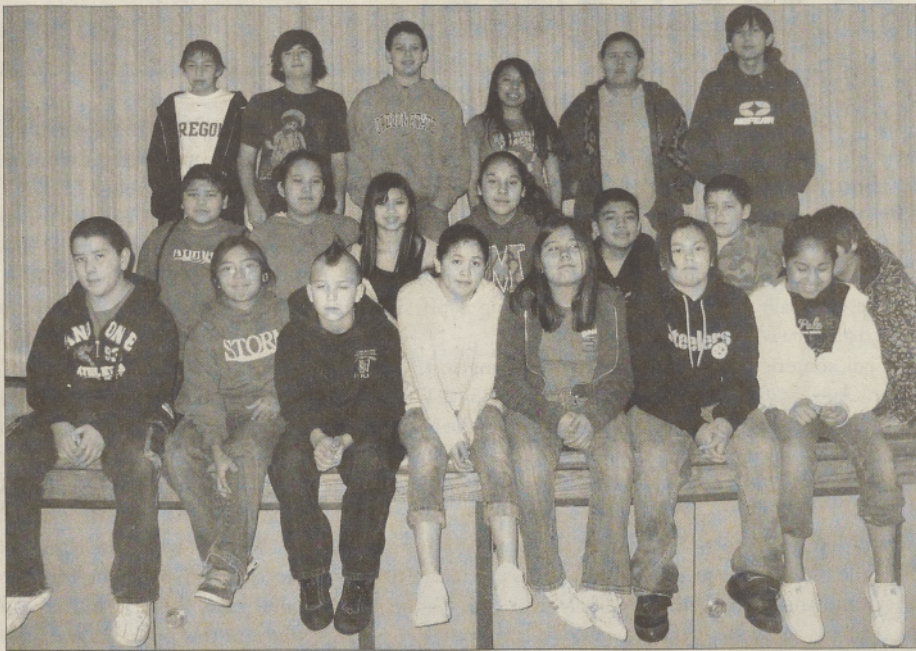


## Students: 'It was awesome'



Leslie Mitts/Splyay

(Continued from page 1)

According to Bryson Spino, a 13-year-old seventh grader, the best part was seeing a player slam dunk the ball.

Spino added that the reward of a trip to a basketball game serves as excellent incentive to continue having good attendance—"to keep going to the Blazers," he said.

Ashley Kaltsukis, a 13-year-old seventh grader, agreed that seeing a player

make a slam dunk was the best part. "It was awesome," she said of the experience.

According to Shoshanna Street, a 12-year-old seventh grader, "My favorite part was when the mascot dunked it."

Jhaylen Yeahquo, a 12-year-old seventh grader, first said his favorite part was watching the game but changed his mind to enjoying the food. "Because it was good," he explained.

Kaleb Smith, a 13-year-old seventh grader, had one simple

thing to say about the game: "It was fun."

In Alex Danzuka's opinion, the trip was also educational. "We learned how to behave on the bus," said the 11-year-old sixth grader.

Other students said the best part was when the game went into overtime—the Nuggets eventually defeated the Blazers by two points.

— by Leslie Mitts

## New program encourages volunteers

By Leslie Mitts  
Splyay Tymoo

Community members interested in volunteering are being encouraged to do so through a new local project.

Volunteers are being sought locally in conjunction with a project for the Department of Human Services.

Therese Helton, the community development coordinator for DHS, said they are currently working on a pilot project to develop volunteerism in communities in Jefferson County.

Because of that, she said, "We're here in Warm Springs three days a week at the human resources building. We'll be going out in the community to let people know about it and what we have been doing."

In addition, she said, they have met with different community partners.

"I meet with them to find out if they use volunteers," she explained.

Currently DHS is offering background checks and screening for volunteers, as well as making volunteer identification badges. In addition, Helton said, they'll be conducting a volunteer appreciation event later this year.

"The main thing is to get people knowing about it and involved and interested in volunteering," Helton said.

Currently Helton said there are not as many active volunteers in Warm Springs as there are in other communities.

Program goals include: recognizing volunteers as a valuable part of the community; providing for citizen and community involvement; developing com-

munity partnerships to meet local needs; recruiting, screening and placing volunteers.

According to the DHS brochure, "Volunteering provides people with opportunities for training, personal growth and advancement."

Programs with volunteer opportunities in Warm Springs include: STARS, Deer Ridge Correctional Institution, Self Sufficiency Program, High Lookee Lodge, Warm Springs Senior Center, Warm Springs Social Services, Warm Springs Commodities, Warm Springs Managed Care, Boys and Girls Club, Warm Spring ECE, Warm Springs Workforce Development, Warm Springs Vocational Rehab, OSU Extension, and Warm Springs Community Counseling among others.

In addition to volunteers being needed, Helton said she also wants to know what the community thinks.

She's interested in area where the community thinks there is a need for volunteers especially, she said.

According to Helton, "I need to find out other projects that the community might have." She is also working with the OSU extension office and 4H program to develop potential after-school activities.

Staff members are also working on the First Book Project. The project will help distribute brand new books to local youth.

For more information, you can visit the Human Resource Building on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. to speak with Helton or other staff members.

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