

Team makes it to playoffs



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Justin Queahpama-Mehlberg, Edward Zacarias, Bobby Ahern and Cyrus Conner were tribal members on the White Buffaloes boys varsity team this year.

The basketball season for the White Buffaloes boys varsity team ended last Friday, when Madras lost to Cottage Grove in the Class 4A playoffs.

In the game, Junior Bobby Ahern led the White

Buffaloes in scoring, with 12 points, including two 3-pointers. Edward Zacarias had 10 points.

Madras had a slow start this season, winning two of the first 12 games.

They turned things around,

though, winning nine of their last 13 and making the playoffs.

Seniors on the team include Justin Queahpama-Mehlberg and Cyrus Conner. Ahern and Zacarias are juniors.

Timber sale assessment released

The Resource Management Interdisciplinary Team has just released a draft project assessment for public review. The draft document provides an environmental analysis of the 2012 Buckskin Timber Sale.

The team (RMIDT) also approved small project assessments for a helitack facility near the new Fire Management building, temporary office space for Community Counseling, and a realignment of power poles near tribal property at Harpham Flat on the Deschutes River.

The 2012 timber sale document was prepared by the Project Interdisciplinary Team to provide options for timber harvest in Beaver Creek, Oak Grove Fork (Clackamas River), and Clear Creek watersheds.

Two alternatives were formulated and numerous logging

methods were considered for this project, taking into account present resource conditions, forest health and public input. The 2012 Buckskin sale is expected to yield approximately 45 million board feet of timber.

The document is divided into sections explaining the purpose and need for action, resource-based indicators used to help the technical staff analyze and mitigate environmental impacts, and details of the alternatives. There are maps showing the harvest blocks, quick reference tables to compare the alternatives, a list of measures needed to mitigate environmental consequences, and the Project Interdisciplinary Team's recommended alternative.

The goal of Alternative A is to continue current management. Activities such as hunting,

recreation and cultural food gathering would continue as in the past. The only harvest proposed under Alternative A would be through conventional salvage operations. Alternative B is designed to harvest volume approximating the allowable cut for this planning area. The 2012 sale would include a treatment area of 2,457 acres.

The alternatives would have varying impacts on water, fish, wildlife, cultural, timber, range, soil and economic resources and there would also be changes to the transportation system.

For more information or copies of the document contact Orvie Danzuka or Ryan Singleton in the Forestry Department, or call 553-2416. Tribal members have 30 days to comment on the proposed sale.

Commercial salmon expectations up, sport down

(AP) — Strong returns of chinook salmon should give Oregon commercial fishermen their first decent season in years, but declining runs of coho from Columbia River hatcheries and worries over wild coastal fish mean charter boats and sports anglers can expect another mediocre year.

"Guys are pretty excited and happy that we will have increased opportunities this year," Newport commercial fisherman Mark Newell said Friday. "As salmon fishermen we know how it works on the unemployment line. We'll be glad to have the opportunity to go back to work."

The Pacific Fishery Management Council is meeting in Vancouver, Wash., next week to draw up three sets of options for West Coast ocean salmon fishing seasons. The final seasons will be set in April.

The establishment of ocean seasons was promising in 2007, but the catch was poor. In 2008, the seasons were practically shut down coast-wide for fear of wiping out the Sacramento chinook run after it took a sudden and unexpected drop.

Both years Congress voted disaster assistance to salmon fishermen. Last year commercial seasons were again poor.

Since then greater efforts have been taken to assure young salmon make it through the gauntlet of irrigation pumps and canals in the Sacramento Delta to the ocean. And conditions in the ocean have been improving since 2010, offering more food to the fish as they grow to adulthood before returning to their native rivers to spawn.

Sport and commercial salmon fishing accounted for \$3.7 million of Oregon's economy in 2010, down from a high of \$17.6 million in 1974 in inflation-adjusted dollars, according to the council web site.

Since the 1990s, the bulk of the chinook catch has been allocated for the commercial fleet and sports fisherman have primarily targeted coho.

