Lapwai Wildcats Girls 1A-DI State Champions

With the final buzzer of the Idaho State 1A Division I Girls’ Basketball Tournament Championship game, the Lapwai crowd jumped out of their seats and cheered for the Champions. The entire Wildcat team stormed the court both laughing and crying, as they fell into each other’s arms. “Getting third place two years in a row was disappointing and frustrating. I feel like everything happens for a reason and Lapwai was due,” said Lapwai’s Glory Sobotta. “I played every one of these games like it was my last, and I encouraged my teammates to do the same.”

In their first match up, Lapwai faced Riverstone International. The Lapwai Wildcats easily controlled all four quarters and by the end of the game, Lapwai had forced Riverstone International to turn the ball over 38 times. The Wildcats were led by Senior, KC Lussoro and Sophomore, Grace Sobotta, who had 15 and 14 points. On defense Freshman, Lauren Gould, had five of the Wildcat’s 22 steals. Lapwai defeated Riverstone International 63-23. Gr. Sobotta was selected for “Player of the Game”.

In the second round of the Idaho state tournament Lapwai met a familiar division rival, Genesee. Lussoro led with 16 points, and Sophomore, Omari Mitchell contributed with 12 points of her own. Genesee had clawed back within seven points at the start of fourth quarter but Gr. Sobotta took it upon herself and drove to the basket, drawing the foul. She hit both free throws and then took it to the rack one more time, keeping the Wildcats’ lead in double digit figures. In addition to Mitchell’s five steals and Lussoro’s three steals, Lapwai got key contributions from Junior point guard, Glory Sobotta, who had two steals and a string of assists set up by her smooth dribble penetration and ability to control the tempo of each possession. Senior, Julia Gould had two steals of her own and changed the momentum of the crowd by taking a charge just when Genesee seemed to be rallying. L. Gould had eight points, and Sophomore, Say’qis Greene had seven points including a timely three-pointer that sealed the lead.

Genesee never came within eight points for the rest of the game and the Wildcats beat the bulldogs 60-49 in the semifinal game at Columbia High School. Lussoro was selected for “Player of the Game”.

Lapwai then met their second Whitepine League opponent, the Prairie Pirates, for the state title game at the Ford Idaho Center. The Wildcats had players in foul trouble early in the first half. They trailed by seven at half time, with the foul count being 13 to 6.

Though the Pirates had a seven-point advantage, when the Wildcats came out of the locker room, it was show time. Lapwai went back onto the court and opened the second half on a 6-1 run, and took a small lead. Knocking down back and forth, bucket after bucket, Lapwai and Prairie fought tooth and nail, each looking to represent the Whitepine League as number one.

In the fourth quarter, with all momentum on their side, the Wildcats went on a 9-0 spurt, and the Lapwai crowd was roaring. The Wildcats were then unstoppable. Jump-starting that run, Greene stole the ball and quickly passed to L. Gould for a fast-break lay-in. L. Gould’s bucket, a minute into the fourth, made it 28-27, Lapwai.

With 5:37 left in the game, Gr. Sobotta knocked down a three-pointer, then...
The Nimipuu Tribal Tribune is published twice a month, on the first and third Wednesday. Our mission is to publish a timely and credible resource for our loyal readers and provide local information relevant to the Nimipuu people and surrounding communities. Our vision is to disseminate content of interest to readers and to ensure this news publication is accessible by all.

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http://nezperce.org/government/communications/

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As she struggled through a difficult divorce, Robbie Paul noticed that some of her depressive episodes weren’t linked to her crumbling marriage. The pain she felt came at certain times of the year, when other family members also exhibited signs of depression.

Paul began to sift through her history to discover her own identity as a Native American woman. She found the episodes of sadness coincided with traumatic events her Nez Perce family members lived through. That historical trauma had been passed down to her from generations before her who never spoke in depth about the injustices they lived through.

“I started to read a book about the Nez Perce War and I found myself crying after each chapter,” Paul said. “I asked myself, ‘Why am I crying so hard?’ And I found my grandfather was a small boy during that war. It was about my ancestors who were participants in that war.”

Paul, a Nez Perce tribal member who grew up in Craigmont, said historical, or intergenerational trauma, is passed on because genes carry the memory of unresolved trauma. It can lead to depression, substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder and health complications, like diabetes.

Although the concept is gaining traction in “Indian Country,” it remains less talked about in mainstream society, Paul said.

Paul retired from the Spokane campus of Washington State University in 2016. She was the director of Native American Health Sciences. Since that time, she has held seminars and workshops throughout the region to bring light to the issue of intergenerational trauma.

“As a humanity, we have a ways to go in understanding how we relate to each other and how to have respect for each other,” Paul said. “When we have empathy for the other, we can share and grow in understanding and allow our differences to be allowed and respected.”

**Finding her place**

As Paul worked her way through the Lewiston School District, she did her best to fit in with her peers. She didn’t wear Indian jewelry and changed her appearance.

“I tried to be short, blonde and petite,” Paul said.

She often fought oppressive stereotypes. One of her elementary school teachers called her a “dumb Indian.” A middle school teacher told Paul her race would die out. Kids called her a “stinking Indian.” And a Sunday school teacher once asked, “Aren’t you glad you are not a heathen?”

