Barron: Keep Talking about Re-Nick-naming the U

By Morgan Barron, Opinion Writer
August 25, 2020

In late June, the Salt Lake Tribune published an opinion piece by Christopher Mad, a University of Utah employee, arguing that the U needs to retire the Ute nickname as our communities reckon with their white supremacist history. Citing the history of the nickname’s evolution on campus, Mad argued that the continued use of the tribe’s iconography hurts indigenous people more than the memo-random of understanding benefits them. In response, Luke Duncan, the chairman of the Ute Indian Tribe Business Committee, published a piece condemning Mad for raising the issue on behalf of the Ute tribe. As Duncan writes, only the Ute Tribe is empowered to speak on its behalf, however, this fact should not stifle conversations about the continued use of the Ute nickname and its impact on indigenous people.

Last fall break, I was sitting on a plane behind a first-year U student and heard him talking to the stewardess about football. Wondering aloud if her team plays the U, she asked what the U’s mascot is. His prompt reply, “Our mascot is the Ute.” As the university’s athletic teams are always referred to as the Utah Utes, never as the Utah red-tailed hawks, his confusion is understandable. Indeed, an opinion writer for the Daily Utah Chronicle predicted it in 1986, writing, “As long as our athletic teams are called the Utes, the Utah U will be considered a mascot.” While the U is not derogatory, using a tribe’s name as our university’s nickname and de facto mascot is still harmful to native people.

In a report commissioned by the Oneida Indian Nation, researchers found that American Indians experience psychological distress when viewing teams with an American Indian name or mascot. Studies show that the presence of these nicknames and mascots directly results in lower self-esteem within indigenous populations and increased negative associations of American Indians among non-native groups. These effects occur regardless of whether the mascot or team name is considered offensive or a slur. As Dr. Stephanie Fryberg explains, “American Indian mascots are harmful not only because they are often negative, but because they remind American Indians of the limited ways in which others see them. This in turn restricts the number of ways American Indians can see themselves.” While the U has committed to increasing educational access for indigenous students, continuing to use the Ute nickname undercuts these efforts — indigenous students have indicated that mascots negatively impact their educational experience. When asked about the University of North Dakota’s Fighting Sioux mascot, indigenous students reported that the mascot led them to feel tense in their classes, experience increased stress, avoid university athletic events and worry about their personal safety.

Sadly, Native American students are already at an educational disadvantage due to discrimination within the United States educational system. The U is first and foremost an educational institution and no mascot, name or campus traditions are worth jeopardizing students’ educational experiences. In 2018, Washington State University announced they would penalize anyone utilizing the Ute moniker and banned the use of the drum and feathers logo on their campus. This change was not done to undercut the Ute Tribe’s
From the Ute Indian Tribe Health Board

The Tribal Health Board:
- William Appawora - Chairman
- Sandy Black - Vice Chairwoman
- Lesa Jenkins - Secretary

The Ute Bulletin encourages submissions of articles, letters to the Editor, poetry, short stories, commentaries, artwork or photographs.

Only those letters signed with your legal name may be printed.

“Ute Bulletin”. Change of address, deadline/submission, disclaimer, and online paper or links from that website. Public Relations news radio information can be forwarded by email to the Director by 8:30 am to be aired on KNEU 1250 AM Ute News Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

The Ute Bulletin is published bi-monthly by the Ute Indian Tribe. Ute Bulletin staff, when printed is by Ute M eta Group, West Valley City, Utah and mailed Monday from Fort Duchesne Post Office.

Editorial and articles appearing in the Ute Bulletin are the sole responsibility of the author and do not reflect the opinions, attitude or philosophy of the Ute Bulletin or the author and do not reflect the opinions, attitude or philosophy of the Ute Bulletin or the Ute Indian Tribe. The Ute Bulletin provides the Ute Tribal Membership with information presenting both sides to an issue whenever possible. Any article, poetry, artwork appearing in the Ute Bulletin is the property of the author or artist. Any use of these materials without consent is considered unlawful.

The Ute Bulletin is posted on www.utetribe.com.
Tales continued from page 2

gate how the Ute Indians used science technology, engineering and math to survive and thrive in the Rocky Mountains.

In another kit, “Mov ing Day: Colorado’s Migration Story,” students explore the movement of people across Colorado from prehistory to 1870. By examining community groups, like the Ancestral Puebloans, Mountain Men, Utes, Plains Indians and Hispanics, students discover how each group has contributed and influenced life today in Colorado.

The kits are filled with touchable artifacts, photos and information, and state curriculum standards and can be presented to students by the museum’s educator or checked out by teachers. These kits are offered in addition to other Ute and Native American materials and programming we have always made available to teachers, students and parents.

