



SMOKE SIGNALS

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A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

www.grandronde.org

UMPQUA

MOLALLA

ROGUE RIVER

KALAPUYA

CHASTA



Swing Dancer — On Saturday, February 26, Western Oregon University (WOU) hosted its 12th Annual Pow-wow in the new physical education building in Monmouth, Oregon. "It was a great opportunity for everyone to come together and have a good time," said Anna Hernandez-Hunter, who is the Advisor for the Multi-Cultural Student Union at WOU. Dressed in "Fool Soldier" regalia, Crow/Lakota Tribal member Phill Montana (above) danced in the 7 p.m. grand entry. **More photos on page 6.** Photo by Toby McClary

The Punch Of Tribal Casinos

■ Oregon Tribal Gaming Association unveils study showing the contributions of Tribal gaming in Oregon.

By Ron Karten

All across the country, according to Ernest L. Stevens Jr. (Oneida), President of the Washington, D.C.-based National Indian Gaming Association, Tribes are joining together to get out the message that Tribal casinos are major contributors to the country's economy, and to rural economies in particular.

He spoke on the steps of the Capitol last week, at a ceremony organized by the Oregon Tribal Gaming Association (OTGA) to release the report, "The Contributions of Indian Gaming to Oregon's

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Photo by Toby McClary

Presidential — Ernest L. Stevens Jr., President of the National Tribal Gaming Association, said that Tribal casinos are having a big impact on the national economy. He introduced the Oregon Tribal Gaming Association report, which said that the same is true here in Oregon on the state level.

Grand Ronde Tribe Moves Toward Portland Casino With Discussions

■ Tribe responds to change in Oregon's gaming rules.

By Justin Martin

Negotiations between the Grand Ronde and MAGNA entertainment corporation about the possibility of the Tribe purchasing Portland Meadows horse racing track have proceeded to the point where the Oregon media has taken notice with a number of recent high profile stories.

Following last month's council update and the notification to all members that at the invitation of MAGNA entertainment Corp, the

Grand Ronde Tribe would be entering into preliminary discussions about purchasing the track and incorporating a racino onto the existing site, the Tribe executed a letter of understanding and began serious negotiations.

"We have to pursue all viable options if the rules of gaming in Oregon are about to change," said

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Photo by Toby McClary

Change In Season — Early morning frost on blackberry leaves has melted into a bunch of beautiful spring days in Grand Ronde this month.



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