“I kept hearing all my life growing up that Indians are dirty, lazy, good for nothing, fat, drunk, heathen,” Paul said. “I tried not to be that.”

The trend of being “short, blonde and petite” continued after she graduated from Lewiston High School in 1967 and through her first marriage, which ended in 1990. That’s when Paul’s transformation began.

“I needed to acknowledge who I am and where I came from, so that began the journey that has been ongoing since,” she said.

Paul, who was at times labeled a “half breed,” came from mixed parents. Her white mother, Maxine, married her father, Titus, who was full-blooded Nez Perce in 1931, at a time when many states considered interracial marriage illegal.

The historical trauma she has experienced is layered throughout her father’s side of her history.

“There’s first contact (between white settlers and American Indians), then Lewis and Clark came upon us, the fur traders, the missionaries, the government treaties, war and boarding schools,” Paul said. “There’s so many layers and if things don’t get resolved in each generation or each time it happens, it just builds.”

**The process of healing**

Healing, much like intergenerational trauma itself, is a cumulative process that takes time, Paul said. She has come up with a way to help overcome historical trauma, but she warns it may not work for everyone.

As she progresses through her own trauma, Paul has visited sites where her family members witnessed death, or injustices, on or near the anniversary dates of the events.

She went to some of the sites of the Nez Perce War, including the Battle of the Big Hole and the Battle of Bear Paw. Her grandfather, Khun-nee, or Black Raven, lost his five siblings during the war. He was later enrolled in the Carlisle Indian Industrial Boarding School in Pennsylvania, where he was stripped of his buckskin, given a bath, a haircut and his new English name of Jesse Paul.

“This is what happened to my grandfather merely because he was Indian, and that’s traumatic,” Paul said.

“It got passed down to me because that’s the part that did not get talked about.”

As Paul visits the sites of the Nez Perce War, she participates in a ceremony and tells the story of her ancestors. That’s allowed her to start the process of forgiving and letting go, she said.

“Putting my story together is part of the healing journey,” Paul said. “And 90 percent of healing is being listened to.”

By sharing her family’s history, Paul said she’s stopped the cycle of abuse, and has begun to heal the wounds that were caused. She’s also learned some important lessons about humanity as a whole.

“We are all human beings,” Paul said. “No one is better than the other and we have to learn and respect to honor each other’s likenesses and the differences, because we are more alike than we are different.”

**Tomtas may be contacted at jtomtas@lmtribune.com or (208) 848-2294.**

Follow her on Twitter @jtomtas.
added a put-back directly after, extending the Wildcat’s lead 33-27. With under two minutes remaining in the championship game, Prairie began to foul in a desperate attempt to stop the clock and gain as many possessions as they could. Unfortunately for Prairie, Lapwai couldn’t miss a free throw.

Capping the unanswered run, Gl. Sobotta gave her team a seven-point lead by hitting two more free throws after a steal at half court and drawing the foul on her drive. Greene also had an old-fashioned three-point play with 1:38 left to make it 40-34, Wildcats. After that, Prairie never pulled within a shot.

Gr. Sobotta shot Lapwai’s final six free throws and missed only one. Defeating Prairie 46-40, the Lapwai Wildcats secured their first state title since 2017, and their 10th in school history. Gl. Sobotta was selected for “Player of the Game” in Championship.

Each player and coach on the team are Nimiipuu and come from families where relations and lineage are important to them. This unique team also has two sets of sisters who heavily contributed to the success of the team. The dynamic duos, Julia and Lauren Gould and Glory and Grace Sobotta were key factors in this 25-1 basketball season.

With three of the four returning next year, they’ll continue to be a force to recon with. This team is a beautiful Nimiipuu family. Each player proudly represents the Nez Perce Tribe and the town of Lapwai, Idaho.

The elders are also a big part of who the Wildcat basketball teams are. The players always know to show respect while playing, and play hard for them. “The elders are the best fans and the largest following of the Lapwai Wildcats,” said Jackie McArthur, Wildcat Booster Club member.

Some of the Nez Perce family lines include Blackeagle, Corbett, Samuels, Pinkham, Greene, Redheart, Spaulding, Higheagle, Moffett, Whitman, Eneas, Ellenwood, McConville and Scott. These girls come from old names such as Parr, Hoyt, Cloud, Mox Mox, Hill, Lawyer, Henry, Andrews, Ramsey, Harshe, Wilson, Luke and Broncheau, just to name a few.

The Wildcat girls’ basketball team ended their 2019-2020 season with only one loss to 5A Post Falls last December, in the Avista Holiday Tournament. The girls finished the season as League Champions, District Champions, and State Champions under Lapwai’s first-year head coach Ada McCormack-Marks, and assistant coaches Josh Leighton Jr. and Iris Domebo.
The Lapwai crowd celebrating the State Champs. Lapwai players rushed the court soon as the final buzzer sounded.

Glory and Grace Sobotta sprung into attack mode as Prairie dribbled the ball past half court, only to find themselves under the mercy of Lapwai’s famous trap defense. Glory Sobotta got the steal with 1:16 left in the 4th quarter.

