

**Special
Photo
Highlights
of
144th annual
SWO Wacipi**



Special Edition - 144th Annual Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Wacipi - July 5, 2011



Highlights of 144th annual Sissetonwan-Wahpetonwan Dakota Oyate Wacipi



Sandman, Woodrow W. Keeble American Legion Post 314 and Sisseton-Wahpeton Vietnam Veterans/Kit Fox Society honor guard carrying the eagle staffs and flags for the final session of the 144th annual SWO Wacipi Sunday afternoon. The American flag on top of the center pole is flying in memory of highly decorated Korean War Veteran Thomas Brant Sr. See more photo highlights inside this edition of your Sota and full color pictures on the Sota website – along with video highlights.

Sioux Falls VA outreach team attends wacipi



Minority Veteran Program Coordinator Patricia Reisdorfer and Benefits Specialist Deane Johnson attend the wacipi to meet with veterans.

As announced by SWO Tribal Veteran Service Officer Geri Opsal, a Veterans Administration outreach team from Sioux Falls came to the ceremonial grounds last

weekend for the 144th annual SWO Wacipi.

Services available on the grounds included helping veterans determine benefits eligibility, claims processing,



Minority Veteran Program rep visits with a veteran on the pow wow grounds.



Orlando George from the Vet Center.

access to health services, and counseling.

Patricia Reisdorfer, Minority Veteran Program Coordinator, said they were there to help with any questions or problems that veterans had.

She is traveling across the state attending all the pow wows to meet with as many



The Vet Center offers counseling services to veterans.

veterans as possible.

Also there were Deane Johnson, Benefits Coordinator, and Orlando George, BA, CDCT from the Vet Center.

Orlando is a counselor for veterans with PTSD and other psychological and “readjustment” problems.

The VA reps reported there was a pretty good turnout; one of the things they wanted to emphasize is that “to be considered a veteran . . . all you need is an honorable discharge.”

“Everyone with an honorable discharge, regardless of whether or not you served during wartime, or overseas, is a veteran,” said Deane Johnson.

It does not matter what era or period served.

Deane and Patricia were helping veterans with eligibility forms.

Geri Opsal can also assist veterans in filing these forms through the Tribal Veteran Service office.



Pointing the way to the SWO ceremonial grounds.



New sign above the entrance to the pow wow grounds.



MC Jerry Dearly at the announcers stand on day one of the wacipi.



"Rockin' Boot" -- formerly the Thunder Boyz.



Flag flying on the center pole on Friday, memorial flag honoring Medal of Honor recipient Master Sgt. Woodrow W. Keeble. (The flag was lowered when a sudden downpour hit the grounds.)



Sandmen prepare to raise the memorial flag for Master Sgt. Woodrow W. Keeble early Friday afternoon.



Men dancers in the first grand entry of the pow wow.



Women and girls dancing into the arena during Friday afternoon's grand entry.



Scene from day one.



Young dancer following his traditions in the arena.



Akicita honor guard at the opening grand entry Friday afternoon.



Sandmen and American Legion Post honor guard, with active duty Afghanistan soldier Lisa Gonsalvez.



Woman traditional dancer during Friday afternoon's grand entry.



Girls pictured in the first grand entry of the pow wow.



Scene from the campground early on the Fourth of July weekend.



Staff of the SWO Health & Fitness Center offering healthy food and drink choices.

Moccasin games held on pow wow grounds



Photos from Saturday's games

Moccasin games held on the ceremonial grounds.



Scene from one of two moccasin tournaments.



Memorial flags for fallen akicita line the poles around the arena for the annual wacipi. Photo taken Saturday afternoon.



Memorial flag honoring Master Sgt. Woodrow W. Keeble.



Old Agency Singers host drum Saturday afternoon.



The akicita honor guard, Woodrow W. Keeble American Legion Post 314 and Sandmen honor guard on Saturday afternoon.



Miss SWO Princess Isabel Morales and Junior Princess Chandra Brant welcome ooyate and kodas to the wacipi Saturday afternoon.



Host drum Old Agency Singers with the honor guard in the center of the arena for the flag and veterans songs.



Honor guard with the eagle staffs and flags.



Dancers in the Saturday afternoon session.



Dancers in the Saturday afternoon session.



Royalty entering the arena.



Dancers in the Saturday afternoon session.



Dancers in the Saturday afternoon session.



Honor guard Saturday afternoon.



