

'They hoped we would fail'

RESTORATION continued
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Giffen Jr., Tribal Council member Tonya Gleason-Shepek, Tribal Attorney Rob Greene and Assistant General Manager Stacia Martin.

Another instance of success came from Bobby Mercier. "They told us not to ask again, but we did, and we got approval to put scaffolding back up at Willamette Falls," he said.

"They hoped we would fail in managing our forests," said Leno, "but we did better than they expected." The Tribe, he said, has made management of Tribal forests a great success for environmental stewardship, as well as a money-making enterprise.

Tribal Council member Jon A. George recognized Restoration Elders. Among them were Margaret Provost, Wink Soderberg, Cheryle A. Kennedy and Alan Ham.

Provost described the long and arduous effort to make Restoration happen. "We didn't have anything," Provost said, "but we knew who we were."

She said that in the days of the first Restoration celebration, "We helped each other." When Tribal hunters brought back elk, deer and salmon, they shared it with the community, and when somebody needed help, everyone pitched in, she said.

Kennedy said, "Remember Margaret. Everything we have is due to her hard work."

Soderberg honored Tribal Elder Marvin Kimsey and said that many people should be honored. "They worked really hard on raising money," he said. Provost, Kimsey and Merle Holmes are the three principal Tribal members who started the Restoration effort in the 1970s.

Tribal Elder Jackie Many Hides recalled how thankful she felt and challenged the Tribe to devote more energy "to the children."

An honor dance was held for those who raised funds and spoke before groups, and worked with congressmen and senators to bring about the Tribe's 1983 Restoration.

Mike Clemmons honored his brother, the late Rudy Clemmons, who was the master of ceremonies



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Grand Ronde Canoe Family members, from left, Santi Atanacio, Kaikanim Mercier, Nick Atanacio, Jacob Holmes, Bobby Mercier and Travis Stewart sing and drum during the plankhouse ceremony of the Tribe's 31st Restoration Celebration held at Achaf-hammi on Saturday, Nov. 22.

at the Tribe's first powwow, and Chet Clark, who sang the Tribe's first song at that powwow.

Leno also honored those on the Tribe's Termination rolls.

George recognized the Tribe's eldest Elder, Pearl Lyon, 102, and honored the Restoration Committee volunteers who helped organize this year's events.

After lunch, chairs were moved into a big circle forming a powwow grounds inside and tables were carted out.

The Restoration Powwow, organized by the Tribe's Culture Committee, started a little after 3 p.m. Starburst, The Woodsmen and the West Coast Boys were host drums, and in addition the powwow hosted Yakama Boys, All Nations and Johonaaii drums.

Drawings started after lunch and continued punctuating the day between honorings and dances. By all accounts, the Culture Committee's goal of improving powwow attendance was accomplished.

Wayne Chulik, with eagle staff, and Tribal Elder Alton Butler, car-

rying Marce Norwest's eagle staff, led the powwow grand entry. Norwest, a Tribal leader who protected Tribal forests for many years as the Forest Patrol officer, has walked on.

Arena Director Deitz Peters carried a staff with many eagle feathers. Following him were four flags: the U.S. flag carried by Elder Steve Bobb Sr., the POW flag carried by Al Miller, the Tribal flag carried by Elder Raymond Petite and the Oregon flag carried by Mike Lane.

Following were five banners naming the forerunner Tribes of the Grand Ronde confederation – Umpqua, Molalla, Rogue River, Kalapuya and Chasta. Royalty and other dancers followed.

Bobby Mercier honored veterans, who introduced themselves and stated which branch of the military they served in, the years during which they served and the places where they served.

Military Purple Heart recipients, awarded for being wounded in battle, were honored.

The powwow stretched passed 9 p.m.

In addition during the day, Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center opened with its many exhibits and a 27-minute slideshow honoring Tribal members who have walked on.

Restoration Committee members included Jocelyn Huffman, Tribal Council member Denise Harvey, Betty Bly, Darlene Aaron, Dana Ainam, Jan Looking Wolf Reibach, Sam Dala, Gladys Hobbs, Violet Folden, Grace Amos, Val Grout, Reina Nelson, Alan Ham, Linda LaChance, Stacia Martin, Lisa Archuleta, Sarah Ross, Wink Soderberg, Linda Brandon, Kevin Simmons, Janele Gutierrez-Riggs, Public Affairs Director Siobhan Taylor and Administrative Assistant Chelsea Clark.

The Tribe's Culture Committee includes Elders Linda Brandon, Betty Bly, Margaret Provost and Faye Smith, as well as Sarah Ross, Marcus Gibbons and Kevin Simmons.

In addition, many Tribal departments and employees helped in big and small ways in staging the successful day. ■



Andrea Grijalva dances to the salmon song during the plankhouse ceremony of the Tribe's 31st Restoration Celebration held at Achaf-hammi.



Eva Rose Jurado dances during the plankhouse ceremony of the Tribe's 31st Restoration Celebration held at Achaf-hammi on Saturday, Nov. 22.