Omari Mitchell drives up the middle, taking on four Prairie defenders.
The Lapwai Wildcat Boys Basketball Team is 100% Prepared for State

On February 25th, the Idaho Class 1A-DI District Tournament Championship was battled between no other than the Potlatch Loggers (20-2) and the Lapwai Wildcats (20-3) at the LCSC Activity Center, in Lewiston.

Lapwai got the tip-off and scored first in the game, but Potlatch began to attack and quickly took a double-digit lead in the opening minutes. Potlatch ultimately defeated Lapwai, 67-50 for the 2019-20 District Title. Both teams advance to the state tournament with Potlatch as first seed and Lapwai as second.

The Wildcats and Loggers have met each other twice earlier in the season. With matching 11-1 records in the Whitepine League, their only losses were to each other. The media poll released had ranked Potlatch No. 1 and Lapwai No. 2 and predicted the likelihood of Lapwai and Potlatch meeting a fourth time for a state championship clash.

“Winning big games and losing big games are all a part of growing as a basketball team,” Lapwai head coach Zachary Eastman said. But what he loved most was the response from the team after their District loss. “It just made our boys want to work harder,” he said. “They had no reason to hang their heads, they gave 100% that game.”

During their last huddle in the District Championship, the team came together as a family, knowing they were only going to get better from that point on.

“I will always be proud of my boys,” said Eastman. “Our coaching staff know how hard they practice daily; we witness them pushing each other to get better. The boys are ready to play.”

In the beginning of the season, the Wildcats had a plan to excel and learn from each game they played. They focus and practice hard every day, and now they have one more goal in sight.

“I know our best basketball is going to come out during State,” Eastman concluded.

Ella Payne’s First International Gymnastics Meet, Held in Hawaii

“I was nervous, there were lots of people, lots of competitors,” Ella Payne said. “I just told myself to try as hard as I can, and I did.” In January, Payne competed in her first international gymnastics meet in Hawaii. She competed in four categories vault, beam, floor and bars. Payne placed 1st in the floor category.

On the bars, Payne came in 6th place. She was in 4th until her last event. During her warm-up, she landed wrong on her ankle and that hindered her performance. At first she thought she might not be able to finish the categories, then she told herself she needed to go on and compete.

In vault Payne placed 5th, accomplishing a personal goal; Payne managed to keep her footing on the beam. “Sometimes I fall off, and I didn’t in Hawaii,” Payne said with a smile.

Despite the ankle injury and high competition, Payne placed 6th overall in the tournament. Since the Hawaii meet, Payne has competed in two more regional events, located in Lewiston and Coeur d’Alene. She successfully placed 1st in both.

The biggest thing Payne learned about competing in her first international meet is, “always try, and don’t ever give up,” she said.

Currently, it is Payne’s busiest time of the year. In sports, she applies herself in basketball and gymnastics. She has two more meets then will primarily focus on her basketball team, the Lapwai Lady Cats and dancing at powwows.

Payne is the daughter of Jo Payne and Angela Picard. She would like to thank her Qáaca and papa, for the love and support in all she does, they are the ones that take her everywhere.
The second Annual Littlefoot Ellenwood Memorial Basketball Tournament ended with a great gathering of family and friends. The tournament had seven men's teams total, who went against each other, showing no mercy. “I know my brother would be, and is happy with this tournament,” said Nikesa Aubertin. “A lot of great players and teams came to play, the teams made our tournament possible. I know he was there to watch these men play his favorite game.”

Nikesa expressed her excitement for the upcoming years of the tournament, “I am pumped up, we have already discussed our visions for it and are coming up with our game plan. I feel that this is one of the best ways we can remember my brother, and we can all feel a little closer to him (through basketball).”

The family of Littlefoot would like to thank the planning committee, everyone who played, attended, officiated, volunteered, worked concessions and gate, donated items, food, drinks, and thank you to the cooks Amy Wilson, Jena Henry and Lulu Henry, who fed the players. Thank you to everyone who came together for a memorable weekend. On March 20th, a stone setting will take place at 10:00 a.m. at Webb Cemetery with a lunch to follow at the PiNeeWaus.

The Littlefoot Ellenwood 40 and over Men’s Basketball tournament is up next. March 27th through the 29th, 2020 at the PiNeeWaus. For more information, please contact Rachel Ellenwood at (208)791-3434, or Aurelia Ellenwood at (509)759-6804.

Save the date for the 3rd Annual in January 2021. Littlefoot Ellenwood Memorial Men’s and Women’s open tournament! More details to come.

Congratulations Tournament Winners

1st Place Dem Boyz
2nd Place Lapwai
3rd Place Shaman

3point Contest Winner Rocky Three Irons (Lapwai)
MVP Aquino Brinson (Dem Boyz)
Mr Hustle Jay Leighton (Shaman)

All-Stars:
Dem Boyz Brandon Kohler
Lapwai Coty Reuben
Coyote Creek Kyle Stensgar
Shaman Dedrick Pakootas
LE#42 Isaiah Ellenwood
Swag Kenny Louie-McGee
Clearwater George Moody

Kamiah Kubs Take 3rd at Districts and Secure a Spot at State

The Kamiah Kubs defeated the Genesee Bulldogs at the LCSC Activity Center and got third-place at the 1A-DI District tournament, on February 25th. Titus Oatman led the Kubs with 13 points, while Sam Brisbois added six.

