

# Marce Norwest Puts Together Another Great Veterans' Pow-wow

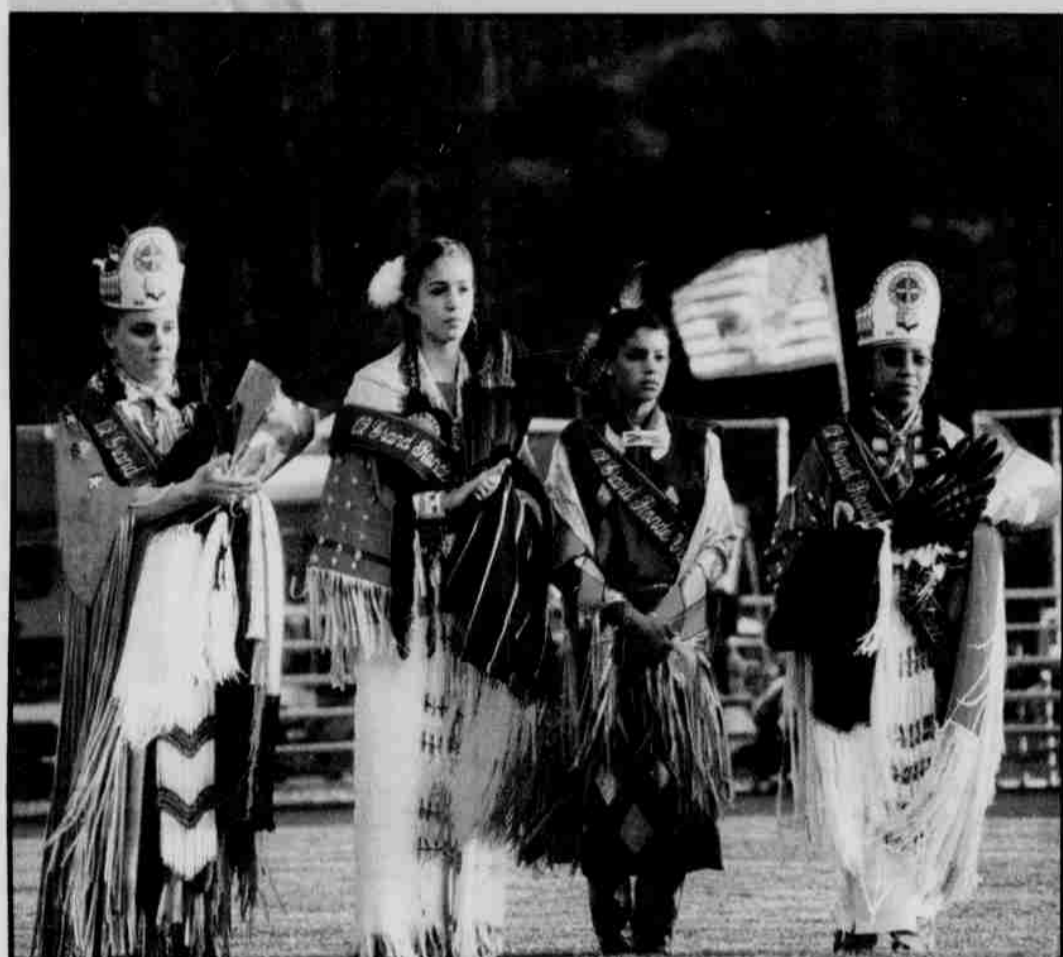


Photo by Justin Phillips

Newly crowned Veterans' Royalty queens Ashley Tuomi (left) and Leaha Brisbois (far right) stand next to Princess Hope Lafferty (2nd from left) and Princess Stephanie Duran. Tuomi and Brisbois were crowned Friday night at the Veterans' Royalty Pageant. Contestants gave speeches and were judged on events attended and participation throughout the year.



