

Heritage Month at OSU



Gary Villa, Carlos Calica and Kyle Queahpama (from left), members of the drum group Star Horse (also below), perform during the Nike N7 Oregon State basketball game against Texas Southern University on Nov. 21. It was played at Gill Coliseum in Corvallis. The game and related events recognized November as Native American Heritage Month.



Yvonne Iverson photos.

Community Counseling has crisis support available round the clock

Warm Springs Community Counseling continues to offer 24-hour crisis support to tribal members.

During overnight weekday hours and the weekends, calls made for crisis support go to Police Department Dispatch, 541-553-1171. Dispatchers will take

your name and telephone number and notify the crisis worker. The crisis worker will then call you to provide crisis help.

Call 541-553-3205 during office hours, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. for crisis assistance Mondays-Fridays. And always call 911 in an emergency.

Check out the Spilyay Web site:

wsnews.org

Thank you for supporting the advertisers you see in the Spilyay Tymoo.

Warm Springs MARKET
Family Owned Since 1944

Beads, Native American Gifts, Museum, Deli, Grocery, Ice, Fishing Permits, Western Union, Check-Free Bill Pay, ATM and Much More!

2132 Warm Springs St., Warm Springs - ph. 541-553-1597

Over 500 companies can be paid through our check-free service including: Pacific Power, Direct TV, Verison, and Qwest.

Senate approves Cobell settlement

WASHINGTON (AP) – The U.S. Senate has approved almost \$4.6 billion to settle longstanding claims brought by American Indians, through the Cobell lawsuit, and by black farmers against the government.

The money has been held up for months in the Senate as Democrats and Republicans squabbled over how to pay for it.

The two class action lawsuits were filed over a decade ago.

Of the total \$4.6 billion, \$3.4 billion would go to Indian landowners who claim they were swindled out of royalties by the Interior Department.

The legislation was approved in the Senate by voice vote late in November and sent to the House of Representatives.

Possibly as many as 2,000 members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs may be eligible to participate in the settlement, and may receive some compensation. A tribal member qualified to participate if the person has or had an individual trust account.

Elouise Cobell, a member of the Blackfeet Tribe from Browning, Montana, and the lead plaintiff in the Indian case, said that it took her breath away when she found

out the Senate had passed the bill.

She was feeling despondent after the chamber had tried and failed to pass the legislation many times and two people who would have been beneficiaries had died on her reservation this week.

"It's 17 below and the Blackfeet nation is feeling warm," she said. "I don't know if people understand or believe the agony you go through when one of the beneficiaries passes away without justice."

At least 300,000 Native Americans claim they were swindled out of royalties overseen by the Interior Department since 1887 for things like oil, gas, grazing and timber.

The plaintiffs would share the settlement.

The Cobell lawsuit has dragged on for almost 15 years, with one judge in 2008 comparing it to the Charles Dickens' "Bleak House," which chronicles a never-ending legal suit. Using passages from that novel, U.S. District Judge James Robertson noted that the "suit has, in course of time, become so complicated" that "no two lawyers can talk about it for five minutes without coming to a total disagreement as to all the premises."

The Indian plaintiffs originally said they were owed \$100 billion, but signaled they were willing to settle for less as the trial wore on. After more than

3,600 court filings and 80 court decisions, the two sides finally reached a settlement in December.

"Personally I still think we're owed a hundred billion dollars, but how long do you drag this thing out?" Cobell said. "Do you drag it out until every beneficiary is dead? You just can't do that."

The recent Senate action also includes almost \$1.2 billion for black farmers who say they suffered decades of discrimination at the hands of the Agriculture Department.

John Boyd, head of the National Black Farmers Association, said the passage of the black farmers' money also is long overdue. "Twenty-six years' justice is in sight for our nation's black farmers," he said.

Lawmakers from both parties have said they support resolving the long-standing claims of discrimination and mistreatment by federal agencies. The financing has been caught up in a fight over spending and deficits. Republicans repeatedly objected to the settlements when they were added on to larger pieces of legislation. But Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid satisfied conservative complaints by finding ways to cover the cost.

IRA'S SALES & SERVICE, INC.



Scrap Metal, Used Auto & Truck Parts, Wrecking Service, Diesel Trucks, Pick-ups & Cars



475-3861



181 SW Merritt Lane, Madras



www.teepedeli.com (541) 553-2568

- ☛ Serving freshly made Delicious Deli Sandwiches
- ☛ Breakfast Biscuits and Breakfast Bagels
- ☛ 12 flavors of Ice Cream !!!
- ☛ Fruit Smoothies & Espresso
- ☛ Daily Specials & Daily Soups
- ☛ We also have Deli Quality Meats, Breads, Cheeses, Salads, Milk, Eggs, Fresh Fruit & Fresh Vegetables for sale
- ☛ Internet Cafe

Monday-Thursday: 10 am - 5 pm
Friday: 10 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am - 2 pm

Located at the Plaza at Warm Springs