Two days later, the Kubs had one more battle to win, in order to punch their ticket to the Boys Idaho Class 1A tournament. Kamiah vs. Wallace (10-11), loser goes home.

Kamiah was down nine points in the first quarter and Wallace (10-11) went off with 12 unanswered points from the Kubs. Kamiah came back and Oatman knocked down two crucial 3-pointers in the third quarter, to add to his 12-points in total. The Kubs defeated Wallace 48-39.

Kamiah then took on Butte County (13-13), in a State play-in game. Kamiah (17-8) came out on top and will advance to the state tournament for the first time in eight years. Brisbois led the Kubs with 13 points against Butte County.

In the first round of the state tournament, the Kubs will match up and play Ambrose at 7:00 p.m. Pacific on Thursday, March 4th at Valleyview High School in Caldwell.

Sam Brisbois flies past a Genesee defender in the District tournament
3rd Annual Nez Perce Food Summit: Visions for a Healthy Future

By Alaina Doll

In 2016, the Nez Perce Tribe’s food coalition HIPT (Helping Indigenous People Thrive) set a goal of hosting a Food Sovereignty Summit on the Reservation where at least 150 persons could gain first-hand knowledge and information regarding food security. On February 6th, that objective was achieved as community members gathered in Pi Nee Waus for the 3rd annual event with 24 tables of partners sharing ideas, resources, and most importantly: food.

Visions for a healthy future really means bringing together local, traditional, and healthy foods initiatives to create the most comprehensive community-driven movement that involves all generations. This event succeeded in providing a gathering space for all of those who work so hard towards this vision.

The event was opened with prayer by Steve Axtell and Antonio Smith, followed by a warm welcome by Chairman Shannon Wheeler who has been a monumental supporter of the coalition.

The panel discussion included Josiah Pinkham, Stefanie Krantz, Danielle Scott, and Scherri Greene. They shared their experiences with local efforts regarding cultural values, climate change, gardening, and fishing. Scherri had a particularly special and engaging video about her family’s fishing history on the Columbia River.

The guest presenter Spring Alaska travelled from Bend, Oregon to offer tools for Native entrepreneurs based on her personal journey as founder and manager of Sakari Farms & Sakari Botanicals. She brought with her a beautiful menagerie of edibles and health-centered products for purchase and sample.

Attendees got to take home a set of healthy recipes and were entered into two raffles; winners were:

**Pre-Registration**
- Camp stove: Jarvis Weaskus
- Smoker: Thomas Tall Bull
- Bamboo picnic set: Spring Alaska

**Evaluation Completion**
- Buck knife: Mara Glasby
- Gathering basket: Lucinda George
- Tucas: DelRae Kipp

Foods ranged from huckleberry jam to elderberry vinegar; community garden corn-bread to elk jerky; pine moss soup to smoked morels; handmade teas to pineapple carrot muffins. If you would like a copy of the event recipe book, contact AlainaD@NezPerce.org.

Alaina brought “edible playdough” for the kids to make their own snowmen with using healthy snacks like fresh herbs, dried fruit, nuts, and seeds. They were colored pink with a beet and sweetened with maple cream from her home state of New York.

One parent reported that their child felt as if they had eaten healthy that day after attending the event; in fact, 85% of those that completed an event evaluation felt that they have a clearer vision of a healthy future.

**SAVE THE DATE** for next year’s 4th annual Nez Perce Tribe Food Summit on Thursday, February 4th.

Special thanks to:
- Our 24 community partners who set up tables to fill the gymnasium
- Pi Nee Waus staff and manager, Aqua Greene
- Repair & Maintenance Crew and Manager, Rich Ramsey
- Joseph McCormack for donating the tuclas
- Quincy Ellenwood for donating the smoked cheeses and game meat
- Thomas Gregory for bringing his middle and high school classes to the event
- The Boys and Girls Club for bringing their kids after school to the event
- AmeriCorps VISTA members: Alaina Doll, Victoria Konen, Tyana Casey, Wetalu Rodriguez, and Jolistia California
- Colette DePhelps, U of I Extension
- Nora Frank, WAVE-NW
- HIPT partners who assisted in the event planning and day-of processes
- HIPT partners who participated in the January Educational Events leading up to the big day: Stefanie Krantz, Josiah Pinkham, Danielle Scott, Ann McCormack, & David Moen.

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There have been many efforts by the majority to keep disenfranchised people from participating freely in state and federal elections. Women activists worked tirelessly to overcome the reluctance of a male-dominated Congress to persuade them to pass the 19th Amendment to the constitution allowing women to vote.

In Idaho, up until 1950 Indian people were prohibited under the state constitution from voting. This change came about after Indian veterans of World War II returned from the war only to find that they were unable to vote. So, they took their cases to the courts. In 1948 Frank Harrison (Mojave Tribe) and Miguel Trujillo (Isleta Pueblo), won their lawsuits in Arizona and New Mexico respectively, earning them, and all Indians in their state, the right to vote for the first time. Soon thereafter, the State of Idaho amended their constitution allowing Indian residents to vote in state elections.

