



# The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

"Voice of the Unconquered"

50¢

www.seminoletribe.com

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March 17, 2006

## 68th Annual Brighton Field Days Highlights

**By Susan Etxebarría**  
**BRIGHTON** — For the first time at the Brighton Festival & Rodeo the extraordinary Haskell Dancers from Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan, were featured performers. Their outstanding performances and instructive interpretations enthralled the audiences on Feb. 18–19.

Approximately 1,000 students representing 150 federally recognized Tribes from 36 states are pursuing associate of arts degrees or four year baccalaureate degree programs at the University. Haskell incorporates the perspective of Native American culture in the class curriculum. The dancers are students or alumni who perform ancestral dances they have learned from their elders.

In the Brighton show arena, the narrator, Dustina Abrahamson, explained the cultural dances and their symbolism after introducing each performer. She stressed that the dances are complex and difficult.

"To be a dancer you have to be in really good shape," she said.

The young men and women danced under a warm sun their energetic and colorful fancy shawl dances, fancy dances, the hoop dance and warrior dances.

Abrahamson also explained the difference between the women's honor cry versus the men's warrior cry which she said are often mistakenly portrayed in Hollywood movies. She also told the crowd that some of the dances they perform have become favorites in the Pow Wow circuit.

Hoop dancer Lumje Micco Sampson, told the crowd that he is a Muskogee Creek from Upstate New York attending Haskell University.

"It has taken my whole life to perfect the hoop dance," he said.

He explained the symbolism of the

❖ See **FIELD DAY**, page 31

## BC Senior Center Scores Excellent Food Service Rating

**Submitted by Health Department**  
A food service inspection was recently conducted at the Big Cypress Senior Center. The center received a rating of excellent and was found to be "the cleanest and most organized food establishment on all Seminole Tribe of Florida reservations."

This accomplishment is no easy task as this environmental health inspection is conducted as a surprise visit and is very in-depth and detail oriented. This operational review assesses the condition of the food as well as the protection of the food.

Environmental Health Specialist Chris Chepa has also given Awards of Excellence to Hollywood Senior Center, Immokalee Senior Center, as well as Big Cypress Preschool and Ahfachkee School.

It is very important not only that the food is in good condition and free from spoilage when it arrives at the center, but it must also be prepared and held at the proper temperature and for the appropriate amount of time. Food that is not kept cold enough, hot enough or left out for too long can promote the growth of dangerous bacteria or other organisms which can cause illness.

Cleanliness is also of paramount importance in a food establishment and is scrutinized closely in a food service review. Not only is the food equipment and utensils inspected, but the quality of the hand washing facilities, bathroom facilities, plumbing/sewage disposal, garbage disposal and all floors, walls and ceilings are all thoroughly inspected as well.

❖ See **BC SENIOR**, page 3



The Big Cypress Senior Center received a rating of excellent.



Susan Etxebarría

On Feb. 16, Jewel Buck was crowned the 2006 Brighton Seminole Princess.

## Introducing Brighton Miss and Junior Miss Seminole Princesses Jewel Buck, Stevie Brantley Crowned

**By Susan Etxebarría**  
**BRIGHTON** — Jewel Buck, Bird clan, is the new 2006 Brighton Seminole Princess. Her mother is Emma Urbina. The eighth grader attends Yearling Middle School in Okeechobee County where she played

this past year on the varsity basketball team. She is playing softball this spring.

At the competition held Feb. 16 to select the Brighton Seminole Princesses, Jewel recited the poem she wrote as a memorial to her baby sister



Susan Etxebarría

Stevie Brantley was crowned the 2006 Jr. Brighton Seminole Princess.

Jorja Julia Urbina called "The Best." The poem was published in the Seminole Tribune's January November 25th issue.

Also selected was the new 2006 Junior Brighton Seminole Princess, Stevie Brantley, Panther clan. Stevie is a straight A student in the sixth grade at Osceola Middle School in Okeechobee County.

"I think it's a great experience to represent the Tribe," said Stevie as she was enjoying her first duties to be an ambassador for the Tribe at the Brighton Festival on Feb. 18–19.

Many tourists stopped to ask Stevie questions about her beautiful dress made by her clan grandmother, Mary Jo Micco. Stevie is the daughter of Theresa Nunez Boronei and her maternal grandmother is Alice Johns Sweat.

The Brighton Seminole Princesses also represent the Tribe in many Florida community parades such as the Speckled Perch Festival in Okeechobee City, Fla. and the Chalo Nitka in Moore Haven, Fla.

## Crysten Smith Earns Title of Little Miss Seminole

**By Emma Brown**  
**BRIGHTON**— Crysten Smith, 7, daughter of Jamie and Crystal Smith of Brighton, recently brought the title of Little Miss Seminole back to Brighton with her. The Brighton reservation is extremely proud of Crysten, but is not surprised that she won.

For anyone that doesn't know

Crysten you are definitely missing out on knowing a very special person. She is an extremely outgoing, beautiful little girl that will always leave you with a smile on your face after an encounter with her. Crysten is a straight A student at Seminole Elementary and always puts

❖ See **LITTLE MISS**, page 31



Emma Brown

Crysten Smith of Brighton was recently crowned Little Miss Seminole.

## Chairman Cypress Selected For Induction in Chilocco Hall of Fame

**Submitted by Jim Baker**

**TULSA, OK** — The nomination of Mitchell Cypress, a 1966 graduate of Chilocco Indian School was one of two names who received unanimous approval of the Board of Directors for induction into the Chilocco Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremonies will follow the Annual Alumni Reunion banquet, Saturday, June 10, 2006 at the Raddison Hotel in Tulsa, Okla.

Chairman Cypress, a Vietnam War veteran, will be presented for induction by Chief Enoch Kelly Haney of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. Chief Haney, a famous artist, is a former state senator who served the maximum term allowed by term limit laws in Oklahoma.

Chilocco Indian School was one of the largest and most diverse Indian schools in the U.S., with a peak enrollment of 1,200, before closure in 1980. Although a disappearing breed, its graduates live all across the U.S. and represent all professions. According to Jim Baker, president of the Chilocco National Alumni Association and a 1960 graduate himself, the youngest alumni is 42 years of age.

"You can subtract 42 from the average age of death for American Indians and calculate the approximate year the Chilocco graduate will be no more," Baker said. "However, accom-

plishments of our graduates as educators, medical and legal professionals, engineers, entrepreneurs and Tribal leaders such as Chairman Cypress, created a Chilocco legacy. This legacy, combined with memories our own children have of the school, will continue to remind people for years to come that Chilocco had a significant impact on the American society."

All Chilocco students, former employees and friends are invited to witness the Hall of Fame induction by attending the annual reunion. The class of 1956 will be the honored class of the reunion. The reunion begins on June 9 and closes on June 11.

Activities on June 9 include a golf tournament, Tribal clothing fashion show of all Tribes, talent show, presentation by the Cherokee Nation Children's Choir and an evening Pow wow. June 10 activities start with a veteran's breakfast, the annual general business meeting and elections, pool tournament, class meetings, banquet and ballroom dancing. The reunion will close on June 11 with intertribal worship services and Tribal hymnal singing.

The attraction at each reunion is the Memorabilia Room where all yearbooks, pictures, artifacts and other school items are displayed.

Craft vendor booth spaces are available and may be reserved by calling James Edwards at (918) 742-1549.

## Tribe, Hard Rock Sponsor Playmaker Charity Event



Chris Jenkins

Michael Irvin on the first hole where his old jersey number was emblazoned.

**By Chris Jenkins**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — During the March 3–4 weekend, Seminole Sports Management (SSM) along with Michael Irvin's Playmaker Charities and Academics joined forces in its first annual celebrity charity golf tournament and

auction. The major sponsors for the event were the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino and the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

❖ See **PLAYMAKER**, page 17





Iretta Tiger

Freezing rain didn't stop the march from the Puyallup reservation to the courthouse.

## Tacoma Champions Leonard Peltier

By Iretta Tiger

TACOMA, WA — Leonard Peltier has now been in prison for 30 years. To understand how long 30 years is one must realize that Peltier has been imprisoned longer than Nelson Mandela.

Leonard Peltier, Anishinabe (Chippewa), is an activist for native rights who was unjustly convicted of killing two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge reservation in 1976. Peltier has yet to receive a fair trial despite many discrep-

Through the freezing rain and much to the chagrin of court house security guards Aztec dancers welcomed the marchers at the courthouse doors. The unceremonious weather did not impede on the rally; native elders, a drum group and many speakers from local organizations championed Peltier.

One guest in particular made this year's rally a very special one; Chauncey Peltier, Leonard Peltier's son. This was the first time Chauncey has ever attended an event such as this.

"Growing up I didn't know about any of this," he said. "Thanks to my aunt [Dorothy Akerman] I'm learning more each day."

When the shoot out took place in 1976, Chauncey was very young and starting to become close to his father. He didn't see his father again until he was 16.

"I feel that I was robbed of my relationship with my dad," he said. "I would feel differently if my dad were guilty. Don't get me wrong, I am a firm believer in law and order but my dad has been treated unfairly."

Peltier continues to be treated unfairly. On June 30, 2005 Peltier was moved to Terre Haute, Ind.; the move was done without the notification of his family and attorney. Peltier was placed in solitary confinement indefinitely. He is currently at the U.S. Penitentiary in Lewisburg, Penn..

For updates, events information and contact information surf to [www.leonardpeltier.org](http://www.leonardpeltier.org).



Iretta Tiger

Chauncey Peltier

ancies which the FBI has publicly admitted to.

For 13 years the Tacoma Leonard Peltier Support Group (LPSG) has held an annual march and rally in an effort to raise awareness and to keep Peltier's plight in the public eye. On Feb. 4 men, women and children of all races marched from the Puyallup reservation to the federal court house in downtown Tacoma.

## Photo Quiz



Can you guess who this person is?

## The Seminole Tribune

If you need a reporter or you would like to submit an article, birthday wish or poem to *The Seminole Tribune*, please contact the Editor-In-Chief Virginia Mitchell at (800) 683-

7800, Ext. 1260. E-mail [vmitchell@semtribe.com](mailto:vmitchell@semtribe.com), fax (954) 967-3482, or mail to: The Seminole Tribune, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, Florida 33024.

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## Editorials

# Survey of the Seminole Indians of Florida

By Roy Nash

[Editor's Note: This is a verbatim re-print of a survey of the Seminole Indians by Roy Nash conducted on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1930. This is Part 1 of series The Seminole Tribune will re-print in its entirety. Please see the April 7 issue of The Tribune for Part 2.]

### Exert 1, Part 1: The Florida Seminole and his environment SEMINOLE SURVEY OF 1930 By Roy Nash

#### CHAPTER I

##### A TYPICAL CAMP OF 1930

The starting point in time of this 1930 survey is the year 1880. Just half a century ago Clay MacCauley, of the Bureau of American Ethnology, sojourned in the camps of the Florida Seminoles; in the fifth annual report of that journal appears the record of the first study of theses Indians made without political bias. Two points 50 years apart may indicate the trend of a slowly moving body with some accuracy.

The starting point in space is Miami. From the gold coasts of pleasure the Tamiami Trail runs west across the Everglades. Within 30 miles of the city hall one encounters an outstanding anachronism: In the canal a dugout canoe; standing in the stern, with poised spear. He wears neither shoes nor hat. He wears nothing that is worn in the city 40 minutes away. His only garment is a knee length shirt, belted at the waist. Like Joseph's coat, it is of many colors, bright, vivid, marking the wearer as a man apart from the metropolis of 110,000 which has sprung up like magic on the edge of his wilderness. A primitive hunter 30 miles from a center of industrial civilization where airplanes purr and ocean-going liners dock and a hundred thousand idlers bask in the sun—the Seminole.

At the junction with the north and south road from Everglades to La Belle we turn from the pavement to a gravel road that parallels the rails of the Atlantic Coast Line, and motor north through the Big Cypress Swamp to Immokalee. Two stores, a hotel, a filling station, a boarding house, two or three bootleggers, and an Indian camp out beyond the railroad station.

Guava Camp, our immediate destination, lies 35 miles southeast of the Immokalee. No proper appreciation of the camp, however, can be had without mention of the 45 miles to be traversed after one leaves anything that might be called a road. We load an Indian bull cart with camp duffel and get it started by 3 in the afternoon. Young Ivey Byrd has come in from Hendry County Reservation in a Ford truck, but as the month is August and hot he waits until evening to make a start in order to spare the litter of pigs which are to share the vehicle with us. In the wet season four-fifths of the trail from Immokalee to the Reservation is covered with from 2 to 6 inches of water.

Byrd belongs to the school of marsh drivers that holds chains and ropes were worse than useless, because of the tendency of rear ends to bury themselves in the mud. Our normal mode of progression was for me to ride on the running board until the wheels began to spin, then jump off and push before the car lost momentum; sit down for 200 yards in high across a hammock; jump and push across half a mile of water and mud. Then stop for 15 minutes to let the engine cool. As luck would have it, we overtook the Indian just west of the Okaloacoochee Slough, where the water runs 2 feet deep. So we transferred certain precious perishables to the bull cart while navigating the Ford across. Thus leisurely processing through the mud and the morning, when we bogged down completely, abandoned the Ford and the pigs, and waded to the reservation buildings which perched on the half an acre of comparatively dry land.

Wading back at daylight, we dried up the Ford with poles, crammed palmetto and brush into the ruts, and brought the load home under power—a typical wet-weather trip, nine hours to cover 37 miles. At midnight of the second day the ox team arrived. Beyond the reservation buildings the water deepens and the ground softens so that even an empty Ford, at this season, could not traverse the last 8 miles. We footed it, the water being 8 to 10 inches deep a large part of the way. Three hours for an automobile to cover the 110 miles from Miami to Immokalee, three days for an ox team to negotiate the 45 miles from Immokalee to Guava Camp.

#### SECTION 1. GUAVA CAMP

Guava Camp lies precisely on the western margin of the Everglades, 50 miles northwest of Miami. With the camp fire as a center, a 50-foot radius would inscribe the dry land at the height of the wet season. No circle of equal size in Florida can yield more interesting facts.

#### SECTION 2. SEMINOLE FIRE

I have made camp in Luzon and Negros, in the Bahia and Matto Grosso, on the Lievre River in Ontario and beside the Salmon in Idaho—the Seminole makes the best camp fire I have ever seen. He takes 8 or 10 dry logs, of any length that a man can conveniently carry and any diameter he can conveniently cut, and arranges them as the spokes of a wheel. At the hole he kindles his fire. To brighten it, he pushes in a couple of logs; when it grows too hot he pulls them apart. Three points of support pan or kettle may be arranged by the merest touch. The elements of the fire themselves furnish a seat for whomever stirs the pot, let the wind blow whither it will. Dogs, chickens, pigs, lies between the logs at night sheltered from the wind and warmed by the embers.

Above this fireplace the Seminole erects a roof supported by four uprights say 10 feet apart, thatched with palmetto leaves. From the rafters the squaw hangs her pots and pans, her drying venison, her condiments and herbs, out of reach of the livestock. The whole arrangement is one of those perfect adaptations of means to end which characterize a competent people.

About the fireplace, here at Guava Camp, are grouped four dwellings, the nearest one 15 feet from the fire, the farthest extending to the very edge of the 50-foot circle of dry land. The largest is perhaps 12 by 20 feet. It is essentially a platform 3 feet from the ground covered by an overhanging roof, the generous eaves of which, curved wide about each end, extend down to

within 3 feet of the platform. The roof is supported by 10 or a dozen durable hardwood posts set in the ground, notched at the top to receive the girder. Upon a frame of light poles thus supported is thatched an exquisite roof of palmetto leaves, the thatched weighed by logs tied together and slung across the ridge. A separate set of short posts supports the platform, which is floored with hand-hewn planks leveled and smoothed to a degree worthy of honest workmanship. In this particular long house there are three sections to the platform, one for dining and two for sleeping, with narrow alleys between.

The suitability of this house for hot weather is manifest. Visibility is perfect. As a protection against a driving rain it is not so good; in very cold weather one would naturally quit it to sit by the fire. Its great merits are a floor that is out of the mud, that is high enough to sit upon and let the legs swing clear, a floor which crumbs and dirt are easily swept; and an absolutely tight



roof directly under which, upon the beams and suspended from the rafters, can be stored clothing, guns, food, buckskin, whatever it is desired to keep dry.

Two other houses are in nowise different except that they have undivided platforms and are somewhat smaller. But it should be noted that ridge poles do not all run one way, so that if one building is floored by a driving storm, there is likely another comparatively dry. The fourth is framed and floored, but not roofed, it is used for drying skins and cutting up meat; two days, work would convert it into a habitable dwelling.

Certain other structures deserve attention. There is a high table where dishes are washed and dried in the sun; a stockade around some banana plants; a movable pen 3 feet square for holding a pig or an alligator. The mortar and pestle, the former hollowed in the head of an 18-inch log, are highly important in the domestic economy, being used for hashing dried venison as well as for pounding corn.

The garden at this time of year is wet and full of weeds; inclosing it is a tight fence of palmetto stems and logs. The hole for drinking water is within 70 feet of the fireplace. Not much farther away in another direction is the depression where clothing is washed, with a post set in the ground surmounted by a broad board by way of a table. A high line of clean poles takes the place of a clothes line.

The construction of theses houses is identical with the typical construction described by Clay Mac Cauley 50 years ago with one exception; nails are now so cheap and easily procured that they are used in fastening the thatch; formerly the framework was lashed together and the thatch tied on with any of half a dozen easily procurable fibers.

Those who occupied Guava camp in August of 1930 were eight. Whitney Cypress is the head of the family, a position carrying more duties than rights. Six feet tall, lean, muscular, upstanding, he carries his 50 years unmarred by abdominal deformation or fallen arches and with a vigor which the average white man of 30 well might envy. It is his custom to roll out of bed shortly before dawn, pull over his shirt of many colors a pair of cheap cotton trousers tied with cord about the ankles, stow shotgun and shells in the bow of his cypress canoe, and start off on his daily hunt without eating a mouthful of breakfast. In the wet season one can push a dugout most anywhere through the Everglades. Where the water is shallow, he wades; when it deepens to 8 to 10 inches he steps in and poles. Shoving a canoe through water all day is something that any man in good condition can do; shoving all day through the mixture of grass and water which is the Everglades is something which only a Seminole can do.

He poles across these infinite marshes until bent grass, perhaps, arrests his attention, telling him not only which way the deer went but how long ago. Only a clever hunter like the Seminole can stalk deer in glades which afford no cover. If no fresh signs of deer are seen, or if the camp be stocked with meat, Whitney shoves on to an alligator hole in the edge of the hammock. Water 4 or 5 feet deep, perhaps. He pokes about with a pole to locate his prey. Failing to find him that way, the hunter holds his nose and imitates the grunt of the beast. To amuse me, Whitney one day called an 8-foot alligator to the surface four times in the course of half an hour. It seems a bit indecent thus to play upon reptilian passion. In the operation of skinning, his movements were swift, sure, clever.

Generally, this Indian returned to camp around noon, for the midday August was intense. One day he brought home a buck, another a turtle and some duck eggs, sometimes nothing at all. Curlew and turkeys were abundant, but the food problem was so easily settled that he preferred to put in his time hunting for things with a cash value—alligator hides, buckskin, coo skins. I have known him to stay out all day without eating.

At whatever hour he returned to camp, Whitney would pull off his wet trousers, eat, then stretch out for a siesta. It is the mark of a man that whatever he does, he does with a will. The Seminole, after 4 or 5 hours of vigorous exercise, can loaf for half a day with zest. But usually the necessity to fetch firewood, or some puttering job about camp or garden, kept this worker fairly busy.

## Letters & E-mail

Please send all letters to 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024  
✦tribune@semtribe.com✦

Dear Editor,

Do you allow your reservations in Florida still play high stakes bingo?  
[dolores31@aol.com](mailto:dolores31@aol.com)

Dear [dolores31@aol.com](mailto:dolores31@aol.com),  
**The Seminole Indian Casino—Hollywood is the only one that still does high stakes bingo.**  
Edward Jenkins  
Director Compliance & Regulations

Dear Editor,

I was just wondering if your poker tournaments are always full or if you have to book in advance? I'm coming down for a vacation March 10.  
David Noganosh

Dear Mr. Noganosh,

Most of our tournaments do sell out. The best thing to do is call us at (800) 218-0007 and ask for the Casino Cashier Cage. They can book you into a tournament over the phone. You just have to pay the entrance fee into that particular tournament.

We have tournaments every day of the week, including a \$300 buy-in no limit Texas Hold 'Em tournament every Saturday.

Good luck,  
Dean Stone  
Immokalee Casino

## Photo Contest



Standing L-R: Mary Doctor, Ronnie Doctor, Martha Doctor, Nancy Willie and Ernie Bert. Sitting L-R: Virginia Bert, Marie Willie.





Lila Osceola

Carla Cypress, 2nd for indian tacos, and Alexandra Frank, 3rd place ribs, stand at their booth after winning trophies.

## Rib and Indian Taco Cook Off

By Lila Osceola

**HOLLYWOOD** — Talk about some good food! What better way to spend a beautiful Saturday evening than with five teams of cooks, one for ribs and one for Indian tacos...? The table was set for a good day to compete for a trophy.

On Feb. 25 at approximately 4 p.m. the rib and Indian taco cook off was in the heat of the moment. To set the mood for the afternoon, Sonny and the Road Hogs band played some upbeat but laid back barbequing music.

After a late start and an all evening cooking



Lila Osceola

Champion Indian Taco maker, Sunshine Frank.



Lila Osceola

Judy Jones and Mingo Jones take the title, overall winner of appearance.

session, the time was near to put the judges to work. The judges were to judge on appearance of the booth and taste. Louise Gopher, Stephen Bowers, and the rest of the judges had a major task ahead of them. Eat five times in matter of minutes is not an easy thing to do, not to mention, eating both ribs and Indian tacos. Talk about some good food!

At about 9:30 p.m. the judges had come to their final picks. Here's what they came up with.

Indian Taco Cook Off: 1. Sunshine Frank, 2. Carla Cypress 3. Andrea Tommie; Rib Cook Off: 1. Richard Osceola, 2. Michael Gentry, 3. Alexandra Frank.

The overall winner of appearance was the brother/sister duo of Judy Jones and Mingo Jones who brought home the title for this year's Rib and Indian Taco Cook Off.



Lila Osceola

Judges eat and judge the booth of Andrea and Tony Tommie. Andrea Tommie won 3rd for her delicious Indian Tacos.

## ❖ BC Senior

Continued from page 1

Personnel in any food establishment must follow many protocols to keep the environment clean and the food safe. If they are sick, they are restricted from working, they must follow strict hand washing procedures and hygienic practices and they must always wear clean clothes and hair restraints during food handling and preparation.

What makes Big Cypress Senior Center such a winning combination? Ask Cecilia Solano, the Big Cypress/Naples Senior Center site manger for the past four-and-a-half years and she has a ready response-teamwork.

"No one person can accomplish this; it is about communication and working together," said Solano. "I take everybody's input and involve staff in all activities. They take as much pride in a job well done, as I do." It is true, there is an easygoing camaraderie among the staff, but there is no question that strict attention is paid to food safety compliance and hygiene issues.

Every team is only as good as its leader, but Leah Minnick, director of Elder Affairs is quick to give the praise to her Big Cypress Senior Center staff.

