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and inspire greater collaboration between Tribes and local colleges to make not only their presence felt in Tribal communities. By working together, we can erase some of the invisibility associated with indigenous peoples in higher education.”

Powwow attendees had plenty of food and beverage choices to keep them going, including Indian tacos, yakisoba noodles, fry bread, Mexican food, fresh fruit cups, curly fries, smoothies, espresso, hot dogs, barbecue ribs and tropical ice.

Other vendors sold jewelry, purses, backpacks, hats, garden art, shirts with novel sayings, Native-themed athletic attire, regalia, suitcases, boots, carvings and jerky.

Jackie Dillman (Yakama) of Shawl Lady Crafts has been coming to powwow to sell shawls and regalia for 15 years.

“I have family up here and it is so pretty,” she said. “I spend all year making things to be sure I have stock available for powwows.”

Contest Powwow staff included master of ceremonies Tyson Eaglevoice Shay (Shoshone-Bannock), arena director Fred Ike Jr. (Yakama), head dance judge Charles Tailfeathers (Cree/Blackfeet) and head drum judge Chase Sayer from Saskatchewan, Canada.

Specials included the Women’s All-Around sponsored by the Native Wellness Institute, Crystal Starr and the Tailfeather family with prize money totaling \$5,600, plus jackets for first- through third-place; Men’s Northern Traditional and Round Bustle sponsored by the Tom family with \$2,000 in prize money; School is Cool for all kindergarten through 12th-grade dancers sponsored by the Education Committee; Best Friends sponsored by Grand Ronde Royalty; Round Bustle/Chicken Dance with \$800 in prize money; Women’s Red Dress Special with \$800 in prize money; and Junior and Teen Girls sponsored by outgoing Grand Ronde Royalty.

Audio Visual Network Technician Wendell Olson and Senior Help Desk Technician Mark Donahoo were on hand throughout the event to ensure the sound system worked properly during the four grand entries.

Saturday’s activities also featured the annual Powwow Parade at 8 a.m. that began at Fort Yamhill State Park and ended at uyxat Powwow Grounds. Newly crowned



Above, dancers participate in the Grand Entry on the first day of the 2019 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow held at úyxat Powwow Grounds on Friday, Aug. 16.

Dancers wait to enter the arena and take part in Saturday afternoon’s Grand Entry on Saturday, Aug. 17.



Grand Ronde Royalty and Veterans Royalty waved to crowds from festively decorated vehicles.

A somber moment came when the Women’s Red Dress Special was held Saturday evening, which honored missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Women from age 18 to Elders participated. The family of missing Tribal member Heather Cameron Haller sponsored prize money for the dance and the color red represents the missing and murdered.

Elder and past Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison, Elder and past Tribal Council member Candy Robertson, Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy and

Tribal Elder Carol Gleason served as judges for the dance special.

3-on-3 basketball tournament

The Contest Powwow included the Recreation Department’s 3-on-3 Native Youth Basketball Tournament, returning for the second year in a row.

There were four teams in each bracket for middle school and high school teams. Approximately 75 friends, family and coaches attended.

“In the middle school bracket the championship game came down to the wire,” Recreation Coordinator Leo Ayala said. “It was competitive games

between Little Caesars (The Dalles) against Grand Ronde’s WDL.”

Little Caesars clinched the win 35-32 in overtime. The players were Henry Begay, Andre Niko, Skytus Smith and Trevor Lewis.

“In the high school bracket, we had some competitive games as well,” Ayala said. “The championship game came down to two local Grand Ronde teams: Wasted Potential vs. Red Roses.”

Wasted Potential came out with the victory by a very slim margin, 29-28. The players were Nick Colton, Austin Watkins, Conrad Farmer and Keyondre Kelley.

First-place teams received championship hoodies and \$50 Visa gift cards. Second-place teams received tournament runner-up shirts with \$25 Visa gift cards.

Freddy Ayala won the three-point contest, making 12 of his 15 shots for a \$30 Nike gift card.

The Contest Powwow continued with grand entries at 7 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday. ■

Dancers enter the arena to participate in the Grand Entry on the first day of the 2019 Grand Ronde Contest Powwow held at úyxat Powwow Grounds on Friday, Aug. 16.

Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