When tribal voters turn out in large numbers, elections have been impacted. For example, in 2002, when the Tribes were working on getting Idaho voters to support tribal gaming in the state, the Lapwai precinct, saw 78.19 percent of registered voters turn out to vote, which topped every other precinct in the county that year. This huge turnout also helped elect democrat Mike Mitchell, who upset the incumbent representative to the Idaho legislature Frank Brunell, the House Majority Leader. Primarily because Brunell opposed tribal gaming, over 80% of the Lapwai precinct votes went to Mitchell. This demonstrates that tribal voters can make a difference in the outcome of an election.

The Get Out the Vote Committee (GOTV) of the Nez Perce Tribe encourages everyone to participate in every election. The primary election in Idaho will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. The Primary Election for NPTEC positions is coming on Saturday, April 4, 2020. Exercise your right to vote! Anyone who has questions may contact the following GOTV members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>GOTV Member</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Angela Jackson</td>
<td>843-2229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPTEC Bldg</td>
<td>Rachel Edwards/Julie Kane</td>
<td>843-2253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNW Bldg</td>
<td>Melissa Guzman</td>
<td>843-7332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIA Bldg</td>
<td>Delrae Kipp/Jonelle Yearout</td>
<td>843-7361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court Bldg</td>
<td>Sara Moffett</td>
<td>843-7338</td>
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<tr>
<td>NMPH</td>
<td>Loretta Penney</td>
<td>843-2271</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Kay Seven/Alicia Wheeler</td>
<td>843-7303</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nat. Resources Bldg</td>
<td>Nancy Wheeler</td>
<td>843-7400</td>
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<td>Wildlife Bldg</td>
<td>Angela Sondana</td>
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<td>Kamiyah Wa-A-Yas</td>
<td>Etta Axtell</td>
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<tr>
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<td>City Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRcasino</td>
<td>Chantelle Souther</td>
<td>843-7407</td>
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Why is it important to vote?

Libraries play an important role in early childhood success through early literacy programs, books, and digital tools that many families cannot afford on their own. Research shows children who have been exposed to early literacy practices before they enter school are more likely to become successful readers throughout their years of schooling.

To expand the range of options available to families in our communities, the Prairie River Library District (PRLD) created 100 Kindergarten Readiness Kits with funding received from a grant through the Idaho Commission for Libraries. District staff designed the kits in collaboration with the area’s educators and materials were selected based on what were identified as critical needs of local 4-year-olds. “Our hope is that the kits assist in enhancing your child’s skill set in preparation for lifelong learning,” says PRLD Director Michael Priest. Each kit has a theme and many of the materials inside the kit follow the theme and have a specific focus, such as the alphabet or counting. Other themes include bodily functions, coding, coloring, conditionals (if/then), copying/tracing, fine motor skills, following directions, cutting and gluing, and many more.

These kits are intended to help prepare children for school are now available for loan to PRLD adult patrons for one week at a time. Each PRLD library gets 12-13 kits that will rotate regularly. Find your nearest PRLD branch at prld.org or call PRLD headquarters at Lapwai for more information, 208-843-7254.

Happy Anniversary Roxanne Axtell! Thank you for 25 Years of service at Housing! Here’s to many more!
Adventures in Outdoor Air Monitoring on the Nez Perce Reservation

by Mary Fauci and Johna Boulafentis, ERWM Air Quality

The Nez Perce Tribe’s Air Quality staff enjoys participating in EPA’s Clean Air Status and Trends Network (CASTNET). Their site is one of 97 rural monitoring locations across the United States including six tribes. Air Quality staff started sampling in December of 2015. Air samples are analyzed for concentrations of air pollutants. The collective data from this national network assists EPA in assessing the environmental results due to emission reduction programs and pollutant impacts to sensitive ecosystems and vegetation. (www.epa.gov/castnet).

They also operate an Ammonia Monitoring Network (AMoN) passive ammonia sampler that is also located at the CASTNET site. Participating in AMoN, the Air Quality staff assist the National Atmospheric Deposition Program in gathering levels of ammonia in outdoor air. In September of 2016, EPA added a rural ozone monitor to their site and they transitioned from a solar-powered small footprint site to grid power. The ozone monitor is one of only four ozone monitors in Idaho.

CASTNET data also assists other agencies in their work. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality uses our ozone data in their daily decision making for their Crop Residue Burning (agricultural burning) program in north Idaho counties. While reviewing the environmental impacts of Midas Gold, located in the headwaters of the South Fork of the Clearwater River, the United States Forest Service used CASTNET network data. The data is used to estimate if a threshold of pollution harmful to sensitive plants has been exceeded or not.

Tuesdays are weekly sampling days for all the CASTNET sites across the U.S and biweekly sample days for AMoN. Every Tuesday, Air Quality Program staff travel to the site, which is located in a timbered tribal unit overlooking Kamiah (3200’ elevation).