"Those girls in the kitchen know what work is and want to do things right," Minnick said. "Cecilia [Solano] is very good about outlining her expectations and the staff knows they need to live up to it."

Solano laughed before responding: "Leah [Minnick] pushes me hard, so I push my staff hard."

Minnick admits her top priority is cleanliness at the Senior Center.

"I have always said if you are out on the road and stop at a restaurant and the bathroom is a mess, you can bet the kitchen isn't any cleaner," she said. "Dedicated staff that is what makes a good team. All of our senior centers are excellent."

Solano said she is also appreciative of the support provided by Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress Council representative David Cypress and Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers.

"They come in here all the time," she said. "They eat our meals and praise the staff for a job well done. The appreciation encourages everybody to keep



Submitted by Health Department

Carol Cypress hard at work during her ceramic class.

working hard."

With the support of these three, the Senior Center has been able to add many additional activities to our calendar such as daily ceramics class, yoga and chair aerobics held every Monday at 10 a.m., Solano said.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress offered this comment: "I enjoy eating at the senior centers on all the reservations. It seems that the Big Cypress staff has really outdone themselves to receive this special distinction. It would be good to see all the centers receive this recognition."

The Big Cypress Senior Center is clean, the food is good, the staff is friendly and there is much to do. Congratulations to the staff on achieving the food service inspection rating of excellent.

The Big Cypress Senior Center's upcoming events include the Strawberry Festival, the ATV ride on March 21 and the Spring Trikefest on March 31. For more information, contact the Senior Center at (863) 902-3211.



Submitted by Health Department

BC Hotmeals Staff shows off award certificate.

### BC Hotmeals Staff

Angelica Estrada  
Kitchen Manager  
5 years  
Andrea De La Torre  
Assistant Cook  
5 years  
Elisa Castanon  
Custodian/Driver  
5 years  
Pedro Aguilar  
Dining Room Assistant  
2 1/2 years  
Hilda Jumper  
Dining Room Assistant  
7 month  
Ruby Osceola  
Interpreter  
4 1/2 years  
Melissa Guzman  
Assistant Manager  
1 1/2 years  
Cecelia Solano  
B.C./Naples  
Site Manager  
9 years

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to compete in the  
2006 Miss Indian World Pageant

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in Albuquerque, New Mexico  
for the Miss Indian World Pageant  
April 28-29, 2006

please contact Wanda Bowers  
(954) 966-6300 x 1468  
Pageant to be held on Thursday, April 27, 2006

Christine E. McCall, 19 yrs old, Hollywood Florida  
Hollywood Reservation  
Florida State University, Majoring in Social Work



# Safety Show With Officer Ollie and Fireman Frank at Hollywood Pre-School

**By Tony Heard**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — On March 1 the Seminole Police Department (SPD) Crime Prevention Unit teamed up with the Pembroke Pines Crime Unit to bring some very special guests to the Seminole Pre-School.

Sergeant Al Signore and Officer Susie Lawson got in touch with Lou Manfra and Gloria

was over Fireman Frank touched a bit more on the importance of crawling low when there is smoke present so everyone will be able to make it outside and away from the fire safely.

Then Fireman Frank explained that in some cases a piece of clothes that you're wearing may catch fire. He asked the kids if they knew what to do if that happens and two or three of them shouted out, "you stop, drop, and roll." This answer got a bunch of applause and cheers from the teachers and officers that were present.

Fireman Frank went and got a friend named Stan to help him sing a song and show all the kids how to stop-drop-and roll. The kids enjoyed the song and the actions of Stan, lots of laughs and singing roared through the pre-school. At least we all knew they were paying attention to the words and getting the message on what to do in



Tony Heard

Question and answer time with Officer Ollie.

Zeller and scheduled a time for Officer Ollie and Fireman Frank to bring their message of stranger danger and fire safety to the kids.

The time was set for 10 a.m. and the kids had no idea what great fun was in store for them. After being escorted to the seating area, Officer Manfra explained a few things about safety to the kids and then turned the floor over to Officer Ollie.

Then from behind the pre arranged curtain jumped a puppet that had a badge, a hat, and uniform singing a song on "not talking to strangers." He then stopped and introduced himself and asked for a little participation from the kids with the song. This time during the song all the kids were clapping and waving and interacting with Officer Ollie.

After a small skit with two other puppets, Keenan and Sally talked about getting candy from strangers as well as leaving with strangers. Officer Ollie came out to acknowledge how well the kids comprehended the message and asked a few questions.

When asked about going with strangers, majority of the kids knew that it was a bad thing to do, and remembered what was said earlier in the program about what to do if a stranger is messing with you. Officer Ollie thanked all the kids for being such good listeners and turned the floor back over to Officer Manfra.

this type of emergency.

Fireman Frank and friend Stan was the conclusion of the puppet show and Officer Manfra took the floor again to reiterate what was discussed during the morning of fun and entertainment.



Tony Heard

Puppets sing a song telling the youngsters "Don't go with strangers."

The kids responded to good and the teachers began to funnel them all back to their respective rooms. The Pembroke Pines Crime Prevention Unit has been doing these shows for about 10 years now at surrounding pre-schools and elementary schools. They do between 30-35 shows a year usually trying to schedule them before 11 a.m.

The reason for this is because the primary puppet handler is a nurse at Memorial Regional Hospital. His name is David Wade and has been volunteering his time and services to this effort for nine or ten years now. Mr. Wade works the graveyard shift at the hospital and comes straight from work to wherever the schedule puppet show is.

Officer Manfra said Wade is a very giving person and loves being able to help the kids and work with the puppets to deliver knowledge to youth.

The show is set up where all the voices and words are on a compact disc and the motions



Tony Heard

The audience attentively listens to the informative presentation.

He then touched on a few things about fire safety like how to crawl low if there is smoke in the house and having a family meeting place outside. Then Fireman Frank was introduced and emerged from behind the curtain with a song all his own. The song was a bit longer and got all the kids excited and ready to learn about fire safety issues. When the song

of the mouth and body are all that needs to be done when handling. The shows last approximately 45 minutes, with a total set up time of 15 minutes. They also do a show that touches on traffic safety and wearing seatbelts. I am sure they will be invited back to perform that show in the near future.

# President's Day Volleyball and Career Day



Tony Heard

Various Tribal departments, including SPD and Fire Rescue, provided information on Career Day.

**By Tony Heard**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The Seminole Tribe Recreation department teamed up with the Seminole Police Department and decided it would be a good thing to have something for the kids on a day when they had no school, opportunity presented itself, Feb. 20, President's Day.

fun. Recreation staff combined with Officer Susie Lawson of the SPD Crime Prevention Unit, and others to put together a career day for the youth and volleyball game for any adults who wanted to come and play.

Officer James Boudreaux from the motorcycle division came out to show and explain different things about this bike. Officer Mario Gonzalez from the K-9 unit came out with his dog Tyson. Tyson specializes in narcotics and is a well conditioned obedient companion/partner.

The Seminole firefighters from Big Cypress also traveled down with the fire engine to show all the kids how it works and answer any question youngsters may have.

The festivities began at approximately 11:30 a.m. and although there were not many kids around everyone had a high moral. Food was served at noon, hamburgers and franks were grilled up by Officer Jerome Williams. He decided to come and contribute his expert grilling techniques for the event. A few younger kids came by around noon and checked out and pet the new Crime Prevention



Tony Heard

Officer Susie Lawson, SPD crime prevention specialist.

Since the majority of businesses are closed and school's out, everyone decided to do something

Dodge named Magnum and hear the sirens roar.

Many kids had traveled to Brighton over the weekend for the annual field day activities and had not yet returned. Even though the numbers were not as expected, there will be another day scheduled in the future for all the kids to come out and learn a few things about different careers out there.

At 1:00 p.m. members of the Recreation department, SPD and a few adults from the community all hit the court to play a little volleyball. The teams were mixed and matched, and it was a very fun and amusing game. It was all fun until the competitiveness took over and everyone got a bit more serious about winning. Players were diving to get hits, slapping high fives, and sometimes yelling at themselves for messing up.

It was a close game and turned out to be good bonding experience for the departments and community members. Unfortunately one team had to lose and people had to go and spend time with loved ones, so the festivities had to come to an end. Therefore another game did not get played and the team that captured the victory has the bragging rights for now.



Tony Heard

Officer Mario Gonzalez and Officer Tyson.



Tony Heard

The President's Day volleyball game.

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# First Annual Seminole Romance Banquet

**By Tony Heard**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Sparks were flying and romance was in the air on Feb. 16, instead of Feb. 14 when Valentine's Day is commonly celebrated. On this Thursday evening Leona Tommie-Williams organized and held the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Seminole Romance Banquet.

With a combined effort from numerous sponsors such as *The Seminole Tribune*, Allied Health, Family Services, Education, Culture, Recreation, Boys and Girls Club and the Brighton and Immokalee Council departments the evening was sure to be one of laughter, romance, excitement, and good cheer.

The night began around 6 p.m. with a prayer from Family Services' Basil Phillips, who was also the emcee for the banquet. After he welcomed everyone for attending, he then added some remarks thanking those who were responsible for the evening.

The Seminole way of conducting a wedding is special and unique. The traditional way for most to enter into matrimony ranges from jumping over brooms and breaking a

the stage. To simply say he was funny would be a slight understatement. He touched on things that only Indians would know about and would find amusing.

The best comedian is one who can relate to his audience and make them laugh about situations they have been through or seen before. This is what Burnstick did during his act all the while keeping it clean but edgy, it would not be a surprise if Burnstick were invited back to perform for the Seminole Tribe in the future.

The next thing on the agenda for the evening was a game called the couples game. The game was similar to the television show that Newlywed Game from back in the 80s. Boys & Girls Clubs' Thommy Doud was the host of the show and brought a lot of energy, and it wasn't



Leona Tommie-Williams organized the Seminole Romance Banquet



Officer Jerome Williams shines at the banquet.

There were some older songs from back in the day that got everyone singing, humming along and toe tapping. He also played recent unfamiliar songs as well, but still kept the mood mellow and romantic.



The crowd had a good laugh during the couples game.

just the slicked back wig or the old school tuxedo with the ruffles either! He was definitely the man for the job.

Three couples who participated: Leona Tommie-Williams and Jerome Williams, David and Barbara Anderson and Mabel and Ronnie Doctor. Each couple had to answer questions about their spouse while the spouse was not present. The first round of questions gave the women the opportunity to answer questions pertaining to what their husband's attitudes are like, what their ideal night out would be like and favorite foods.

Points were awarded by the judges for each answer the husbands answered right. Then it was time to see how well the husbands knew their better halves. They had many similar questions, and it was good to see the husbands knew quite a bit about their wives.

The judges added up the points and in the end avid and Barbara Anderson came away with the narrow first place win. For knowing each other so well they won a gift certificate to the Council Oak restaurant in the Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

The second place couple, Leona Tommie-Williams and Jerome Williams, received a Bath & Body Works gift set. Ronnie and Mabel Doctor took home third place, winning two tickets to see any movie they want at Muvico Theatres.

The evening was topped off with a beautiful rendition of "The Wind Beneath My Wings" sung by Ollie Brooks. While singing the song, Denise Alley motioned the words using Indian sign language combined with modern



David and Barbara Anderson, winners of the couples game.



Everyone enjoyed the 1st Annual Seminole Romance Banquet.

dance. The performance was breathtaking on both ends of the spectrum. The strong beautiful voice of Brooks and the graceful motions of Alley made for a wonderful combination.

Hollywood Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. was present and took the podium to say a few words. He acknowledged how much he enjoyed the evening and thanked everyone for supporting the event. He complimented the music selection it was definitely for all to enjoy.

The closing remarks from the emcee Basil Phillips voiced the appreciation for those responsible for the evening, and those who came and had a good time. The entertainment was to be remembered. Next year Leona Tommie-Williams said she plans on doing it again and having another fun night of romance.



Thommy Doud played host for the couples game.

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# Recreating the Battle of Royal Palm Hammock

**By Susan Etxebarría**  
**NAPLES, FL** — Seminole War events are popular in Florida. History buffs can attend at least five colorful re-enactments of Seminole battles between late December and mid-March in various locales throughout the state.  
Tourists and enthusiasts of reenactments arrive by the carloads at the Native American and

They wanted to take their hostages to Tampa where they would be loaded on boats and transported to the trail that lead to Oklahoma, the Trail of Tears.  
All the re-enactors are trained to shoot carefully with black powder and the 1847 Springfield.  
“In this battle the Indians had better rifles. We gave them the percussion cap rifles. The United States always loves arming its enemies,” says



Susan Etxebarría

Pedro Zepeda talks about stick ball

Pioneer Festival at the Collier-Seminole State Park on Feb. 17–19 where a replica of a 1850s Seminole encampment piques much curiosity. All of a sudden history doesn't seem quite so dull. Re-enactors not only dress in clothes of the 1850s but they know their history and relish their roles as story tellers. Everyone loves a good story.  
Long before the battle launches at 2:30 p.m., the re-enactors are setting the stage. People hang around and ask questions.  
“The best way to teach history is when persons can smell, see and hear it,” says a faithful re-enactor, Tim England, the museum specialist with the Collier County Museum.  
The museum annually organizes the re-enactment of the Battle of Royal Palm Hammock while the state park's volunteers take care of all the vendors,



Susan Etxebarría

Pedro Zepeda Seminole reenactor

entertainment, seating, publicity, and hospitality details.  
Museum volunteers get into their roles. They dress in blue woolen U.S. Army military clothes; they set up their own U.S. Army encampment across the field from their “foes,” or the Indians that the government declares “hostiles.”  
They polish their guns and ready their ammunition. On a wooden table under a canvas tent a map is laid out to identify where a certain Indian village is located.  
“Some men in the military were really hoping to make some [bounty] money if they could capture some of the Seminoles” says Lou Stickle, a re-enactor whose role is to fire the cannon at the beginning of the battle.

culture, beliefs and live in the encampment out here in the park, in the hammocks. I feel close to the Seminoles,” says Kimball.  
For him it was not a draw but a win for the Seminoles.  
“In November of 1857, the state of Florida and the US Army conducted a failed campaign to round up the last of the Seminoles and Miccosukee people in Florida. Most of this campaign was conducted in Collier County in areas today that are state and national park and preservation lands,” he said.  
It was the last battle, the final battle that brought an end to hunting down and destroying the final remnants of Seminoles who remained unconquered as they clung to life in one of the harshest places on earth.  
Between the two 1850s period encampments there is a large lawn where the gaiety of the festival prevails all day. Hamburgers are cooking and vendors with Native American or Pioneer goods sell their wares. The lady at the spinning wheel and the village blacksmith demonstrate their crafts. The rousing Flat Mountain String Band sings old time country tunes while people sit in the lawn chairs tapping their toes.  
“Re-enactors are the kind of people who like to slip back in time and get away from the hustle and bustle of city life,” says Michael Spirithawk, an Eastern Shawnee who has traveled for the past 16 years to major Pow Wows and Rendezvous.

The Fort Myers resident, and his wife Debbie, sell his museum-quality quillwork, beadwork, Native American jewelry and buckskin clothing. Spirithawk is famous for his art work used in movies like the wampum belt he made for “Dancing With Wolves.” All the vendors without exception are historians and can describe the time when settlers are pushing the Seminoles off their lands and even deeper into the unnatural world of the swamp.  
Much study goes into recreating a battle. Historical accuracy is paramount. It is to Chris Kimball's credit that a groundbreaking article he wrote about the Battle of Royal Palm Hammock for the recent edition of *Florida Gazette* met with Brian Zepeda's approval before he submitted it for publication. It is quite a story. Too long for inclusion here but there are a few snippets you, the reader, may find interesting.  
Kimball says there were 110 troops that landed on the Island of Chokoloskee. Under the command of Captain John Parkhill they traveled up what is now Turner River and entered what is now the Big Cypress National Preserve. The commander's maps were faulty but indicated trails leading to deserted Indian villages.  
Kimball derived information from the written reports of Colonel Sergeant George-Rogers.

“After following the first large trail mentioned a large Indian settlement was discovered in a Palm Hammock,” wrote the colonel. “There were about thirty lodges and about 40 acres of land cleared and in cultivation. Large quantities of Pumpkins, Potatoes, Peas, Corn and rice were found, the Corn, Peas & Rice hid away carefully in houses built off in the swamp. The trails leading to which were carefully concealed. The pumpkins were housed in the fields and the ground was literally covered with them of all ages and sizes. Even the trees were full, the vines having run over them. Everything was destroyed that could be.”  
Then the soldiers retreated to set up a camp not far from the village they had ramsacked. After dinner Parkhill took a small party of about 25 men and went scouting for more trails. They found a village and as they began to destroy some houses and fields, Parkhill found another fresh trail so he took his men and went in chase of Seminoles for about three miles to a stream where he was fired upon by a party of 30 or 40 Indians.  
“At the first fire Captain Parkhill was mortally wounded and lived but a few minutes. Five of his men were severely wounded at the same time,” Kimball said.  
There was an attempt to return fire but the Indians by then had disappeared into the tropical jungle, some believe it was in the Fakahatchee Strand, and so the firing ceased.  
Kimball writes in his narrative: “The skirmish was short with probably only a couple of shots from either side, but they were the lasts shots fired in the war.”  
It is interesting to hear what Pedro Zepeda tells the audience in the introductions before the reen-



Susan Etxebarría

Native American vendors Michael & Debbie Spirithawk.



Susan Etxebarría

Brian Zepeda demonstrates leather work.

actment on Saturday afternoon.  
“A great battle is going to take place here today,” he said. “First, I want to thank all the re-enactors and demonstrators who are here today and the Citizens Service Organization whose members [especially Rosemary and Art Rangers] volunteered to host this event. I am Pedro Zepeda. Me, and my brother, Brian, are members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We are direct descendants of the Seminoles that were left here after the Seminole Wars.”  
Pedro stands in front of hundreds dressed in magnificent warrior clothes of the 1850s Seminoles.  
“The Seminoles are not exactly what you call a pure race,” Zepeda said. “We're a mix of many cultures that became one. We were told we had to go and we said ‘No, we don't want to go.’”  
After applause, he ended his speech, saying: “I am able to speak to you today because of my ancestors who fought and died here.”  
Earlier in the day one of the re-enactors in the U.S. Army says he was surprised that the audience always cheers when one of the soldiers die on the battlefield. When you drive to Collier-Seminole Sate Park, bounded by the savage wilderness of the Everglades, it is hard to imagine how any civilization could have survived in those watery swamps in the 1850s.  
It was survival of the fittest. After the Kissimmee Slough Shoot Out was held at Big Cypress, Moses Jumper Jr. was asked why he performs as a Seminole War re-enactor. “To tell the truth!” said Jumper. It may be people are tired of lies. Maybe they want the truth.

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Susan Etxebarría

Demonstrating cannon used at Royal Palm Hammock.





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# Industrial Music Show Rolls Through the Rez

By Felix DoBosz  
HOLLYWOOD — It was billed as a “Wasteland of Opportunity.” Why this name you wonder? Axis Production management stated that



Axis Productions puts on an Industrial Music show at the Hollywood Baseball field.

“Numerous bands were given the opportunity to perform in shows like this one, and for one reason or another these people that claimed to be musicians turned down this chance. In this land of opportunity people still choose to sit and blame someone else for their failures.”

Saturday night, Feb. 18, at the baseball field behind the Dorothy Osceola Senior Center building, a stage complete with lighting and audio and video



David Cockman and Charlie Osceola.

equipment had been erected for and Industrial music show.

What’s that you may ask? According to the website Wikipedia.com, a free online encyclopedia,

“Industrial music is a loose term for a number of different styles of electronic and experimental music. First used in the mid 1970s to describe the then-unique sound of industrial records artists, a wide variety of artists and labels have since come to be called ‘industrial’... recalling factories and inhuman machinery.” Using synthesizers drum machines, key-boards and samplers, these young creative artists were able to perform some heavy technical tracks on their machines for the crowd. Older teens and young adults were dressed in black gothic style attire some with Mohawk hair styles with lots of body parts pierced. Girls were into

heavy black mascara and they all came out to support this brand of avant-garde music.

The Show was put together by Charlie Osceola, Bird Clan, a Big Cypress resident, and his partner David Cockman, together they make up the Axis Chemicals production company. The roommates met in Orlando, Fla., where they both attended school. They also played in a band together in Salt Lake City, Utah. They devote themselves entirely to industrial music while specializing in recording audio and video processes for their many projects.

Charlie and David said they both agree that there are just not enough musical outlets for industrial music in South Florida.

Charlie Osceola said: “We still want to write music and perform Industrial music, it’s more about feeling the music and of course the show is free for all Tribal members. I think this show is a huge success just for putting this on at the reservation.”

The four groups that performed, Cyanide Regime, Force is the Machine, RC Drone, and Dot Execute were the names of these imaginative recording artists.

Seminole Recreation Activities Coordinator Steve Young said, “Although the turnout was disappointing, we work hard with the community, and we are not here to tell the kids what music they can listen to, we want to showcase all kinds of music for the kids in our community.”

Charlie Osceola said he wants to thank Steve Young and the recreation department for assisting with the coordinating. Charlie was also very grateful to the Seminole Tribe of Florida and particularly President Moses Osceola for granting them permission to have this new music concert showcased for the entire community at the Hollywood reservation.

To learn more about this dynamic production company please visit their website at <http://www.axischemicalsavolutions.com>.



Miccosukee citizen Leroy Osceola with large paintings of Native American origins and carved canoes.

## Miccosukee Tribe Exhibits at the Annual Coconut Grove Arts Festival

By Felix DoBosz  
COCONUT GROVE, FL — During the President’s Day holiday weekend a beautiful warm and sunny day greeted the large turnout of festival goers. Thousands of South Floridians and visitors alike all enjoyed the 43rd Annual Coconut Grove Art Festival.

Near the many food vendor booths was a giant white tent where The Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida had a large exhibit. Along with the usual hand-made arts and crafts items such as jewelry, baskets, dolls and clothing were flag promotions to the Miccosukee Golf & Country Club, Indian Village & museum and the Resort Casino Hotel.

One exhibitor Miccosukee citizen Leroy Osceola displayed large paintings of Native American origins and hand carved wooden model canoes. They also had three NASCAR type racers on display and a 8 foot sleepy alligator in the adjacent booth area. A



Festival fan looks at one of many tents with artwork displayed for sale.

steady stream of curious visitors came by viewing the many items displayed for sale.

Most people enjoyed the colorful sights and the abundance of flavorful foods. A Rock Band played across from the exhibits in Peacock Park, but not too many people showed much interest in the music; it was a fine day for arts and crafts.

The festival has been a gated event since 2005 and several artists said they have much higher sales and organizers raise more funds for putting on this enormous art show by charging \$5 to enter. It’s estimated that more than 150,000 visited the festival primarily for the art. The festival consists of 336 artists work selected from more than 1,200 applicants for the privilege of displaying their various artworks.



Melanie Bert displays craft items including jewelry, dolls and baskets.



Colorful sculpted designer vases were on display for all festival fans to enjoy and ultimately purchase.

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# 'Reaching for the Stars:' A Year In Review of the Boys & Girls Club of the Seminole Tribe of Florida

**By Robert C. North Sr.**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The Boys & Girls Club of the Seminole Tribe of Florida ("The Club") became a charter member of the Boys & Girls Club of America in February 2004. Due to the strong commitment and dedication of the Seminole Tribal Council, community members and staff of youth oriented Tribal programs; the Club was able to open its doors to youth in March 2005.

