

Tribal member gains wastewater certificate

Nunley expands career options with internship

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

An internship program at Spirit Mountain Casino is producing results.

Take the success that Tribal member Jared Nunley, 25, has had in earning his wastewater certificate issued by Linn-Benton Community College and the state Department of Environmental Quality.

Last year, Nunley was selected for a wastewater internship through the casino's Tribal Career Development Office. This year, possibilities abound for him.

"It's kind of put me on a career path for the rest of my life," Nunley said. "There's room to improve. I can upgrade the certificate from one to four."

The two-year internship is a partnership with Spirit Mountain Casino and the Tribal Education Department.

"Jared is learning new skills that can be used for the Tribe, the casino, or throughout the state of Oregon," said David DeHart, developer in the Tribal Career Development Office.

"It makes me more marketable," Nunley said. "I can work anywhere in the state with this certificate. I'm



Jared Nunley

kind of keeping my doors open."

Nunley's internship ends in May. The Tribal Career Development Office supervises five other active interns: Denise McGee, Casino Finance; Lynn Cook, Facilities; Rick McKnight, Facilities; Torey Wakeland, Player Services/Slots; and Misty Carl, who works in the Tribal Career Development Office.

Spirit Mountain Casino currently employs 185 Tribal members, the highest Tribal employment rate ever, according to Tribal Elder Sam Henny, manager of the Tribal Career Development Program. ■

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