



Photo by Toby McClary

Walk This Way — Over 300 Veterans celebrated in Grand Ronde for the Annual Veterans' Pow-wow held on July 7-9. Pictured here is Saturday evening's Grand Entry which included Whipmaster Victor Fry, a member of the Chetco Tribe (right and top photo).



Photo by Toby McClary

Eagle Staff (Cover) — Pictured on the cover is one of the many traditional Eagle Staffs represented at this year's Veterans' Pow-wow. To many North American Tribes, the Eagle Staff is a significant symbol of reverence for all of life. Many also believe that it depicts the supernatural. The Eagle staff is considered the first flag of the Native nations. Each has right and left wing eagle feathers for balance, and is blessed by a spiritual leader. For the Grand Ronde Veterans' Pow-wow, 2006, Vets brought eight eagle staffs, including one from Arizona, four from Southern Oregon, two from Grand Ronde and one from Yakama.



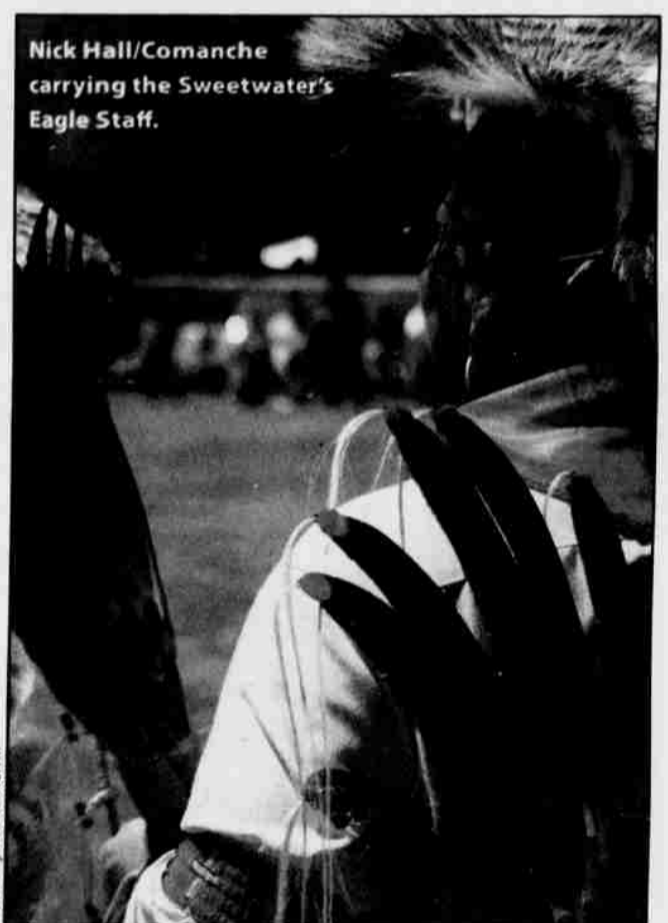
Photo by Brent Merrill

Royalty



Photo by Toby McClary

Tribal member Marcus Gibbons



Nick Hall/Comanche carrying the Sweetwater's Eagle Staff.



Photo by Brent Merrill

Proud — Ten members of the Ira Hayes American Legion Post in Arizona participated, including an honorary introduction and a position in all of the grand entries. Traditionally-carved Northwest Indian art (below) was on display for this year's pow-wow.



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Japanese Veterans Honored By Tribal Veterans At Grand Ronde Pow-wow

By Ron Karten

From World War II, four Japanese vets were on hand from the 442 Regimental Combat Team. The 442nd was the most highly decorated combat unit in World War II. It suffered a mortality rate of 80 percent. Still, the Japanese Vets became victims of U.S. internment policies and the racism that accompanied them.

They were invited by Tribal Elder Bob Tom, who heard them speaking, along with Grand Ronde and Siletz Tribal members, at the University of Oregon Longhouse a few months ago. Here in Grand Ronde, the group shared the outsider's experience with Indian Vets.

"Our history is similar," said Tom, "in a good way and in a

bad way."

He said that both still value their language and culture.



Photo by Toby McClary

Shared Experience — Japanese-American Veteran Kennie Namba told stories about serving in the military and still being an outsider — a story all too familiar to Indian Vets.

And like Indians who at one time could not go off the reservation

without permission, victims of the Japanese internment could not leave their camps without permission.

Kennie Namba, a decorated member of the 442nd, went into the service, fought throughout Europe, and when he came back, he said, he went into a grocery store in Hood River where his wife was living, and the kid behind the counter, who had probably never set foot outside of Hood River, told him, "We don't sell anything to Japs."

The group also donated books to the Tribal library.

◆ *Made in Japan and Settled in Oregon* by Mitzi Asai Loftus (signed copy)

◆ *Tule Lake*, a novel by E.T. Miyakawa

◆ *The Last Fox*, a novel by the 100th / 442nd RCT by Robert H. Kono (signed copy)

◆ *Keeper of Concentration Camps* by Richard Drinnon

◆ *The Hood River Issei An Oral History of the Japanese Settlers in Oregon's Hood River Valley* by Linda Tamura

◆ *Stubborn Twig Three generations in the life of a Japanese American Family* by Lauren Kessler

"These books are a valuable contribution to the Tribal Library and add to the diversity of the collection," said Tribal Librarian and Tribal member Marion Mercier. ■