In a relatively short period of time, the Club staff has registered 225 overall participants with a daily average participation of between 35–45 youth, ages 7–17. The main message spoken to all youth at the Club activities is "Reach for the Stars," in other words, only one's imagination can limit one's goals.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Seminole Tribe of Florida is designed to teach and challenge participating youth to maintain and/or adopt a positive healthy lifestyle. This healthy lifestyle message is broadcasted to youth by many individuals



to preserve our culture and teach it to our youth so that they can survive...because they are our future."

The Club offers positive classes for youth by providing them with education on healthy lifestyle choices. This is executed in a holistic approach on a daily basis by a multi-disciplinary team of staff from Health Education, Nutrition, Dental, Physical Education, Family Services and Language and Culture departments. Outdoor games are provided for youth by Boys & Girls Club staff and all of the snacks are provided under the supervision of the Health department's nutritionist.

"Sometimes we get caught off-guard...Doris [Mir, Allied Health, Nutritionist] will show up to inspect the contents of the kitchen...she'll let us know if certain food items are expired, what size food portions we should be serving, what to serve and what foods not to serve. It is amazing how food can continue to taste good, but is actually healthier by changing some of the key ingredients...the members have gotten used to eating healthier food on a daily basis at the Club," said Assistant Director of the Boys & Girls Club Thommy Doud.

Special activities are provided each month to promote team work, healthy competition, critical thinking and exposure to new ideas. Some of these special activities include The Amazing Youth Race–Seminole Style, Youth-Team Fear Factors and Iron Seminole Chef Cook-Offs.

Mysteriously, the most popular of all these special activities are the Youth-Team Fear Factors, as in The Original, Christmas, and Valentines Day-Team Fear Factors. Club member Jamie Tiger, 11, perhaps said it best when asked about her opinion of the Club activities.

"I like to play games outside. I like the fear factor [that the Club] they have. I learned I do not like asparagus... we get good snacks... [and do] healthy activities," Tiger said.

### Learning about positive expression–Life is the stage

The Red Ribbon Week, initiated by the Family Services department several years ago, spawned a series of venues where youth were encouraged to display their special abilities and talents year-round within the Club. Special recitals and concerts have taken place in the Hollywood Tribal Office auditorium where youth can perform before live audiences.

Chief Volunteer Officer for the Club Roger Nisely witnessed some of these performances.

"The Seminole community is alive with natural performers," he said. "I was amazed at all the special talents of the youth...they need to be encouraged and nurtured now because these performances will help them prepare for life in general."

### Traveling to Distant Lands

Traveling has always been a mainstay of the Seminole culture; the thatched-roof hut is exemplary of "Indianology" or native technology at its best.



Thommy Doud reading the rules of the 2005 Hollywood Seminole Youth Conference.

Robert North Sr.



Seminole Youth participating in Multi-Tribal Youth Cultural Exchange Conference in New Mexico.

Robert North Sr.

dates. Careful planning is critical in these events to insure that all safety precautions are taken. Also, in the interest of safety, the same river outfitter and locations are used each year.

Hells Canyon Raft, Inc. devotes their entire staff to accommodate the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the youth and any special needs and requests. Each river trip is culturally based with a series of classes and clinics taught by Seminole staff, parents and river guides.

Each evening a Seminole cultural consultant instructs youth on various aspects of Seminole Culture and shares stories and/or legends that deal with basic survival. During the day river guides teach participants about navigating either the Snake or Salmon Rivers of Idaho, which include Class I to IV river rapids.

The youth are expected to assist in the building and taking down of camp each day and cleaning duties are shared by participants as well. The participants are exposed to a taste of how it may have been traveling in a more traditional Indian camp setting, totally secluded from the rest of the world.

The only modes of transportation are by foot or by boat. The youth participate in clinics such as fly-fishing, kayaking, basic mountain climbing, production of arrowheads, cooking traditional and non-traditional foods and wildlife identification. The goal with each trip is that participating youth are able to translate their experiences in positive ways towards the rest of their lives.

### The Boys and Girls Club Experience

Overall, the Boys & Girls Club experience supports all things that are positive in the Seminole community. Through the positive process of community, the youth learn how to become team winners and how to lose gracefully and to know that joy can be obtained just by "playing the game".

Through the support of parents, Tribal programs and officials, the Club has become a happy meeting and sharing place. Youth participants know that there are things to look forward to, that exciting

in a positive, safe environment, where youth can learn, express themselves and grow on a daily basis. According to Tribal and national statistics, youth are more sedentary today, are more susceptible to diabetes and are less likely to obtain a high school diploma.

The Club is a venue where youth will participate in at least one physical activity each day, be encouraged to finish homework assignments and engage in school activities, and learn about people and places beyond their community borders to broaden their horizons.

Health Education Coordinator Brenda Bordogna and strong advocate of the Club describes the Boys & Girls Club in this manner, "...through the activities that we [participating B&G Club staff] do, we have seen leaders emerge and each [Club member] has had a chance to find their strength(s) and be recognized for those strengths, as well as discovering their weaknesses and working on ways to overcome those."

### Prospering Within the Community

Years ago native people were more active at work and at play. One could not buy one's food at the local supermarket; moreover food was obtained by hunting which may have taken days, weeks, or even a month. Similarly, the food was not "processed" there were not the additives that we see today.

We cannot turn the clock back into time, but important lessons can be learned from our ancestors which in turn can be translated into today's society. This is the foundation upon which the Seminole Tribe's Boys & Girls Club continues to build upon - much of what is offered at the Club is culturally based. Seminole Cultural consultants are a vital role of the daily operations of the Club which helps set a positive tone.

When asked to comment about the cultural component in the Club, Language & Culture Coordinator and Chief Professional Officer of the Club Jo Motlow North stated: "... [Seminole Culture] is an important link to our past...our culture is very much alive in the present day...and we need to continue

According to the late Seminole Medicine Man John Motlow in an interview before his death (translated by Jo North), the thatched-roof structure was made out of necessity, "...when we [the Seminole people] were running from the soldiers we did not have time to build log homes...so we made temporary shelter from cypress logs, vines and palm fronds...they kept us dry."

During the summer months the Boys & Girls Club continues to work with other Tribal departments and programs and sponsors an annual Youth Conference. The 2005 Youth Conference accommodated 125 participants, 54 were youth and the remaining participants were parents and staff.

This conference usually involves traveling to historical sites and interacting with the cultural arts such as wood carving, sewing, basket making and beadwork. Classes are also provided in the areas of career development, healthy lifestyle

choices and prevention.

Towards the end of each Conference, Tribal youth are given an opportunity to showcase what they learned during the conference. On the final day of the 2005 Annual Hollywood Seminole Youth Conference several youth participants were selected from the group to read their poems and short stories about the Seminole Warrior, Osceola, his life struggle, imprisonment and subsequent death.

"It was a hard life for the Seminoles back then...they had to fight...and were tortured...but that is why we are still here to talk about it," said Medicine Man and Cultural Consultant Bobby Henry about the importance of Seminole parents and elders teaching their young about Seminole history.

Through the support and cooperation of Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr., the Club continues to thrive. The Hollywood Seminole Youth Conference continues to accept applicants from the Ft. Pierce reservation, Trail reservation and foster children originally from the Hollywood Seminole reservation community and perhaps presently living on another reservation.

### Youth Cultural Exchange

In August of 2005, Seminole youth participated in a youth cultural exchange conference in New Mexico. Other Indian youth participants included Yavapai from Arizona, Upper Sioux from Minnesota and members from various Pueblos of New Mexico. The conference participants were also introduced to a contingent of Maori students from New Zealand.

The Maori spoke to the youth about how at one point their culture and native language was almost lost, but through hard work, commitment and dedication most Maori's today can speak their native tongue. R.C. North Jr. was moved by the entire conference which inspired him to write two songs.

After his return to Florida, R.C. said: "[The Youth Cultural Exchange conference] was a very powerful experience, I felt as though I was taken back into time about 100 years... the people of Acoma and Santa Ana Pueblos opened their homes and their hearts to us...total strangers, this experience empowered me..."

### The Traveling Camp

Perhaps the most of extreme of all events that are sponsored by the Boys & Girls Club are the River Adventure Trips, which also take place during the summer months. These trips are invariably planned a year before the actual launch

events are about to happen just around the next corner.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Seminole Tribe of Florida has hosted Native American stars such as Native golfer Notah Begay III (Navajo/Pueblo), Native actor and rapper, Litefoot (Cherokee) and Miss New Mexico Onawa Lacy (Navajo) as well as local heroes and Tribal officials.

These Native American guests to the Club all delivered the same message to the Youth, "...set your goals high and keep Reaching for the Stars..."

To sign your child up for Boys & Girls Club of the Seminole Tribe of Florida activities, call Thommy Doud at (954) 410-0957 or Robert North at (954) 410-0967. Those youth that are Seminole Tribal citizens and/or live within the boundaries of the Seminole Tribe of Florida Reservation are eligible to participate in Club activities.



Robert North Sr.

Aaron Osceola enjoys his "s'mores" on the last night of a 2005 "River Adventure", Leon Pewo looks on.



Robert North Sr.

Seminole Hard Rock Career Classes at the 2005 Hollywood Seminole Youth Conference.



Robert North Sr.

Youth & Staff getting ready for dinner at the typical "River Adventure" camp setting.



Robert North Sr.

Youth Participating in the Valentine's Day "Youth Fear Factor".





Chris Jenkins

The dynamic duo of Shawn Henderson and Tony Heard won the diaper relay race game.

## Osceola Birthday and Baby Shower Surprise

**By Chris Jenkins**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Congratulations and a Happy Birthday wishes were in order for a member of *The Seminole Tribune* and the Seminole Tribal community. A double-dip of surprises and goodies were in store for Lila Osceola on Feb 13, as the Tribune reporter celebrated her 29 birthday and baby shower. Lila and fiancé Tony Heard are expecting their third child on March 18.

Many attended such as colleagues, friends, and family members including Lila's step-father, President Moses Osceola and grandmother Maggie Osceola. The Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Grand Ballroom played host to the festivities.

Lila's arrival was an exciting; the *Tribune* staff conspired to get her out of the office, telling her she had to cover a story at the Hard Rock. As she neared the ballroom, her fiancé alerted the attendees and everyone yelled "Surprise!" as Lila walked in.

To keep the day fun and interesting, attendees played several traditional baby shower games, including the guess Lila's belly-size game and a diaper-relay race game. Lila's grandmother



Chris Jenkins

Lila's family members (L-R) Mary Gay Osceola and Maggie Osceola.



Chris Jenkins

Virginia "The Boss" Mitchell

Maggie Osceola guessed the correct belly size and the team of her fiancé and her step-father's Administrative Assistant Shawn Henderson won the diaper relay race.

The afternoon ended with unwrapping gifts including diapers, baby clothing, a scrapbooking supplies, sunglasses, and work out gear for Lila to use after the baby is born.



Chris Jenkins

The adorable couple: Lila Osceola and Tony Heard.



Chris Jenkins

(L-R) Sherry Maraj and Steve Galla put on a diaper blindfolded.



Chris Jenkins

Tony Heard's winning baby.



Chris Jenkins

Congratulations on your new baby, Lila and Tony.... from all of us at *The Seminole Tribune*!

## Tribal Employee Recognized for Supporting U.S. Troops In Afghanistan

**By Nery Mejicano**

On Feb. 23 Melissa Sherman from the Seminole Tribe of Florida Communications department was recognized by Wolfhound Platoon of the 25th Infantry Division, for her support of the soldiers during their 14 month deployment in Afghanistan.

Due to her efforts, the soldiers received much needed and wanted items such as: socks, wet towels, home baked cookies, grooming items such as nail clippers, deodorants and antifungal medicated powders, among other items.

In addition to battling the enemy, the soldiers of the Wolfhound Platoon went through a very cold winter and a suffocating summer. Their life was made a bit easier and more comfortable due to the wonderful and dedicated efforts of caring individuals such as Sherman. Due to her efforts some of the small comforts of home arrived via mail and was greeted with smiles and appreciation by the young soldiers.

For her generous and thoughtful actions, Melissa was presented with a certificate of appreciation by Nery Mejicano, representing the Wolfhound's commanding officer. Along with the certificate, Sherman was given an American Flag that flew over one of the American fire bases in Afghanistan.

The platoon is presently in Hawaii awaiting



Steve Galla

(L-R) Nery Mejicano with good samaritan Melissa Sherman, who holds the flag given to her by the Wolfhound Platoon.

redeployment orders and Sherman already has several boxes awaiting shipment to wherever the soldiers will go and face another dangerous challenge. Their deployment will be made a little easier by tasting some of the wonderful chocolate cookies and having available comfort items that we all take for granted.

## Valentine's Day Gift Basket Winner

**By Chris Jenkins**

**HOLLYWOOD** — Congratulations are in order for Roberta Robinson of the

Accounting department. She was the winner of a gift basket in the Seminole Coffee Company's drawing on Valentine's Day.

Presenting the basket is sales associate, Barbara DiCarlo of the Florida Seminole Coffee Company.



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Turquoise Battiest (center) proudly displays her certificate for participating in the school Spelling Bee.

## Battiest Competes in Spelling Bee

**By Chris Jenkins**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Sweaty hands, nervousness, and a loss of memory; its all part of the process as the goal is to advance and stay alive. It can all be intense if you're a young kid competing in one of the biggest tests of words and memory—the spelling bee.

June, husband Junior, and most importantly, daughter Turquoise Battiest got their first taste of it all in the annual event at the Hollywood Christian School, Mar 1.

Unfortunately, Turquoise went out in the second round on the word “paddle” but, put it all into perspective calling it “scary, but... fun.”

First, second and third graders participated, and the top six students from each class were chosen as preparations began for the big day in rehearsals last Feb. This was the first year hosting the competition for Principal Vernita Jones who felt it could not have gone smoother.

“I don’t know any-

thing I would’ve changed,” Jones said.

Of all the grades to offer the most intrigue, the first graders gave the best show, and after eight rounds, the winner was Jameer Hinds. The second round saw Gabby Caparelli take home the top prize. The third graders saw Natalie Martinez come out victorious.

“I was impressed with how many rounds our kids went through,” said Jones.

Jones enthusiasm and confidence remained high as the words continued to become more difficult, but the students seemed to become more focused.

“Some of the words the kids did not know, but were able to spell out,” Jones said. “I was impressed with that.”

The fun didn’t stop there as the top six from each grade went to Flamingo Road Christian Academy on March 8 to compete against two other schools in the area. The stakes will be a little higher next year, however, Jones has high expectations.

“Next year we’ll hope to compete in state competition in Orlando,” Jones said.



Turquoise Battiest in the second round.

## Internships Explored by Human Resources As Recruitment Tool

**By Susan Etxebarría**  
The Seminole Tribe of Florida created a 2006 initiative to reach out to institutions of higher learning to place interns within select Tribal programs and departments.

“The Tribe wants to expand its horizons in term of recruiting people in specialized fields, especially in the education field,” said Angel A. Torres, recruitment & Native American employment program manager.

“Through internships we can attract some of the best and brightest college graduates.”

Internships can benefit the Tribe while providing important career experiences for college students. Interns work within business and non-profit organizations to help accomplish its goals or complete projects that have been put on the back burner due to lack of time or staffing.

Interns are not normally paid wages but earn college credits and gain invaluable work experiences that give them an inside look at their chosen field. Often an intern will prove to be an excellent candidate for employment once they have received their diploma.

“We want interns from all the major universities in Florida,” Torres said. “We are looking for universities and colleges with educational programs that fit with what the Tribes needs.”

Coordinator Ivette Duarte, Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Dennis Weidman, Career Consultants Lauren Hubachec and Kyra Spence, and Assistant Director and Liaison to the



Tribal representatives at the internship program.

Internships in accounting, health and information technology departments are just some of the growth areas where the interns can be placed, he added.

Torres is inviting university and college delegations to see for themselves the internship opportuni-

College of Business Administration, Jose Toscano.

They met with the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum’s Executive Director Tina Osceola, Museum Director David Blackard, Education Coordinator Cynthia Kaase, Curator of Collections Anne McCudden and Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer James P. Pepe.

The FIU delegates were treated to a luncheon at the Big Cypress Family Investment Center and an overview of the museum department by Tina Osceola.

Following a question and answer period, the representatives were taken on a tour of the museum. The tour enabled the FIU delegation to see where interns might be placed and what kinds of projects that interns might be assigned. They were able to see how and where museum artifacts not on exhibit are stored in the curatorial building; many still being studied for accurate historical data.

They also toured the archival vault that contains hundreds of unidentified photos that remain to be cataloged. These were just two of the kinds of projects that students studying anthropology and archaeology could provide assistance while they gain real life working experience under the tutelage of the museum staff.

“The response from FIU regarding this visit was very favorable,” said Torres.

He said FIU will return on March 22 to talk to the Tribe’s senior management and department directors about how to utilize its internship program in other fields.

“We are very excited about the opportunities that are being made available to the students at FIU,” said Ivette Duarte of FIU’s Career Services.

After touring Big Cypress for a day, Duarte said she was in awe and amazed by the entrepreneurship of the Tribe.



(L-R) Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Director Dave Blackard, Associate Professor Dennis Weidman, Internship Coordinator Ivette Duarte and Recruitment & Native American Employment Program Manager Angel A. Torres.

ties that can be created within the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Many people are unaware of the significant number of employment opportunities working for the Tribe, not just in gaming but in other fields as well, said Torres.

For that purpose, Torres arranged a meeting on Feb. 14 between representatives of Florida International University and key staff at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. Torres had previously met with Indian River Community College officials and he is scheduled to meet with staff at Edison Community College next.

The FIU delegation included Internship

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## Seminole Students Attend Close Up Program

**By Emma Brown**  
**WASHINGTON, DC** — Every year the Seminole Tribe sends high school students from each reservation to Washington to be part of the Close Up Program. This year high school students from the Immokalee, Ft. Pierce, and Hollywood reservations attended the program in Washington, DC from Feb. 5-11.

The Close Up Program is an exciting and invigorating weeklong study visit to the nation’s capital. Students have the opportunity to experience their government and the political process firsthand. This program allows students to get an inside look at the nation’s capital and at the people and places that make DC unique.

Students from the United Southern and Eastern Tribes (USET) attend the Close Up Program during impact week, which is the week of the



Tribal high schoolers in front of the famous Capitol Building.

National USET convention. This allows the students to have meetings with their leading officials and directors and share their ideas and thoughts about their communities. Students engage in a learning adventure like no other filled with active participation, peer interaction, and most of all, lots of fun!

The Close Up Program is designed to help students become an active citizen and understand how it is that they can influence their community, state and nation. Students on the program are taken to explore the corridors of Capitol Hill, visit monuments, museums, and attend daily sessions which allows them to exchange viewpoints on current issues that effect their nation and community.

It is a close up, intensive look at government in action, both at the Tribal level and national level. The students this year put together a few community actions plans that were endorsed by many Tribal USET members all along the Eastern seaboard.

The main focus of the Seminole students’ community action plans was to find means to keep our students motivated in the area of education. Close Up is not all work though, the students enjoyed nights out such as attending a play, and a final banquet and dance.

Above anything the Seminole students gained invaluable friendships of many other Native Americans from USET Tribes that will be everlasting and maybe someday valuable contacts for conducting positive Tribal business. If you are in high school and wish to attend next year’s Close Up program, please contact the education advisor at your reservation.



(L-R) Dean Stokes Jr., Marty Tommie, Jasper Thomas and Marty Tommie Jr. in D.C.

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# Scholarship, Recognition Program Available for 7–12 Year Old Girls

**Submitted by Pre-Teen America Scholarship & Recognition Program**  
**TAMPA** — Applications are now being accepted for the 2006 Pre-Teen Florida Scholarship & Recognition Program to be held July 21–23 at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel.

The Pre-Teen America Scholarship and Recognition Program recognizes and rewards hundreds of young ladies nationwide with an opportunity to become the leaders of tomorrow and provides an avenue in which they realize they can truly make a difference in the world. Additionally it promotes high morals, standards of excellence, patriotism, fellowship, family values and social development.

At each of our state events, two individual representatives are selected who prove to be truly exceptional in their individual age groups (7–9 and 10–12 years old) based on seven evaluation categories, none of which are based on outward appearance or physical attributes.

The criteria utilized in Pre-Teen America are: academic achievement, volunteer service to community, school honors and activities, development of personal skills and abilities, general knowledgeability, communicative ability, and on-stage acknowledgment of accomplishments.

In addition each participant is recognized and presented awards for their outstanding achievements in academics, community service, athletics, arts, knowledgeability, creativity, personal development, communications, and much more. The school of each participant also receives a Certificate of Achievement and letter notifying them of their student's selection, participation and awards received in order that the student is further recognized for their positive accomplishments.

Applications may be submitted via the Pre-Teen America Scholarship & Recognition Program website [www.preteenamerica.com](http://www.preteenamerica.com) or obtained by calling (225) 752-6015 or e-mailing [info@preteenamerica.com](mailto:info@preteenamerica.com).

Recommendations of young ladies are always welcome and may be provided by family, teachers, Girl Scout leaders, coaches, dance instructors, etc. A recommendation form as well as an informational video may be found on the website.



# NNAYI Scholarships Available

**Submitted by Lucinda Myers, NNAYI Program Coordinator**  
**WASHINGTON, DC** — The National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) is a week-long program that offers scholarships to more than 60 Native American high school students. The scholarship will allow each individual to attend an academic enrichment program held each summer in Washington, D.C. NNAYI prepares students for admission to college and professional schools, as well as for careers in health and/or biomedical research.

Twelve counselors will be selected for the NNAYI program. Native American medical and health professional students preferred but not required. Counselors will serve as a role model and guide to a select group of high school students. All expenses are included and counselors will receive a stipend upon completion of the program.

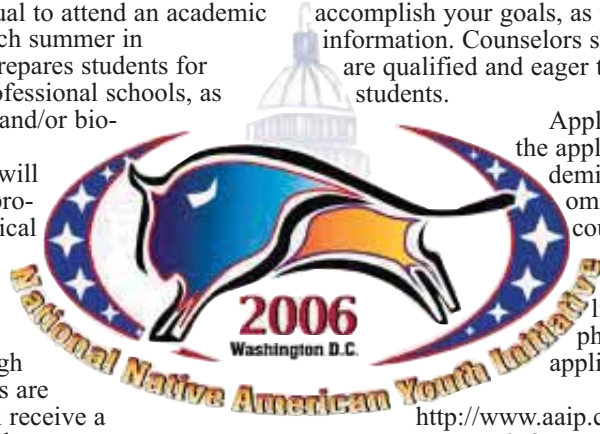
Eligible students must be Native American, age 16–18, who plan to enter a health profession and have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5. Program counselors must be Native American medical and health professional students, age 21 and older.

The application deadline is April 20.

Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Included in the application for both students and counselors must be: a one page, double spaced personal statement. High school students should describe themselves, their family and future educational and career plans. Include how NNAYI will help you to accomplish your goals, as well as any other relevant information. Counselors should express why they are qualified and eager to work with the NNAYI students.

Applications must also contain: the applicant's most recent academic transcript, letter of recommendation from school counselor/instructor submitted in a sealed envelope, a recommendation checklist, primary data sheet and photograph. To obtain the application, please surf to <http://www.aaip.com/student/nnayi.html>.