The bulk of the chinook swimming off Oregon's coast come from the Sacramento and Klamath Rivers during the traditional commercial season running from mid-March through October.

After improving returns three

out of the past four years, Klamath River stocks are no longer considered overfished, easing protections that have been in place for years, said Mike Sorensen, skipper of the Newport charter boat Miss Raven and adviser to the council.

The Sacramento is projected to see 729,900 fall chinook return this year, more than double 2009. The Klamath is projected to see 371,100, up from 331,500 in 2009.

Charter boats and sports fishermen can expect to have a shorter season than last year, said Sorensen. It could run from the end of June to mid-August, compared to June 26 through Labor Day last year.

Sorensen said the biggest concern for sports fishermen was whether they would have to release wild fish to protect coho coming from coastal rivers, known as Oregon Coastal Naturals. Returns of hatchery coho from the Columbia are expected to be down. If fishermen are allowed to keep wild fish, the season will be shorter, he said. Sports anglers can also expect to be able to take some chinook.

Schimmel leads team in scoring in Big East quarter finals game

HARTFORD, Conn. — Shoni Schimmel scored a team-high 12 points for the Louisville Cardinals in the March 6 Big East Tournament quarter finals game against Notre Dame.

The No. 7-ranked Fighting Irish won the game, though, 63-53. Earlier last week, the Cardinals advanced to the quarterfinals with a 69-47 victory over Villanova.

Schimmel, a freshman guard at Louisville, has a total of 458 points for the season, second most on the team.

She averaged 14.3 points



Shoni Schimmel

per game, and a total of 67 steals, also second-most in each category for the Cardinals.

She started all 32 games for Louisville this season, playing 979 minutes, an average of 30.6 minutes per game, most on the team.

Schimmel grew up in Mission near Pendleton and the Umatilla Reservation. She attended Franklin High School in Portland. She has many relatives on the Warm Springs Reservation, including her grandfather Bobby Eagleheart.

Trading at the River gathering in April

The Trading at the River Native American business gathering happens April 20-21 at the Grand Ronde Spirit Mountain Casino.

The gathering is sponsored by the Oregon Native American Business and Entrepreneurship Network (Onaben).

The this year the Trading at the River theme is "Circling Back and Going Forward: Celebrating 20 years of Indianpreneurship."

The 2011 gathering will mark the ninth year of event. "This is one is very special," the Onaben event flyer reads. "We will gather on the banks of the Yamhill River at Grand Ronde, where Onaben was born two decades ago."

"We have much to celebrate about our past and much to talk about for our future."

"Like the historic gatherings that occurred here and in many places among the traders of this region, Trading at the River is a place where connections are made, business-to-business, tribe-to-tribe, and from past to present."

The Ninth Annual Trading at the River conference will include:

An intensive business development conference with community discussions, workshops, symposiums, and celebrations.

A Trading at the River marketplace of ideas, products, and services—the famous traditional gathering of Indianpreneurs.

A gathering of emerging and

established Native Capital Development Funding Institutions convened by the newly established Pacific Northwest Native Capital Development Peer Group, which will explore ways of generating new forms of capital to support Native entrepreneurship and tribal-individual joint ventures.

The kick off for Innovations in Indianpreneurship 2012—a biennial business plan competition and business showcase.

A Founders recognition luncheon that will highlight the last 20 years of tribal economic development.

A Business Alliance reception gathering the region's Native businesses and chambers of commerce.

Canoe Family: inspiring, empowering youth

(Continued from page 1)

On Mondays and Wednesdays are language study with Culture and Heritage.

On Tuesdays there are sweat ceremonies.

On Thursdays are tribal dance with Deanie Johnson, Tribal Youth Program director,

and the dance group Ayayat Idait, also members of the Canoe Family.

As its mission states, the Canoe Family "is for Native American youth of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation to connect with, interact, and bond with their adult community in a posi-

tive way that inspires, encourages, and empowers one another."

Anyone wishing more information can contact Greene at the museum, 541-553-3331; or by email:

jgreene@wstribes.org

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