





The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

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Tribe Sells Off Micco Assets

By Elrod Bowers
HOLLYWOOD — The Tribal Council sold off the assets of Estumkeda, Ltd. at the regular Council meeting on Feb. 18. Estumkeda Ltd. was the holding company for the assets of the Tribe's Micco aircraft company.

According to Executive Administrator Ken Fields, the assets were sold to a local company for approximately \$850,000. "That is \$300,000 better than if we had liquidated the assets," said Fields.

The Council also:

- *Approved an operating lease agreement and systems licensing agreement with Sierra Design Group for new Class II gaming devices.
- All of the machines currently in the Tribal casinos are supplied by Labtronix. Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola, Jr. asked Lyle Bell, Senior Vice President Information Systems for the Seminole Hard Rock Casinos, if these machines would supplement or replace the Labtronix machines.
- Bell responded that, over time, the Labtronix machines would be completely replaced by the new machines.
- *Approved a revised management agreement with Freedom Healthcare Group, Inc.
- According to Executive Administrator Ken Fields, The agreement would allow the Tribe to provide pharmacy services to not only Tribal members, but also, on a contract basis, to disproportionate share hospitals who care for Medicare, Medicaid and indigent patients.
- According to Fields, the revised agreement provides additional protection for the Tribe, which includes access to Freedom's financial information and timely audits of drug inventories.



Paula Cassels

2003-2004 Seminole Rodeo Queen
Trina Bowers

6th Annual Time Travel Tour: Charleston Reunion

By Alexandra Frank
CHARLESTON, SC — From Jan. 28-Feb. 1, the department of Anthropology & Genealogy, under the direction of Dr. Patricia Wickman and staff, hosted the 6th Annual Time Travel Tour: "Charleston Reunion."

A chartered air-conditioned bus made its first stop at the Hollywood Reservation to pick up travelers. The bus continued on to the Hot Meals buildings on the Big Cypress and Brighton

Reservations.

Finally loaded, the bus and two other vehicles made their way to Orlando, where the TT Tour participants had lunch at the Cracker Barrel restaurant.

The Orlando stop was not the final destination on the first day of the Tour. The TT Tour participants also visited St. Augustine, where they ate dinner, spent the night, and enjoyed a Train Tour/Shop visit the next day.

St. Augustine is important to

Seminole history, it was here that Osceola was kept at Fort Marion after Major General Thomas Jesup tricked him into capture.

Another episode in Seminole history that happened at St. Augustine was the "Great Escape" by Coacoochee (Wildcat). Coacoochee was captured by trickery at Fort Marion an Old Spanish fortress, Castillo de San Marcos.

Coacoochee was placed in a southwest corner cell. This cell was considered escape proof, the only opening was located 15 feet above the ground.

This opening was five feet long and only eight inches wide. Also, there were two iron bars across the opening. However, all of these precautions could not contain Coacoochee. He, along with 19 other captives, escaped on the night of November 29, 1837.

Although the train tour focused mostly on the history of St. Augustine, one gets a sense of how rich the history of the Seminole, in relation to St. Augustine, is to the tribal citizens.

It was time to move on, and the TT Tour participants loaded up and headed out to Charleston, SC. Many may wonder what is so important in Charleston that Seminoles have to take a chartered bus to this historic southern city and fort.

It was here Osceola, 76 warriors and six women were transferred to after their capture at Fort Marion. Fort Moultrie served as the holding site for Osceola; it was here that Osceola took ill from malaria and acute tonsillitis. Osceola succumbed to the illnesses that ravaged



Alexandra Frank

Time Travel Tour participants ready for a carriage ride.

See TIME TRAVEL, page 3

2003 Little Mr. & Miss Seminole Contest

By Alexandra Frank
HOLLYWOOD — On the night of Feb. 7, the 2003 Little Mr. & Miss Seminole contest was held at the Laura Mae Osceola Stadium. Boys and girls ranging in ages from 3-5 years old competed for the prestigious title.

Every one of the young Seminoles wore a colorful patchwork outfit. Family or friends created the outfits for them. The contestants also sported traditional accessories such as beaded necklaces, spears, and bow and arrows.

42 girls competed for the Little Miss Seminole title and 26 boys for the Little Mr. Seminole

title. The girls were the first to be presented to the judges. Many of the young ladies went straight to the judges' table to say hello and others turned perfect circles so that the judges could see their colorful outfits better.