Winter sometimes provides an adventure to sample days as snow depths limit driving to the site. Snowshoeing up the access road adds a fun element to snowy days. The views are spectacular: the river below, canyon breaks, buttes, rolling prairies, and distant mountain peaks. One could say that the beauty renews the spirit.

Ivory Miles-Williams and the #1 ranked Yotes have made history! They became the first Cascade Conference men’s basketball team to complete an unbeaten league season, 20-0.
Act allows funding to fix Lone Pine

From Confederated Umatilla Journal

The Dalles – Lone Pine, a tribal fishing site along the Columbia River where about three dozen families live year-round, will see much-needed maintenance and sanitation services following federal legislation signed into law in December.

President Donald Trump on Dec. 20 signed the first law bearing the name of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, Nez Perce Tribe, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. The 31 traditional fishing sites and villages were created for those tribes because they have a treaty-protected right to fish along the Columbia River in their usual and accustomed places.

While the Oregon legislators wrote the bill, much of the credit is going to New Mexico Rep. Deb Haaland, a Democrat and one of the first two Native American women to be elected to Congress, who successfully called for the bill to be voted on without debate in the House.

Jeremy Wolf, Chair of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and Chair of the Fish and Wildlife Commission for the CTUIR, was pleased with a process that’s lasted a long time.

“I am grateful to the staff at the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and each member tribe for their tireless work in preserving and recovering our treaty rights along the Columbia River and its tributaries,” Wolf said in a prepared statement. “Of course, our Northwest Delegation, specifically Senator Merkley and Congressman Blumenauer who spearheaded the bill, are to be commended for fulfilling this promise to replace our flooded village sites.

“We have worked closely over the past two decades to get the job done,” Wolf continued. “This is a win for the Columbia River and the people. We look forward to continuing our collaboration concerning our treaty rights and the ecosystem health of the Columbia River Basin.”

N. Kathryn “Kat” Brigham, Chair of the Umatilla Tribe, said the legislation is the result of the four tribes working together to gain Congressional support, but it is only a starting point.

“When homes were demolished because of flooding, the feds and states rebuilt their homes in a matter of years. It’s taken decades for the Corps to step up to get our villages rebuilt,” she said. “Now we can only move forward if the four tribes can reach an agreement again to get additional funding. We need a strategy and a plan for Columbia River housing.”

At the most used site, Lone Pine, families share a single restroom with four shower stalls and four toilets, which at the time of the investigation by Harbarger at The Oregonian/OregonLive, had no doors. The toilets occasionally back up onto the floor of the bathroom, sending the smell of waste wafting through the camp. With so many families living there, the sanitation truck almost never arrives soon enough.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was supposed to replace the housing lost when the Bonneville, Dalles and John Day dams were built. That never happened. The federal government also underestimated how many people would use the sites because the dam’s depleted salmon runs so drastically that official assumed tribal members would largely give up fishing.

However, members of the four tribes have fished the river for economic, social, and religious reasons from time immemorial. When the promised houses were never built after the dams were constructed, tribal members moved to the fishing sites to maintain that way of life.

Sen. Merkley and Rep. Blumenauer visited Lone Pine in 2016 after Harbarger at The Oregonian found that the federal government had ignored its promises to the four tribes that have lived along the river for 80 years. That year, President Barack Obama signed a law that directed the Army Corps of Engineers to replace the flooded housing. That work was temporarily stopped by the Trump Administration but now continues.

“The Dog River fishing site, where members of the tribes live, is continuing the tradition for people who live there and use them now has been a longer journey. The BIA was put in charge of maintenance at the fishing sites after they were built. The agency didn’t follow through and so the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) currently maintains and operates the fishing sites.

Charles Hudson, CRITFC intergovernmental affairs director, said that the tribal agency has already started to inventory needed upgrades and improvements. Many sites need adequate sewer systems, new wells for drinking water, electrical lines, and more.

The BIA is in charge of assessing the sites on its own to create a list of needed repairs. The law includes an estimate that $11 million over five years is needed, but that could change once the assessments are done, Harbarger writes in her most recent Dec. 28 story.

Hudson is confident that the funding will come through.

“I think that’s a signal from Congress that they know these safety and sanitation issues will cost money to remedy,” Hudson said.

Merkley said he plans to use his position on the Senate Appropriations Committee to allocate funding to make improvements.

He has the backing of a bipartisan coalition of Oregon and Washington lawmakers and now appears to have buy-in from the White House.

“These improvements are an urgent first step that we must take while we work toward the longer-term goal of replacing housing and community sites that were destroyed by the dam creation process,” Merkley said in a statement.

“I’ve seen firsthand that this unacceptable reality is nothing short of a crisis.”

The Columbia River In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites Improvement Act would address the urgent need for improved conditions by:

-Calling on the BIA to conduct a much-needed assessment of current safety and sanitation conditions at the sites, in coordination with the affected Columbia River Treaty Tribes; and

-Authorizing the Bureau to work on improving sanitation and safety conditions in several key areas such as structural improvements (restrooms, washrooms, and other buildings); safety improvements (wells and infrastructure to address fire concerns, and more); electrical infrastructure to ensure safe electrical hookups; and basic sewer and septic infrastructure.

