

SMOKE



SIGNALS

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

April, 1994



Dustin Leno, son of Reyn and Liz Leno, grandson of Darlene Brown and Orville and Ramona Leno, captured his third straight wrestling championship. His accomplishment came February 25 and 26 at the class 2-A State Wrestling Tournament held in Monmouth. Dustin is a junior at Willamina High School. Willamina also captured its third straight team title. Dustin followed in his brother Shonn's footsteps, making him only the second wrestler to have won three state championships in the school's history. Dustin's current record in high school is 100 wins, 4 losses, and 1 tie. Upon finishing high school wrestling for the year, Dustin and Shonn will now be participating this spring and summer in Freestyle and Greco style wrestling. Dustin hopes to follow his brother Shonn and sister Angela to Portland State University upon graduation from Willamina.

**General Council Meeting
Sunday, April 10, 1994
Tribal Community Center 11:30 A.M.
All Tribal Members Welcome
Meal Provided**

Chairman Testifies In Washington D.C.

Each year, the U.S. President presents the Federal Government's proposed annual budget for the up-coming fiscal year for Congressional approval. After Congress receives it, the appropriations Committee and Subcommittees conduct hearings for input from federal agencies. The Subcommittees also receive input from non-federal entities, including Indian tribes. For the up-coming budget year, the Administration proposed cuts for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Indian Health Service.

On March 8, 1994, Tribal Chairman Mark Mercier and Vice-Chair Kathryn Harrison presented testimony on the budgets of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service for Fiscal Year 1995, to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies in Washington, D.C. This was to request funding into the BIA budget for fish enhancement for the Tribe's hunting and fishing area negotiated with the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife. Also discussed was the Administration's proposed budget cuts for IHS programs. Here are some of the points made:

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Prior to treaties and reservation establishment, our ancestors fished widely throughout the Willamette Valley. Salmon, steelhead, eels, and trout were among the most important part of their diet. Unfortunately, dams, irrigation, and grazing have taken a huge toll on the fishery resource, especially the anadromous species (salmon and steelhead).

The Tribe has begun assessment of the quality of fisheries on and near the Grand Ronde Reservation and believes they can be restored through stream enhancement measures. Stream survey are the initial phase to provide information necessary to develop stream enhancement plans. The plans would restore and enhance native trout, anadromous fish runs, and analyze the impacts of salmon and steelhead smolts on native trout.

While the Northwest Power Planning Commission makes funds available for fish restoration projects, they do not provide funds for assessment, planning and negotiating agreements with water users. The Tribe needs a base funding amount to develop an adequate plan for addressing fishery problems, yet the President's budget lacks funding for this Tribal effort.

The Tribe requested \$78,750 be added to Recurring Programs/Natural Resources/Tribal Management and Development Programs for FY 1995. This will enable us to move forward with our surveys, data analysis, and planning.

Also, the Tribe requested to the Committee that it require the BIA not to reduce the annual budget for the Siletz Agency, from which the Bureau is attempting to remove \$210,000. If this happens, services to the tribes will be negatively impacted.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

With regard to IHS the Tribe is concerned by the 12.7% budget decrease for Fiscal Year 1995, particularly since HHS's budget will increase by 7%, and discretionary funds by 10%.

The Fiscal Year 1995 budget forces contract services to absorb all mandatories and provides no population growth funds. The Tribe requested an adjustment of inflation mandatories for Contract Support to 11.3%, and asked Congress to restore population growth funds.

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