



Chewescla
DePoe
Siletz



Wayne Holliday/Dine



Kai Isham



Tribal Elder
Butch LaBonte

Reflection — At right and above right, Talia Reasoner (Seminole/Cherokee) has a moment of reflection before participating in Saturday's Grand Entry. Reasoner competed in the Teen Girls Jingle dance, and placed third, winning \$300.

**Photos by
Brent Merrill**

In Focus — At right, Tribal member Orin John Allen (far left in photo) during the Saturday, noon Grand Entry.

Pow-wow To The People: Grand Ronde Hosts Annual Gathering

By Ron Karten

The sun was hot during the day, but in the evenings, people were running for sweaters as the temperatures dropped and the wind whipped up. The pow-wow grounds were soft and green for dancing under the big tent the Tribe has used since rain drove the pow-wow dancers into the gym in 2004.

"I'd have to say that the weather was just about perfect," said Tribal member Jeff Mercier, who finally saw some daylight at the pow-wow. He has been working the night shift at the casino.

Grand Entry on Saturday night packed the dance grounds, and guests came from around the world to see the event. The Czech Republic, Romania, Switzerland, and The Netherlands, not to mention Mexico and Canada were all represented at this year's Contest Pow-wow, held August 18-20 in Grand Ronde.

Tribal Elder Una Bircham was on hand with the whole family, for

the first time including her newly "found" son, Lonnie Martinson (see *Smoke Signals*, 8/15/06 issue).

Tribal member and 2003 Hatfield Fellow Bryan Mercier (see *Smoke*

(see *Smoke Signals*, 7/1/06 issue), sitting with his sister, Tribal Elder Gloria Engelson, was being photographed with young relations Taylor, Alex and Melissa.



Signals, 9/15/03 issue) was back for pow-wow from Washington, D.C. where he works at the federal Department of Forestry. In early June, he and his brother, Tribal Council Secretary Chris Mercier, took a trip together to the World Cup game in Germany.

Tribal Elder Herman Hudson

Tribal Elder Carmine LaChance, now living in the "back country" of San Diego, but who once lived in town on "Wine Alley," was back for Pow-wow and his mom's (Tribal Elder Grace Engleheart) 94th birthday. LaChance is half brother to Tribal Elder Dale Langley (see *Smoke Signals*, 8/15/06 issue).

LaChance raises geese now in addition to his plumbing business, he said, and "I've got my butt whipped by a gander many a time."

Vendors were pleased with the turnout. The Tribe filled every space available, bringing in 48 craft vendors and 15 food vendors," said Tribal Contest Pow-wow Coordinator and Tribal member Dana Ainam.

"It's been good," said Tribal Elder Charlotte Gray, who brings her hand-made angels and Renuzit dolls to almost every event. She said on Sunday that she had sold all but 30 of some 150 angels she brought for the event. "The insurance gals from Ohio took 10 dolls.

Her brother, Tribal member Dennis Lynch, and his friend, Tribal member Dan Jeffers, of Klatskanie, helped her out over the weekend, but she said that they were mostly watching the girls. "I told them to get to the eye doctor and get their eyes checked," she said.

Montana Artist Cameron Blagg