Molly Harbarger can be reached at mharbarger@oregonian.com or at 503-294-5923 or on twitter @Molly-Harbarger
Officials from local, State, Federal, and the Nez Perce Tribal Government met at the Clearwater River Casino Event Center Friday, February 28, 2020, to respond to the international threat of the COVID-19 Virus, otherwise known as the Coronavirus. Rebecca Miles, Executive Director, coordinated a meeting of the minds between all entities of the Nez Perce Tribe. All partners are being proactive to ensure the most accurate, up to date information on the COVID-19 Virus is known. Meetings and planning will to continue to take place to ensure the Nez Perce Tribe is as prepared as can be.

How You Can Take Preventative Actions to Limit the Spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventative actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

For more information about handwashing, see CDC’s Handwashing website. For information specific to healthcare, see CDC’s Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings. These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have specific guidance for travelers. For more information about the Coronavirus (COVID-19), see the Center for Disease Control website.
Angus Wilson, 59, Lewiston, ID

Angus (Brenner) Wilson Jr. passed away at the age of 59 Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020, after a two-year battle with cancer.

Brenner was born June 7, 1960, in Lewiston to Angus and Grace Wilson. He was one of five children, including his sisters, Dawn and Julie Beth, and his brothers, Ike and Gene. Brenner was a proud member of the Nez Perce Tribe. He was a kind and generous person who had a great sense of humor with a big smile to match it. Earlier in life, he was an avid and dedicated truck driver. He enjoyed classic rock, playing pool, bowling and going camping.

Brenner was a festive person, with Halloween being one of his favorite holidays. He was married to Brenda Wilson from 1985 to 2006. Together, they raised a son, Zach, a daughter, Kristina, and a nephew, Cody. He loved them all dearly. Brenner had a loving support group of family and friends, who felt fortunate to spend time with him during his final days. Special thanks to his friend Cindy, who ensured he received the best care possible.

There will be a viewing from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and celebration of life from 3-5 p.m. Thursday at Edwards Memorial, 11020 South Tacoma Way, Lakewood, Wash., for Brenner’s family and friends.

Survivors include: Marilyn, his wife of 45 years; sons, Joey (Alessandro), Jeremiac (Jeann) and Preston all of Noota, Washington; his daughters, Roseann, Angelina (Dale), Dale (Barb) all of Lapwai, Idaho, his brothers, Chuckie and Steve, his sisters, Ray, Jane, Liz and Brenda, all of Lapwai, Idaho. He is also survived by 14 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews; his beloved for baby Reaves and Miss T, and many special brothers and sisters, and their families.

In Loving Memory
Purnell G. Axtell
Feb 27, 1969 - Feb 13, 2020

Purnell Gwayne Axtell went to be with Creator in “eey” nice week (Kegy Language). He was born on February 27, 1969 in Angelina and Horace Axtell.

He attended the Riverside Indian School in Anadarka, Oklahoma and graduated from Lewiston High School in Lewiston, Idaho in 1989. He worked at Mt. Adams Furniture Factory in Nąłtx̱a, Washington for several years and also worked at the Clearwater River Casino in Lewiston, Idaho.

He married Marilyn (Lytle) on February 14, 1979 in front of family and friends in Nąłtx̱a, Washington. He was a loving and devoted brother, Uncle, husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, friend and a proud member of the Nezpepa Nation. He believed in the Nāłtx̱ (Our) religion.

Purnell, aka Purple or Purge, was well known for his crazy sense of humor and that laugh. You couldn’t hear him before you saw him. He was an avid sports fan and a longtime fan of the Seattle Seahawks.

He also enjoyed playing ball for a few and had only recently discovered a love for tennis. A huge music fan, he listened to it all, from Miles Davis to AC/DC. An accomplished musician, he was an amazing trumpet player and could play a mean tambourine.

Serving & delivering lunch from 11:00am-2:00pm
Buy tickets at YWCA, local Banner Bank branches, Rosauers, or place a delivery order at ywcaidaho.org.
NOTICE:
NON-PARTISAN PRIMARY ELECTION 2020
NEZ PERCE TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
CERTIFIED CANDIDATES
THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF CERTIFIED CANDIDATES
FOR THE NTPEC
PRIMARY ELECTION
Saturday April 4, 2020

Seat 1
Bridgette Greene
James Spencer
Allen Slickpoo Jr.
Samiel Penney
Rachel Edwards
Keith Kipp Sr.

Seat 2
McCoy Oatman
Quintin Ellenwood
Casey Mitchell
Louis Harris

POLLING SITES:
Kamiah at the Wa-A-Yas Community Center
Orofino at Teweeput Community Center
Lapwai at the Pineewaus Community Center
Polling Places WILL BE OPEN from 7:00am-6:00pm
Any enrolled member of the Nez Perce Tribe who is eighteen
or over shall be entitled to vote in the Primary Elections.
Eligible Voters may vote at any Polling Place, but will only
be allowed to vote once.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING CANDIDACY
FILING, CERTIFICATION PROCESS OR THE ELECTIONS
YOU MAY CONTACT THE ELECTIONS JUDGES:
Melissa Guzman – 208-621-3826 or melissag@nezperce.org
Melissa King – 208-843-7307 or melissak@nezperce.org
Nicole Two Moon – 208-669-0115 or nicoletgc@nezperce.org

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North-Central Idaho Timber Market Outlook

University of Idaho Extension is offering: North-Central Idaho Timber Market Outlook. The program will have presentations from forest economists and mill representatives that will look at factors influencing log prices and prospects for where they may be headed in the future.

