Tui Moliga II Represents Idaho in the 2015 USSSA All-American Baseball Tournament

Moliga II Cont. From Page 9

and wrestling. Baseball is the game he play year round he is in the batting cages during the winter months.

"Tui is extremely focused he works out on his own outside of base- ball practice. He is constantly look- ing on YouTube for better techniques. Whenever he get home from tournaments if he struggled hitting he will be out in the yard hitting off of a tee. He works on his game every day," said Taricia Moliga.

Tui Moliga II comes from a very disciplined home with hard working and very dedicated parents, who sup- port their three children in every event of their life, down to the 2 year old Tal- icee Davis Moliga.

"We have a rule in our home 1: Family First 2: School 3: Extra-curricu- lar activities 4: Sports. We believe he is expected to always hold himself in a respect- ful way and get good grades! As are expected BB's are tolerable but anything lower than a B is not accepted. He transferred to a bigger school and get behind in a class 1 week and he was not allowed to go to baseball practice or do anything until that grade was up," said Tanica Moliga.

This outstanding player has won a lot of championship games through- out his life playing baseball and foot- ball.

Moliga II has been blessed to play with some really talented kids and coaches through- out his years. He knows it takes a team to win. His team just won a big tournament in Lacey, Washington for USSNA last weekend and he had the best batting average for the team that weekend.

Moliga II seems to excel in foot- ball as well. He played for the Lapwai Baby Wildcats since the 1st grade and played for Sacajawea Junior High for the last 2 years. He is a starter for of- fense and defense and made captain a few times.

"Baseball is his passion. He does have his choice! His dad really wanted him to go in the direction of football, because that is the sport that he loves, but he finally admitted when Tui was 10 years old that baseball was his thing," said Tanica Moliga.

When we get home from tournaments if he always had the passion for baseball since he was little. The last couple of years he lost 2 boys that meant a lot to him. When he lost his God Brother Michael Anthony Bus- ter III BB, it happened during base- ball season. He really wanted to do any- thing after that. Finally when he was ready to hit the field he said he would play for Baby BB.

"BB looked up to Tui as a base- ball player, even pay to have the same necklace and baseball pants. Every single game when a boy would have a hit with BB, he would cross BB, to remind him who he plays for. He also draws a cross in the dirt at the plate every time before he bats. Recently this year he also lost his grandfather, who he was extremely close with. That next day his Papa who lived in Seattle, went and bought him brand new catch- ing gear drave it all the way to Lapwai dropped it off and headed back home. A quote his Papa lived by was "Love the life you live, live the life you love". Tui has that written on a board in his room, so every morning when he reads it," said Tania Moliga.

The Moliga Family would like to thank all of the community members who helped with fundraising efforts.

We were not going to let him go because we could not afford it, his God- parents Mike and Berta said that we had to let him go! They were a huge sponsor as well as his Great Aunt Vesta Moe and Dylan Halsard.

It’s time for Lapwai Days 2015

Lapwai 2015 Cont. From Page 13


Leadership Success with LEAP

EAL, Equine Assisted Learning programs are a holistic approach to health promotion. LEAP is a culture based model of resiliency. Each morn- ing we include the best tribal practices of offer- ing prayer, passing the talking stick in a talking circle, and learning about the Appaloosa. We honor the spirit of the horse and its ability to lead us on the right path.

The kids are learning to care for the horses with grooming, understanding horse communica- tion, and making time for solo and group Join-ups. We practice the basics of putting the rope halter and lead rope on, feeding, backing up, and walking the horse around obstacles. This strengthens the horse’s bond with the kids to enhance trust while riding. To make it easier on the horse and to practice the old ways, we do no riding. This also encourages the rider’s ability to use effective hand rein and legs cues to communicate with the horse.

We all want to say a big thank you to Cj, an 8 years old gelding with Leopards markings. He has been our star this year, standing close by when we are in our talking circles, practicing group join-ups, and being calm and fun for riding. Thanks again to Chief Joseph Foundation for letting us take out the horses this year.

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