We invite you and your family to learn more about our local history. As we all work together to create a more just, verdant and peaceful world, the Tread of Pioneers Museum will support these efforts through cultural understanding and appreciation.

Candice Bannister is the executive director of the Tread of Pioneers Museum.

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**Notice**

Notice is hereby given that Ute Intact School District will be holding its annual Impact A M meeting on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 in the media center at the Eagle View Elementary School from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.

The Ute Indian Tribal officials and parents of children residing on Indian lands and all other parents of children attending Ute Intact School District schools are encouraged to attend. The purpose of this meeting will be to review and receive recommendations for Impact A M and the District’s educational programs.

Parents are invited to make suggestions concerning the needs of their children and ways to assist their children in realizing the benefits to be derived from the educational programs in the Ute Intact School District.

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**East Fork Fire**

Fire behavior continues to moderate with continued lower temperatures. moisture levels continue to improve. Fire crews will continue to focus on creating defensible space along the fire perimeter. Creases made good progress on containment the between Moon Lake Road and Rich Creek Road.

**Center Creek Trail Fire**

The Center Creek Trail Fire remains high up in the wilderness. Team 7 is implementing a suspension strategy that focuses on creating defensible space around infrastructure along Buffalo Road and continues preparations should the fire threaten to leave the wilderness.

**Evacuations:** Evacuations are in place for Rock Creek Road and Moon Lake Road. Visit InciWeb for evacuation updates.

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**Roads and Closures:**

Roads that are closed due to fire activity include: Buffalo Road, Rich Creek Road, and the South Fork Loop.

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**Emergency Numbers:**

Fire and Public Safety: 911

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**Quick Facts**

- **Fire Location:**
  - Moon Lake Road
  - Center Creek Road

- **Total Personnel:** 80

- **Acreage:** 43,780

- **% Containment:** 15%

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**Ashley National Forest**

- **Fire Location:**
  - Moon Lake Road
  - Center Creek Road

- **Total Personnel:** 80

- **Acreage:** 43,780

- **% Containment:** 15%

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**Upcoming Events:**

- **InciWeb Updates:**
  - [https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7052/](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7052/)

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**Weather:**

- **Humidity:** 36%

- **Wind Speed:** 15 mph

- **Temperature:** 67°F

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**Road Conditions:**

- **Road to Moon Lake Road:**
  - South Fork Loop
  - Center Creek Road

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**Contact:**

Contact the Ashley National Forest for more information.

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**Important Notes:**

- **Fire Safety Tips:**
  - **Fire Safety Tips:**
    - **Personal Safety:**
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Union High School Football Schedule
Fall 2020

FRESHMEN TEAM

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>September 24</td>
<td>Away @ Manti</td>
<td>5:30</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Away @ Delta</td>
<td>5:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>Away @ ALA</td>
<td>3:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 13</td>
<td>Home Game vs. N. Sanpete</td>
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JY TEAM

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<tr>
<td>October 2</td>
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<td>Home Game vs. ALA</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>Home vs. N. Sanpete</td>
<td>7:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 23</td>
<td>1st Round</td>
<td>7:00</td>
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<td>November 6/7</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 13/14</td>
<td>Finals</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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VARSITY TEAM

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<td>TBA</td>
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Union High School Volleyball

Talia Murray - Sophomore  Parents: Renia & Troy Thompson.
Zoe Thompson - Sophomore Parents: Cody Taveapont & Julius Murray

Zoe Murray - Senior holding flag in honor of September 11th. During Uintah High Schools game on 9/11.

RJHS 2020-2021 Volleyball Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>@UHS</td>
<td>Wed. Sept. 9th</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RJHS vs. UHS</td>
<td>Tues. Sept. 15th</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RJHS vs. Altamont</td>
<td>Mon. Sept. 21st</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@Duchesne</td>
<td>Wed. Sept. 23rd</td>
<td>6:00 pm &amp; 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@Vernal</td>
<td>Mon. Sept. 28th</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RJHS vs. Tabiona</td>
<td>Wed. Sept. 30th</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>RJHS vs. Vernal</td>
<td>Mon. Oct. 5th</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RJHS vs. Duchesne</td>
<td>Wed. Oct. 7th</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altamont</td>
<td>Mon. Oct. 12th</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@Tabiona</td>
<td>Wed. Oct. 14th</td>
<td>5:00 pm &amp; 6:30 pm</td>
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TRIBAL LIFELINE

Customers living on federally recognized Tribal lands* may 
RECEIVE UP TO $34.25 OFF 
phone or internet service.

Lifeline is a federal program that helps lower the cost of your monthly phone or Internet bill.