**Thursday, March 12, 2020,** from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm, at the Extension office, 2200 Michigan Ave., Orofino, Idaho. Sign-In begins at 5:30 pm. Cost is $10.00 per person.

Call the UI Extension office at 208-476-4434 or email clearwater@uidaho.edu for additional program information. Pre-registration is highly encouraged to ensure seating availability and to help us plan for handouts and refreshments.

**Bid Notification**

The Nez Perce Tribe is accepting bids for the use of the tribal units listed below for fireworks sales by Tribally-licensed fireworks retailers.

**Tribal Units Available for Bid**
- Tribal Unit #45, US Hwy 12-Orofino
- Tribal Unit #3103, Catholic Creek Cemetery-Lapwai
- Tribal Unit #16208, US Hwy 12-Kooskia
- Tribal Unit #1355, US Hwy 12-Kamiah

Legal descriptions provided by Property & Tax Compliance Office in Lapwai, Idaho.

Bids must include name, address, enrollment number of the bidder, name of the site and dollar amount of the bid per site. A bidder may bid on ONLY one site in a sealed envelope. The sealed bid must be submitted by April 6, 2020 no later than 4:30 p.m. to the Property & Tax Compliance Office in Lapwai.

For further information, please call (208) 621-3677.

**THE TRIBE RETAINS THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.**

**Amendments to the Nez Perce Tribal Code**

This notice is being posted March 2, 2020, according to the Nez Perce Tribal Code § 1-4-2 to request written comments for the following proposed amendments (see attached): Authorize posting of amendment to Nez Perce Tribal Code Chapter 4-1-91 Endangering the Welfare of a Minor or Under Age Person for a period of 30 days.

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:**
The purpose of this Nez Perce Tribal Code amendment is to include the prohibition of tobacco product sales to persons 18 to 21 years of age.

**WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD:** The Law and Order & Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee will be accepting written comments on the proposed amendment being applied to the Code. Please submit written comments to: Liz Arthur-Attia, Chairman, Law and Order Subcommittee, P.O. Box 305, Lapwai, ID 83540; email to liza@nezperce.org, fax to (208) 843-7354 or hand deliver to the NPTEC offices in Lapwai. The deadline for receipt and consideration of such comments is Monday, April 13, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Kamiah Job Announcement

**Maintenance / Construction Worker**
The Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority is accepting applications for a Maintenance/Construction Worker for our rental units in the Kamiah area. Minimum four years experience in residential maintenance/construction, high school diploma or GED, valid driver’s license and be insurable. Skilled in home repairs, construction knowledge in carpentry, plumbing, electrical, roofing, sheet rocking and painting. Legible writing, ability to document all work performed on appropriate forms, communication skills and great customer service. Excellent benefits, Tribal & Indian Preference will apply. The NPTHA reserves the right to transform this position into a training position if sufficient Indian Preference applications are not received. Submit NPTHA employment application to: Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority, P.O. Box 188, Lapwai, ID 83540. More information at (208) 843-2229. Open until filled.

OSHA HazWOPER Training

**FREE OSHA HazWOPER Training March 16-19, 2020**

OSHA 8 hour HazWOPER Refresher March 20, 2020

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
205 Birch Ave. E,
Lapwai, Id 83540

This four-day training course satisfies the basic requirements of OSHA 29 CFR 1910 required by Federal and State agencies to work in: General Industry, Construction Sites, Demolition, Facilities Management, HazMat Response, Waste Management, Health Facilities, House Facilities, House Keeping, Emergency Operation 20 seats available with lunch, refreshments, and learning materials provided. 40 hour HazWOPER Certification and 8 hour HazWOPER Refresher Certification will be issued at course completion. ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN

Contact John Loffredo 208-843-7368, johnl@nezperce.org, or contact Kay Seven, 208-621-4604, kseven@nezperce.org

WSU MOU Tribal Scholarship

**THE DEADLINE for WSU MOU Tribal Scholarship has been extended to March 20, 2020!**

For any high school seniors/potential transfer students interested in attending WSU in the fall, this scholarship is for $4000/year, renewable for 4 years, a total of $16k! More information and the scholarship packet can be found at: https://native.wsu.edu/mouscholarship/

- Applicants must be an enrolled member of one of the tribes that is signatory to the Memorandum of Understanding with WSU. (Nez Perce Tribe, Coeur d’Alene Tribe, Colville Confederated Tribes, Confederated Tribes of the Salish and Kootenai, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Cowlitz Tribe, Kalispel Tribe, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, Quinault Tribe, and Spokane Tribe)
- Applicants must have a minimum high school or college GPA of 3.0.

The Nez Perce Tribal Education Department is part of the process as students are required to get nomination of their Tribe by submitting the app first to the Education Department for signatures of the director and Tribal Chairperson. The process is outlined in the app.
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