For more information, call (405) 946-7072 or e-mail [lmeyers@aaip.com](mailto:lmeyers@aaip.com). Mail completed application to the following address: Lucinda Myers, NNAYI Program Coordinator, Association of American Indian Physicians, 1225 Sovereign Row, Suite 103, Oklahoma City, OK 73108.



# Trail of Tears Scholarships Available For Alabama, Tennessee Students

*Alabama-Tennessee Trail of Tears Board of Directors Funding Scholarship*

**Submitted by Alison Stanfield**  
The 13th Annual Trail of Tears Commemoration & Motorcycle Ride is set for the weekend of Sept. 16 with the purpose of education and raising awareness about Native American history. To assist with education, the Alabama-Tennessee Trail of Tears Board of Directors will contribute \$60,000 towards scholarships in Alabama and Tennessee.

The Alabama-Tennessee Trail of Tears Board of Directors is the non-profit, volunteer group that organizes the Trail of Tears Commemoration and Motorcycle Ride.

Board Treasurer Alison Stanfield said: "The board uses money raised from donations, the sale of official event merchandise and memberships to fund the education program. The education program has funded over \$210,000 in scholarships, erected 10 historic markers and a commemorative bronze statue and placed over 100 highway signs in Alabama and Tennessee in the past ten years."

The \$60,000 Trail of Tears Scholarship Fund will be divided between students in Tennessee and Alabama. Students in Tennessee must be attending the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, however, Alabama students can use the scholarships at any college or university.

The scholarships will be awarded to students of Native American descent from tribes originating in the Southeast and must provide evidence of enrollment in a federal or state recognized Tribe and be able to verify one-sixteenth Native American heritage. Academic performance and financial need will also be determining factors. Each student will receive \$5,000 for tuition, books, other fees and housing.

Scholarship applications are available now. The deadline for entry is April 28 and the winners will be announced May 15. Students interested in applying for the scholarships can obtain applications at [www.al-tn-trailoftears.org](http://www.al-tn-trailoftears.org), (256) 574-6805 or (256) 536-3702 or e-mailing [alisons@flo-tour.org](mailto:alisons@flo-tour.org).



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# Tips on Internet Safety for Children

**Submitted by Sergeant Al Signore**  
There are some people who use the internet as a means to sexually exploit children. Some of these individuals are gradually are able to seduce their targets through the use of attention, affection, kindness and even gifts. These individuals are often willing to devote considerable amounts of time, money, and energy in the process. They listen to and emphasize with the problem of children. They will be aware of the latest music, hobbies, and interests with the problem of children. They attempt to gradually lower children's own inhibitions by slowly introducing sexual context and content into their conversations.

Adolescents and teenagers are particularly in online discussions regarding companionship, relationship, or sexual activity.

**What are the risks?**  
**Exposure to inappropriate material:** a child may be exposed to inappropriate material that is sexual, hateful, or violent in nature, or encourage activities that are dangerous or illegal.

**Physical Molestation:** Another risk is that, while online, a child might provide information or arrange an encounter that could risk his or her safety. In some cases, pedophiles have used email, bulletin boards, and chat areas to gain a child's confidence and then a face-to-face meeting.

**Harassment:** a child might encounter email or chat/bulletin board messages that are harassing, demeaning or belligerent.

**Financial Risk:** A child might do something that has negative consequences such as giving out a parent's credit card number.

**Signs that a Child Might be at Risk Online**  
The child spends large amounts of time online, especially at night. Many children who fall victim to computer sex-offenders spends large amounts of time online, particularly in chat rooms. Children online are at the greatest risk during the evening hours. Most offenders spend their evenings online trying to locate and lure children or seeking pornography.

The child's computer has pornography on it. Pornography is often used in the sexual victimization of children. Child pornography may be used to show the child victim that sex between children and adults is normal.

The child receives telephone calls from unknown men or makes telephone calls, sometimes long distance, to numbers not recognized by parents. Most computer sex-offenders want to talk to their child victims on the telephone. They often engage in "phone-sex" with the children and often seek to set up an actual meeting for real sex. While a child may be hesitant to give out his/hers home phone number, the offender may give out theirs. With caller id, they can readily find out the child's phone number.

The child receives mail, gifts, or packages from someone the parents doesn't know as part of seduction process, it is common for offenders to send letters, photographs, and all manners of gifts to their potential victims.

The child turns the monitor off quickly or changes the screen on the monitor when a parent enters the room. A child looking at pornographic images of having sexually explicit conversation does not want the parent to see it on the screen. Some children have developed an acronyms include the following:

**POS:** Parents over shoulder  
**TOS:** Teacher over shoulder  
**PAW:** Parents are watching  
**TAW:** Teacher are watching  
**SAW:** Siblings are watching  
**CTN:** Can't talk now  
**NP:** Nosy parents  
**P911:** My parents are coming  
**PA:** Parent alert  
**PAL:** Parents are listening  
**PAN:** Parents are nearby

**The child becomes withdrawn from family**  
Computer sex-offenders will work very hard at driving a wedge between a child and their family or at exploiting their relationship. They will accentuate any minor problems at home the child might have. Children may also become withdrawn after sexual victimization.

**Guidelines for Parents**  
By taking responsibility for your children's online computer use, parents can greatly minimize any potential risks of being online. Make it a family rule to:

Never give out identifying information-home address, school name, or telephone number-in a public message such as chat or bulletin boards, and be sure you're dealing with someone that both you and your children know and trust before giving out this information via email.

Get to know the services your child uses, if you don't know how to log on, get your child to show you. Find out what type of information it offers and whether there are ways for parents to block out objectionable material.

Never allow a child to arrange a face-to-face meeting with another computer user without parental permission. If a meeting is arranged, make the first one in a public spot, and be sure to accompany your child.

Never respond to messages bulletin board items that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening, or make you feel uncomfortable, encourage your children to tell you if they encounter such messages. If you or your child receives a message that is harassing of a sexual nature, or threatening, forward a copy of the message to your service provider and ask their assistance. Remember that people online may not be who they seem. Because you can't see or even hear the person it would be easy for someone to misrepresent him-or herself. Thus, someone indicating that "she" is a "12-year-old girl" could in reality be a 40-year old man.

Remember that everything you read online may not be true. Any offer that's "too good to be true" probably is. Be careful about any offers that involve you're coming to a meeting or having someone visit your home.

Set reasonable rules and guidelines for computer use by your children. Discuss these rules and post them near the computer as a reminder. Remember to monitor their compliance with the rules, especially when it comes to the amount of time your children spend on the computer. A child or teenager's excessive use of online services or bulletin boards, especially late at night, may be a clue that there is a potential problem. Remember that personal computers and online services should not be used as an electronic babysitter.

**Rules for Children to follow for Online Safety**  
I will not give personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents work address, parents telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents permission.

I will tell my parents right away if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable.

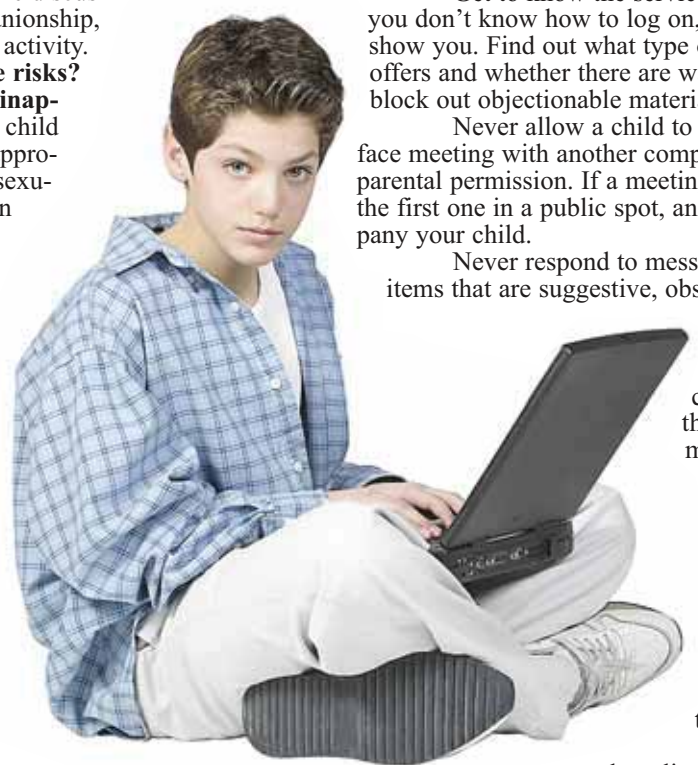
I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet" online without first checking with my parents. If my parents agree to the meeting, I will be sure that it is in a public place and bring my mother and father along.

I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents.

I will not respond to any messages that are mean in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents right away so that they can contact the online service.

I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going online. We will decide upon the time of the day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.

If you would like to have our Crime Prevention Unit visit your business, church group, community gatherings, or other meetings in order to provide a free seminar, please call the Seminole Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at the following numbers: Tampa, Big Cypress, Immokalee: Sergeant Al Signore, (813) 478-2680, Hollywood: Officer Susie Lawson, (954) 961-7877, Brighton, Ft. Pierce: Officer Ulysses Boldin, (863) 763-5731.



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The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Richard Castillo worked as a Public Defender in Broward County from 1990-1996 and has been in private practice for nine years. In 1995 he was voted the Trial Attorney of the year. He graduated from Capital University in 1989 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1990, Federal Bar in 1992, and the Federal Trial Bar in 1994.



Health Corner

# Cinnamon May Be the Spice of Life

## New Study Says It Helps Diabetics

**Submitted by the Seminole Health Department**

Most people know how delicious cinnamon is in oatmeal and baked goods. However, a recent study by researchers at the Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center in Maryland, shows that cinnamon may be helpful for Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

In a preliminary study of 60 men and women with Type 2 diabetes, the participants took cinnamon for 40 days in amounts that varied from quarter of a teaspoon to one-and-a-half teaspoons.

Upon completion of the study, the researchers found that everyone taking the cinnamon lowered their blood glucose levels by an average of 18 to 29 percent. The study also showed that triglycerides, LDL cholesterol and total



cholesterol were also significantly reduced.

Adding a mere teaspoon of cinnamon to a balanced daily diet, in addition to medications, regular exercise and healthy eating habits, may be a simple way to help control diabetes and heart disease. Some researchers suggest the McCormick's brand of cinnamon to be most beneficial.

For more information about cinnamon's healthful benefits please contact your reservation's health educator or read about the cinnamon research study, Cinnamon Improves Glucose and Lipids of People with Type 2 Diabetes, at the American Diabetes Association's website [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org); put the keyword "cinnamon" into a search.

Remember, it is always important to visit a physician before beginning any type of new treatment.

# Just the Basics: Easy Tips for Healthy Eating With Diabetes

**Submitted by the Health Department**

Eating a healthy diet is important for everyone but even more so for people with diabetes. Eating a variety of foods in the right amounts, eating at regular times each day, and being physically active will help you manage your blood glucose. People with diabetes do not have to prepare special foods or meals, but you will have to limit how much you consume.

Healthy eating helps diabetics to: maintain overall good health, control blood glucose, achieve normal blood lipid (fat) levels, maintain a healthy blood pressure, maintain a healthy body weight and prevent complications of diabetes.

Eating a variety of foods will provide you with all the nutrients your body needs to stay healthy. Nutrients are substances in foods that provide calories, such as carbohydrates, fat, and protein. Different foods contain all of these nutrients along with vitamins and minerals. Eating a wide variety of foods will ensure you are getting enough of each nutrient in your diet.

All three nutrients provide your body with energy, but carbohydrate is your main source of energy. Protein builds and repairs your body tissues. Fat is needed for healthy hair and skin and also

carries certain vitamins throughout the body. People with diabetes should eat enough of the right types of carbohydrates.

The amount and types of carbohydrate in meals has a great impact on blood glucose levels. Eating more of these types of carbohydrates which are high in fiber—whole grain breads and cereals, brown rice, lentils, dried beans and peas, fruits and vegetables—may help you feel full and may lower blood glucose and cholesterol levels. By eating regular meals and spreading carbohydrate foods evenly throughout the day, you can maintain energy levels without causing blood glucose levels to rise.

Along with healthy eating, physical activity is important. Try to do at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most days of the week. Regular physical activity will improve your blood sugar levels.

Making healthy food choices plays an important part of the overall management of your diabetes, including taking your medication and monitoring your blood glucose levels. Eating healthy doesn't mean giving up your favorite foods; it means choosing wisely from a variety of foods that you like to eat. It's okay to enjoy foods high in fat once in a while, be sure to balance it with staying active and enjoying a wide variety of foods the rest of the day.

For more information and help with a personalized meal plan, contact your healthcare provider or registered dietitian at each reservation.



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## Dental Program Staffers Now Serve at Two Clinics

**Submitted By Kerri Cook**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — The Seminole Dental Program would like to welcome some its new staff members. Dr. Paula Roberts, D.M.D, Juana Prince, R.D.H. and Dental Assistants Jennifer Forbes and Tica Rivas, who have all served the Big Cypress community since December 2005.

They will also be serving the Immokalee community at the new Immokalee Dental Office in the coming weeks.

We would also like to welcome Stacey Wilder, R.D.H to our Brighton Dental Office. She will be providing dental hygiene services.

The new Dental Program schedule will be as follows:					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Big Cypress:	Dr. Roberts		Dr. Roberts		Dr. Roberts
Brighton:	Dr. McClane	Dr. McClane	Dr. McClane	Dr. McClane	Dr. McClane
Hollywood:	Dr. Woodlock	Dr. Smith	Dr. Sofianos	Dr. Sofianos	Dr. Woodlock
Immokalee:	Dr. Sofianos	Dr. Roberts		Dr. Roberts	
Hours of operation:	Hollywood 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Lunch from 12:00-1:00 Big Cypress 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Lunch from 12:30-1:30 Brighton 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Lunch from 12:00-1:00 Immokalee 9:30 am – 3:30 p.m. Lunch from 12:00-1:00				

## The Healthy Senior

**By Fred Cicetti**  
*[Editor's Note: Fred Cietti is a syndicated columnist who writes about issues concerning senior citizens' health. The opinions he expressed are his own. If you would like to ask a question, please write fredcicetti@gmail.com. All Rights Reserved © 2006 by Fred Cicetti]*

**Q. Do grandparents get more colds than seniors without grandchildren?**

I was unable to find any specific data on grandparents and colds. However, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases reports that, in families with children in school, the number of colds per child can be as high as 12 a year. NIAID also reports that all people older than 60 average less than one cold a year.

Put those over-60s in those homes with school children and it doesn't take a mathematician to figure out that the number of colds in grandparents will jump significantly.

Any grandparent will tell you that being around their little treasures has made them sick. My five pre-school grandchildren are generous with all the viruses they get from their friends at day-care and play. My personal physician, also a grandfather, says that one of the problems is that these walking petri dishes come up with new germs older people haven't developed antibodies for.

What are you supposed to do when one of the darlings comes up to you with a runny nose and asks for a hug? Well, if you understand the hazards, perhaps you can formulate a plan that works for you around the treasured children of your children. Obviously the best course of action is to stay away from grandchildren when they have colds, but any

grandparent knows that's next to impossible.

There are two ways you can catch a cold: 1. Inhaling drops of mucus full of cold germs from the air and 2. Touching a surface that has cold germs and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

So, avoid close facial contact with your ailing grandchildren. Use some restraint. If the child needs comfort, limit yourself to hugs that don't put you in the position of inhaling their germs.

Washing your hands thoroughly and often is important. Washing with soap and water doesn't kill the cold virus, but removes it. The scrubbing is more important than the soap. Also, if you can, try to avoid touching your face after you have been around a child with a cold.

Rhinoviruses can live up to three hours on your skin, and on objects such as telephones and stair railings. Cleaning environmental surfaces with a virus-killing disinfectant might help prevent spread of infection.

Where are these viruses found most often? No, not in the bathroom. The worst room in the house for germs is the kitchen. And the greatest concentration is found in sponges and dishcloths.

Laundering a dishcloth doesn't eliminate germs. And putting a sponge through the dishwasher makes it look clean but doesn't remove the infection. Instead, moisten the sponge or dishcloth and microwave it for two minutes. Then you'll have safe, germ-free tools to use.

These tips will help, but the reality is that you're going to catch some colds. They're the price of being a caregiver. It's the price you paid as a parent. Now you're having a second chance for all that love...and all those germs.



## Nutrition Month and Dental Health

**Submitted by Keri Cook**  
March is National Nutrition Month. Good nutrition plays an important role in good dental health. Frequent snacking of sugary goodies and drinks increases the risk of developing tooth decay.

Some snacks have hidden sugars. Corn syrup, high fructose corn syrup, modified cornstarch, and maltose are all sugar. If you see one of these terms listed as one of the first ingredients on a food label be cautious. Many snacks claim to be low in fat, or have no fat. But a review of the food label will

probably tell you that it is high in sugar and calories.

One or two snacks a day is okay, but choose tooth friendly snacks such as fresh fruits and vegetables or cheese. These choices will also be better for your overall health!

For more information about nutrition and dental health, please contact the Seminole Dental Program: Big Cypress (863) 983-5151, Brighton (863) 763-0271, Hollywood (954) 964-3411 and Immokalee (239) 867-3400.

### Dear Counselor,

My wife is about to leave me. I am a 38 year old married man, with three children. I have been married for more than 12 years, and I truly love my wife and three daughters. I am addicted to crack cocaine. I have zero balance in my bank account. I am about to lose my job. I find myself increasingly paranoid. My cocaine habit started as a week-end pleasure with my friends.

My whole world is upside down. I

promised my wife, I would quit one day, and then I find myself in the crack house or running to the pawn shop the next day.

Please help me.

Signed,  
Desperate  
on the  
Reservation

### Dear Desperate on the Reservation,

I am proud of you for taking the first step on your road to recovery on your journey to remain drug free. You will discover that recovery is not a matter of chance; it is a matter of choice. Let me share with you, no matter what your past may have been, your future is spotless.

Your letter describes the heartbreak of cocaine abuse. Your entire family is being held hostage. Each year, millions of people seek therapy and receive professional help for a vast number of problems and issues.

Your problem with cocaine is caused by its mind-altering effect. Cocaine works by

stimulating the brain and once ingested cocaine quickly travels to the brain, which releases dopamine. Dopamine is a chemical that makes humans feel pleasure. However, unlike the natural release of dopamine cocaine prevents the brain from reabsorbing the chemical, which causes extreme euphoria.

By stimulating the brain, cocaine also stimulates the digestive tract, cardiovascular system and the central nervous system.

Frequently there is a preoccupation with or compulsive need to take this powerful stimulant thus becoming a chronic abuser. The obsession overrides everything: family, friend, careers and money.

An individual using cocaine believes they can hide their addiction. However, the obvious physical signs soon become noticeable; cocaine users typically have runny noses, frequently upper respiratory infections and severe mood swings, cocaine's cycle of euphoria. Followed by severe depression typically reinforce its use.

I encourage you to contact and make an appointment with the Family Services department. This Tribal agency has a variety of treatments for cocaine abuse. The

initial phase is detoxification and total abstinence. Family Services aims for the patient to have total withdrawal with the least possibility and physical and minimal psychological discomfort.

Signed,  
Counselor



Basil Phillips  
M.S. Mental Health Counseling

Letters of interest from the community

All letters should be sent to  
**ASK THE COUNSELOR**  
Family Services Department  
3006 Josie Billie Avenue  
Hollywood, FL 33024  
basilphillips@semtiibe.com

## Native American Indian General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous

**Submitted by Gary Clark**  
Greetings,

We of NAIGSO-AA would like to ask you to give us just a few minutes of your time to introduce you to the Native American General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous. NAIGSO-AA was formed in 1999 as a result of the findings of an Alcoholics Anonymous ad hoc committee created to determine how well the AA message was reaching Native Americans in the San Diego area of California.

The committee's determination was that the AA message was not being effectively carried to Native Americans. Since that time NAIGSO-AA has held steadfast to the vision of "Carrying the Message" of recovery from alcoholism into the Indian Nations. It has more than 85 registered Native American AA groups and approximately 450 loner members.

Native Americans are peoples who have their own customs and traditions regarding how to live in harmony and balance. They are polite to listen, but will go their own way. Those that do attend AA meetings have a desire to get sober, break the cycle of alcoholism, and obtain a sober life in recovery.

NAIGSO-AA understands and realizes that

the message of recovery must come from within, that Native Americans must be acknowledged as sovereign peoples, that they must be encouraged to come forth on their own, allowing AA to flourish from within, to network and meet throughout their land at powwows, AA meetings and Tribal gatherings, in keeping with Native American custom.

It is our hope that one day every Native American alcoholic will be able to find an Alcoholics Anonymous group where they live, honoring their customs and traditions. We encourage you to contact us to discuss the needs in your community. We would like to assist you in any possible way to establish an AA meeting honoring the Native American traditions in your area.

Our sober support online AA group can be found at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/naigsoaafamilycircles>. Our website address is <http://www.naigsoaa.org>.

Sincerely,  
Gary Clark  
(256) 247-5887  
garyc473@aol.com

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## 2006 Swamp Cabbage Festival

**LABELLE, FL** — Residents of Hendry County kicked off their Swamp Cabbage Festival on Thursday evening, Feb. 23, in Labelle, Fla. 2006 marked the 40th anniversary of this annual event which attracts more than 30,000 visitors.

The first scheduled activity was the old timers' supper which included presentations by descendants of Florida's native inhabitants and the area's original pioneer families. Representing the Seminole Tribe was Stanlo Johns from Brighton, Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers.

Johns made reference to the transition of the Seminole Tribe from the hunter-gatherer society that originally occupied the area into the agricultural and livestock production giant that it is today. What started as a few pigs and an occasional cow in the remote villages, developed into jobs as cowboys on the settlers' ranches that were beginning to dot the landscape.

The ranchers and Indians worked together as neighbors transforming South Florida into a very important agricultural community. During the mid-1900's, Seminole cattle herds were being established at Brighton and then Big Cypress. With hard work and the use of modern technologies, the Seminole Tribe has now become one of the top cattle producers in Florida and has received recognition for the quality of its livestock across the entire U.S.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress spoke about the bond that developed between the settlers who came to homestead the area and Seminole Indians who already called this land their home.

"Following the Seminole Wars, several trading posts were established and eventually the two groups were able to establish a peaceful co-existence," he said. "What was once a very sparsely populated area, developed into

rural communities in which they all became neighbors and attempted to benefit from each other's presence. Despite the heavy influx of tourists and developers along both coast lines, the agricultural communities of South Central Florida have managed to preserve the rural neighborhood atmosphere first created by their ancestors."

Cypress concluded by saying: "Over the years, people living in this farm and ranch lifestyle that we enjoy, shared experiences and developed close relationships. As the generations passed, they became more than neighbors, but friends striving to preserve their family values. Together we stand strong."

Taking his turn in front of the group, Paul Bowers reminisced about growing up in the atmosphere that Cypress had described. He recalled his family working on the ranches and then helping to establish the first Tribal herds. Following his military service, he returned to become a part of the Seminole Tribe's cattle industry and has spent many years involved in its growth and development.

This year's Swamp Cabbage Festival had a vast variety of activities throughout the weekend. The LaBelle Heritage Museum was open daily, offering the visitors an opportunity to learn about the local history, view vintage photographs and explore the past of this colorful and interesting portion of Florida.

