

## 25 Grand Ronde youth participated this year

POWWOW continued  
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Youth Education and held on Saturday in the parking lot in front of the Tribal plankhouse. In addition, there was a slam dunk contest and a 3-point shootout during the day.

This year's event, held Friday, Aug. 17, through Sunday, Aug. 19, featured 250 dancers competing for \$35,000 in prize money contributed by Tribal Council, craft and food vendors, the annual parade from Fort Yamhill State Park to the powwow grounds and back, two host drums, three dance specials, and by-donation breakfasts and dinners.

For dinner on Saturday, Tribal Food Services Coordinator Kristy DeLoe and her crew prepared 350 pounds of salmon, 200 pounds of corn, 1,200 rolls, uncountable grains of rice and bottled water. As of dinner on Saturday, there had been demand enough for all of it.

DeLoe advised one diner that it might be OK to come back later, but not too much later.

Shuttle service was available to the powwow grounds all weekend from Spirit Mountain Casino.

Master of ceremonies was Fred Hill (Umatilla), arena director was Fred Ike Jr. (Yakama) and head judge was Sidrick Baker.

The annual Contest Powwow Parade started at 10 a.m. Saturday at Fort Yamhill State Park, down the hill to the Powwow Grounds

and back.

Host drums were Blacklodge from the Yakama Tribal area and The Boyz, a drum from the Midwest. Blacklodge has long been a participant and supporter of the Grand Ronde Contest Powwow and The Boyz were new this year. Twenty-eight drums played this year.

If children were a big part of powwow, Elders were in evidence everywhere.

The Grand Ronde Honor Guard, all Elders, was led by Wayne Chulik with the Eagle feather and included Gene LaBonte, Ken Robertson, Jessie Robertson Jr. (PeeWee), Al Miller and Bob Duncan.

Elder Gladys Hobbs collected beads at one vendor for her head classes held at the Elders' Activity Center. Everyone from the community is invited to participate when the class starts again the week that school starts.

"When we grew up in Grand Ronde," Hobbs recalled, "it was not Natives here and whites there. We were Indians and it was just the community."

Some 50 craft vendors and 15 food vendors, including traditional fry bread from Tribal Elders Margaret Provost and Claudia Leno, served crowds estimated for the weekend at 10,000 to 15,000.

"Now we dance in celebration," said Hill at Saturday evening's Grand Entry, "the celebration of life." ■



Dressed in traditional regalia, Dakota Ross, 11, dances during Grand Entry of the 2012 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow at Uyxat Powwow Grounds in Grand Ronde on Saturday, Aug. 18.



From left, Junior Miss Princesses Makenzie Aaron, 11, Amaryssa Mooney, 9, and Amelia Mooney, 9, dance during Grand Entry of the 2012 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow at Uyxat Powwow Grounds in Grand Ronde on Friday, Aug. 17.



Jacob Holmes, 6, dances during Grand Entry of the 2012 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow at Uyxat Powwow Grounds in Grand Ronde on Friday, Aug. 17.



Tribal Elders, from left, Violet Folden, Joann Colton-Comeaux and Gladys Hobbs participate in the 2012 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow Parade from Fort Yamhill State Park to Uyxat Powwow Grounds on Saturday, Aug. 18.



From left, Senior Miss Princess Nikia Mooney, 14, Junior Miss Princess Makenzie Aaron, 11, and Veterans' Junior Queen Iyana Holmes, 10, wave to the crowd as they ride in the back of a pickup during the 2012 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow Parade from Fort Yamhill State Park to Uyxat Powwow Grounds on Saturday, Aug. 18.