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Mail Your Application
Print an application from LifelineSupport.org.

Contact Us
Call 435-622-5007 or visit stratanetworks.com/lifeline.

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You may qualify for a discount if you live on federally recognized Tribal lands* AND can provide proof of any ONE of the following:

Your income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines, OR 
you participate in any ONE of these government benefit programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Tribal Head Start (income based)
- Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Assistance
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance

*Federal lands are defined in 47 CFR 54.100. Go to LifelineSupport.org and select “Tribal lands” for more information.

**Applicant living in a residence without an identifiable address will be asked to provide two coordinates for the physical location. If you don’t have this information, you can provide a map that identifies the location of the residence, landmarks, and distances.

211 E 200 N, Roosevelt | 2085 W HWY 40, Vernal | stratanetworks.com/lifeline | 435.622.5007
**Obituaries**

**Akosita Kaufusi**

October 18, 1977 – August 29, 2020 (age 42)

Graveside services for Akosita Kaufusi, age 42, of Roosevelt, will be held on Saturday, September 5, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Roosevelt M Cemetery Park. A wake will be held after 5:00 p.m. on Friday at her father Ko Ko Kaufusi’s home in Ballard. There will be a visitation and service at the Hullinger Mortuary on Saturday from 9:00 – 10:45.

**Jennifer Eve (Parriette) Littlewhiteman**

July 29, 1959 – September 12, 2020 (age 61)

Jennifer Eve Parriette Littlewhiteman, age 61, of Ft. Duchesne, the wife of Chris Littlewhiteman, passed away September 12, 2020, at her home. Graveside services will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at the Ft. Duchesne Cemetery. There will be a wake at her home in Ft. Duchesne on Friday at 4:00 p.m.

**In Loving Memory**

**William Delos “Bill” Tall Bear, Sr.**

January 27, 1935 – September 1, 2020

William Delos "Bill" Tall Bear, Sr., of El Reno, Oklahoma, was born on January 27, 1935, in Christian Falls in Harmon, Oklahoma, and passed away September 1, 2020, in Yukon, Oklahoma.

Bill was raised in Harmon, Oklahoma. He attended Calvary Boarding School until enlistment in the United States Marine Corps in February 1952. In the States, he served in the Korean War. He was discharged in May 1953 and married Florence "Lucille" and Evelyn "Eve" Drunkard in 1961. They lived in San Francisco, California. While in California, they welcomed a son, Bill Jr., before moving to El Reno, Oklahoma. When they made their home at Deer Creek, they went on to have four more children, Christopher, Lalone, and Katja. The family moved to Whiterocks, Utah, in 1976. Bill ran a crushed gravel business in Whiterocks, Utah, until 2001. They bought a home in Ehme, Oklahoma.

Bill was a master welder and was a founding member of Oklahoma Indian Nation Farmers and Cabin Creek Color Guard. He enjoyed going to powwows, gourd dancing, and going to the casino. He was an excellent beadworker and created many one-of-a-kind pieces. Bill would say his biggest accomplishment, though, was his large family. He enjoyed having get-togethers for every occasion and holiday. He was a family-centered man who will be greatly missed by both friends and family.

Bill is survived by his 5 children and their spouses: Ralph and Tisha of Deer Creek, Oklahomaa, Bill, Jr. and Kathleen of Thomas, Oklahoma, Christopher of Weatherford, Oklahoma, LaDonna of Norman, Oklahoma, and Ramona of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Bill is survived by 15 grandchildren: Rachael, Janet, Robert, Daniel, Cody, Tasha, Cameron, Aria,共产, Hannah, Megan, Kylie, Kyle, Lila, Whitney, and Tommy. He was a great-grandfather to 19 children.

Bill was preceded in death by his mother, Christine, 2 sisters, Lesa and Evelyn, “Lucille” and Evelyn, “Eve”, his father, and 2 brothers, Ken and Fredrick. He is survived by his wife, Christine Tall Bear, and a brother, Fredrick, grandparents Walk Up and Florence Robert, great-grandmother Black Wolf, and great-grandfather Bill Tall Bear.

**Employment**

**Andeavor**

Anderson & Wood Construction is now hiring for the position of Lineman (high voltage power) for a project in the Fort Duchene area. This position requires a minimum of 6 months on the job training or 6 months of experience. This position will remain open until filled.

**Dominion Energy**

We don't just fill jobs, we create careers and community. We hire men and women who represent the communities we serve and help them develop as people and professionals. We are retooling everything we do, in every part of the company, to operate more reliably than ever before. If you are looking to join a team in which you can grow, then look no further. Apply at careers.dominionenergy.com

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**News From Ute Country**

**In Loving Memory**

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