In the frontier park at the foot of the bridge, spectators enjoyed the armadillo races, music from several bands, dancing, story telling, and vendors peddling a variety of merchandise. Among these were Seminole arts and crafts and an assortment of mouth watering dishes for which the festival has become famous.

Saturday morning, LaBelle's main street, State Road 29, closed down from Cowboy Way to the park at the foot of the Caloosahatchee Bridge for a two hour long parade. Marching bands, color guards, Civil War re-enactors, Daughters of the Confederacy, swamp buggies, floats, the Red Hat Ladies in their purple dresses, beauty queens, law enforcement, fire and rescue made their way down the thoroughfare.

Evidence of the Seminole Tribe could be found

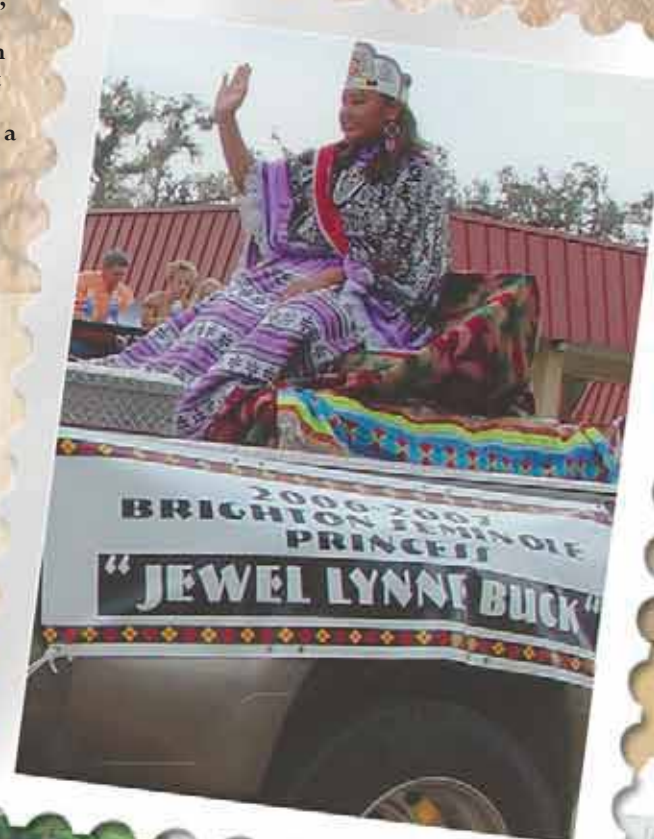
throughout the parade. Following a Seminole Police Department escort, Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers waved from their automobiles to the spectators along the parade route.

With more than 30 floats in the procession, the Seminole Tribe won second place with their entry. The crowds cheered in appreciation as Miss Florida Seminole Christine McCall, joined by Jr. Miss Florida Seminole Jennifer Chalfant and Little Miss Seminole Crysten Camie Smith, waved from beneath a chickee making its way slowly down the street. Immediately behind them was Brighton Princess Jewel Lynne Buck.

Members of the Seminole Tribe's motorcycle group assembled for a ride down the parade route. Dressed in their Seminole jackets, they presented the audience with an opportunity to view some of the most unique and beautiful pieces of equipment that have ever traveled down the highway.

Last but not least, several members of the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association joined other riders on their immaculately groomed horses for the grand finale. The afternoon of Feb. 25 found racing enthusiasts at the lawnmower races and then it was off to the mud boggin' track.

The citizens of Hendry County were very grateful to the Seminole Tribe of Florida for sponsoring the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association on Friday night and Professional Cowboy Association Rodeo on Saturday evening and Sunday. Rodeo has always been an important part of the Swamp Cabbage Festival and is a wonderful expression of the frontier lifestyle that it promotes.



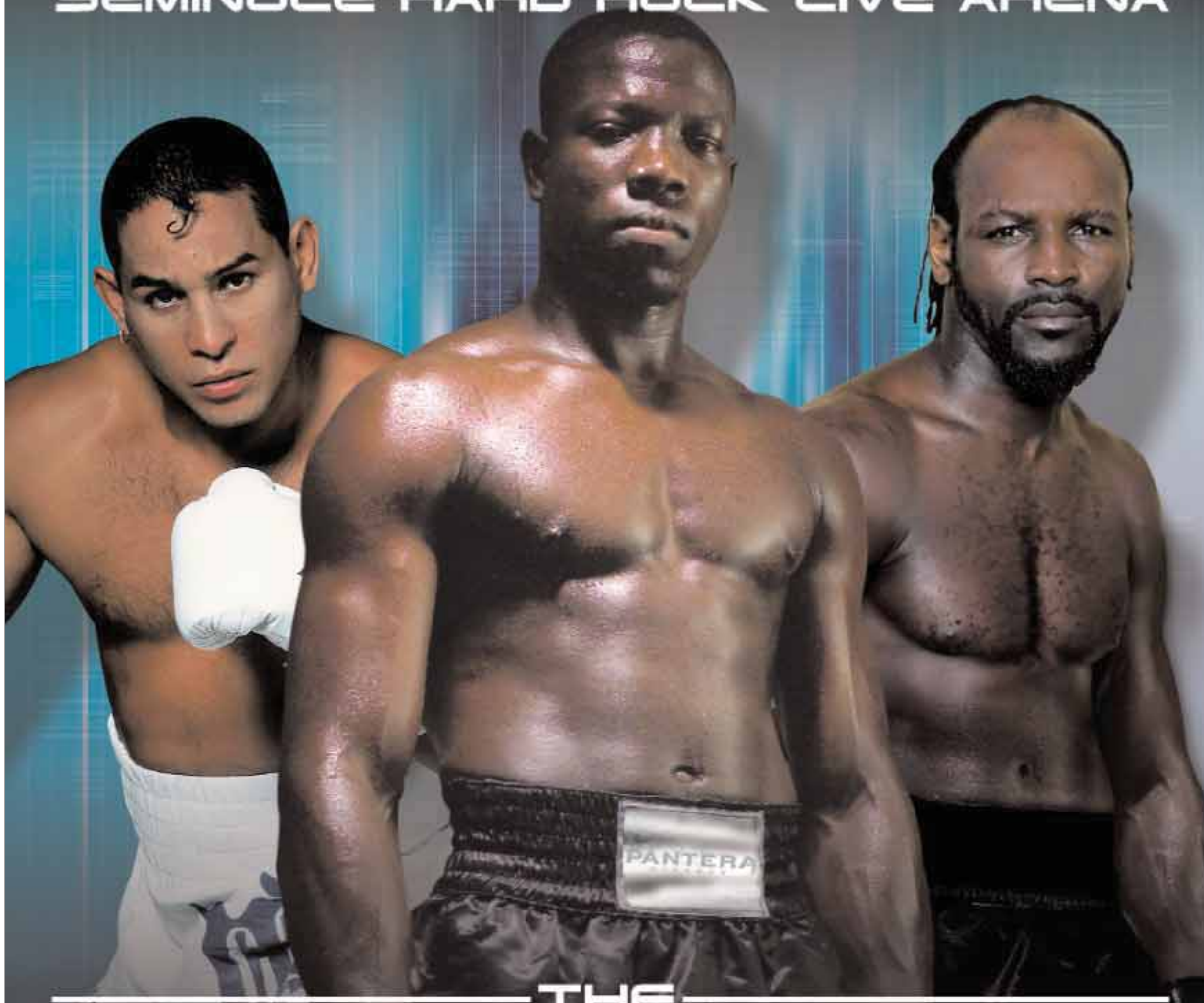
PHOTOS BY Judy Weeks



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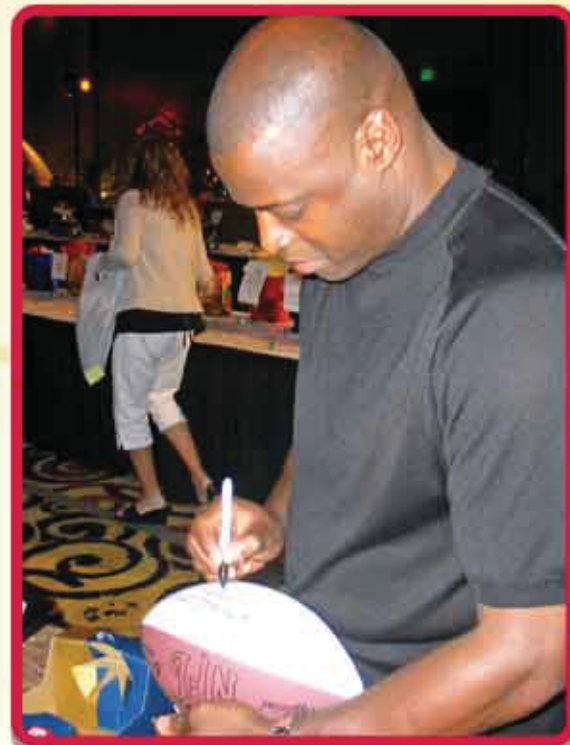
New York Giants wide receiver Plaxico Burress prepares to swing on the 18th hole.



Michael Irvin (right), wife Sandy, and Hollywood Representative Max Osceola (left) celebrate before cutting the birthday cake.



Celebrity golfer and radio host Rush Limbaugh sets up to tee off on the first hole.



Former Washington Redskin Darrell Green autographs a football for the silent auction.



Michael Irvin (right) with Chairman Mitchell Cypress.

## ❖ Playmaker

Continued from page 1

All proceeds from the event went toward Playmaker Charities and Academies. The founder is former National Football League wide-receiver and Dallas Cowboy, Michael Irvin. It was created to serve and improve the lives of Broward County youth and the south Florida community through educational, academic, spiritual and physical support.

The festivities kicked off early Friday evening as Irvin and his invited guests gathered for a private dinner. Afterward, the Grand Ballroom at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino played host to a public mixer and a live, silent auction.

An impressive list of sports memorabilia was auctioned, with all proceeds going to charity. Some of the more coveted items included autographed footballs by Hall of Fame quarterbacks John Elway of the Denver Broncos and Dallas Cowboy Troy Aikman. Pro-Bowler Peyton Manning of the Indianapolis Colts and the NFL's all-time leading rusher Emmitt Smith also autographed footballs for the auction.

Jerseys available to the highest bidder included baseball legend Jackie Robinson, the Miami Heat's Alonzo Mourning, and NFL Pro-Bowler Steve McNair.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress Representative David Osceola and Hollywood Representative Max B. Osceola Jr., among other important figures in the Seminole community, attended the charitable event.

The celebrities in attendance were a who's who of former and current NFL stars, political leaders, and local media. Among these persons were former Dallas Cowboy teammates Emmitt Smith and Deion Sanders, Washington Redskins future Hall of Famer Darrell Green and Minnesota Vikings future Hall of Famer Cris Carter to name a few.

Current Miami Dolphins players Jason Taylor and Kiwaukee Thomas also attended. Political radio commentator and host Rush Limbaugh, *Miami Herald* and ESPN sports reporter Dan Le Batard, along with guests from all around the South Florida area were in attendance.

On March 4, Bonaventure Country Club and the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino were the scenes for the golf tournament and Irvin's 40th birthday party. Thirty-five teams of four players competed in the golf event in a celebrity scramble format, with only one celebrity per team. Prizes were offered for several course contests including, closest to the pin, longest drive and hole in one.

The brains behind SSM are Manager Elrod Bowers and Non-Profit Director/Manager Tera Jenkins. Bowers says SSM is a unique operation with great potential.

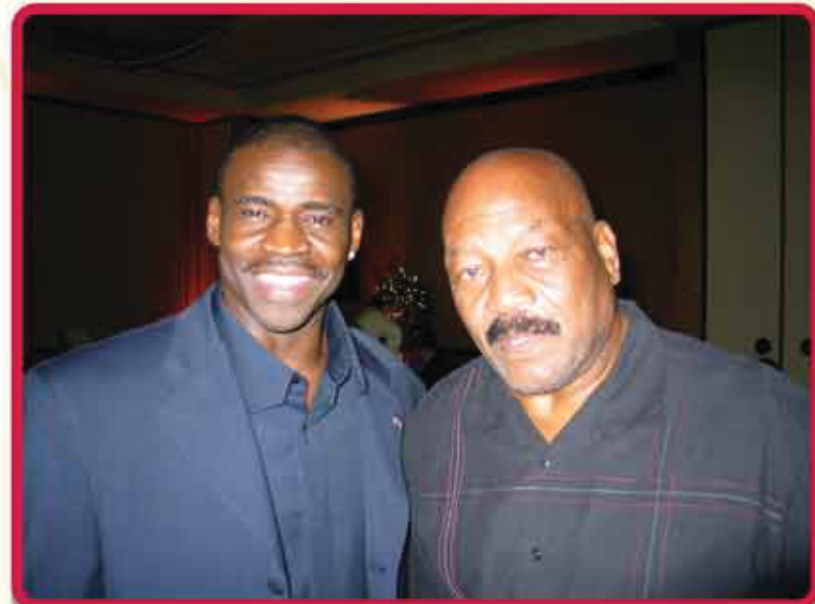
"We have a lot of businesses with the tribe, and this [Playmaker Charities and Academies] is service related," Bowers said. "As opportunities arise we want to make sure what we do falls in line with what the Tribe wants."

In making the charity and its functions a success, the preparations and tough decisions fell into the hands of Tera Jenkins. With the Tribe for close to a year now, Jenkins has hit the ground running, but she feels part of the process has been overcoming the tremendous obstacles of a new charity.

"I think bringing awareness to people that these kids are really in need because there are so many other worthwhile foundations out there is very important," Jenkins said. "We're not addressing the symptoms of the problems, were attacking the root of them."

As far as Playmaker's future hopes and ambitions with SSM, Bowers said of Michael Irvin, "his goals are our goals."

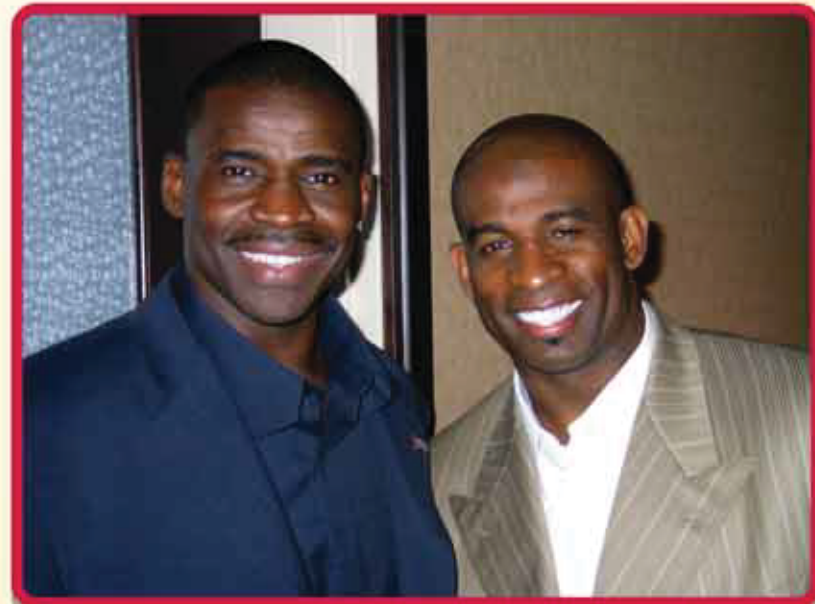
"This was a great start, but it's not the end," Bowers said.



Michael Irvin (left) with NFL great Jim Brown.



L-R: Mahala Madrigal, Holly Tiger, professional golfer Jordan Eugenio, 8, Marilyn Doney and Virginia Billie.



Michael Irvin (left) with former teammate and foundation supporter Deion Sanders at his private dinner.



Michael Irvin with the winners of the celebrity foursome at his golf tournament held at the Bonaventure Country Club in Weston.



L-R: Hollywood Representative Max Osceola, Lawrence Osceola, Washington Redskins, Darrell Green, Mitchell Osceola, and Steve Osceola.





Alice Sweat, organizer of the Holiday Cheer Pool Tournament.

Susan Etxebarría

## Holiday Cheer Pool Tournament

By Susan Etxebarría

**BRIGHTON** — A Tribal pool tournament, organized by Brighton's Alice Sweat with the support of the Brighton Recreation department, drew many Tribal members and their spouses from several reservations on Feb. 20.

Competitors came from Hollywood, Big Cypress and Brighton proving that the Tribe's best pool players are always



Joe Billie, winner of 55+ 8-Ball Division.

Susan Etxebarría

willing to travel to play one another in a friendly and enjoyable atmosphere.

Sweat said the Holiday Cheer Pool Tournament was originally planned to take place during Christmas holidays but she ran up against scheduling conflicts and decided to wait—but the name stuck.

Since the gymnasium at Brighton was condemned after being severely damaged by hurricanes in 2004 and is not available, the tournament was played in Okeechobee at a popular billiard hall called Shooter's on another holiday, President's Day, which allowed parents to bring along children if they chose. The pool hall was reserved for the Tribe's private party for the entire day beginning at 9 a.m. with a fantastic lunch served following game play.

The tournament was divided into two categories: the 55 and older Men and Women's Division, and the 18–54 Year

Old Men and Women's Division. Five places were paid out in each division of 8-Ball, Scotch Doubles and 9-Ball.

There were 50 winners in all, with some of the stronger players winning multiple times, such as Joe Billie Jr. who fought off Russell Osceola in the 55 and older division for first place in the seniors' 8-Ball and then losing first place in 9-Ball to Osceola and taking second.

Among the Women in the 55 and older category, Juanita Osceola, Jenny Garcia, Louise Osceola and Annie Jumper repeated their wins among the top five in both the 8-Ball and the 9-Ball.

Among the men in the 18–54 division, David Nunez placed first in 8-Ball and Duane Hughes placed first in 9-Ball. Daniel Nunez and David Cypress placed twice, reversing third and fourth place positions in 8-Ball and 9-Ball.

Among the women 18-54, Theresa Nunez and



Roy Snow

Susan Etxebarría

Phalyn Osceola placed in the top five in both 8-Ball and 9-Ball.

In the Scotch Doubles category, the top winning teams were James and Alice Sweat in the 55 and older and Emma Urbina and Jack Billie in the 18–54 year olds.

## McCall Recognized at Sports Banquet

By Wanda Bowers

**HOLLYWOOD** — I was invited one last time to attend the Sheridan Hills Christian School Sports Banquet which was held Feb. 22 to recognize and present certificates and plaques to the outstanding athletes that played this year for Sheridan Hills. My son happened to be one of them.

Casey will be graduating this year from Sheridan Hills Christian School. I am proud he got the chance to play at least one year of High School football. This team was also a brand new team that Sheridan Hills started up for the second year. Casey was naturally the biggest guy on the team.

He stands six-foot-two, 260 pounds. He played offense and defense. There was no time to rest, but sometimes they did give him a water break.

I'm sorry to say the team didn't win a game but they sure had heart. They went up against some pretty big teams, and didn't back down. They just played their hardest and stuck it out the whole year.

During the sports banquet Casey was awarded first with the athletic participation award certificate. Next, Most Valuable Player—Offensive, last he received a Gatorade® Offensive Player of the Year award Certificate and a pin.

I always told Casey not to worry about how the other guy is playing but to play his position the best he can because someone will be watching. Sure enough someone was watching. He was chosen at the end of the season to play defense on an All-Star Team.

A couple of schools and coaches want him for their team. But, right now, I want him to stick to his studies, pass with a decent grade and look for a college or university that he really wants to go to because if he doesn't like where he's going he's already going to be discouraged. So I'm leaving that decision up to him.

All I know is



Wanda Bowers

Casey McCall 17 years old played defensive tackle.

that he is going somewhere, even if it means

Broward Community College first. It's really hard these days for our kids to stay in school and even think about going on to college but the only thing I know how to do is always be proud of him in whatever he does and motivate him when I see he needs it.

I also want to support him, not with money, just stand behind him and be there when he needs me because I'm not going anywhere. I will never let him get away with slacking off; that's too easy. And last but not least be stern.



Wanda Bowers

Casey McCall 17 years old Senior at Sheridan Hills.

  
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Felix DoBosz

Hall nails Johnson with a left to the head, Johnson won unanimous decision.

# Johnson vs. Hall in Boxing Match

**By Chris Jenkins**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — For many of those who braved the long car lines and drenching rains, a great night of boxing was on display. Through a collaborative effort with Warrior’s Boxing Promotions, Inc., and The Seminole Tribe of Florida, boxing fans were able to attend a great fight at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino on Feb. 24.

The pay-per-view event featured seven total bouts on the venue, with four on the main card. This led up to the main event as Warrior’s 175 pound light heavyweight, Glen “The Gentleman” Johnson, 43-10-2 (29 KOs) faced Richard “The Destroyer” Hall, 27-5 (25 KOs).

Both fighters came into the bout on different sides of the spectrum in the boxing picture as Johnson continued his march back toward elite status coming off a TKO win last Sept. in 10 rounds versus George Jones, while Hall’s last action occurred 17 months ago in a KO loss to Rico Hoyer in four rounds. So, what on paper should have been a mismatch, turned out to be a good one as a close match going back and forth ended in a unanimous decision for Johnson.

With the win, Johnson claimed the vacant International Boxing Association title and has set the stage for a possible rematch with two familiar foes in current IBF champion, Clinton Woods and current International Boxing Organization Champion, Antonio Tarver.

The match impressed most, including the Executive Director of Warrior’s, Leon Margulies, who said, “I thought someone was going to take someone out.”

This was in part because of a second round knock-down of Hall. After regrouping though, Hall made a strong comeback in several rounds and had Johnson looking vulnerable at times. In the end however, Johnson maintained the overall tempo and pace.

Margulies summed it up best by adding, “Even with the weather, it was a great fight.”

Of course the celebrity scene was covered with appearances by Miami Dolphins linebacker, Zach Thomas, former lightweight champion, Roberto Duran and former middleweight champion, Hector Camacho.

Seminole Tribal leaders also showed their support and included appearances by Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr., as well as other prominent Seminole citizens.

Other bouts on the schedule were Ricky Quiles over Jeremy Yelton in an eighth round welterweight decision, Billy Zumbun over Stacy Frazier in a fourth round TKO among the heavyweights, and Joel Casamayor over Antonio Ramirez in a fifth round KO in lightweight action.

The next scheduled action set for the Hard Rock and Warrior’s will be an ESPN telecast on March 24, featuring Dale Brown versus Felix Cora in the cruiserweights division as the main event.



Felix DoBosz

Ricky Quiles celebrates victory!

# Former Champion Boxer Visits Hard Rock Live Arena

**By Felix DoBosz**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The retired 54-year old former boxing champ Roberto “Manos de Piedra” Duran came from Panama to visit the Hard Rock Live arena at the Seminole Paradise on Feb. 22. Duran was an honored guest of Warrior’s Boxing Promotions, Inc., for the Johnson vs. Hall fight; an International Boxing Association light heavyweight world title fight that took place on Feb. 24.

The record for Duran’s impressive fights, 104-16-69 KOs, and has held the following championship belts: World Boxing Championship lightweight, welterweight, light middleweight, middleweight and World Boxing Association junior middleweight championship titles.

