

George was the master of ceremonies and Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy gave the invocation.

This year’s Royalty Pageant judges were Tribal Elder Jackie Many Hides, Tribal member Leah Villa and Tammy Fisher.

Little Miss Grand Ronde contestants were Aubrey Campbell, Kalea Liebelt, Marie Quenelle, Taylor Ruggles and Sophia Grout.

Senior Miss Grand Ronde had two contestants, reigning Queen Isabelle Grout and Iyana Holmes. Junior Miss Grand Ronde Kaleigha Simi was unopposed. Tiny Tot, an honorary position, had two participants — Grace Macon and Leloo Quenelle.

That evening, Iyana Holmes was crowned Senior Miss Grand Ronde, Kaleigha Simi was crowned Junior Miss Grand Ronde and Sophia Grout was crowned Little Miss Grand Ronde at uyxat Powwow Grounds’ Arbor after outgoing Royalty for 2018-19 gave speeches and held giveaways in appreciation for those who had helped them during the past year. Outgoing Royalty were Senior Miss Grand Ronde Isabelle Grout, Junior Miss Grand Ronde Kaleigha Simi and Little Miss Grand Ronde Sophia Grout, and Tiny Tots Jameson Turner, Aubrey Campbell, Grace Macon and Kalea Liebelt.

Outgoing Royalty members and their families did one last walk around the arbor while host drum Indian Hill performed an honor song. Incoming Royalty did the same following the coronation.

Friday Grand Entry

Powwow began with the various contest drum groups – Indian Hill, Blackstone, Stronghold, Black Lodge, Young Boys, The Cree, Bad Soul, Young Bear and Buckshot – each taking turns to play before



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Gary Greene (Nez Perce) competes in the Senior Golden Age Mens division on the second day of the 2019 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow held at úyxat Powwow Grounds on Saturday, Aug. 17.

Grand Entry. Drummers were competing for a combined \$30,000 in prize money.

Blackstone was awarded \$10,000; The Cree, \$8,000; Young Bear,

\$6,000, Stronghold, \$4,000; and Black Lodge, \$2,000.

Friday’s Grand Entry was led by Tribal Elder Alton Butler and Wayne Chulik (Tlingit) carrying in

eagle staffs.

As Indian Hill pounded out an honor song, Grand Ronde Honor Guard members and Tribal Elders Raymond Petite and Butler, Tribal spouse Richard Vanatta, Tribal spouse Anthony Texeira and Al Miller posted the colors. They were followed by other veterans, including past Tribal Council Chair Reyn Leno and past Tribal Council member Brenda Tuomi. Next came Tribal Council members, Tribal Royalty from various Tribes and Contest Powwow contestants. It took more than 30 minutes for everyone to fill the arbor.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy, Vice Chair Chris Mercier, Secretary Jon A. George and Tribal Council members Denise Harvey, Jack Giffen Jr., Kathleen George, Michael Langley and Lisa Leno attended Friday’s Grand Entry.

Jon George offered the invocation and Kennedy welcomed attendees who packed the bleachers and filled all of the chairs set up around the arbor, which meant standing room only for later arrivals.

“I’m thankful all of you are able to come here and celebrate with us,” she said. “I want to thank you for being a blessing.”

Kennedy also encouraged attendees to make use of the many recycling containers that were set up throughout the powwow grounds.

“The water is sacred and it is here for us to drink,” Kennedy said. “It gives us life. Do what you can to clean up and recycle. We were the caretakers of this land before and we need to do it again.”

Grand Entry closed with Royalty members of various Tribes introducing themselves and shaking hands with other Royalty mem-

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Dancers participate in the Saturday afternoon Grand Entry on the second day of the 2019 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow held at úyxat Powwow Grounds on Saturday, Aug. 17.