

Rodeo set for
June 21-22 — pg. 3

Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

JUNE 15, 2008

www.grandronde.org

UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Float courts award



Casino entry in Grand Floral Parade tells story of 'Romancing Rose'

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Spirit Mountain Casino's float "Romancing Rose" won the Rose Festival Court Award for the entry best exemplifying community or civic involvement and pride during the 2008 Grand Floral Parade held June 7 in downtown Portland.

The casino's float told the story of Tribal member Deitrich Peters' courtship of his wife, Rose, who is a member of the Shoshone Tribe.

The Grand Floral Parade's theme this year was "Romancing the Rose."

"It was an exact depiction of what occurred," said former casino sponsorship coordinator Kathy Bland, who helped coordinate this year's float.

"It was awesome," Rose said about being on the float.

When Deitrich decided to ask

See FLOAT
on pages 8-9

Tribal member Deitrich Peters, right, and his wife Rose wave to the crowd as they ride on Spirit Mountain Casino's float "Romancing Rose" during the 2008 Key Bank Grand Floral Parade in downtown Portland on Saturday, June 7. The float told the love story of the couple, from them meeting to Deitrich proposing to Rose to their wedding. On left is Don Moccasin (Sioux) who officiated their wedding in 2004.

Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Weaving history

Tribal member Stephanie Wood researches Native baskets at UO

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Tribal Elder Opal Davidson, 93, used to tell her daughter stories about gathering hazel switches along Agency Creek for weaving baskets.

Her daughter, Tribal Elder Terri Davidson Wood, 62, told the stories to her daughter, and today, Tribal member Stephanie Wood, 25, a senior at the University of Oregon, studies, digitizes and catalogues Willamette Valley Native baskets found at the university's Natural and Cultural History Museum.

The baskets were made in the period when Opal Davidson was young, and even before that.

The museum is the kind of cultural magnet that also has drawn in Tribal member David Lewis, manager of the Tribe's Cultural Resources Department. He sees the

opportunity to "open up the museum to Tribal involvement, to learn what we can."

In addition to Wood and Lewis from Grand Ronde, the museum also hosts culture experts from the Coquille and Coos Tribes who study these baskets; and of course, the museum also works with all Oregon Tribes on different projects as appropriate.

The 250 baskets that Stephanie is studying come from members of Tribes living in the Willamette Valley during the late 1800s and early 1900s. All are part of the university's Natural History Museum collection housed on campus.

After moving down to Eugene from her family home outside of Dayton, Stephanie was told by friends about the Native exhibit at the museum, and she started thinking, "This is weird. I've got nonNative people tell-



Photo by Ron Karten

Tribal member Stephanie Wood inspects a basket with the help of Grand Ronde Cultural Resources Manager David Lewis at the University of Oregon's Natural and Cultural History Museum. Wood is helping document the history of the 250 woven baskets in the museum's collection. Most were made by members of Tribes living in the Willamette Valley in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

ing me about my personal history."

Her Grand Ronde background comes through her mother, Tribal Elder Terri Davidson Wood, through her mother, Opal Davidson, through

her mother, Pearl Hudson Mercier, through her mother, Hattie Sands

See WEAVING
on page 7