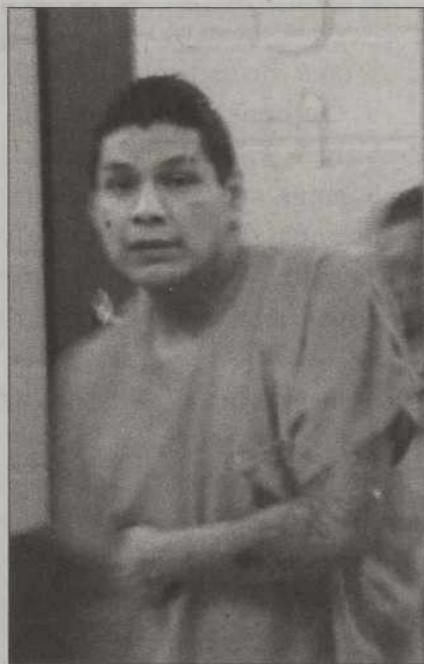


Crime costs Weaselhead 15 years

By Duran Bobb
Spilyay Tymoo



Waylon Weaselhead

In one video game, the boss escapes from jail and it's the player's job to get him to the safe house. If he fails, the player can always hit the reset button to start over.

In one song, the artist sings about giving his eyes to Stevie Wonder from behind bars.

In the real world outside of video games and rap songs, things are different. There is no reset button, and life in pumpkin-orange jumpsuits no longer seems so glamorous.

"I don't wish jail or death on anybody," Waylon McKie Weaselhead said. "I know that I'm going to miss out on a lot, being in here. I'm in a rough spot and I know it's going to be rougher. I just want to say, if you don't think that you can handle the consequences, don't do it."

Weaselhead was sentenced to 15 years in prison for his role in a shootout and car chase back in May of 2010. After a Madras officer stopped Weaselhead and Aldo Antunez, the two sped away in a white Ford Explorer, firing shots at officers. The chase eventually led to Charley Canyon, where the two escaped.

"If there was a time machine, I wouldn't jump into it. If I wasn't caught, I'd still be out there doing the same thing that I was doing. Now this is some-

life I've chosen. This is where my choices have taken me. I've been in here for [almost a year] now, and I'm going to be here for at least 15 more years. I just need to learn to accept it."

Weaselhead grew up in Warm Springs, Portland and The Dalles. There was never a constant father figure in his life, he said. He remembers seeing a lot of alcohol and drugs in his youth. When he was 17, he tried meth for the first time.

"To be honest, I didn't like it. I had a bad experience with it. I'd rather be doing other things. But sooner or later, it just came back into my life. I tried it and I got hooked."

While searching for someone to look up to, Weaselhead became involved with gangs. "Everybody likes to think they're cool. I know I thought I was cool. They say God has a plan for everybody. I'm kind of disappointed in this plan he had for me, so I guess the devil took me under his wing."

Occasionally, he did grow tired of living the life that seemed to take control of him. "I'd tell people I needed to go home for a while. My mom was always glad to see me. She'd plan road trips just to get me out of Springs for a while. We'd have a good day then."

He tried repeatedly to find work on the reservation and eventually landed a job at Kah-Nee-Ta. "It felt good to get a paycheck, but you aren't going

to make a living washing dishes. I wanted to straighten up for my kids. I thought there was still a chance for me."

In his cell, he spends a lot of time missing his family. "Sometimes I feel like I can't make it. I've got nobody, it's just me. I think of my kids and I want to say to them, Keep on going to school, you're young, follow your dreams. They're going to be men and women when I get out."

Weaselhead has heard about certain programs that will be available to him in prison. "They say there are courses that will teach you the trade. You could finish your education. I could have a fighting chance to at least have something with me when I finally get out. I don't plan to walk out with nothing." Weaselhead will be tested at the intake center at Coffee Creek. Facilitators there will decide where he will serve his sentence.

thing that I have to walk through. I can't take it back. It's here. It was a pretty violent crime. I could have taken someone's life."

For days, the fugitives followed the Warm Springs River. But both of them knew, he said, that they couldn't run forever.

"I knew that I was going to get caught somewhere, sometime. We had no money, we were tired, and we had it set in our hearts that we were just waiting. You can't run."

During Paiyumsha weekend, Weaselhead was caught.