The girls then walked around the judges in a circle, creating a colorful collage of patterns.

Next came the boys dressed in outfits that showed the history of how the Seminole male dressed in years past. The warriors, leaders, and ranchers style of dress were depicted in brightly colored cloth and ornaments.

These young Seminole

See LITTLE MISS, page 4



Alexandra Frank

Tarina Young, Little Miss Seminole and Jessie Sanchez, Little Mr. Seminole.

Fifth Annual Kissimmee Slough Shootout & Rendezvous

By Paula Cassels
BIG CYPRESS — On Feb. 1-2, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum hosted the 5th Annual Kissimmee Slough Shootout & Rendezvous. The battle reenactment was representative of a 1830's skirmish between the Seminoles and the U.S. Army, using authentic weapons, traditional Seminole attire, and military tactics of the period.

The stage for the Seminole War reenactment battle was held on a large clearing beside the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum.

A few hundred attendees looked on as the Shootout reenactment began with a bang from a Seminole warrior's blackpowder gun, then an explosion from a nearby military cannon.

Dirt and smoke covered the scene as the battle continued, the government soldiers dressed in military blues advanced into the Everglades attempting to capture, kill or scatter the Seminole warriors.

The Seminole warriors, See SLOUGH, page 10



Paula Cassels

Kissimmee Slough Shootout actors.

Tribe Celebrates Construction Milestone



Elrod Bowers

Councilman Max Osceola, Jr. signs steel beam.

By Elrod Bowers
TAMPA — On Feb. 4, construction workers lifted a steel beam, signed by Tribal members, to the top of the Seminole Hard Rock Tampa's 12-story hotel tower. This beam, which carried an evergreen tree, marked the highest point in construction of the project.

Before the ceremony, Tribal officials and Seminole Gaming Executive Operating Officer Jim Allen addressed the construction workers at a private luncheon. "You are very important people to the Seminole

See MILESTONE, page 10

Ehricka Osceola Crowned Brighton Princess

By Emma Johns Brown
BRIGHTON — The Brighton Jr. & Sr. Miss pageant was held on Feb. 13 at the Brighton Reservation. The evening began with a dinner for the community at 5:30 p.m., followed by the pageant at 7:00 p.m.

There were seven contestants in the Jr. Miss portion and four contestants in the Sr. Miss portion of the contest. Each contestant was judged on their interview style, traditional talent, question and answer and overall appearance.

Each contestant displayed their unique traditional talents, ranging from a demonstration on how to make and use shakers by Shyla Jones, to a beautiful rendition of Amazing Grace in the Creek language by Stevie Brantley.

Each contestant did a beautiful job of exhibiting different aspects of Seminole culture and traditions through their talents. After the talent portion, each girl was given the opportunity to display their gorgeous Seminole dresses in the beauty portion of the contest.

Unfortunately, the judges are only allowed a single choice for each division. Before their decisions were announced, the outgoing Brighton Jr. Miss, Jenna McDuffie, thanked the



Emma Johns

Ehricka Osceola and Jaryaca Baker

princess committee for all of their help and said that it had been a privilege serving the Brighton Community as the 2002-2003 Brighton Jr. Miss.

See BRIGHTON MISS, page 4

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A Message From Mitchell Cypress

We all have been effected by the ill fate of the space shuttle, Columbia and its seven astronauts. Everyone felt the loss of these wonderful people who dreamt all their lives to fly into space and explore what is up and beyond our world.

What have we learned from space exploration? We know that we must go on to seek ways to help our planet. Through space exploration we now have the technologies that enable us to have television communications from all over the Earth. Do you realize that the cell phones we so depend on, are available because of the satellites we have placed in space?

It's impossible to name all the benefits that space exploration has given us to use in our daily lives. We know that with these continued explorations, there is no end to new technologies, scientists will find cures for diseases and, in time, we will find a path to another planet that may, one day, be used for life as we know it.

These wonderful men and women in the NASA Program, who risk their lives, should always be honored and admired for their courage and their strengths. My wholehearted sympathy goes out to the families of the Columbia astronauts. May their family know that these heroes have not lived and died in vain.



Seated in front, from left, are: Astronauts Rick D. Husband, mission commander; Kalpana Chawla, mission specialist; and William C. McCool, pilot. Standing, from left, are: David M. Brown, Laurel B. Clark, and Michael P. Anderson, all mission specialists; and Ilan Ramon, payload specialist, representing the Israeli Space Agency.

