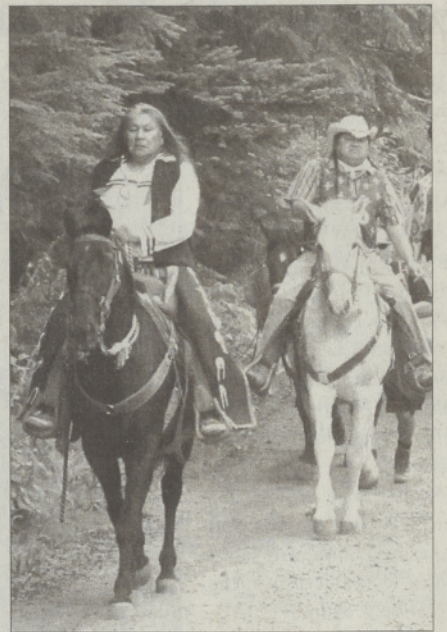


Wiwnu Wash Cultural Center



Culture and Heritage director Valerie Switzler, Carlos Calica and Arlita Rhoan at the dedication. Below, walkers arrive at Mt. Hood.



Delson Suppah Sr. and Dallas Winishut arrive on horseback.



The Native American Heritage Center.



Yvonne Iverson pictures



(Continued from page 1)

The riders emerged from the tree line followed by walkers in traditional regalia to end the 35 mile journey to the Wiwnu Wash Cultural Center at Mt. Hood Ski Bowl.

Charles Jody Calica, Secretary-Treasurer for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, said in the opening, "We have an opportunity to build a relationship that restores the understanding, respect, and cooperation, that honors our history, heritage and tradition."

Kirk Hanna, the owner-operator of Skibowl, said, "As an Oregonian, I feel it is important to understand the history behind Government Camp."

Hanna began contacting members of the tribe about a year ago with ideas of the cultural center. The Culture and Heritage Department staff, along with community elders, shared their knowledge and helped to develop the Cultural Center.

"It is a wonderful thing that Mt. Hood Skibowl recognizes the importance of this land to our people," said Myra Johnson-Orange.

The grand opening celebration continued through the afternoon with a traditional salmon bake, alpine slide rides, and a contest powwow.

Tribal members received an adventure pass and tickets for the salmon



Secretary-Treasurer Jody Calica presents Kirk Hanna with a Bolo tie.

bake at no charge. Adventure passes allowed unlimited access to over 20 different rides, including bungee jumping, zip lines, and go karts.

You could hear the heartbeat of the drum across the mountain as Star Horse and two other drum groups got the powwow started. Contest categories included tiny tots, juniors, teens, adult, and senior divisions.

Planners of the event look forward to making this and annual celebration to coincide with the huckleberry season.

"The history and culture that were here so many years ago will not be forgotten it will be revived," said Stan Speaks, Northwest Regional Director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Wascos vote: will be consistent with tribal election procedures

(Continued from page 1)

Jackson summarized the situation in a written statement, part of which reads:

1. There are six (6) announced candidates for the Wasco Chieftainship, all of who claim a hereditary connection to the chieftainship and who have their respective supporters in the Agency District.

a. Each candidate's family has followed tribal custom(s) by different means, in bringing their nominee forward to be acknowledged as a candidate for our next Wasco Chief.

b. The selection process has been discussed in nine (9) public meetings.

c. Prior to the seventh meeting Wasco people were informed, by KWSO announcements and flyers posted, that the deadline to nominate a Wasco Chief candidate was the September 12,

2011 meeting.

2. Why should Agency District Wascos vote to determine the next Wasco Chief?

a. The Wasco people and the Agency District have been led for the past 60 years by 2 Wasco Chiefs selected by a vote of the Wasco people.

b. During the tenure of the 2 previous chiefs, no Wasco objected that their selection by vote was "unconstitutional" or not "in accordance with tribal custom".

c. After nine (9) public meetings, Agency District members could not agree on the specifics of a "customary" selection process. During the first meetings Wasco elders discussed how the three previous Wasco Chiefs were selected.

d. The previous Wasco Chief didn't appoint or announce a successor.

e. A majority of the attendees polled at two (2) of these nine (9) meetings on the chieftainship issue supported a vote.

f. The Wasco Chieftainship survey indicates that a majority of Agency District Wasco's support a Wasco Chieftainship vote.

g. Four of the six nominees support a vote to determine the next "recognized chief" of the Agency District.

h. A vote will serve to confirm one of the 6 nominees as the next legitimate Wasco Chief.

i. There is no more fair process than a properly conducted election.

3. Who will be able to vote in a Wasco Chieftainship election?

a. Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (CTWS) members who are recognized as Wasco descendants and who were registered to vote in the

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Agency District on September 28, 2012, per vital statistics records. (As identified in the Constitution & Bylaws the Wasco Chief serves as part of the Governing body.)

b. Elimination of the requirement that eligible Wasco voters be registered in the Agency District would enable members who are primarily associated with either the Seekseequa or Simnasho District to vote on the selection of the Agency District (Wasco) Chief.

4. How will the winner of the Wasco Chieftainship election be determined?

a. The nominee who obtains the most votes cast will be declared the winner and the next Wasco Chief.

b. Should there be a tie; then a runoff election will be conducted within a month.

c. If, in the future, the

Wasco Chief falls ill or otherwise can no longer fulfill his duties, then the runner-up will act as Interim Chief until the Wasco Chief can resume his duties or until a permanent successor can be selected.

5. The Wasco Chieftainship vote, while not a Tribal governmental election, will be conducted in a manner consistent with procedures for Tribal elections.

6. The election will be conducted by secret ballot. Ballots shall be printed listing all 6 candidates and shall be available for off-Reservation and Absentee Ballot requests at least 2 weeks prior to the Election.

a. Wasco people will appoint a 3-5 person "Special Wasco Chieftainship Election panel" of Wasco elders who shall monitor all aspects of the election to ensure its fair-

ness.
b. On the day of the election voting will be conducted at the Agency Community Center from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

c. Ballots will be deposited into a ballot box. Ballots will be counted after the polls have closed. Once the ballots have been counted and the election results certified by the special election panel, the ballots shall be secured and stored in a vault for a period of 90 days.

d. The special election panel will announce the results of the election the next regular weekday morning. The special election panel and the Director, Vital Statistics, will advise the Tribal Council of the results of the election at the next regular Tribal Council meeting. The Wasco Chief shall be sworn in to office at that time by the BIA Superintendent.