"What's worse is being locked up all the way around. It does get pretty depressing in here sometimes. You do something, knowing that it's going to be the same thing every day. That's rough. But now, this is my new

Shooting investigation continues

As of earlier this week, the FBI continued its investigation into the fatal shooting that happened the night of March 20 at the Warm Springs Forest Products Industries mill.

During the incident, a Warm Springs Police officer

shot and killed Vernon Buddy Middleton Jr., 20, of Madras. This happened at 10:40 p.m. following a police chase. At the time, Mr. Middleton apparently had a warrant out for his arrest.

Two officers were put on administrative leave, pending the investigation.

One of the officers has returned to duty, while the officer who fired the fatal shot, officer Levi Dowty, remained on leave, as of earlier this week.

Dowty has been with the Warm Springs Police Department for three years.

Gov. appoints Liebe regional ERT coordinator

Annette Liebe has been appointed as the coordinator for Central Oregon's Regional Solutions Center by Gov. Kitzhaber.

The governor's Economic Revitalization Teams (ERTs) are made up of agencies working together in community solutions teams.

The teams identify priorities in solving problems which hinder economic development. During his first term, Gov. Kitzhaber brought state agencies together into teams to encourage integrated state service at the local and regional level.

As part of her duties, Liebe will find ways to solve problems that hinder economic development throughout Central Oregon.

This includes attempting to

establish a business relationship with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Liebe earned her law degree from the University of Oregon and has work experience from the DEQ.

"Her experience and problem-solving skills will serve the Governor well in helping get Oregonians back to work," Greg Wolf, Intergovernmental and Regional Solutions Director said.

Regional Solutions Centers are located in universities and community colleges throughout the state to provide a neutral forum, access to research and data, and opportunities to connect students with "real world" experience on projects.

According to the Deschutes Economic Alliance, the first phase of a 1,000 day economic

recovery plan will be launched on Sunday in an attempt to change Central Oregon from "poverty with a view" to "possibilities with a view".

One of those initiatives includes developing mutually beneficial business opportunities with Warm Springs.

Judge approves farmers settlement

(AP) - A federal judge has approved a \$680 million settlement between the Agriculture Department and American Indian farmers who say they were denied loans because of discrimination.

The two sides agreed on the deal last year subject to court approval. U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan approved the terms last week.

Individuals who can prove discrimination could receive up to \$250,000 from the government.

The agreement also includes \$80 million in farm debt forgiveness for the Indian plaintiffs and a series of initiatives to try and alleviate racism against American Indians and other minorities in rural farm loan offices.

The lawsuit, named after George and Marilyn Keepseagle of Fort Yates, N.D., was filed in 1999 and contends Indian farmers and ranchers lost hundreds of millions of dollars over several decades because they were denied USDA loans that instead went to their white neighbors.

Commissary okayed for W.S. jail inmates

Tribal Council approved the setting up of a commissary for the inmates of the Warm Springs Jail.

The commissary will allow inmates to purchase personal hygiene and other items that are otherwise not provided to them.

Council took the action following a recommendation by Warm Springs Public Safety Branch Manager Stanley Suenaga.

Along with the commissary, Tribal Council approved the setting up of a separate bank account for inmate funds.

Such funds in the past have been kept in a secure safe at the Corrections building.

A specific and separate bank account will allow for better oversight of the funds, said Suenaga.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Warm Springs Community Counseling
Wednesday - 12-Noon & 7:00 p.m.
Saturday - 10 a.m.

Jefferson County

Republicans' Night Out

Saturday, May 7, 6:00 p.m.

The Inn at Cross Keys Station
66 NE Cedar Street
Madras, Oregon 97741

Allen Alley Keynote Speaker
Chairman, Oregon Republican Party
Oregon Business Leader

John Huffman
Oregon State Representative, District 59
Master of Ceremony

Invited Guests Include: Congressman GREG WALDEN and State Senator TED FERRIOLI

Dinner choices: Prime Rib or Salmon
Catered by the famous Madras Black Bear
TICKETS \$30 PER PERSON, Limited Seating

Questions, please contact:
Phyllis Langsev at phyllis@bendbroadband.com; 541-546-9008
Bonnie Buckles at buckleshome@juno.com; 541-546-9259
Maurice Langsev at maurice@bendbroadband.com; 503 806-4830

Evening Includes, **LIVE AUCTION** and Raffle for a Ruger 10/22 Sporter
Raffle Tickets: Contact Tom Townsend at steelhorses@yahoo.com or 510-468-0863
Raffle Tickets: \$2 each/ 6 for \$10 (Retail value \$366.)

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