TIME Marches On

By Dr. Dean Chavers

Time Magazine, the journal of conservative Christian capitalism, has shot itself in the foot one more time. In December 2002. Time did a hatchet job on Indian gaming.

The controversy it stirred up made me realize once again why I don't read that rag. When I was a freshman in college I subscribed to Time for a year. I let my subscription to the magazine lapse at the end of the year.

After a steady diet of anti-Communist propaganda, praise of capitalism, support of U.S. imperialism, and other biased reporting in Time, I switched to Newsweek, which I have been reading for over 40 years now. Newsweek at least makes an attempt to look at stories objectively.

I would expect the Wall Street Journal and Field and Stream to rant and carry on with some anti-Indian rhetoric. But for one of the largest, and supposedly one of the most prestigious, magazines in the U. S., to over four million readers, to distort the facts as Time has done is unexpected and dismaying.

The magazine appears to have tried to put some respectability into its two long articles. Donald L. Bartlett and James B. Steele, who have won the Pulitzer Prize for their past reporting, were the two authors of the article. Based on what they wrote, their Pulitzers need to be recalled.

The use of seasoned reporters is slick. It makes the article seem to have some truth, some authority, to it, instead of the blatant racism it actually portrays. In contrast, Indian stories are usually assigned to the most junior of the reporters on a paper.

I gave the keynote speech to the American Indian Journalists Association about 30 years ago. The meeting was in Denver. One of my comments was about how the media usually assign green reporters to Indian news. Guess who interviewed me after the speech? The greenest reporter on the paper; she had just finished college. That is less than delicious irony.

To his credit, the President of the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA), Ernie L. Stevens, Jr., attacked Time's article with a vengeance. The magazine was wrong, he said, when it said the government created government gaming to wean Indians off government handouts. Tribes started gaming, he pointed out, to generate revenue and jobs. So far, he said, Indian gaming has created over 300,000 jobs in Indian Country.

The main thrust of the article was an assertion that much of the money generated by Indian gaming has not stayed in the hands of Indian tribes. That is one of the few truths in the articles. But no one in the U. S. world of banking would loan money to tribes to build casinos.

When Richard "Skip" Hayward, the long-time chairman of the

Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, got the tribe ready to put in a bingo parlor in the early 1980s, he went to every bank in the U. S., he says. They all turned him down.

So he went to the Arab world of petroleum and high finance and borrowed the money. The Pequot tribe paid back the loan to the Arab businessman who loaned it to them within 18 months of opening the bingo hall.

But when the tribe got ready a few years later to open what is now the world's largest casino, Foxwoods, again none of the banks in the U. S. would make the loan. So Skip went to Malaysia and borrowed the money from a billionaire named Lim Goh Tong. The tribe has now repaid this loan, except for some interest payments. It seems like a pretty safe bet to me.

When the Mohegan Tribe down the road from the Pequots got ready to build the Mohegan Sun casino, no one in the U. S. would make them a loan, either. They had to go to a billionaire in South Africa, Sol Kerzner, to get the money. The Arab man, the Malaysian man, and the South African man all made lots of money from these three deals.

I want to ask Time magazine one question: Why is it all right for white men to take out loans and make money on it, for themselves and for the loan makers, but not all right for Indians to do the same thing? This is racist to the core, and unbecoming of a mainstream publication.

The article is fundamentally flawed in several ways.

First, it seems to assume that all Indians are the same. It seems to say that a small tribe in Connecticut that got lucky and built the world's largest casino, with 6,200 slot machines, is responsible for the Navajo Tribe of Arizona or the Oglala Sioux Tribe at Pine Ridge, South Dakota.

Is Los Angeles County responsible for helping the poor people of Mississippi? Of course not. Is Clark County, Nevada responsible for helping the poor people of the Bronx? I think not.

Then why would one tribe, which is a government entity comparable to a state of the union, be responsible for the citizens of another city, county, or state? It does not make sense. It does demonstrate the ignorance and double standard Time is willing to use to get its flawed point across.

Second, the article says tribes pay no taxes on their casino earnings. Does New York City pay part of its lottery winnings to the federal government or to the State of New York? Of course not. Then why should any tribal government, which has the power to levy taxes as does all other governments, pay taxes to another government. This is an unbelievable level of ignorance.

