



SMOKE SIGNALS

JUNE 1, 2007

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

www.grandronde.org

UMPQUA

MOLALLA

ROGUE RIVER

KALAPUYA

CHASTA

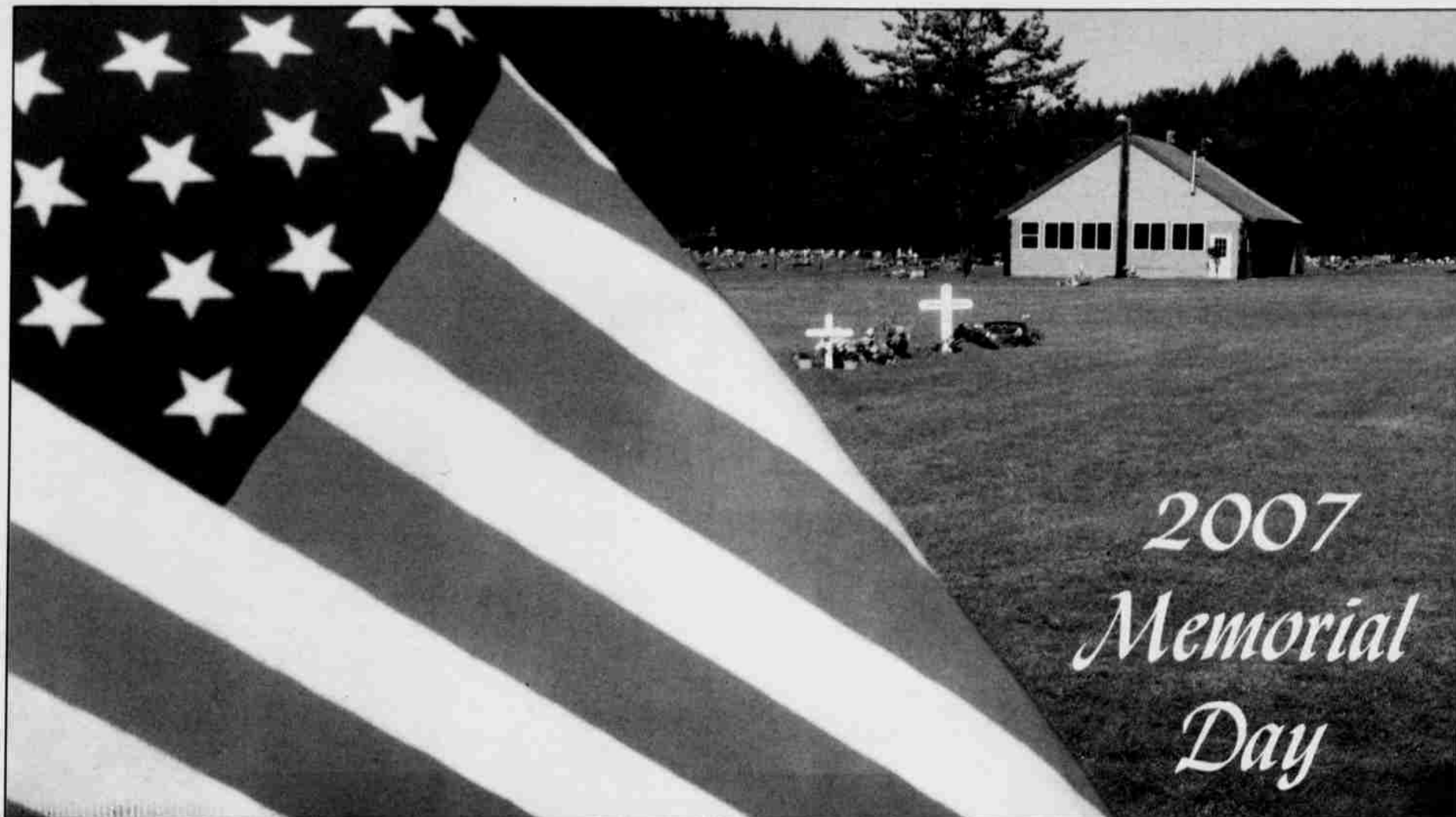


Photo by Toby McClary

On Monday, May 28, the Tribe hosted a Memorial Day ceremony in Grand Ronde to honor Veterans both past and present. Pictured here is a flag which stood on the fence in front of the Grand Ronde Tribal Cemetery and the cemetery building can be seen in the background. STORY ON PAGE 4.

