



On the morning of Saturday, July 28, this group of Grand Ronde Tribal members paddled from the Tulalip Tribe to the Swinomish Tribe.

CANOE JOURNEY continued from front page

about 20 miles.

On Saturday, July 28, the Canoe Family prepared for its longest single-day paddle of the trip. At about 3:30 a.m., Tribal members left Tulalip and headed for the Swinomish Tribe, a distance of

about 36 miles. Four people were loaded aboard a support boat, skippered by Social Services Manager Dave Fullerton, to rotate in and out of the canoes for those who needed a break.

Some pullers, however, didn't need a break and paddled the entire distance. Among those who pulled the 36 miles was Chinook

Tribal Elder Phillip Hawks. Not only did Hawks, 70, paddle the entire day, but he paddled every single mile of the trip. Hawks was honored with a Pendleton blanket by Tribal member and Language Specialist Bobby Mercier.

"I've been a loner most my life," said Hawks, "so this is a real honor for me to be recognized like this."

On the evening of Saturday, July 28, after the canoes had landed and the paddlers had eaten and showered, protocol was held in the Swinomish Longhouse. Each Tribe that had stopped to rest in Swinomish performed songs and dances for the hundreds of people packed in the longhouse.

The longhouse was about 60 feet tall, had three large fire pits dug into the dirt floor and was supported by eight huge beams with Northwest Native American designs carved into them.

For Grand Ronde and Chinook, a five-hour wait occurred before they took the floor. Despite being tired and sore, members sang and danced until about 2 a.m. Sunday, July 29.

Tribal Elder Dolores Parmenter, 64, participated in this year's journey. Although she did not paddle, she was beneficial to the Grand Ronde/Chinook camp. As a member of the Canoe Family, Parmenter shared her wisdom, teaching youth how to sharpen knives and lifting spirits of those who needed it.

Also part of the Grand Ronde/Chinook camp were three generations of Grand Ronde Tribal members including Tribal Elder Larry Cole, Kathy Cole, Nick Faas and Zach Edwards



It was after 1 a.m. when the Grand Ronde/Chinook Canoe Family took the floor at the Swinomish longhouse on Sunday, July 29, for protocol.



Grand Ronde and Chinook canoes are dwarfed as they are paddled past an oil tanker near Anacortes, Wash.