

WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



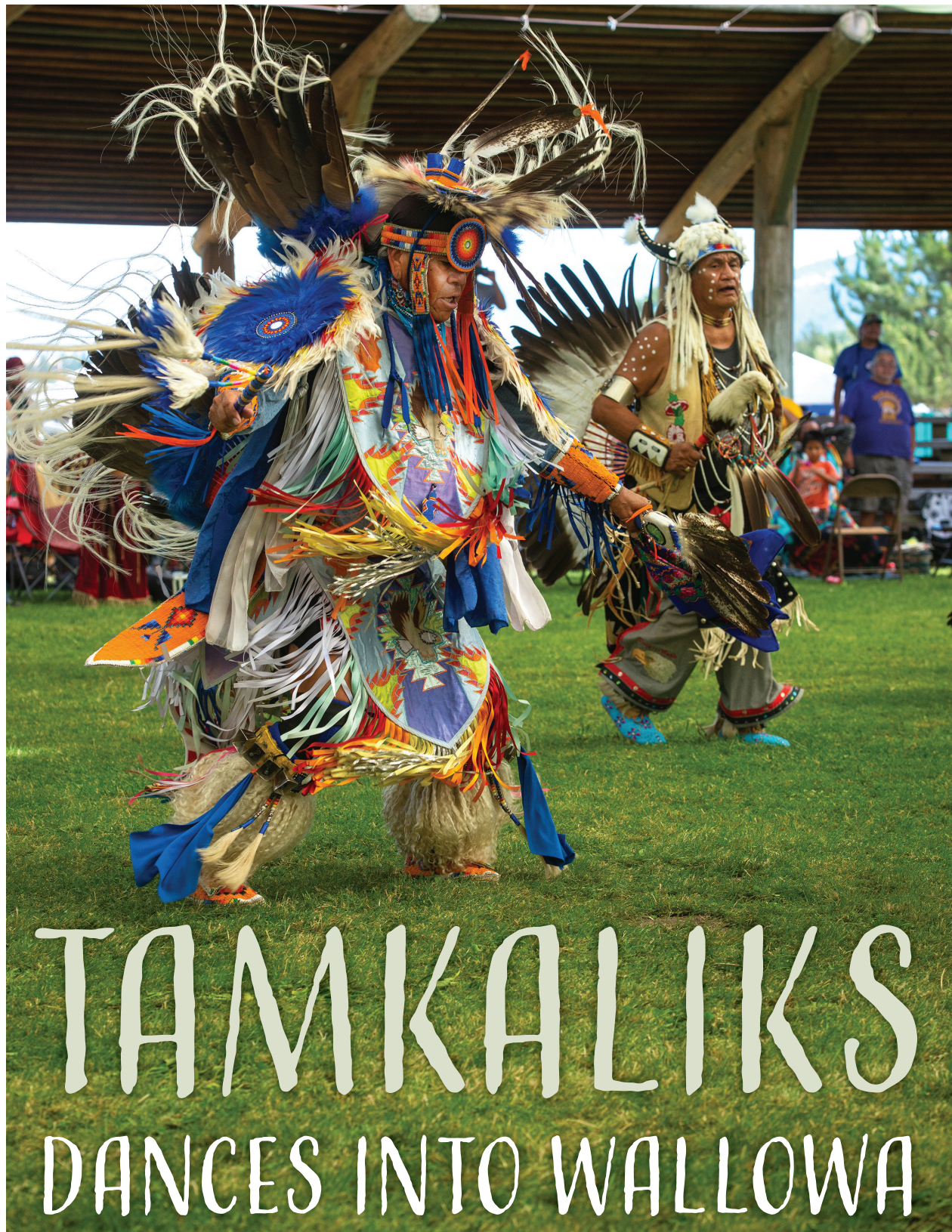
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TAMKALIKS DANCES INTO WALLOWA

Celebration to run July 19-21

Ellen Morris Bishop
Wallowa county Chieftain

Tamkaliks dances into Wallowa this weekend. Dancing, ceremonies, and a friendship feast are all part of this year's Tamkaliks reunion of the Wallowa Band Nez Perce at the 320-acre Tamkaliks grounds just north of Wallowa. The festivities begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 19th, conclude on Sunday afternoon July 21, and everyone is welcome.

Tamkaliks celebrates the reunion, remembrance, and resilience of the people of Chief Joseph's band of Nez Perce, most of whom were exiled to the Colville Reservation in northern Washington following the Nez Perce conflict of 1877. It also is a powwow where Indian dancers from across the nation compete for honors and prizes in many traditional dances, including the Grass Dance, Men's Traditional, Women's Jingle Dress and other dances. Drums from across the nation participate and compete as well.

