



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Congratulations to young Amial Rhoan, who took second place in his age category (6-10 year olds) at the Kah-Nee-Ta Mini Marathon 1-mile run. Rhoan, a kindergartner, is 6. He ran the mile in 10 minutes and 32 seconds. His mother, Arlissa Rhoan, said Amial is active in many sports, including basketball, football, baseball, golf and kickball. His parents are Arlissa and Andy Fuentes.

Collage celebrates diversity

By Sue Matters
KWSO Station Manager

The Fourteenth Annual Collage of Culture is Friday and Saturday, May 18-19 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Madras.

The celebration started in 1993 as a music event and has grown into a music, dance, food, art and fun extravaganza.

Originally sited adjacent to the Westside Elementary School, the Collage of Culture moved to the Jefferson County Fairgrounds a few years ago.

This year's entertainment includes performances by Jefferson County Middle School kids who have participated in the Caldera Arts Program, the Madras High School Choir, the Warm Springs 4-H Social Dance Club, High Desert Dance Arts, the Molly Malone Irish Dancers, Los Palomitos Del Norte, Steve Neth from Bend with country/folk music, the Dave Milne Group of Portland with smooth jazz and the headliner this year are country music superstars Diamond Rio.

The Collage of Culture is a celebration, through music, dance and food, of the diversity we enjoy in Central Oregon. Food vendors will be on site to offer a variety of menus. Additional displays include the Kids Art Area featuring art work from the 509J school district, Project Reach exhibits, TAG projects, and power point presentations of kids working on art and doing creative story telling. There are also arts and crafts vendors and a Fine Arts Showcase for 2007. Fine Arts will also be holding an Art Walk on Fri-

day May 18—the same night as the Friday kickoff sponsor party featuring the band Countryfied. Tickets for the party are available at the Madras Chamber of Commerce Office.

Saturday the 19th starts at dawn with the launching of 20 hot air balloons from the fairgrounds and Westside Elementary. Then there's the all you can eat breakfast at the fairgrounds. Opening ceremonies for the Collage of Culture are scheduled for 9am on Saturday. Admission for the Collage of Culture is \$5. Kids under 12 are free.

A fun, action packed time will be available for all kids at this year's Collage. A 24 foot tall Rock Wall is just one of the features that will thrill kids as they attempt to master the obstacles of the wall. Also, a slide that is 18 feet tall will give kids a thrill as they swoosh down it. More excitement is furnished with a tube toy, in the shape of a 56 foot long Inflatable Caterpillar. This toy will be restricted to 10 years old and under. The kids' area would not be complete without the Bouncy House for kids above belt level tall and the Bouncy Castle that will be for tiny tots below belt level. We can't forget the Fast pitch and Radar Gun booth for the kids that like to compete and show off their skills.

Wings Over Central Oregon will be on site with live birds and demonstrations, and it promises to be a very educational and entertaining event for children and adults of all ages.

The Bassmaster CastingKids program is similar to the NFL punt, pass, and kick events.

However, in CastingKids the challenge is to flip, pitch and cast a hookless lure to a bullseye target. Mastering these three techniques will give any angler the skills they need to present any lure and catch monster bass. Scoring is based on a points system so the young angler with the most points wins. The Central Oregon Bass Club will be generously donating their time from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. to help kids learn how to cast, and run the flip, pitch and cast contest.

A feature at the Collage again this year is the Teen Center, where young adults can enjoy the type of entertainment especially designed for them. Located in the Arena, it is complete with its own music stage to show case our local teen bands and a dance floor for contests. Activities like dance dance revolution and sumo wrestling along with a special snack shop will be in place for some good eats and beverages.

A makeup table is planned so that teenage girls can have fun learning all about how to use cosmetics. A rock climbing wall is a fun way to show off your skills of agility, along with a managed paint ball target area—one of the great things for the teens to aim at.

Try your skill at the bungee run or chat with friends in this 13 to 19 year only setting. Don't forget your School ID for instant access. The Teen Center will be in the Indoor Arena.

Again, the Fourteenth Annual Collage of Culture will be celebrating diversity in our community May 18-19 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Madras.

Students travel to Gathering of Nations

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

It's the largest powwow in North America, and several students from Central Oregon recently got the chance to witness it firsthand.

A group of students at Central Oregon Community College recently returned from the Gathering of Nations in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Cody Yeager, head of the Native American Program at COCC, has traveled to the Gathering of Nations twice before.