Photo by Justin Phillips

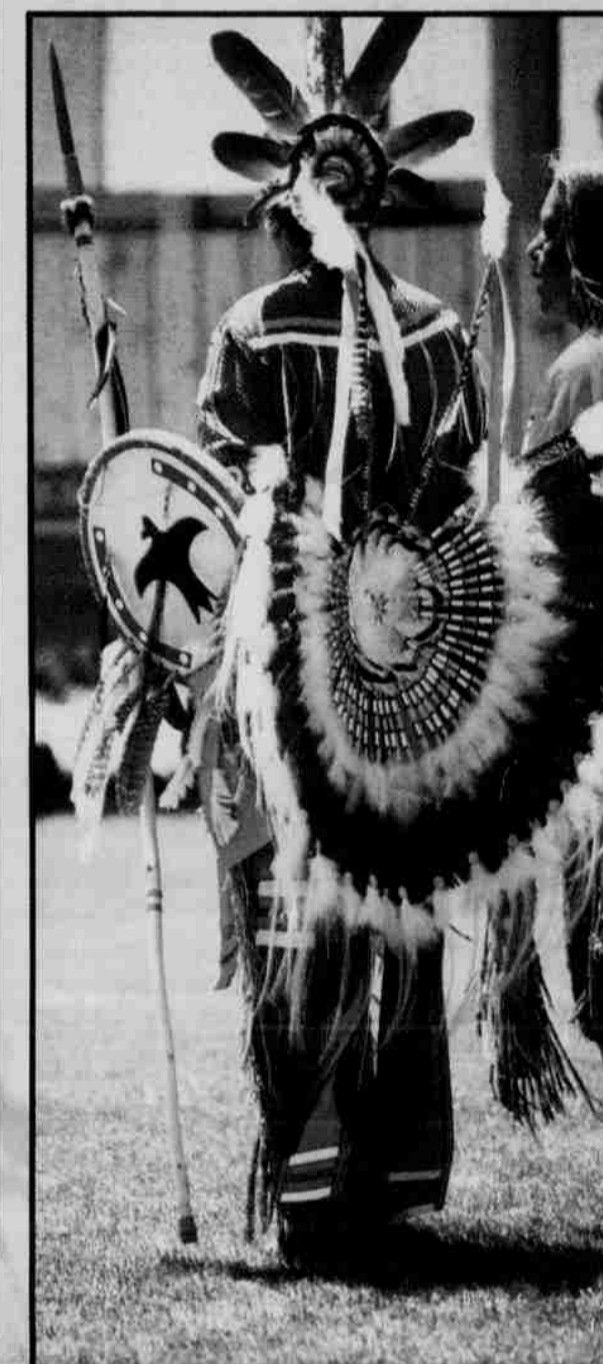


Photo by Brent Merrill

**Good Looking** — Tribal Veteran Tom Bean dressed in his new patriotic red, white and blue regalia for the Veterans' Pow-wow in Grand Ronde.



Photo by Justin Phillips



Photo by Beta Tinda

**Renea Garin and granddaughter Ebony Provost enjoying this year's Veterans' Pow-wow.**

## Pow-wow continued from front page

walks, according to Scott. Two campsites also were improved. "They've been working pretty diligently," Scott said on Friday afternoon (July 12).

LaBonte mentioned that with all the work, a few mouse holes remained on the grounds. However, he said, in discussions about getting rid of the holes, somebody noted, "they were probably here before we were," LaBonte said.

Six-year-old Sanpoil Whitehead of the Siletz Tribe came with his family — his dad Craig served as this year's Whip master. Whitehead said he scored some good food. "I got a snow cone, four Indian tacos, four hamburgers, and four of those frybread sandwiches."

A man who called himself, Shu, from Eugene, enjoyed the show from the Elders' shelter on Sunday afternoon.

Shu said that he comes to the

Pow-wows every year for "the unity they bring. People are so together. There's a lot of respect among everybody."

The Veterans' Color Guard introduced the event each day. It now participates in some 50 events a year including parades, conferences, and school and church events, according to Norwest.

NIVA includes both Indians and non-Indians, and both participated, from the booths to the dancing and they were well represented among the spectators as well. Over one hundred Veterans were introduced after the Color Guard on Saturday.

This all started for Norwest in Korea. "I don't talk about it, but I think about it everyday," he said. "A lot of friends sacrificed their lives for our freedom today and that's why this pow-wow is so meaningful to me. I put my heart into it."



Photo by Brent Merrill

Stephanie Duran

## Grand Ronde Color Guard



Eagle Bear



Photo by Justin Phillips

**2001-02 Veterans' Royalty Halona Buter (left) and Ali Holsclaw**



Photo by Justin Phillips

**Friendship** — Warm Springs' Traditional Dancer Leonard Bunski (left) had money and two beaded bags stolen from his car at the Veterans' Pow-wow. Tribal Elder Marce Norwest led a blanket dance that raised some of the money that was taken from Bunski. Norwest and his wife Sharon reached into their own pockets to make up the difference.



Photo by Brent Merrill

Tribal youth Tajia Ulestad



Photo by Brent Merrill



Veteran's Memorial Statue

## Theft Brings Out The Worst and the Best Of People

■ The news came as a great disappointment, and then brought out the best in the community.

When Leonard Bunski, a Warm Springs Traditional Dancer, went back to his car on Saturday morning (July 13) of the Veterans' Pow-wow, the four doors were open. His wallet, a beaded gift from the Pyramid Lake Tribe, was gone, and with it, \$700 inside. Two beaded bags, each of which took his wife six months to make, also were gone.

"I didn't think nobody would bother it," said Bunski. "I was going to show the bags."

Bunski was invited to the pow-wow when he was in Pendleton last weekend, and for a man who goes to pow-wows almost every weekend, it was not an invitation he had to think about twice. And it being a Veterans' event made it even better. Bunski is a Navy Seal Veteran of battles in Panama, the Cuban missile crisis, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

But no matter how far back he goes, he couldn't remember a single other instance of something like this happening. He remembers one pow-wow, just on the United States side of the U.S./Canada border where he forgot to close his car door, went to the pow-wow, and when he returned, all was as he left it.

The theft was maybe more heartbreaking for his wife, Glenda, who spent six months making each of the 12" by 12" bags. One was yellow with a red rose in the middle; the other was dark blue and light blue with a big eagle in the center. Glenda's father is Chief of the Oweekeno Tribe in Vancouver, B.C., and her brother is Chief of the Klahoose Tribe of Cortes Island, B.C.

Here in Grand Ronde, the Tribe held a donation dance and came up with \$490 in contributions. Norwest and his wife, Sharon, came up with the additional \$210 and presented Bunski and his wife with the \$700 they lost.

"They came to the pow-wow to make new friendships and renew old ones," Norwest said, "and I wanted to make sure they left with the same feelings."

"I'll still enjoy pow-wows," Bunski said, "and still show our people we celebrate our tradition. This is just something I'll have to live with." Bigger than the theft, he added, "I promised my grandparents that I would always celebrate our tradition and I'll keep that promise." ■