Tamkaliks gets underway on Friday evening around 7 p.m. with an entry ceremony, and a non-competitive social dance, accompanied by singing and drumming. Those Indians participating in this dance will generally wear tribal dancing regalia.

On Saturday morning, the Nez Perce will hold a Memorial Horse Procession in remembrance of those lost in the conflict of 1877, and

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Tamkaliks: Respecting Nez Perce customs and culture

Mic'yo-xo'sa
'iyo-xo! Listen!
Some things
for Tamkaliks'
visitors to keep
in mind.

Tamkaliks is more than a powwow and Indian dancing. It is a reunion of Chief Joseph's band of Nez Perce, known to themselves as the Walama, or Wallowa Band—families and friends who were ripped apart by the War of 1877 and its aftermath, and now are scattered between the Colville Indian Reservation in Washington, 6 hours away, the Lapwai Reservation near Lewiston, Idaho, the Umatilla Reservation near Pendleton, and other disparate locations including Canada and Yakima, Washington. So Tamkaliks is an occasion for both solemnity and joy.



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Ellen Morris Bishop
Joseph, Oregon resident Maggie Zacharias was crowned Queen of the Elgin Stampede on Thursday night.

Zacharias named Queen at Elgin Stampede

Derek Kolbaba masters three
bulls to win bull riding event

Ellen Morris Bishop
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Elgin Stampede opened its run Thursday night with the coronation of a queen, Maggie Zacharias of Joseph, and the first of two nights of barrels and bulls. Nineteen PBR (Professional Bull Riders) cowboys competed in the 21st annual Mark Nichols Memorial Bull Riding. Eastern Oregon native, and fourth generation rodeo cowboy Derek Kolbaba won the event, with rides of 82 and 82.5 points, besting Caleb McMillan of Soap Lake, Washington by 7.5 points.

The Elgin Stampede's 2019 queen is Maggie Zacharias of Joseph. Zacharias's horse got saddled-up with the Queen's new saddle right there in the arena, and she rode out as the Stampede's new royalty.

Kolbaba, the great-grandson of stock-contractor and Chief Joseph Days pioneer Harley Tucker, has rodeo in his blood. Currently ranked #8 in the world by the PBA, Kolbaba mastered three bulls Thursday night, sticking on his first mount, a red bull named Seeing Spots, for a long time after the 8 second buzzer sounded. "There just didn't seem to be any good place to get off," he said. Seeing Spots was a reluctant buckler who never hit the spin cycle. Kolbaba scored 61 points for his trouble, and was offered a re-ride. That second ride, on a bull named Pshco Joabout 10 minutes later, earned 82 points. His last ride, on a mostly white bull named Breaking Bad, included sideways bucking and high-end kicks combined with spin. He and the bull scored 82.5 points, to win the Wednesday night bulls.

Kolbaba approaches bull-riding like a dance, he said. "You have to move with the bull, like he's your dance partner. You have to respond to his moves, and you never know exactly what they might be." Unlike some of his bullriding colleagues, he doesn't study or try to remember the moves that his rides are reputed to make. "If you expect that he'll spin to the right, and that night he comes out and spins the other way, you can be in a world of hurt," Kolbaba said. His remedy is to not worry, and not anticipate. "Riding bulls is all in your head," he said. "You have to work out some, too. You have

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UNBENT, UNBROKEN

Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

A dozen years ago, Tami Wightman heard the screams and saw her son, Casey Marino, running across the field to the family's home. He wasn't screaming in exuberance at the joy of being 13 years old. He had just lost most of the fingers on his right hand in a wheel line gear sprocket and chain that started operating unexpectedly.

The next steps were a blur, the rush to the hospital, the agonizing four-hour wait to find a hospital with a hand surgeon on duty for the weekend. It also happened to be the Chief Joseph Days weekend.

They eventually found a specialist in Spokane.

"They were calling Portland, Seattle, Boise, Salt Lake, Las Vegas," Wightman said.

Fingers are notoriously difficult to re-attach successfully, and only his index finger showed promise of recovery. The hospital even went so far as to try leech therapy (yes, those kind of leeches) and an 80-degree room only to have to later remove the finger due to a lack of circulation.

A dozen years later, Marino is doing well. He stands straight up at 5 feet 11 inches and his gaze is clear

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Steve Tool/Chieftain

It's all good. Olive Branch Pharmacy tech Casey Marino lost four fingers on his right hand in a farming accident about a dozen years ago. Far from letting the accident define him, the always-positive Marino is a living lesson that nothing can stop you from doing anything except your own self-imposed limitations.



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