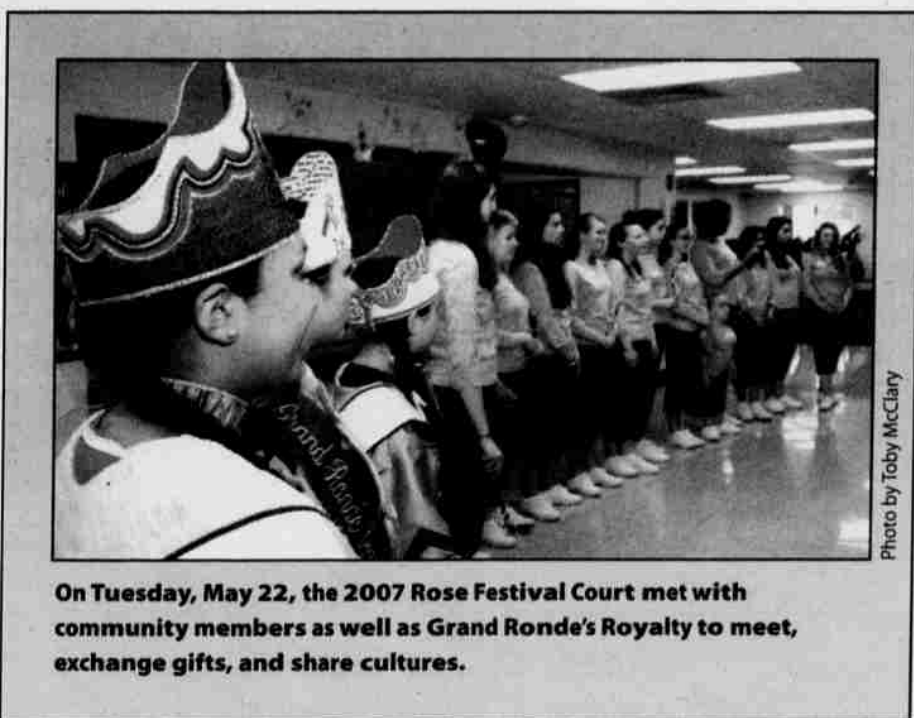


Photo by Toby McClary

On Tuesday, May 22, the 2007 Rose Festival Court met with community members as well as Grand Ronde's Royalty to meet, exchange gifts, and share cultures.

Nine Tribes Endorse Senator Gordon Smith

By Ron Karten

Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribes came out early as a group recently to endorse Senator Gordon Smith, a Republican from Pendleton, for re-election.

"Senator Smith has always promoted Tribal sovereignty," said Grand Ronde Tribal Chair Chris Mercier, "has promoted economic development and has always expressed a willingness to sit down with Tribes and hear their concerns. He is a valuable ally to the Tribes."

The scene at the World Trade Center in Portland on Monday, May 14 — attended by two television crews and the Associated Press — looked out over the Willamette River and Mount Hood as Tribal leaders described their support for Smith.

"Senator Smith, following in the legacies of the Honorable Senator Mark O. Hatfield and Governor Vic Atiyeh, has demonstrated the kind of leadership and statesmanship that Oregon has become known for. His bipartisan work with Senator Wyden is important and has proven effective," said Umatilla Board Chair Antone C. Minthorn.

Minthorn cited the Senator's involvement in the Umatillas' basin project aimed at returning salmon to the Umatilla River. Smith also co-sponsored the Tribal Forest Protection Act. The Warm Springs are now drawing on this act to develop a forest health project in the Mount Hood National Forest that will help fuel the Tribe's biomass facility and preserved lands sacred to all the Tribes of Oregon.

Coincidentally, the early decision accompanied a small wave of "not running" announcements, including those by potentially formidable candidates Oregon congressmen Peter DeFazio and Earl Blumenauer. ■

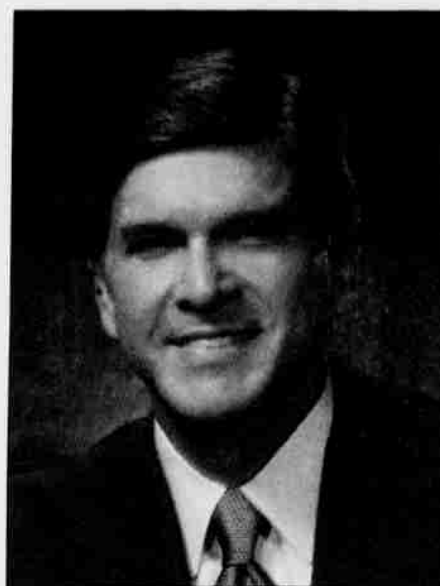


Photo courtesy of Senator Smith's Office

Oregon Senator Gordon Smith

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