Dancers in the Saturday afternoon session.



Dancers in the Saturday afternoon session.



Dancers in the Saturday afternoon session.



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Dancing in the Saturday afternoon session.



Dancing in the Saturday afternoon session.

Retiring the colors Saturday afternoon



Memorial flag for Master Sgt. Woodrow W. Keeble is lowered from the center pole Saturday afternoon.



Veterans lower the flags from the arena flag poles Saturday afternoon.



Lloyd “Bubba” LaBelle and Carl Lufkins Sr. assist in retiring the memorial flags Saturday.



Arena Director Alfred Seaboy climbs onto the arena roof to help free the flags when it is time to lower the colors.



Announcer Reuben Littlehead pictured Saturday evening.



Vietnam Veterans/Kit Fox Society warriors with their Princess.



Master Sgt. Woody Keeble's memorial eagle staff with the Kit Fox Society eagle staff and flags at the center of the arena Saturday evening.



SWO Tribal Chairman Robert Shepherd and Beth Hollatz, aide to Congresswoman Kristi Noem, during the evening grand entry Saturday.



Sisseton-Wahpeton Vietnam Veterans Kit Fox Society honor guard leading grand entry Saturday evening.



SWO Tribal Executives and Council enter the arena Saturday evening during grand entry.



Tribal Council and royalty.



Scene of the crowd on Saturday evening.



Oyate and friends gather for the pow wow.



Dancers Saturday evening.



Dancers Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancers Saturday evening.



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Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.



Dancing Saturday evening.

SWO Tribal Executives, Council Men's Traditional Special



Men's traditional special Saturday evening sponsored by the SWO Executives and Tribal Council.



Early competition.



An early round in the men's traditional contest.



Tribal Council watching the early rounds of competition in the men's traditional special.



Big Coulee District Councilwoman Lynn Halbert DuBois makes a selection for the final dances.



Winners are announced and receive monetary prizes and star quilts. Pictured, from left, are: Tribal Secretary Winfield Rondell Jr., Enemy Swim District Councilman Kevin Roberts, Old Agency District Councilman Jerome Renville Sr., Long Hollow District Councilwoman Joyce Country, Orlando Ike of Macy, Nebraska (3rd place), Steve Yellow Earrings of Standing Rock (2nd place), Jim Red Eagle of Keary the Kettle, Canada (1st place), Buffalo Lake District Councilman Louie Johnson, Lake Traverse District Councilman Francis Crawford, Tribal Chairman Robert Shepherd, Heipa District Councilman Lloyd "Bubba" LaBelle, and Big Coulee District Councilwoman Lynn Halbert DuBois.



Center pole American flag flies in memory of highly decorated Korean Veterans Thomas Brant Sr.



Sandman, Woodrow W. Keeble American Legion Post 314, and S-W Vietnam Veterans/Kit Fox Society honor gaurd enter the arena Sunday afternoon.



Eagle staffs carried at the front of the honor guard during grand entry Sunday.



Kit Fox akicita.



Host drum is Wahpekute Sunday afternoon, the final session of 144th annual wacipi.

Big Jim Crawford Memorial Softball tournament snapshots



James "JC" Crawford announcing the softball games on Saturday afternoon.



It's going to be a good hit.



Here comes the pitch.



Some of the fans (and former players) at the Big Jim Crawford Memorial Softball Tournament.



Co-ed softball action on Saturday.



A high fly during the co-ed tournament.



Vendor stand.



Great Plains Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board stand.



Health message about the consequences of HIV/AIDS.



Vendor stand.



Looking it over . . . getting ready to send the softball out of the field!



Vine Marks relaxing in the shed at Etta Jo's arts and crafts stand.



Etta Jo Marks pictured at her crafts table on the pow wow grounds.



Vendor stand.



Vendor stand.



Concession stands featuring NDN foods are a favorite place at mealtime!

Youth and Adult Fourth of July Rodeo highlights



Danny gives reassurance to a little cowboy during the youth rodeo.



Young brave heart in that chute!



A young rider bites the dust but came away unhurt.



A wild ride!



That sheep is a fairly big critter for him to be pulling around on the end of the rope!



Another young cowboy.



Hang on there!



One of the cowboy helpers.



It takes courage to climb up there!



He can be proud of his ride.



Barrell races on Friday - before the downpour!



Richard setting up for the barrel races.



Crowd lined up for rodeo action Saturday!



Mounted security during the pow wow.