

## State Champion in 110 Meter High Hurdles



Trevin Del Nero (far left) runs the 110 hurdles, and celebrates (below) at State.

Trevin Del Nero on Saturday won the 110 Meter High Hurdles—by two-hundredths of a second—at the Class 4A State Track Meet last weekend at Mt. Hood Community College.

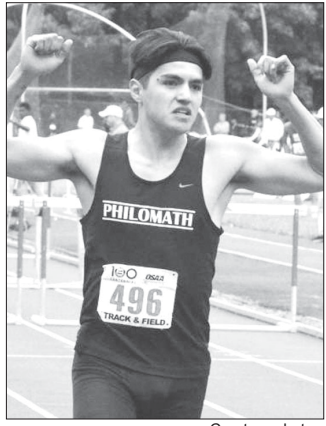
Trevin, a tribal member, is the son of Zach Del Nero and Jessie Esquiro.

He is a junior at Philomath High School.

His track performances

improved greatly this year as the season progressed; and he posted a fast time in 2019 in the 110-High Hurdles that is a full 1.5 seconds faster than his best time last year.

The race on Saturday was so close that Trevin at first was not sure he had won. He now is the Class 4A State Champion in the 110 Meter High Hurdles.



Courtesy photos

## Pike another threat to Columbia salmon

Northern pike are some of the most troubling aquatic invasive species in the Northwest. So far, they haven't made it past Washington's Lake Roosevelt. Two dams stand in their way. And lots of people trying to stop them.

If the fish make it past Chief Joseph Dam on the Columbia River, they could greatly harm imperiled salmon downstream.

"In a lot of ways, the fight to save the Columbia River as we know it is going to be won and lost on Lake Roosevelt," said Justin Bush, executive coordinator of the Washington Invasive Species Council.

American Indian tribes are joining with the state and public utility districts in what's being billed as the largest coordinated event of its kind in the state. The groups are working for a week to catch northern pike on the lake.

"We are at a critical moment in time where northern pike have not spread

into salmon habitat," said Kelly Susewind, director of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, in a statement. "If northern pike move downstream, the State of Washington will consider this an environmental emergency."

Northern pike are non-native to the Northwest. They were illegally introduced here in the 1990s and have made their way down the Pend Oreille River into Lake Roosevelt.

They are extremely aggressive and can wipe out fish populations in waters where they aren't native. In Alaska and California, northern pike have reduced some fish runs so much it's effectively crashed fisheries, Bush said.

"Northern pike prey on fish that we value, such as trout, salmon and steelhead," Bush said.

One problem is that Lake Roosevelt is so big (151 miles long) that it makes it hard for biologists to find and kill the invasive fish.

Right now, the fish have been spotted about 12 miles from Grand Coulee Dam. That's 90 miles from where anadromous fish are in the Columbia River, Bush said.

"There have been some new areas found to be colonized within Lake Roosevelt. I think we're near seeing some really devastating effects within Lake Roosevelt," Bush said. In other areas that have faced northern pike problems, fishery communities have "totally flipped in terms of what was present," Bush said.

Before the fish made it to Lake Roosevelt, they'd invaded the Pend Oreille River. Using gill nets placed in northern pike spawning grounds, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians was able to suppress the northern pike population in that river's Box Canyon Reservoir.

Officials are asking anglers to report any northern pike they catch and turn them in for a bounty of \$10 a head. Reports help biologists know where the fish are in Lake Roosevelt.

## Warm Springs Nation Little League play

**Thursday, May 23:** Warm Springs Nation Little League games today:

The Warriors and major baseball are at Crook County.

Major softball is in Redmond. Minor softball will host Jefferson County.

In tee-ball play today: the Dodgers play the A's on campus; the Braves and Cardinals

play behind the Community Center.

**Friday, 24:** Warm Springs Nation Little League games today: The Braves are at Culver and junior baseball play in Prineville.

**Saturday, May 25:** Warm Springs Nation Little League games: Minor softball is at Finley Butte with games at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 28:** Warm Springs Nation Little League: Junior baseball is at

Madras. Major baseball, major softball and the Braves all have home games. Tee ball teams have practice today.

**Wednesday, May 29:** Warm Springs Nation Little League: Minor softball plays at Jefferson County today. Junior baseball hosts Crook County. Tee ball teams have practice today.

## Salmon Camp applications due soon

The Nez Perce Tribe will host the Salmon Camp 2019, August 11-17. Applications are due on May 31. Go to [critfc.org](http://critfc.org) to apply.