Duran became famous in the 80s by beating Sugar Ray Leonard on June 20, 1980 in Montreal, Canada. His success and popularity opened doors for many more Hispanic championship boxer’s that followed, such as Oscar DeLaHoya, Felix Trinidad and Hector “Macho” Camacho, to name a few. Many boxing fans will totally agree that Duran was one of the 10 best boxers of all-time having fought some of the best fighters of his time.

Duran toured the Hollywood Seminole facilities a few days before the big match with Seminole Trial Liaison William Osceola. Duran’s daughter Dalia Duran accompanied him as his Spanish to English translator and personal assistant.

He walked through the offices of the Hard Rock Live staff and met with Vice President of Entertainment for the Seminole Hard Rock, Bernie Dillon. Dillon found an old photo of Roberto from the



Jimmy Osceola gets autograph from Roberto Duran.

old days in Madison Square Garden, when he worked for the Trump organization.

Duran said in Spanish: “They gave me a golden key and I thought it was a key to the bank vault, but it was to the City,” and they all busted out laughing over this amusing joke.”

The champ also posed for photos and signed well wishers autographs. Jimmy Osceola, a longtime boxing enthusiast and a huge Duran fan brought a boxing glove for his idol to sign. Osceola was thrilled to finally get to meet this great world class boxer on a personal level and get the autograph he would always cherish.

Duran was happy to accommodate all his many fans and share hearty laughs with them. He said he was very impressed with the new arenas facilities and hoped to come back for more championship boxing here at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

For more information on Duran, please visit <http://www.duranscorner.com>.



Michell Cypress and friend with Duran.

# Xtreme AAU Basketball Team Shows Their Stuff

By Lila Osceola

**TAMPA** — Hunter Osceola and Josh Cypress take the spotlight on their 14 and under AAU boys Xtreme basketball team. They are the only two Tribal citizens on this team.

On the weekend of the Feb. 24–26, the Hollywood Xtreme team went to Tampa for their first AAU basketball tournament. The summer season is where young athletes are able to polish up and improve on their skills. Traveling teams are a great source of experience in the summer season of basketball.

The AAU organization has a 118 year history of providing sport and fitness opportunities to the sports enthusiasts of all ages. Playing in AAU is something many young ballers across the U.S. participate in.

Luckily the coaches of the Seminole recreation department found some other basketball players from the community to fill a team for these two young men to play with and providing them a chance to get some valuable basketball experience at another level.

The weekend brought many basketball teams of all different ages. Good competition tends to do that. 14 and under age group is a strange but funny age division. At this stage boys are blossoming into young men. Most of the boys look like they are all legs and feet. The teams that the Xtreme team came up against were very big for their age.

The first team Xtreme came up against was an Orlando All Star team. The game was very competitive, although you couldn’t tell by the score. The Xtreme team fought for every loose ball, but the size of the Orlando Giants outweighed any hustle Xtreme gave. Orlando Giants dominated Xtreme from the tip off.

The next game wasn’t as bad as the first, just like anything else; experience helps and allows you time to get accustomed to your teammates. The level of play was a much more up tempo match up than middle school basketball was around here. The boys finally figured out they better step on the court ready to play.

The second game was much better; they had



Lila Osceola

Hollywood Xtreme team

a chance to win this game. Xtreme trailed Tampa by only nine at the half. But somewhere in between the third and fourth quarter something went wrong. Hunter hit a few three pointers and Josh played outstanding defense. But in the end it wasn’t enough to get past the Tampa team.

The third game was the beginning of the playoffs. The only positive thing about the weekend was that they were getting better and better by each game. The last game was a bit tougher, legs were tired, and it was a long weekend mentally and physically getting beat up on the court.

The weekend came to a halt after they picked up their third and final loss against another Tampa team. Xtreme team was physically out manned, meaning size and lack of tall guys. Trying to rebound among trees makes it hard to have enough energy to try and score on the offensive end.

All good things must come to an end, and fortunately it was a good weekend, no injuries, no one got lost, and everyone learned a lot about things that Hollywood Xtreme team needs to go home and practice on.



Lila Osceola

Hunter Osceola shoots a three pointer over a Tampa player.



Lila Osceola

Josh inbounds the ball to his teammate.

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# Bert C. Jones Memorial Basketball Tournament

By Tony Heard

**HOLLYWOOD** — This particular memorial basketball tournament held each year in the remembrance of Bert C. Jones is usually held on the Brighton reservation. Due to construction on the gym from hurricane damage and simple upgrades, this year on Feb. 24–25 the tournament was held at the Hollywood Gym.

The tournament tallied 12 teams this year. Seven men teams and five women teams wanted to come and compete for the crown this year. Even though many of the teams were without their usual cast of players, and a lot of teams only had five players, but still most games were exciting and fun to watch.

The tournament kicked off with the MBCI (Choctaws) team and Sem Rec matching up. Due to different emergencies and injuries to the Sem Rec team, they ended up playing with four players the first half. The lead was not too demanding for the MBCI team, the Sem Rec team could not get over the hump to get the come-from-behind win. MBCI sent the Sem Rec team to the loser's bracket by capturing the narrow win.

The women's side of the bracket brought excitement also. There were some good match-ups that brought lots of intensity to the court. The first game of the evening for the women was the Lady Swoosh versus the Bright Rec. ladies. It was a close game but the Lady Swoosh pulled away and captured a victory. The team consisted of players mostly from Hollywood and a couple of layers from around the Fort Pierce area.

The women's side of the bracket was rounded out with Miccosukee, Lady Sundown, and Sem Rec women's squad.

Unfortunately the Sem Rec ladies were short on personnel and were not able to compete in this tournament. The team took two forfeits and ended up going two and out for the first time in many years. Everyone who knew the situation was understanding and compassionate about the whole issue.

Back on the men's side of things the Brighton assembled two teams from up that way to compete in this tournament. One was going by the name Brighton Rec and the other simply using the name Brighton as their team name. The team that consist of the guys from Big Cypress were using the name Warriors.

Jason Billie got a team together called the

Shockers, and the team going by the name Last Minute rounded out the seven men's teams for this tournament. The next game on the agenda for the men was the Brighton Rec team versus the shockers.

The game began close but then the Brighton Rec team took control and built a large lead. The Shockers could not withstand the defense and fast break scoring of the Brighton Rec team. They showed class in the lost and prepared themselves to compete in the loser's bracket on Feb. 25 to stay alive in the tourney.

The last game of the night ended up being a close match-up between the Warriors and the Brighton team. Intense from the jump ball all the spectators who were still present were into the game cheering and supporting their friends and family members on the court. There were many lead changes and big shots made from both teams.

The Brighton team would go on a six to nothing run and just when one would think the game was getting out of hand, the Warriors would answer with a run of their own to keep it close.

Unfortunately for the Brighton team the game was one of runs and the Warriors had the last good run of the game. Getting a couple key steals and converting them into baskets gave the Warriors just enough cushion to hold on to the win and stay on the winners sides of the bracket.

Starting up the competition on Feb. 25 was the Lady Swoosh and Miccosukee. With many of the Miccosukee players having to wake up earlier than usual it seemed as if they were not fully awake until the second half and then started to play hard. Getting steals and making long range shots kept the Miccosukee ladies in the game, but the Lady Swoosh team kept their composure and sealed off the victory with a run that the Miccosukee ladies could not slow down or recover from.

The Shockers and Brighton was the first men's battle of the day. The Shockers went two and out as the Brighton team got the narrow victory and moved on the play Last Minute who lost the 11:30 game against the MBCI team.

Brighton Rec defeated the Warriors in a game that was full of crazy plays and a great display of teamwork, to advance to the semi-finals against MBCI. The Warriors had to make their way to the loser's bracket and go head-to-head with a Sem Rec to see who would keep playing and who would be watching.

The Sem Rec team had enough momentum to open a up a commanding lead and capture the win. Following the men's game the women were ready to take control of the court again and showcase their skills. Miccosukee ladies had to face off against the feisty Brighton Rec team and try not to get eliminated from the tournament. The Brighton Rec team came out and put up a good fight but the Miccosukee ladies were bound and determined to get the win and advance to the next game.

The game that followed was the MBCI men against the Brighton Rec team in a heated battle of athletic talents and crafty passing. The Brighton Rec team made the game a good one by continually making the MBCI team work for every basket they got.

Then the table turned and the MBCI squad got a few run out lay-ups and drained a couple threes to build the lead. The Brighton Rec guys fought back but didn't have enough juice to get over the hump. To the loser's bracket Brighton Rec went and MBCI moved onto the championship game, waiting to



Tony Heard

2006 Bert C. Jones womens champions, Lady Swoosh.

see who they would face this time around.

In the women's semi-final the Lady Swoosh team battled with Sundown. The game was highly intense and had blocked shots, court burns and even one or two offensive fouls, which means the women were being very aggressive. The game came down to the last few possessions and Lady Swoosh did a great job of controlling the ball to eat up the clock.

When Sundown did foul Lady Swoosh, they did a great job of controlling the ball to eat up the clock. Sundown wasn't going down without a fight though after making the Lady Swoosh team commit a couple turnovers they converted and picked up the defense again. But there was just not enough time left for Sundown this time around, Lady Swoosh played smart and used the clock to their advantage to capture the win.

Sundown was now in a must-win situation and had to bounce back quickly from a close loss or watch Miccosukee ladies and Lady Swoosh play for the championship. They stepped up to the challenge and made the changes they needed to in order to get the win over Miccosukee.

Miccosukee played hard and never gave up, but they were simply outplayed this time and Miccosukee was headed to the championship in a rematch with Lady Swoosh. On the men's side things in the loser's bracket, Brighton Rec and Sem Rec had to battle it out to see who would face MBCI in the championship game. Sem Rec came out hot and jumped out to a slim lead.

The experience and teamwork of the Sem Rec team was too much for Brighton Rec to handle and they took the loss. It was a well fought battle and the sportsmanship throughout the game was excellent. Opposing players were helping each other up to acknowledging when someone on the opposite team made a tough shot. But nevertheless in the end Brighton Rec's tournament had to come to an end and Sem Rec was headed back to the championship game for another rematch with MBCI.

In the women's championship game went pretty much according to plan. There were lots of big shots, aggressive defense, and hustle. The Sundown team came out and made the Lady Swoosh team work for everything they got. The game was fast paced and came down to the wire once again just like the first time these two teams matched up.

Sundown was putting forth the effort to try and change the outcome and get a little revenge on the team that sent them through the loser's bracket.

Lady Swoosh had their eyes set on a championship though and was not about to let Sundown get in the way. They held off powerful runs by the Sundown team and had a few good runs of their own to get a slim lead with less than two minutes to play. Sundown fought hard but it was time for Lady Swoosh to claim the win and be crowned the champions of the Bert C. Jones Memorial for 2006.

Another heated battle against the Sem Rec and MBCI teams. Both were playing with extremely depleted rosters and championship game started out looking like another exciting match-up.

The MBCI team went on a run right before halftime to give them a nice size lead. Beginning the second half, the defensive intensity increased on both sides and there was a lull when neither team could get a shot to fall. There seemed to be a lid on both baskets until Carlos Adamson hit a long range three to cut the Sem Rec team's deficit to single digits.

But it seemed that his basket opened up the flood gates, because following that basket MBCI team went on a commanding run that was too much for Sem Rec team to bounce back from. Not getting back on defense and turning the ball over seemed to be the recipe for destruction for the Sem Rec team. In the midst of it all the MBCI team took advantage of all the miscues and captured another championship.

The Bert C. Jones is always an exciting tournament

regardless of where it takes place. Teams come to compete hard, have fun, and enjoy the chance to play this wonderful game of basketball in remembrance of Bert C. Jones. Next year this tournament will be just as entertaining and fun, so hopefully everyone can come out fellowship and enjoy the atmosphere.



Tony Heard

Pete Osceola shoots the three against the quick Brighton team.



Tony Heard

Cassandra Jones passes to her teammate to beat Sundown in the championship game.



Tony Heard

Jerome Huggins drives past Max Osceola III.



Tony Heard

Shawn gives his team the edge to beat Sem Rec in championship game.



Tony Heard

Sundown beats Miccosukee in Semi-Final game.



# Tribal Fair Bowling Tournament at Don Carter

**By Lila Osceola**  
**DAVIE, FL** — Tribal Fair festivities started early for the bowlers of the Tribe. Seniors and adults alike came to Don Carter Bowling lanes on Feb. 9 morning to participate for the all day event.

While the rest of the Tribe was preparing for the Pow-wow, all other athletes were getting ready to bowl, golf, or play basketball. There was so much to do for native people to do and so little time.

The senior men and women kicked off the

tournament mid-morning on Feb. 9 through the afternoon. The adults finished up the tournament with Tribal citizens coming from Brighton, Big Cypress and Ft. Pierce to participate.

The tournament results follow.

**Senior Women 50–59: Regular:** 1. Mary Bowers, 157, 2. Mary Jumper, 144, 3. Rose Jones, 122, 4. Sarah Sampson, 117; **3–6–9:** 1. Mary Jumper, 178, 2. Mary Bowers, 173, 3. Sarah Sampson, 169, 4. Rose Jones, 143; **No Tap:** 1. Rose Jones, 199, 2. Beulah Gopher, 197, 3. Mary Bowers, 188, 4. Mary Jumper, 157, 5. Sarah Sampson, 110.

**Senior Men 50–59: Regular:** 1. Parker Jones, 195, 2. Moses Osceola, 177, 3. Thomas Cypress, 157, 4. Elbert Snow, 156, 5. Gary Sampson, 147; **3–6–9:** 1. David Jumper, 228, 2. Moses Osceola, 225, 3. Gary Sampson, 203, 4. Thomas Cypress, 202, 5. Elbert Snow, 189; **No Tap:** 1. Moses Osceola, 258, 2. Gary Sampson, 238, 3. David Jumper, 231, 4. Elbert Snow, 222, 5. Jack Smith Jr., 205.



Lila Osceola

Eugene Bowers starts off the Seniors bowling tournament with a strike.



Lila Osceola

The adults anxiously await the start of the bowling tournament.

206, 3. Wonder Johns, 179, 4. Archie Johns, 147, 5. Billie Micco, 125.

**Adults: No Tap:** 1. Margaret Wilcox/Blake Osceola, 491, 2. Amanda Smith/Andre Jumper, 487, 3. Alfreda Musket/Ollie Wareham, 447, 4. Amanda Smith/Emery Fish, 446, 5. Mary Huff/Philmon Bowers, 435, 6. Marilyn Doney/Dwayne Billie, 430, 7. (tie) Terri Frank/Parker Jones, 427, 7. Nadine Tommy/Derek Thomas, 427, 9. Virginia Billie/Kenny Doney, 422, 10. Terry Frank/David Jumper, 412, 11. Dallas Cypress/Delwin McGowan, 403, 12. Denise Billie/Thomas Cypress,



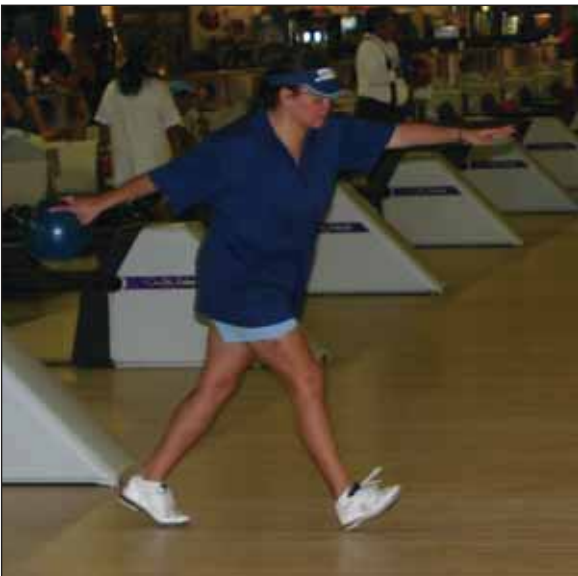
Lila Osceola

Seniors show good sportsmanship.

399, 13. Patricia Wilcox/Tony Billie, 393.

**Adults: 3–6–9:** 1. Monica Johns/Michael Micco, 426, 2. (tie) Nadine Tommy/Danny Jones, 424, 2. Monica Cypress/Elton Shore, 424, 4. Amanda Smith/Mitch Osceola, 422, 5. (tie) Betty/Philmon Bowers, 421, 5. Betty/Ollie Wareham, 421, 7. Denise Billie/Ricardo Hernandez, 420, 8. Marilyn Doney/Parker Jones, 410, 9. Mary Huff/Dwayne Billie, 399, 10. Crystalee Coppedge/Bobby Frank, 396, 11. Farrah Jones/Elbert Snow, 388, 12. Nadine Tommy/Amos Billie, 386, 13. Jackie Thompson/Moses Osceola, 373.

**Adults: Regular:** 1. Terri & Bobby Frank, 450, 2. Denise Billie/Ollie Wareham, 417, 3. Diane Smith/Blake Osceola, 395, 4. Alfreda Musket/Amos Billie, 390, 5. Jackie Thompson/Mitch Osceola, 381, 6. Margaret Wilcox/Kevin Tommie, 373, 7. Farrah Jones/Elton Shore, 351, 8. Rose Jones/Pittman Sampson, 342, 9. Patricia Wilcox/Philmon Bowers, 339, 10. Marilyn/Kenny Doney, 328, 11. Sarah Sampson/David Jumper, 325, 12. Nadine Tommy/Rufus Tiger, 322, 13. Mary Huff/Michael Micco, 313.



Lila Osceola

Jackie Thompson shows off her bowling skills.

# Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament

**By Lila Osceola**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Tribal Fair festivities continue and this time the action was at the Hollywood Gym. The annual Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament was exciting and very entertaining this year. Good games, good sportsmanship; it definitely was a good weekend for a basketball tournament.

On the weekend of Feb. 10–12 many people went back and forth from the pow-wow to the basketball tournament. This year the tournament brought in a lot of new faces, with seven men’s teams and five women’s teams. The crowd was into every game from

the tip off to the final buzzer.

Many young faces were brought to the court for this year’s tournament. Almost every team had young talented athletes in the line up. What a great way to get some real basketball experience, and compete with the “big dogs”—the adults.

The championship round had Sem Rec represented for both the women and the men. The women side of the bracket, Sem Rec played Sundown in a never ending showdown for the championship. Sem Rec pulled out a demanding victory, with their good defense and up tempo style of play.

With no surprise the men’s bracket ended up with Sem Rec versus Canes for another



Lila Osceola

Brighton men take 3rd place.



Lila Osceola

Kelsey Jones dribbles by defense.



Lila Osceola

Tip off for the womens championship game, Sundown vs. Sem. Rec.

heated match up. Although the youth of Brighton team gave Sem Rec a run for their money in the first half of the Semi-final game. The quickness and depth

of their bench gave the Canes the edge and came away with the victory as they handed Sem Rec another runner up trophy for the 2006 basketball season.



Lila Osceola

2006 Bert C. Jones Mens Basketball Tournament Champions, Canes.



Tony Heard

Sem Rec women take home the championship for 2006.





# 2006 Gasparilla Gymnastic Meet

**By Gina Allardyce**  
**ST. PETERSBURG, FL** — The competitors and chaperones alike all had a great time in St. Petersburg, Fla. at Tropicana Fields Park. Seven girls and one boy from the Seminole Tribe competed in various divisions on the weekend of Feb. 25 at the 2006 Gasparilla gymnastic meet.

Tous Young, the only male competitor, competed in events including floor, pommel horse, rings vault, parallel bars and high bar. He won first place on vault, third on floor, sixth on rings and ninth all round.

For the Level 1 girls, Tia Blais-Billie came in ninth all round. Brittany Leah Cox came in with eight all round. The Level 2 gymnasts competed on Feb. 26. Tarina Young, Carson Knaby,



Athens-Olympian gymnast Ivan, helps coach team Flairs.

Ashley Osceola and Mariah Bowers, who hit her beam routine with second place, all took part in Gasparilla.

It's so exciting to watch these kids compete because they work so hard and train nine to 12 hours per week to perfect their gymnastic skills. Results follow.

**Mariah Bowers:** Vault: 9.425, Bars: 8.25, Beam: 9.5, Floor: 8.15, All Around: 35.325.

**Ashley Osceola:** Vault: 9.075, Bars: 8.7, Beam: 9.3, Floor: 7.95, All Around: 35.025.

**Carson Knaby:** Vault: 9.35, Bars: 8.95, Beam: 9.625, Floor: 8.05, All Around: 35.975.

**Tarina Young:** Vault: 9.375, Bars: 8.275, Beam: 9.4, Floor: 8.675, All Around: 35.725.

**Tia Blais-Billie:** Vault: 8.45, Bars: 8.2, Beam: 7.9, Floor: 7.6, All Around: 32.15.

**Braudice Blais-Billie:** Vault: 9.225, Bars: 8.775, Beam: 8.9, Floor: 8.6, All Around: 35.5.

**Brittany Leah Cox:** Vault: 8.85, Bars: 8.15, Beam: 8.65, Floor: 7.55, All Around: 33.2.

**Tous Young:** Floor: 9.4, Pommel Horse: 7.5, Rings: 9.6, Vault: 9.7, Parallel Bars: 8.7, Uneven Bars: 8.2, All Around: 53.1.



Male Coach Carlos spots Tous Young on high bar.

# Tribal Citizen Participates at Tae Kwan Do Championship in Dallas

**By Adelsa Williams**  
**DALLAS, TEXAS** — The city of Dallas was the host of the 15th Annual Tae Kwon Do National Championship. At this competition, Tribal citizen Aaron Frank, Panther clan, had the great opportunity to show off his martial arts skills.

From Feb. 16-19 many of the Tae Kwon Do world's greats converged on the Dallas Convention Center for the three day competition. They took part in the grand event where more than 1,500 competitors from all over the world squared off in one-on-one competition battles.

Aaron Frank, from the Tampa area, traveled to the Midwest with his family to experience a higher level competition in his choice of sport. Frank has endlessly trained for the opportunity to compete against such worthy adversaries.

Frank had the opportunity to battle a heavyweight fighter from Croatia who stood six-foot-five-inches tall and weighed in at more than 300 pounds. Frank himself competed in the heavyweight division because of this 235 pound, six-foot tall frame.

The Eastern European overwhelmed the Florida Native with his strong, fast and skillful

moves. And although the Croatian competitor defeated Frank, he proudly and humbly spoke about his defeat.

"He impressed me. He was big and fast," he said. "He had a lot of power with fast combinations. I'm just honored to fight him because he is one of the top fighters in the national championship; he just had more experience."

For Frank this fight was his first ever in his lifetime at the national level and said that he would love to do it again, once he builds more experience.

Frank along with his two brothers Kevin and Nick, who both also take part in the sport, traveled from Lakeland, Fla. to Kissimmee, Fla. twice a week and on weekends to practice at the Academy of Martial Arts since the early 1990s.

Coach Ryan Green had the opportunity to travel with Frank and his family and shared his thoughts on the Seminole's marital arts performance.

"He [Frank] has the most heart and compassion for the sport I've ever seen," said Green. "He fought well."

He doubled his ability to come up to Texas he'll need experience to keep climbing."

Coach Green and the Frank family look forward to attend the next AAU National Championship in March, which will take place in Kissimmee, Fla.



L-R Coach Ron Green, Nick Frank, Aaron Frank & Kevin Frank

# Successful Turnout for Men's Softball Tournament

**By Susan Etxebarría**  
**BRIGHTON** — Nothing could have been finer for avid amateur softball athletes than the Brighton Men's Softball Tournament held on March 4. There was money to win; great competition—and excellent ball fields to play the game.