Third, the article says the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) is powerless, under funded, and incompetent. Part of that is true; NIGC is under funded at only \$8 million a year.

But Time has to go to Congress to fix that. The tribes have consistently asked Congress to fund NIGC at an adequate level.

The other parts are grossly untrue. NIGC has overseen a process since 1988 that has not found or documented any major case of lawbreaking by a tribe. Tribes that are lucky enough to have casinos, which in almost all cases are about all they have ever had, are very careful not to let anything go wrong with the casino.

As Chairman Stevens says often, Indian gaming is one of the most regulated industries in the nation. States, tribes, and the federal government all regulate Indian gaming.

Time conveniently overlooks the fact that tribes have their own gaming commissions, their own regulators, and do an excellent job of self-regulation. If the magazine had thrown the cost of these folk into the article, along with state commissions, the work of regulation would be seen to be five times as large as Time reported.

(I have a feeling that the magazine was eagerly looking for evidence of Mafia influence in tribal gaming, as it has hinted at in the past. No mention was made of it in the article.)

Fourth, the reporters could not even get their statistics right. It said there are 1.8 million Indian people in the U. S., when the 2000 census clearly shows there were 2.2 million Indians. The reporters said that California, Florida, and Connecticut had a total of only 3% of the Indian population, where statistics show California has an Indian population of over 200,000-almost 10% of the total Indian population in that state alone.

A cub reporter at Time did. Is someone asleep at the wheel? Or maybe someone is sleeping at the editor's desk.

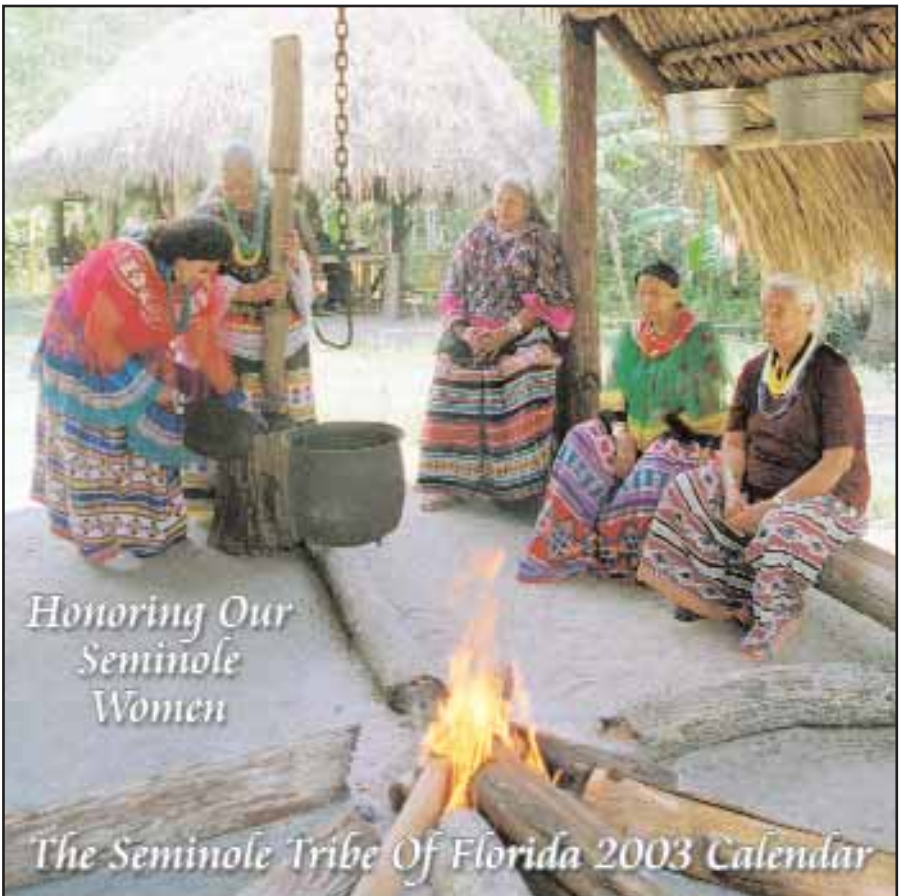
It always amazes me that such mainstream capitalists think they should pick on the smallest, poorest, and most destitute minority group in the U. S. Where was Time when the federal government was illegally terminating the treaty rights of the tribes left and right in the 1950s? They were mostly silent. The few short articles they had about the subject praised what the government was doing instead of condemning the travesty of justice that termination represented.