Salmon Camp fosters youth interest in natural resources careers, and closing the academic achievement gap for Native American youth.

Salmon Camp is a component of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission's Tribal Workforce Development program.

The annual camp focuses on providing culturally relevant science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) experiences to foster an interest in natural resources careers and close the academic achievement gap for Native American youth.

Twenty incoming sixth-eighth grade students from the four Columbia River tribes are selected to attend the free camp.

Meals and lodging are provided and, after the program is successfully completed, a stipend is offered.

The week-long camp is held during the summer in tribal homelands. The four tribes take turns hosting Salmon Camp. The seven-day, overnight camp exposes the students to a blend of Western science and traditional ecological and cultural knowledge.

Salmon Camp Participants:

- Learn about the science and lifecycle of salmon.
- Work on salmon restoration projects.
- Explore Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

· Meet tribal professionals working in the sciences.

· Learn from tribal elders and cultural experts.

· Gain unique and valuable hands-on experience.

Salmon Camp Staff Positions: The success of Salmon Camp depends on great people who are committed to and enjoy working with kids.

CRITFC is currently seeking applicants to participate in the Junior Counselor program. The Junior Counselors are Warm Springs, Yakama, Umatilla, or Nez Perce youth who are incoming 9-12 graders or who graduated high school this spring (ages 16-18).

The junior counselors help the camp counselors with Salmon Camp and get an opportunity to gain leadership and mentoring experience.



Mariah Stacona's family, and Spilyay photographer Jayson Smith, visited Kirkland in May for Mariah Stacona's graduation ceremony. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration.



## Bonneville Power Struggles as salmon runs decline

As some Northwest salmon seasons are closing before they even begin, Bonneville Power faces a financial crisis.

BPA has thirty-one power-generating projects in the Columbia Basin. The dams on the Columbia and Lower Snake Rivers are major suppliers of carbon-free energy to the northwest, especially Oregon and Washington.

But all of that energy is expensive in today's market,

and Bonneville Power is losing market share to newer alternative energy sources.

Congressman Mike Simpson says he's determined to find a way to save a struggling BPA, while also bringing Idaho salmon back to sustainable numbers.

Economist Tony Jones suggests Bonneville Power rid itself of assets that are losing money, in particular, the four dams on the Lower Snake River in Washington.

"It probably costs roughly

forty to forty five dollars per megawatt to produce power at the four Lower Snake Dams, all of which sells for twenty dollars or below," said Jones. "So the Lower Snake Dams are losing on the order of one hundred million dollars per year. If they were owned by a private agency, rather than a federal agency, the private agency would have a backhoe up there this afternoon starting to take them down."

## Childbirth Education classes at center

Childbirth Education Classes are Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. at the Family Resource Center.

This is a 3 week series that focuses on Pregnancy, Labor and Delivery, and

Mom and Baby Care.

To learn more or find out when the series starts, contact Allie Anderson, MCH Nurse at 541-553-2460.

## A treaty question during changing times

Can tribal nations successfully sue the federal government over climate change-related violations of treaties? And if so, what would that look like?

To tie climate change to treaty rights, a case must point to the actual treaty language. While possible, "it would probably be quite difficult to find something in a treaty that places a duty on the United States to do something, or refrain from doing something, connected to climate change," said Robert Coulter, executive director at the Indian Law Re-

source Center and citizen of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

And, whenever a tribe uses treaty rights in a courtroom, there is some risk that the treaty could be diminished. Because of that, tribal governments are cautious about when to pursue a case with treaty rights.

One plausible example, though, is the right to fish "at usual and accustomed grounds."

That phrase appears in at least seven treaties with dozens of Pacific Northwest tribes—including the Con-

federated Tribes of Warm Springs.

What if, due to species shifting from climate change or erosion from rising waters, that right could no longer be fulfilled?

Species shift is a major side effect from climate change: One study shows how salmon shifting north to colder waters means First Nations fisheries could decline by almost 50 percent by 2050.

Such a case has not been tried, and may not play to the strengths of the U.S. judicial system.

## ALAN DELASHMUTT CONSTRUCTION /RESTORATION

**24 Hour  
Emergency  
Service**

PROJECTS OF ANY SIZE

CLEANUP & REPAIR

FIRE & WATER DAMAGE REPAIR

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING!

INSURANCE WORK WELCOME

drying equipment available for rent

20 Years Reliable Service  
Locally Owned & Operated

Licensed • Bonded • Insured • CCB #178038

Call Holly at:

**(541)777-4100**