Teams had been purposely formed for this tournament open to the public. Each team had to pay a good fee to play for the generous first place cash prize. There were two Seminole Tribal teams playing ball, one from Brighton and the other from Immokalee reservations.

A few Tribal citizens were playing on the Okeechobee and Clewiston teams.



Immokalee softball team enjoy a BBQ mid-games. (L-R) Susan Davis, Ruby Anzualdar, Mario Gonzalez, Joey Garcia and Ray Yzaguirre.

The rest of the 10 teams were comprised of the most enthusiastic and competitive amateur players from around the state. Some players came from Miami, Homestead, Ft. Myers, and others from as far away as Gainesville.

Most teams staked out a shady spot to park their vehicles around two of the three well-groomed ball fields so the players, wives and kids could gather together during their time off the field; have a little barbecue, do a little tailgating.

Linda Tommie's Snack Shack also made sure there were plenty of hot dogs and hamburgers cooking throughout the day.

The games ended by 7 p.m. with first place prize going to Express, a team formed from top players from all over the state—somewhat of an all-star team.

Brighton Recreation Department Coordinator Richard Osceola said he was pleased with the turnout. He said the games moved along smoothly and everything was kept on time so the players were happy they would be getting home at a decent hour.



Richard Osceola



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## Eastern Indian Rodeo Association Presents Swamp Cabbage Festival Rodeo

By Judy Weeks

**LA BELLE, FL** — Feb. 24's evening's performance started off with the EIRA junior rodeo. Ahnie Jumper took first place in the mutton bustin', with Sarah Descheene in second and Dayra Koenes in third.

The wild pony riders learn technique and build up their courage for the day when they will climb aboard the bareback and saddle broncs. Thomas Bearden held the lead, while J.J. John and Josh Johns tied for second.

It was a tough break for calf rider Kelton Smedley. Exiting the chute, Smedley's calf rocketed him into the air, sending him head first into the clay of the arena. Fortunately, he was up and running within a matter of seconds without sustaining any injuries. First place in this event went to Kenny Descheene. Michael Garcia was second and tying for third place were Jobe Johns and Blevins Jumper.

Competition was heavy in the Steer Riding. Beginner Tyler Tigertail managed to get in a six second ride, while Brantley Osceola drew a rank creature that threw him into the air just outside the chute. J.J. John's mount came out of the gate spinning like a top and Josh Johns just missed the buzzer. Following an awesome ride, William Bearden won the top slot.

With turquoise chaps flopping in the air, Andre Jumper pulled a close second. Andrew Holmes received 66 points for his ride down the full length of the arena giving him a third place position.

There were four brave riders in the junior bull event with very close scores. Dayne Johns earned 78 points on the black monster that he drew taking the first place position. Meanwhile Justin Aldridge with 77 points was a narrow miss and grabbed the second slot. Riding a brown spotted, white bull Ethan Gopher took third and Seth Randolph got his eight seconds for a fourth.



Judy Weeks

**Andre Jumper is ready to ride in the Junior Steer competition at EIRA.**

pickup men.

The bareback riders put on an excellent show, beginning with veteran Shawn Best Sr. There were a few tense moments when Adam Turtle got hung up in his rigging, but everything worked out okay. Freddie Warbonnet came away in first place and despite the fact that his chaps were nearly torn off during the activities, he danced his way back up the arena.

Saddle Bronc Rider Shawn Best Sr. is not only a very experienced rider but a master of showmanship. Completing an excellent ride, he skillfully aided the pickup man with his dismount and then bowed to the appreciative spectators following his first place win.

It was a very hard evening for the steer wrestlers and calf ropers. The stock was wily and managed to elude the contestants in several instances. The ropes circled the cows' top knots for a moment and then slipped away on more than one occasion. Ears were snagged and one animal managed to jump completely through the lariat to safety.

While this causes stress for the performers, it heightens the excitement of the crowd as they become involved in the outcome of this very highly skilled sport.

There was no shortage of entries in the women's breakaway. There were numerous doubles, a few singles, two top knots that slipped off and one rider completed a mid section catch for a pantyhose. The first three places went to Clarissa Bowers, Billie



Judy Weeks

**Clarissa Bowers got quite a workout when Breanna made her debut at the EIRA Swamp Cabbage Rodeo.**

Tiger and Boogie Jumper.

Eleven men entered the senior breakaway, which is most often referred to as the legends. These roping greats are a pleasure to watch as they continue competing in their favorite sport. With many years of competition under their belts, they put on a fantastic exhibition. The top three legends in their own time were: 1. Willie Johns, 2. Rudy Osceola, 3. Paul Bowers.

Team roping headers and heelers entered the boxes with high expectations. While many of these duos have worked together for years and can anticipate their partner's moves, some had teamed up for the first time. Roping Legends Billie Joe Johns and Rudy Osceola were holding the first position until they were beat out by Josh and Naha Jumper after the running of the Slack.

Despite dropping into second place, these roping icons can be very proud of a terrific career. Another Legend, Header Moses Jumper, took third place with his son Happy Jumper. Somehow you don't mind losing to men of this caliber and the younger contestants take their hats off to their elders.

It was a hot time in the arena for the women's barrels. The horses were eager as were their riders with several scores in the 16 to 20 second run categories. Winners were: 1. Boogie Jumper, 2. Mackenzie Johns, 3. Shelby Osceola, 4. Perrie Whidden, 5. Marilee Johns.

The spectacular evening ended with the riding of the bulls. The stock was wild and wooly. Koty Brugh's bull went into a spin while still in the chutes and he was very fortunate to avoid injury. Another one of the monsters reared up and tried to exit while the rider was getting in position.

Last year's reining champion Greg Lewis managed to hang onto his title for another round. Coming in for a close second was Shawn Best III, followed by his father Shawn Best Sr.

The Professional Cowboy Association entertained the Swamp Cabbage Festival attendees both Feb. 25-26. The Seminole Tribe was a proud sponsor of this presentation.

The people of Hendry County wish to express their appreciation to Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Paul Bowers, Max B. Osceola Jr., Ralph Sanchez, Moses Osceola, Andrew Bowers and the Immokalee Casino.

## EIRA Rodeo Queens Introduce Themselves



My name is **Heather Peterson**. I am a sophomore attending Okeechobee High School, currently taking honors and Pre-AP classes with a 3.6 GPA. I participate in Latin Club, and play junior varsity softball for my school.

I am a member of the 4-H Swine Club and active in rodeo barrel racing. My parents, Robert and Loretta Peterson, encourage me through every obstacle in my life.



My name is **LeAnna Rae Billie**. I was born to Christine Jimmie on Jan. 6, 1987, and adopted by Holly and Johnson Billie of the Big Cypress reservation. I am a member of the Big Town Clan and I have eight brother and sisters.

I now live on the Brighton reservation where I am a senior at the First Indian Baptist Academy. After school I work at the Brighton Arena and on weekends I enjoy barrel racing and rodeo.

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Judy Weeks

**Ethan Gopher took 3rd place in the junior bulls.**

The audience received a special treat when they witnessed the debut appearance of some very young barrel racers. Breanna Bowers was all smiles on her palomino as mom, Clarissa, ran with her on lead line through the barrel pattern.

Then Ko'oshee Henry waved to the crowd as his big sister Ayze lead him around the arena. Following in the family tradition, Canaan Jumper entered her very first barrel race under the careful hand of her father, Josh.

Savannah Fischer controlled her own horse while her mother walked along for moral support. Meanwhile, Sonny Bearden's brother ran through the barrels with her little paint pony in hot pursuit.

The 4 to 8 year old barrel racers worked their way through the event like old pros with each of them setting their own pace. Dressed in their fancy western attire, the crowd cheered for each of their performances. Winners were: 1. Kalgary Johns, 2. Ahnie Jumper, 3. Jobe Johns, 4. Danny Rodriguez, 5. Cyrus Smedley.

There were 11 contestants in the nine-12 year old category. While some of the riders were new to the event, others are becoming professionals and turning in some very good scores: 1. Acealyn Youngblood, 2. Nauthkee Henry, 3. Adrienne Cypress, 4. Andre Jumper.

Finishing with the 13-18 year olds, there was a little excitement as one rider hit the dirt and a few barrels fell over, but the winning scores were definitely something to talk about. Scores: 1. Janae Braswell, 2. Taylor Johns, 3. Shyla Jones.

It was a very bad night for the team ropers of tomorrow. Competing in the Jr. Breakaway, there were no catches despite some very hard work by the



Judy Weeks

**Savannah Fish rode all by herself in the barrel competition.**

contestants. The audience awarded them with a loud cheer for their combined efforts.

There was one brave young entry in the Junior Bareback event. Jacoby Johns rode his bronc to victory.

EIRA sanctioned rodeo events got underway at 8 p.m. on Feb. 24, with the Marki Rodeo Company as stock contractor.

A tribute was offered to our Veterans who daily place themselves in harm's way as they prove that freedom is not free. Taylor Johns then circled the arena carrying the American flag. The audience stood silently in prayer before joining in singing the National Anthem. This year's Swamp Cabbage Queen Maria Bridges made an appearance before the grand entry signaled the beginning of a fun-filled evening.

Mississippi Rudy entertained with his clown antics throughout the evening and kept up a constant flow of jokes. Clint Boney and Spook Whidden did their usual fine job of assisting the contestants and handling the livestock from horseback in their roles as



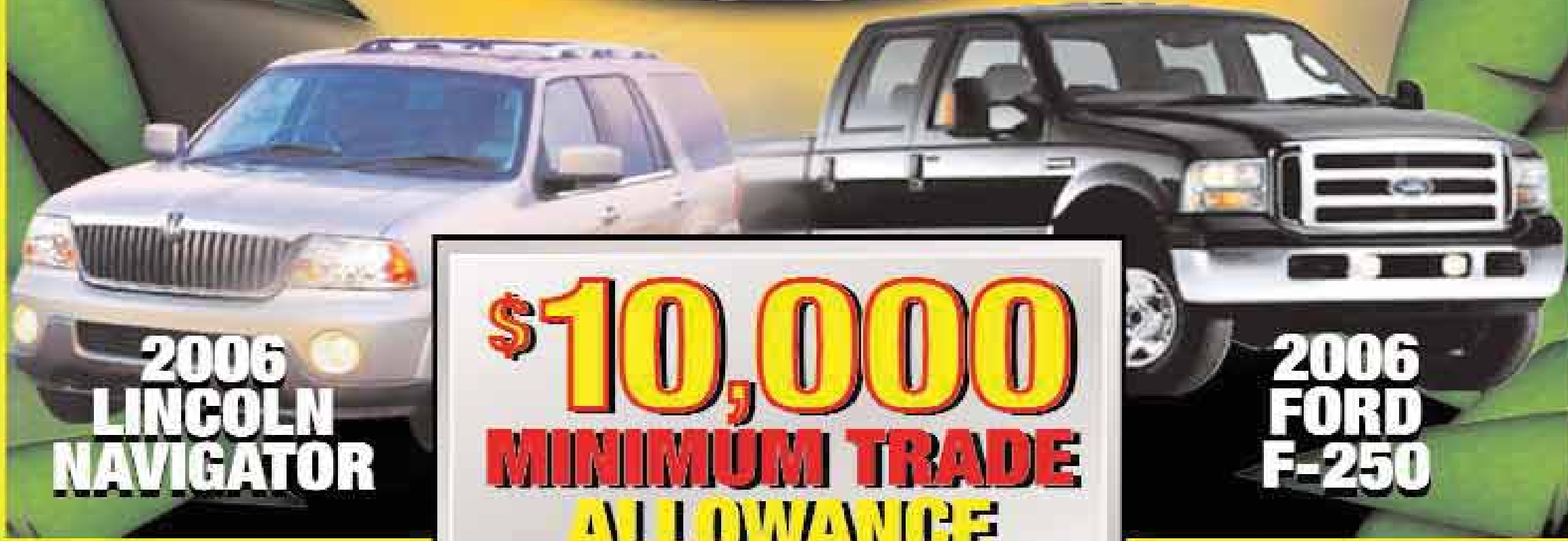
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9. Jim Shore - Longtime General Legal Counsel of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Raspberry

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17. Roger Smith - Brighton Representative - Council - Dark Chocolate & Vanilla

18. Paul Bowers - Big Cypress Representative - Board - Caramel & Hazelnut

19. Johnny Jones - Brighton Representative - Board - Dark Chocolate & Pretzels

20. Howard Tommie - 2 Term Elected Chairman, Introduced Seminole Bingo - Dark Chocolate & Honey

21. Mike Tiger - Former Director of Indian Health Svs & current Treasurer - Half and Half, Sugar and whipped cream

22. Winifred Tiger - Helped Seminole Youth stay in School, graduate and go to college. - English Toffee & Vanilla

News From Indian Country


Diabetes Books Donated to Indian Children

Submitted by Dave Baldridge, Director, National Indian Project Center

ALBUQUERQUE, NM — New Mexico First Lady Barbara Richardson joined key Indian health care leaders on Feb. 23 in Albuquerque to announce the no-cost provision of 200,000 “Eagle Books” for American Indian/Alaska Native children throughout the U.S. The announcement was made at a 10 a.m. press conference at Albuquerque’s Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

Richardson will be joined by Chairman of the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee Buford Rolin, Lorraine Valdez, deputy director of the Indian Health Service Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention and other Indian leaders, including the book’s author, Georgia Perez. At the event, the first lady read one of the books to a visiting class of fourth and fifth grade students from Isleta Pueblo’s elementary school.

Through a unique partnership between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Indian Health Service (IHS) and First Books, 200,000 Eagle books will be distributed free of charge to Indian school students throughout the U.S. First Books is a national non-profit organization



Rachel Ciccarone

4th and 5th grade children from Isleta Pueblo Elementary School listening to the First Lady of New Mexico, Mrs. Barbara Richardson, reading “Knees Lifted High” to them.

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Moderator of the press conference, Mr. Buford Rolin, Chair of the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee.

whose mission is to provide new books to disadvantaged children.

The illustrated four-book series features a wise eagle character and his woodland friends. In the story, they befriend and teach a young Indian boy, named Rain That Dances, about the benefits of exercise, diet and respect for the ways Indian elders lived. The series is illustrated by Patrick Rolo, Bad River Chippewa, and Lisa A. Fifield, Oneida from Minnesota.



Rachel Ciccarone



Rachel Ciccarone

Vikki Shirley, First Lady of Navajo Nation, and Barbara Richardson, First Lady of New Mexico reading to the Isleta Pueblo children.

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Group Uses Free, Innovative Program to Support Cultural Awareness, Scholarship, Elder Housing

Submitted by Corina Roberts, Founder, Redbird MOORPARK, CA — To help raise funds for its Children Of Many Colors Intertribal Powwow in June 2006, as well as other programs, the non profit group Redbird is seeking support from the public. However, this “support” came with an unusual twist—it doesn’t cost anything.

By registering store loyalty cards, as well as ATM and credit cards, with a program called eScrip, people of all nationalities and from all regions can help support Redbird’s programs, without spending any money. The eScrip program forwards donations, made by the merchants and not the customers, to Redbird and a growing list of other children’s charities.

When a supporter swipes their store loyalty card, a donation is automatically made to the charities of their choice, based on the amount of their purchase. The merchants, not the purchaser, make the donation. It is automatically, electronically tracked by eScrip, and once a month, donations are received by the organizations that are registered with the program.

“It’s a win-win situation,” said Corina Roberts, founder of Redbird, a Native American and environmental group founded in Simi Valley, California in 1994. “Ordinary people can support charitable organizations by the simple act of shopping for the things they need, and do so without spending any additional money.”

The Children Of Many Colors Powwow is a

cultural event taking place at Moorpark College on June 16–18, in Moorpark, Calif. The purpose of the gathering is three-fold.

The urban powwow is a vital link for native people to keep their traditions and identity as American Indians strong. Redbird’s goal in hosting the gathering is to promote awareness and understanding of indigenous cultures to all people, regardless of their race or ethnicity. And finally, it is a fundraiser for two important missions; a scholarship fund and an elder housing project.

“Many people would donate more to charity if they could afford to, and that is particularly true in the Indian community,” said Roberts. “As a non-profit organization, we rely entirely upon donations for our operating budget, and many people have already given all they can to hurricane, tsunami and earthquake relief efforts. The eScrip program offers a safe and secure way for people to make a positive contribution without taking money out of their pockets, and without doing anything except shopping for the things they would normally buy anyway.”

Redbird hopes to gather 5,000 eScrip supporters to make their goals of a scholarship fund and Native American elder housing project a reality. To register with eScrip, go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). To learn more about Redbird and the Children Of Many Colors Powwow, log on to [www.RedbirdsVision.org](http://www.RedbirdsVision.org).



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# Seattle Hosts Maori Cultural Exhibit

**By Iretta Tiger**  
SEATTLE, WA — Maori culture is one of the most intriguing cultures there is. The Maori are the native people of New Zealand. Their culture was featured in the internationally acclaimed film “Whale Rider.”

The Burke Museum in Seattle, Wash. is hosting “Toi Maori: The Eternal Thread.” The exhibit features contemporary and traditional Maori weaving. From beautiful cloaks to purses to contemporary pieces Toi Maori offers a view at this almost lost art.

For the Feb. 4 opening of Toi Maori the Burke Museum hosted five days of demonstrations in Maori weaving, carving and ta moko. Ta moko is the traditional Maori tattoo.

The highlight of the demonstrations was a one time performance of Maori haka (chant). This performance drew in so many people it went beyond standing room only.

In a special opening ceremony for museum patrons the Suquamish, Muckleshoot and Tulalip tribes and local Polynesians performed traditional songs and ceremony to welcome the Maori.

The Maori are hoping to learn about Native American culture and were encouraged by the interest shown by natives throughout their tour.

“That’s one of our goals, to network with Native Americans,” said Wayne Ngata.

Ngata is a Maori ta moko



Maori artist demonstrates weaving techniques.

Iretta Tiger



Artist Derek Lardelli puts a traditional tattoo, called moko, on Wayne Ngata.

While talking to Ngata about ta moko we start to talk about our cultures and how similar the cultural issues are.

The Maori were also on the verge of losing their culture and are in a stage of revival. Like many Native American Tribes they realized that the most important part of their culture was their language.

“You have to start at the base which separates you from the others,” said Ngata. “Your language is the best way to express your culture. You lose that and you lose everything.”

The Burke Museum is the third of four stop in Toi Maori’s west coast tour and will be on display until May 29, 2006. For more information surf to [www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/](http://www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/).

Toi Maori’s final exhibition will be at The Museum of Warm Springs in Warm Springs, Ore. from June 4–Sept. 5.

artist but refers to himself as a human canvas. His role during the demonstrations was to endure hours of ta moko for artist Derek Lardelli.

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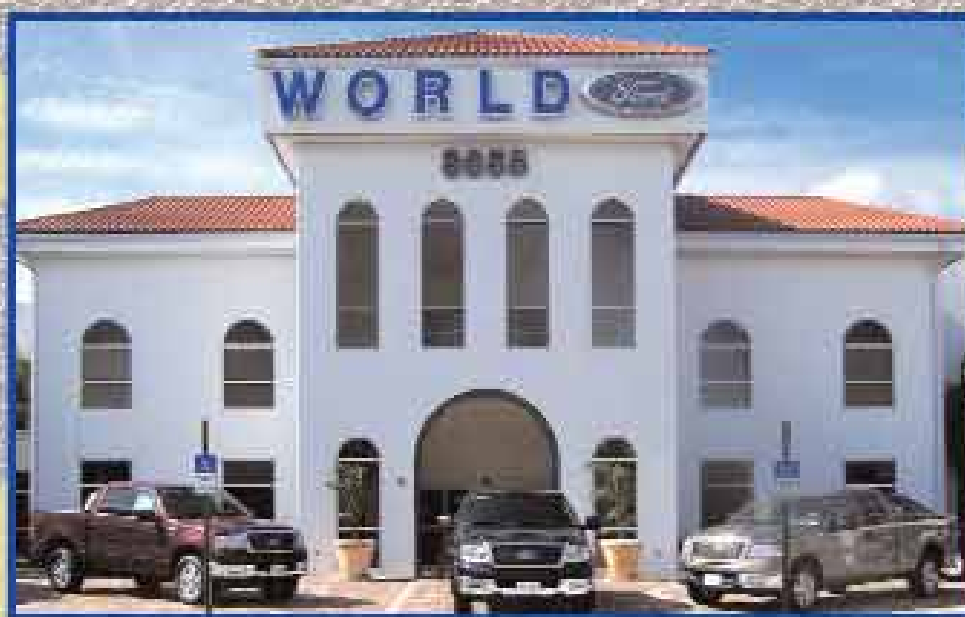
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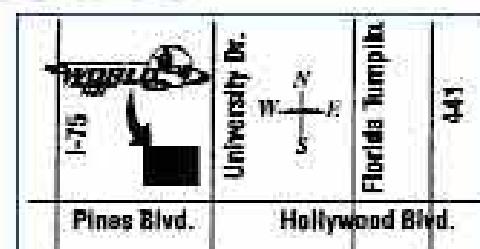
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# Announcements ♦ Ahaaheeke ♦ Nak-ohkērkēcetv

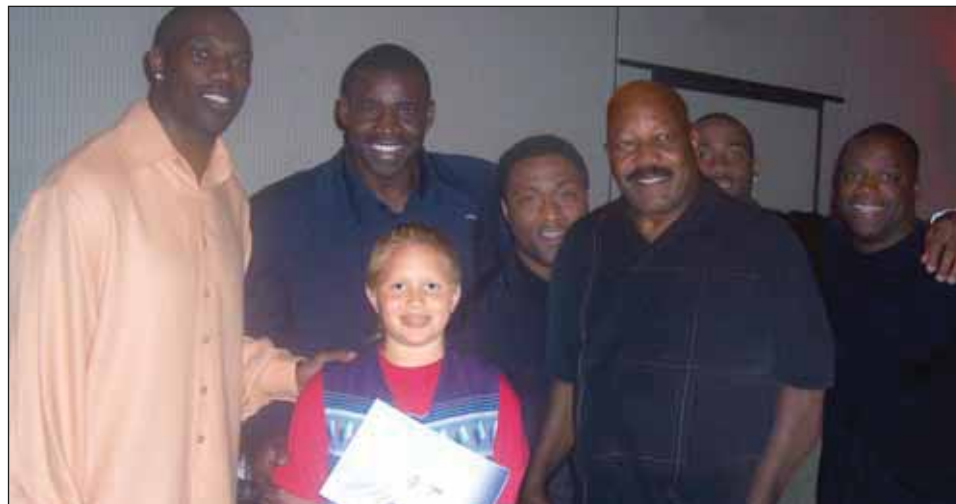
## Happy Birthday



**Happy birthday to Tatiana Torres** who turned three years old on Feb. 3. A family birthday party was held at the Brighton Swimming Pool on Saturday, Feb. 4.  
Tatiana's mom is Sherrie Jones and her dad is Etanis Torres. Tatiana's grandparents are Johnny and Oneiva Jones of Brighton.

**Happy 11th birthday to Jesse E. Mitchell.** He is seen here at Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock with (L-R) former Philadelphia Eagle Wide receiver Terrell Owens, former Dallas Cowboys Wide receiver/founder PCA, Michael Irvin, Hall of Famer Jim Brown, Andre Rison former Green Bay & Atlanta Wide receiver, DeAngelo Hall rookie cornerback for Atlanta Falcons and Darrell Green future Hall of Fame cornerback for the Washington Redskins.

