



CHIEF WASHAKIE
EASTERN SHOSHONE

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Motivational speaker, actor and former pro football player Jim Warne, an Oglala Lakota enrolled member, greeted Cassie Weed, 18, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe's queen for 2011, during his speech for the Red Feathered Eagle Vocational Rehabilitation at Rocky Mountain Hall on Monday.

Photo by Martin Reed

His message carries empowerment

By MARTIN REED
Editor

Former National Football League player Jim Warne is critical of people hanging out with the crowd he refers to as "owls."

"It's easier to go hootin' with those owls than to go soaring with the eagles," Warne told about 60 people attending his motivational talk at Rocky Mountain Hall in Fort Washakie on Tuesday night.

Warne doesn't shy away from talking about the owls with whom he used to associate.

"Two are gone and two are inside," he said.

Translated: They're either dead or in prison. For the athlete who played in the starting lineup for the Arizona State University Sun Devils when the team won the Rose Bowl in 1987, Warne wants to help others become eagles.

The Oglala Lakota enrolled member whose family is from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota is working on his doctorate degree while continuing his employment at San Diego State University in California.

Some may recognize the 6-foot-7 Warne whose past professional activities include act-

ing on television shows including "Hunter," "Silk Stalkings" and "Renegade."

During his speech that resulted from his work for the Eastern Shoshone Tribe's Red Feathered Eagle Vocational Rehabilitation, Warne's uplifting message dominated like his physical stature.

Talking for about an hour, he covered topics ranging from nutrition and health to self-empowerment, creating a community spirit and overcoming racism and discrimination — all in the name of helping American Indians.

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