to receive pressure and encouragement from an adult that it is okay to drink is unacceptable.

Alcohol is easily accessible to youths and young adults already. Especially when given by an adult, let alone a trusted adult. This again is unacceptable. As a small community, I recommend that parents, friends, family members and the community in general band together and attack this problem head on. Putting your head in the sand doesn't help. Education and responsibility start at home. It needs to continue within the community, too. We as a community need to step up the education and accountability to all who supply alcohol or any other drug to our children. **Shantel Vasquez, Madras.**

USAF basic training graduate

Raylene "Rae Rae" Thomas graduated basic training in the USAF from the Lackland Airforce Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Raylene will be at Lackland for twelve more weeks for advanced technical training. After that, she will be home on leave for 14 days at the end of October.

Our family would like to thank Lauraina Hintsala for assisting us with a gas card during our travels. If anybody would like to write to Rae or send her any care packages. You can reach her at the following address:

AB Thomas Raylene A
PFC 3 360 TRS Flight 516
Dorm A8
1320 Trueper St Unit
367978
Lackland AFB TX 78236-6388



Raylene would like to thank everyone who sent her cards and letters during her crucial time of need.

We are very proud of you Rae Rae. Love,

Your mom, Walsey, Dena and Daisy; Kuthla Daisy, Auntie's Leona, Lena; Uncle's Ty, Luke, Fred; and all your cousins.

Letters of apology

This is an apology to officer Sherwood for my actions back in February and also to the Warm Springs community where my heart is. So with that I would like to apologize for this incident and for all my wrongs in the past that I have committed. Please forgive me. I was not quite myself during any of these offenses. I love you all. **Agustin Pedraza Jr.**

Sincerely, to the victim on this matter who is also my lover and my baby's mother, I have to tell you how sorry I am for allowing myself to do something like this to you and our baby, and as for anyone else affected by this incident I apologize. Other than that opinions need not apply elsewhere. Just remember that I love you and our God will always love us. Keep praying. **Agustin Pedraza Padilla Jr.**

To whom it may concern: I would like to apologize to my community for the bad decisions that I have made in the past. I would like to say that I am very sorry for disrespecting our community, and also my family, my northender homeboys, my daughter Ester Lawrence, Little Bull Suppah, Avery Frank, Sonny Yahtin and Cecil Yahtin. I never realize that at the time I could have hurt all of us. I'm sorry for endangering all of our lives. I hope that my apology is accepted. I ride shotgun now, for awhile no more driving for me. Thank you, **Marva Lawrence.**

To the people of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs: I am sorry I broke Tribal law on June 11 by being intoxicated and driving while intoxicated. I apologize to my family for the shame my actions have brought our family name. Further, I apologize to the following: my cousin Jannella T. who was directly impacted by my actions. I also want to say that I'm truly sorry and I will make every effort to follow our laws in the future. **LaVonne R. Boise.**

Birthday and other wishes...

On August 9: To my sister Vera, you have the most precious birthday gift of all! two wonderful daughters. Love you sis from Bert, Bud, Talliah, Dez, Lenso.

Happy Birthday Mom! Love, Shiralda and Brittany.

Happy 8th Birthday to Shiralda, we love you lots! We are so proud of you. Love Auntie Bert and Uncle Bud, Cousins Talliah, Dez, Lenso.

Happy 6th Birthday to Brittany, we love you very much and we are so proud of you. Love Auntie Bert and Uncle Bud, cousin's Talliah, Dez and Lenso.

I think it is so cool you all share your birthday's on the exact same day! Best wishes to all and hope you have fun! Love, Bert, Bud and the kids.

Happy Birthday to my cousin Edee! I was going to put in a picture but decided not to... Hope you have an awesome day! love your cuz Bert and all the kids.

Happy Birthday to Raymond Tsumpti Jr., Shielyn Calica, Tatum Tsumpti, Lane Bailey, Jade Tsumpti, Destiny Adams. From, Calica, Tsumpti and Bailey Families.

Happy Birthday to our father Raymond "Chip" Tsumpti Jr. Love, your Baby Daughters from the "North End" Jade and Tatum.

Happy Birthday to Auntie Shielyn Calica. Love, Your Baby Northender nieces "Simnasho Babies" Jade and Tatum.

Happy Birthday to our cousin Lane Bailey. From your fellow "Northenders" Jade and Tatum

Happy Anniversary to Chief and Shillie on Aug 14, from your kids and grandkids.

Happy Birthday to Jade and Tatum "Tater Tot" Tsumpti, our families precious beautiful Baby Girls from the Northend of the Rez... Love, Grandma Wauna, Uncle Rusty Calica, Grandpa and Grandma Raymond Sr. and Beulah Tsumpti, James, Mary and Lane Bailey "Schoolie Flat Family", Floyd and Joseph Calica, Shielyn Calica and Adams Family T.J., Laura, Melanie, Mariah and Raymond "Ray Ray".

Happy Birthday to Destiny Shielyn Adams. With lots of love, Grandma Wauna, Uncle Rusty, Uncle Chip, Jade, Tatum, Floyd, Joseph, Grandpa Raymond and Beulah Tsumpti, James & Mary Bailey Family and finally from "Grandma" Shielyn Calica and your aunts Melanie and Mariah and uncle Raymond Adams.

Happy Birthday to our Precious Daughter Destiny Adams. With Lots of Love, Your father Troy Adams Jr. (T.J.) and Mother Laura Hunt.

Happy 19th Birthday on August 19 to Raylene with love, from Mom, Walsey, Dena and Daisy, Kuthla Daisy, Auntie

Leona, Jon, Mario and Jules, Sister Em, Mike and Kids, Uncle Ty and Venus, cousins Tarver and Corbin, Uncle Luke and Debbie, Auntie Lena and James, cousins Natasha, James Jr., and Fred, Uncle Fred and Pat, cousins Lara, Dawn, Felicia and Iiani.

I wish Vera, Sheralda and Brat a happy birthday. I love them lots, from Tonah Scott.

Happy Birthday DAD/ Grandpa, Leland Thompson, Sr., on August 10. Love from Selena, Tony, Tonya, Leanna, Jackson, George, and Devyn

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