"We travel to the Gathering of Nations because it is a huge shot of Native pride for our students," she said. "This year, we also had the opportunity to staff a recruiting table at the Indian Trader's Market there; this gave us huge exposure as a community college." COCC, she said, was the only community college represented at the event.

"The overall experience is mind expanding, culturally rich, and also tiring," Yeager said. "There are over 500 tribes in attendance and the University of New Mexico's pit was packed."

According to Yeager, the students who attended spent their time staffing the recruiting table, pow wowing, touring Old Town, and attending a dance performance at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

Marie McKeeman is a student with four children. "I would have never have had the opportunity to go to the Gathering of Nations on my own," she said.

McKeeman is currently working to find what tribe she descends from—something she said the Gathering of Nations helped her with.

"I met people there and found an important lead on how to trace my genealogy," she said. "Going to the Gathering of Nations and seeing all the tribes in their beautiful regalia was an awesome experience. I grew up in the city and have never been exposed to Native culture."

"I saw the beauty of native culture, the strength, poise and talent that we all, as Native people, possess," McKeeman added. "I learned to embrace my own Native culture and be proud of it."

The trip also had other benefits, she said.

"One highlight of the trip, for me, is that I met the Navajo code talkers and got a book signed by all of them," McKeeman said. "I was so inspired by how these men are such legendary heroes that changed history and received no recognition for decades and still remain so humble and kind."

Vicki Franklin is a single parent who decided to travel with the group to Gathering of Nations in part because she wanted to look into furthering her education in other areas—possibly the southwest, she said.

She said the experience of the Gathering of Nations was amazing.

"There were so many people packed in there that they couldn't all fit," Franklin said.

In addition to recruiting potential students, Franklin said, they also spoke to several potential instructors.

Pamela Callaway also attended the event hoping to find family connections.

"I went to the Gathering of Nations hoping to meet someone from the

Cherokee Nation who might know of my family there that I never got to know," she said.

"Although I did not do that I did meet a Cherokee family who made me welcome and will help me to do that. I met so many wonderful, beautiful people there."

But for Callaway, the overwhelming meaning behind the event related back to the familial aspect.

"It was all about family," Callaway said. "All about everyone coming, being alike, being different, and sharing this special time—about showing the grandchildren how we can be happy."

Collage schedule for Saturday, May 19

This is the schedule for the Collage of Culture 2007 on Saturday, May 19 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds:

6 a.m. Hot air balloon launch.

7-9 a.m. All you can eat breakfast.

9-9:45 a.m. Opening ceremonies.

Louie Pitt, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Unity Speech.

Pastor Javier with opening prayer.

Lords Prayer - Miss Warm Springs.

Star Spangled Banner - Madras High School Choir.

Junior ROTC Honor Guard.

Mayor Jason Hale.

Honoring of Veterans, Current Service Members.

9:50-10:20 a.m. Camp Caldera Jefferson County Middle School African Drummers (Dance Stage).

10:25-11:05 a.m. Warm Springs 4-H Social Dance Club (Dance Stage).

11:10 a.m.-12:10 p.m. High Desert Dancers (Dance Stage).

12:15-1:15 p.m. MHS Choir (Dance Stage).

1:20-2:10 Los Palomitos Del

Norte (Main Stage).

2:15-3:15 Steve Neth (Main Stage).

3:20-3:50 Molly Malone Dancers (Dance Stage).

4-5 p.m. Dave Milne (Main Stage).

Entertainment moves to the food area near the fairgrounds entrance for dinner time.

Presentations will include dance groups featuring Hawaiian style dance, Celtic dance, Native American dance and Hebrew dancing.

7-8:30 p.m. Diamond Rio (Main Stage).

GIRLS IN SPORTS HEALTH FAIR

An exclusive event for female students who participate in sports

May 21, 2007

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Madras High School Gym

Grades: 7th - 12th

Join the Mountain View Hospital Physical Therapy & Wellness Staff and learn how to improve your performance in sports.

Topics Include:

Nutrition - Beth Ann Beamer, RN, Mountain View Hospital

Anatomy of Common Musculoskeletal Injuries - Laura Mills, PT, Mountain View Hospital

Injury Care - Rob Nelson, PT, Mountain View Hospital

Core Strengthening - Heather Fiery, PT, and Trevor Groves, PT, Mountain View Hospital

Resistance Training - Charlee Corvina, Personal Trainer

For more information contact: Trevor Groves, PT at Mountain View Hospital 475-3882 ext. 2356



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