Special thanks to Mr. Irvin for getting guys together for a fabulous photo for the birthday boy.  
Hope you enjoyed such an exciting evening meeting the NFL players and had a fun birthday party.  
Love you,  
Mom (Virginia Mitchell), Dad, Victor, Shelli, Jewel, Valerie, Collin, Vinson and family, Grandpa, Tammie and Ray, Vickie and Bill, Jackie, Jeff, Gary, Zach, Granny, Gladys, Becky and Daniel.



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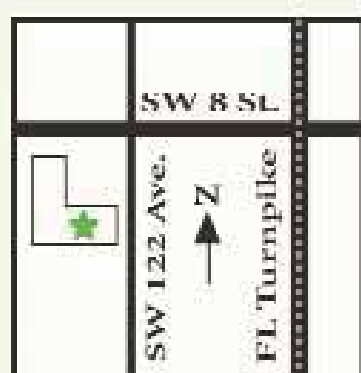


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Felix DoBosz

"The Kid" lets everyone know who's number 1.

## Kid Rock Lives Up to His Name at Hard Rock Live

### Performer Plays to Sold Out Audience

By Felix DoBosz

**HOLLYWOOD** — Robert James Ritchie, better known as Kid Rock, was more than an hour late to his Feb. 16 show. However, his fans just didn't seem to care. This was more than just another music concert to them, but a pop cultural event for those in attendance to share this rock-rapper's delight.

Some celebrities also came out to enjoy the show, including wrestling legend Hulk Hogan, accompanied by his wife Linda and daughter/aspiring singer Brooke. The Hogan trio walked in seamlessly escorted by CEO of Seminole Gaming James F. Allen. Hoots, hollers and wild applause followed them to their seats in the front rows of the VIP section as Hogan smiled and hammed it up for the adoring crowds.

The pounding beat from Kid Rock's energetic musicians, the Twisted Brown Trucker Band, made the stage come alive with anticipation. The sellout multitudes were fired up when Rock finally jumped out onstage to dramatic lighting effects and heavy fog.

Kid Rock showed up wearing a floor length pimp coat

with "Cowboy" lettered on the back from his hit song of the same name. The Kid then went into his song "Son of Detroit" as he took off his coat to reveal a Detroit Tigers baseball jersey. The jersey featured a large number 7 and Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez's name lettered on the back.

Rodriguez was the best Florida Marlins catcher from the 2003 World Series championship season. Rodriguez was traded soon after his great performance in the World Series, to the Kid's hometown team, Detroit. He is obviously a big hit with his new ball club, Detroit locals, and Kid Rock himself.

The Kid Rock show featured four exotic dancers on stage who jumped around on shiny stripper poles to the heavy rap beat. What else would anyone expect from Kid Rock? Rock proved his musical credibility by playing every instrument on the stage during his set.

Overall, the show entertained most of those that had come to see this southern-style rock-rapper do his thing.

## Aerosmith Dreams On at the Seminole Hard Rock Live

By Felix DoBosz

**HOLLYWOOD** — On March 2, the great classic rock band Aerosmith performed to a sold out show at the Seminole Hard Rock Live.

They opened their concert with their heavy version of the Beatles "Helter Skelter" as lead singer Steven Tyler gyrated and took command with his mic stand around every corner of the vast stage. Huge catwalks were erected and extended at least 100 feet into the crowd with stage flanking ramps that reached the middle sections of the balcony seats for Tyler to run up and get close and personal to his wild and frenzied fans.

Aerosmith played some of their major hit tunes like loud soundtracks to the baby boomer generation and the next generation.

Amazingly, their first record came out way back in 1972 and after all these years this old rock band can still rock like it was only yesterday. Much like their British counterparts the Rolling Stones, they are timeless. The brilliant song "Dream on" is one of the top 100 classic rock

songs of all time.

Lead guitarist Joe Perry, guitarists Brad Whitford, bassist Tom Hamilton, and drummer Joey Kramer all made it look easy; as

in unison.

Fellow vintage rockers Cheap Trick, opened the show to a lukewarm reception.

However, everyone really wanted to see the main attraction, Aerosmith; and the fans were not denied.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Hollywood Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. as well as other prominent Seminole citizens had excellent front section seats and enjoyed attending this rocking show with their families and friends.

Aerosmith is now on the last leg of their four month long tour with Cheap Trick. Following the March 2 Hard Rock Live, the band will only play about a dozen more concerts. The tour will end on April 9 in Vancouver, Canada. During this hiatus from touring, Aerosmith plans on working on a new album and then its back to touring the globe.

In the 1992 movie "Wayne's World", Mike Meyers' popular Saturday Night Live character Wayne exclaims, "We're not worthy" when first meeting Aerosmith's band members. After this show those words had a ring of reason.



Felix DoBosz

Aerosmith's lead singer Steven Tyler belts out a tune for their adoring fans.

they have for almost four decades. The four-some played and roamed around the stage while colorful dancing strobes followed them

ring of reason.

## Legendary Band The Moody Blues Rocks the Live

By Felix DoBosz

**HOLLYWOOD** — On Feb. 22 The Moody Blues played to a sold out show at the Seminole Hard Rock Live.

The show consisted of their classic rock tunes that fans have been listening too since the band from Britain first had their 1967 huge hit "Nights in White Satin," followed by other big hits in 1972 and 1979.

They hit the stage with "Lovely to See You Again," accompanied with a gigantic framed psychedelic light show dancing as a backdrop to their onstage presence. The adoring crowd responded with a standing ovation to the old-time rockers.

Some of the other songs The Moody Blues played included: "Isn't Life Strange," "Tuesday Afternoon," "Question," "One more time to Live," "Story in your Eyes" and "(I'm Just A Singer) In A Rock 'N' Roll Band," just to name a few.

They were five band members when they started The Moody Blues more than three decades ago, but now there's only three members left with another three band member replacements filling in nicely. Founding members Justin Hayward, lead singer and guitarist, bassist John Lodge and drummer Graeme Edge rocked the audience.

They all look older and grayer as expected, but the music lives and was served to the fans as a gourmet feast. The big hits brought back a flood of memories for those lucky fans that caught this legendary rock group's memorable performance.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress seemed to enjoy the show as well as other prominent Seminole citizens. The show seemed to make everyone remember the good old days and left the audience radiating warm and fuzzy feelings over this nostalgic trip of passion and the profound psychedelic spirit of the past.



Felix DoBosz

Veteran singer/guitarist Justin Hayward of The Moody Blues.

## Last Flight for These Feathers

Submitted by Alina Vier, Bittner Goodman PR

**HOLLYWOOD**

— Village People "Indian" Felipe Rose left a feathered headdress, gold record and tour jacket behind when he boarded his return flight from Fort Lauderdale to New York. All items from his personal collection, they were donated to the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, where Rose performed with the Village People at an arts fundraiser.

Rose, a New Yorker who claims partial Lakota-Sioux/Taino heritage, said at the Hard Rock Cafe ceremony that the headdress was originally purchased from the Cherokee Tribe in North Carolina, and that minor wear and tear was likely the result of frequent flights between Village People concerts. The items will ultimately go on display at the Seminole Hard Rock, which is hosting the Native American Music Awards (NAMMYS) again this June.



Trail Liaison William Osceola (left) holds a gold record from the original 1977 Village People album, while Felipe Rose (right), "The Indian," of the popular musical group, displays a feathered headdress. Both items, plus a Village People tour jacket, were donated by Rose to the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. These items will be on permanent displayed at the Hollywood Hard Rock.

Rose picked up his third NAMMY last year, as best songwriter on the CD "Red Hawk Woman," a musical tribute to the late Native American activist Thomasina E. Jordan.



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## ❖ Little Miss

Continued from page 1

her best effort forward in anything she does, which is obvious with her recent victory in the Little Miss Seminole Pageant.

On the day I snapped some pictures of Crysten she was dressed in a Seminole skirt and attending the Friday Pull-Out program which she loves being a part of. She is very active, with ballet and tap being her favorite extracurricular activities at the moment, and she also participates in soccer and gives the boys a run for their money in baseball. One of Crysten's favorite things in life is also being a sister to her siblings. Crysten has two big brothers Jayce

and JT, one younger brother Caillou, and one younger sister Jaime.

If you are ever around Crysten and her family you will bare witness to the love she has for them and the bond that they obviously share. Crysten has been very busy since being crowned Little Miss Seminole traveling to the many festivals and fairs going on this time of year and dazzling them with her cute smile and bubbly personality.

Crysten said her favorite thing about being Little Miss Seminole is all of the attention she is getting and riding in the parades. The Brighton community is very proud of Crysten and of all of her accomplishments already at such a young age. Good luck Crysten as you begin your year as Little Miss Seminole.

## Pull-Out Enters Float in Field Day Parade

By Emma Brown

**BRIGHTON** — The Brighton Pull-Out staff spent many hours gathering materials and assembling

this year's float which was entered in the Brighton Field Day Parade held on Feb. 18.

Pull-Out's Council Representatives and other students dressed in traditional Seminole clothing and hopped aboard the float for the journey through the Brighton Rodeo Grounds facility. Students exhibited cultural teaching and wood carving demonstrations for the spectators as the float passed by.

These demonstrations were to share with the parade watchers some of the traditional lessons that are being taught to the students on Feb. 17. The float placed fifth overall, but more importantly it provided non-Seminoles with a look into the world of our Pull-Out students and how important their culture is to them.

Once the parade ended the students headed to the center stage to open the day's assembly with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance in the Creek language. Pull-Out students are very proud of their culture and of their Friday program and love to have the opportunity to share their pride with others.



Emma Brown

Pull-out student demonstrates beadwork.



Emma Brown

The Brighton Field Day Parade featured the Pull-out program float.



Emma Brown

The Pull-out students performed the Pledge of Allegiance in the Creek language.

## ❖ Field Day

Continued from page 1

hoop dance which represents the circle of life with no beginning and no ending.

"Everything in the Earth is made of circles," Micco Sampson said.

Sampson began with one hoop and kept adding hoops into formations that represent man's journey through life.

There was a variety of beautiful arts and crafts at the many colorful booths at the rodeo grounds. Two Aztec leather crafters from Mexico, Jose Acevedo and Iki Balam, said it was their first time at Brighton and they hoped they will get invited to many more Seminole festivals.

Very popular was the Native Village with its incredible display of alligator, snakes and wildlife. Alligator wrestler Paul Simmons and snake handler David Weathers put on a terrific show. The children had the rare opportunity to pet a baby alligator.

The cultural exhibits educate the public about Seminole traditions and customs. Among other items such as miniature tomahawks and canoes, wood carver Vinson Osceola

demonstrated his traditional hand carved sofkee dipper. He said he sells many dippers to Tribal citizens. Osceola, who started carving as a child, won second place this year in woodcarving at the Seminole Tribal Fair in Hollywood.

Serving delicious sofkee, pumpkin bread and fry bread on Saturday and Sunday at the cooking chickee were Jennifer Chadwick, Donna Turtle and Nancy Billie from Big Cypress.

The Brighton Festival drew one of the largest crowds ever this year. The PRCA Rodeo was packed. Every year the Festival just gets better and better due to the hard work of all the Brighton staff.



The Haskell University Dancers performed at the Brighton Field Day.

## Little Mister Seminole Makes FIBA Proud

By Susan Etxebarría

**BRIGHTON** — Little Mr. Seminole 2006 is a first grader at Brighton's First Indian Baptist Academy (FIBA) where he has been a straight A honor roll student. What characterizes Eric Jaden Puente is his outgoing personality, said Darlene Holmes, the school's director.

"I think he shows great leadership potential," Holmes said. "He's a leader not a follower."

Eric's parents said they believe he is a good choice to represent the Tribe because he has a lot of self confidence and not afraid to speak out in front of strangers. In November, he made his debut as a puppeteer in a school puppet show based on a story about the Good Samaritan. Eric was not shy being on stage. He loved it.

His mother is Avalon (Jumper) Puente and his father is Eric Puente. Eric is a member of the Otter clan. On the day of the judging he wore a traditional dress made by his grandmother, Agnes Bert.

When asked what it means to be chosen for this honor, the young boy said "It is going to be great fun!"

Among the duties he is eager to perform is being in parades. He said he will "wave at people, talk to them... throw candy."

Eric Jaden Puente was selected for this great honor on Feb. 10 at the Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Hard Rock Live, which hosted the 2006 Tribal Fair. He beat out many other 5-7 year old contestants to earn the title of 2006-2007 Little Mister Seminole.



Stephen Galla

Little Mr. Seminole Eric Jaden Puente

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# 86th Annual Field Days





# 35th Annual Seminole Tribal Fair & Pow Wow



By Gloria Wilson

As the chairperson for this year's Tribal Fair and Pow Wow, I want to thank everyone who contributed to the event with their support and contribution of time and effort.

A planning group of 22 took on the task of presenting this year's event and did what I believe to be an awesome job. All of those who signed on for the task in July 2005 committed themselves to bringing to the Tribe and the general public an all around event reflective of the new venue—the Hard Rock Live.

Our primary objective was to provide a line up of entertainment and a Pow Wow that would be worthy of the venue and efforts of those involved. We hoped to present a variety of native cultures that actively reflected the cultural exchange and celebration of all those Tribes and villages to be represented.

The annual Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo was held the weekend before in Big Cypress. The rodeo was hosted by the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association. This was done as the Hard Rock Live venue does not meet Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association regulation for a full scale rodeo. From all reports I received, it was a success.

This year's Pow Wow attracted more than 170 dancers and singers. We hosted 11 drums for the drum contest. Those folks who participated seemed satisfied with the event. We hope for greater participation next year.

As for the entertainment portion of the fair, we hosted native Ecuadorian school children who presented a program of their native song and dance. The group was sponsored by the Okalee Village and came from Quito, Ecuador to participate. They enjoyed the cultural experience and were very excited about the prospect of returning next year.

Some of the Native entertainment industry's top groups were also presented. The Black Hawk Blues Band of Oklahoma City, Okla., The Red Rhythm Band, another Oklahoma Blues group, and Clan/destine, a native rock band from Phoenix, Ariz. Attendees enjoyed all the bands.

The fair itself with its vendors, crafts/clothing/food, was a situation with which we had to be creative. The venue is limited on floor space and does not allow for food preparation so food vendors had to be set up outside.

Once patrons were directed to the appropriate area for hot food, it all seemed to work. But, this is definitely one area that the fair committee will have to review and consider alternatives.

Another aspect of the Fair that I would like to see improved is the representation of the Seminole Tribe in something more than the annual clothing and crafts contest. More elements of the Seminole Tribe need to be integrated and emphasized. That would require the participation of Tribal citizens in the planning and development of next year's fair. Hopefully, there is an interest to contribute by Tribal citizens.

Overall, I think the Tribal Fair and Pow Wow were great successes. Successful in that the committee worked well together and the Hard Rock Live crew worked well with the group to present complete and full entertainment for the enjoyment of all who attended.







Well, this one is over and we must review and critique to see where we can improve or how to emphasize the successes. But, the task is never done so we will begin again soon to plan next year's event.

Thank you to President Moses Osceola, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Brighton Council Representative Andrew Bowers Jr., Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers, Brighton Representative Johnnie Jones and Trail Liaison William Osceola for your support and participation.

Finally, a great big thank you goes to all the volunteers and staff who gave of their time and energy to make this a success. I must also thank those supervisors and directors who allowed their staff to participate. The contribution of all is very much appreciated.

With 57 volunteers and committee members, this is proof that it takes more than one person to make things happen. Again, everyone's efforts and contributions are greatly appreciated.

See you next year!





**Women's Golden Age 60 & Over**

1st Place . . . . Nita Track  
2nd Place . . . . Delores Goodeagle  
3rd Place . . . . Patricia Logan  
4th Place . . . . Sharon Roberts  
5th Place . . . . Claudia Spicer

**Sr. Women's (40-59) S. Traditional**

1st Place . . . . Charlene Cozad  
2nd Place . . . . Delaine Alley-Snowball  
3rd Place . . . . Phyllis Tsatoka  
4th Place . . . . Jo Moncia Raphael  
5th Place . . . . Julia Whiteskunk

**Sr. Women's (40-59) N. Traditional**

1st Place . . . . Carmen Clairmont  
2nd Place . . . . Iris Cleveland  
3rd Place . . . . Virginia Tsosie  
4th Place . . . . Anna Bowers  
5th Place . . . . Jayne Beatty

**Sr. Women's (40-59) Jingle**

1st Place . . . . Alanna Tootoosis Baker  
2nd Place . . . . Melinda Whitecloud  
3rd Place . . . . Vickie Hindsley  
4th Place . . . . Darlene Dowing  
5th Place . . . . Katrina Big Mountain

**Sr. Women's (40-59) Fancy**

1st Place . . . . Irene Oakes  
2nd Place . . . . Lillian Goodeagle  
3rd Place . . . . Barbara Whitehead  
4th Place . . . . Joyce Tatsey

**Men's Golden Age 60 & Over**

1st Place . . . . Norman Largo  
2nd Place . . . . Vernon Harragarra  
3rd Place . . . . Gerald Cleveland  
4th Place . . . . Herman Logan  
5th Place . . . . Sidney Keahna

**Sr. Men's (40-59) Traditional**

1st Place . . . . Greg Big Canoe  
2nd Place . . . . Eugene Mowatt  
3rd Place . . . . Sigfried Jumper

**Sr. Men's (40-59) Straight**

1st Place . . . . Terry Tsotigh  
2nd Place . . . . Howard Todome  
3rd Place . . . . B. Big Mountain  
4th Place . . . . Greg Bailey

**Sr. Men's (40-59) Grass**

1st Place . . . . Darrell Goodwill  
2nd Place . . . . Sidrick Baker  
3rd Place . . . . Dale Roberts

**Sr. Men's (40-59) Fancy**

1st Place . . . . Jerry Cleveland, Jr.  
2nd Place . . . . Thomas Snowball  
3rd Place . . . . Daniel Trampler  
4th Place . . . . Allen Roy Pay-Kwin

**Adult Women's (17-39) S. Traditional**

1st Place . . . . Toni Tsatoka  
2nd Place . . . . Da Lynn Alley  
3rd Place . . . . Yvonne Sadongei  
4th Place . . . . Buffy Simmons  
5th Place . . . . Dyanni Smith

**Adult Women's (17-39) N. Traditional**

1st Place . . . . Alva Fiddler  
2nd Place . . . . Hollie Eagle Speaker  
3rd Place . . . . Tarissa Spoonhunter  
4th Place . . . . Jacinta Tsosie  
5th Place . . . . J'shen Tsosie

**Adult Women's (17-39) Jingle**

1st Place . . . . Jennifer Youngbear  
2nd Place . . . . Dorothy Crowfeather  
3rd Place . . . . Jovelle Pacheco  
4th Place . . . . Grace Pushetonegua  
5th Place . . . . Winona Kingbird

**Adult Women's (17-39) Fancy**

1st Place . . . . Amber Cleveland  
2nd Place . . . . Tanksi Clairmont  
3rd Place . . . . Urseloria Kanuho  
4th Place . . . . Nahmi Lasley  
5th Place . . . . Rose Track

**Southern Drum Contest Category**

1st Place . . . . Cozad  
2nd Place . . . . Sizzortail  
3rd Place . . . . Buffalo Crossing  
4th Place . . . . Southern Eagle

**Adult Men's (17-39) Traditional**

1st Place . . . . Ardell Scalplock  
2nd Place . . . . Merle Eagle Speaker  
3rd Place . . . . Chaske LaBlanc  
4th Place . . . . Nathan Largo  
5th Place . . . . Adrian Klein

**Adult Men's (17-39) Straight**

1st Place . . . . Wahkeen Hamilton  
2nd Place . . . . Sean Spicer  
3rd Place . . . . Otto Hamilton  
4th Place . . . . Arlen Goodfox  
5th Place . . . . Cecil Gray

**Adult Men's (17-39) Grass**

1st Place . . . . A.J. Redman  
2nd Place . . . . James Day  
3rd Place . . . . Santee Spotted Tail  
4th Place . . . . Julius Not Afraid  
5th Place . . . . Darnell Baker

**Adult Men's (17-39) Fancy**

1st Place . . . . Spike Draper  
2nd Place . . . . Wayne Silas Jr.  
3rd Place . . . . Rylan Baker  
4th Place . . . . Michael Roberts  
5th Place . . . . Bucky Johnson

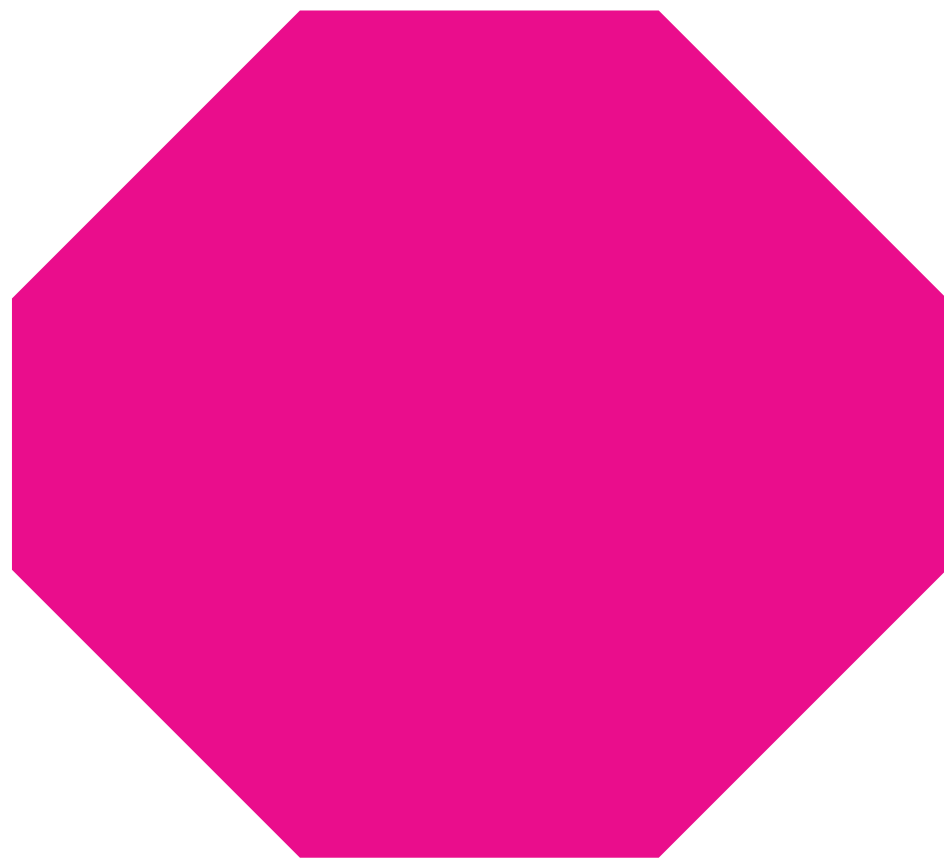
**Northern Drum Contest Category**

1st Place . . . . Iron Boy  
2nd Place . . . . Ree-mix  
3rd Place . . . . Little Eagle  
4th Place . . . . A-Wo-Ha-Li Singer  
5th Place . . . . Medicine Tail  
6th Place . . . . Stoney Creek









STOP