Harry Luce's successors should give credit where it is due. Indian people invented democracy hundreds of years before the serfs of Europe were bounced out to come to the United States. How about an article telling how Ben Franklin and Madison took the concepts of government from the Iroquois Confederacy and invented a new government with them? Shame on you, Time.

Dr. Dean Chavers is Director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship and advocacy organization located in Albuquerque. His address is NSholarsh@aol.com.



Tahlashomeh yatabé
Palmetto fiberdoll



The Tribal Calendar Is Here!

The new Tribal calendar, entitled, "Honoring Our Seminole Women," is now here and available for purchase.

This year, the calendar features 12 Tribal seniors representing all of the Tribe's clans and the Brighton, Big Cypress, Hollywood and Immokalee reservations.

If you would like to purchase a calendar, please send \$10 to Seminole Communications, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024.

Tribal members will receive one free copy of the calendar. If you would like to pick up your calendar:

Brighton: Please contact the office of Brighton Council Representative John Wayne Huff, Sr.

Big Cypress: Please contact the office of President Mitchell Cypress. Immokalee: Please see Elaine Aguilar at the Immokalee Field Office. Hollywood: Please stop by the Seminole Communications office.

Other Tribal members can contact the Tribune offices at (954) 967-3416 and we can direct you to the nearest place where you can pick up your copy.

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This is from Mr. Pence's 4th grade class saying, "We love to learn about the Seminole Tribe!!!!!"
Aangelcake92@aol.com

Hi. I was wondering if animals are allowed in the cabins up to what weight dogs are allowed. Thank you for your time.
frie008@dellepro.com

Marketing Director Lucy Evanicki writes:

No Pets are allowed at Billie Swamp Safari for safety reasons.

Hello,

My name is Manuel Steele. I grew up on the San Carlos Apache Reservation. We refer to ourselves as "Nnee," which means "The People." But we are usually known as the "Apaches," which is from a Zuni word for "enemy."

Like a lot of Apaches, I grew up fishing and hunting. I did a lot of bass fishing. Many of our reservation lakes and cattle ponds were stocked with largemouth

bass.

In my childhood, we often went spear fishing, bow fishing, or simply grabbed the fish with our hands. For largemouth bass, I usually used one of those Zebco fishing reels with bass lures.

I moved to Florida for an engineering job contract with the state. I have a Masters Degree in Bioengineering from Arizona State University. I work in Tallahassee.

I know that February and March are good months for Florida largemouth bass fishing. Does the Seminole Tribe offer fishing permits for Florida Largemouth bass?

I know most pure natives from the East Coast had been moved to Oklahoma, which was known as Indian Territory before the Dawes Act of the late 1800s. I am happy to know that the Seminoles were able to survive Manifest Destiny and thrive to the 21st century.
Msteele4sc@aol.com

Manuel Steele
San Carlos Apache
BS in Physics, University of Notre Dame (1991)

MS in Bioengineering, Arizona State University (1997)

Ernie Tiger, Tribune outdoor columnist, responds:

Thank you for your inquiry on Seminole Tribe fishing, Mr. Steele. Presently, the Seminole Tribe does not sell permits. Generally, most of the fishing on the Seminole reservations are open only to Tribal Members, because of the private lands that the reservations cover.

For your interest, the Seminole Tribe allows members of other federally recognized tribes to participate in fishing tournaments on the Big Cypress Reservation throughout the year, as well as casual fishing at all times of the year.

Outsiders who do fish on the reservation must be accompanied by a tribal member.

I'm sure if you were to bank fish on the reservation, you would have no hassles from anyone, so long as you could provide proof of membership in a federally recognized tribe (Tribal ID) and a valid Florida Fishing License.

Newly Hired Officer Vanessa Koloske

By Paula Cassels
BRIGHTON — Officer Vanessa Koloske started working for the Brighton Seminole Department of Law Enforcement in November 2002. Koloske is nearing the end of her field-training period at the Brighton police department. Field training activi-



Officer Vanessa Koloske

ties include conducting investigations and traffic stops. During the course of her training, Koloske has gotten to know a lot of the tribal members. Once on the road, Koloske will patrol the Brighton Community and the surrounding outer areas. Koloske attended a police academy course at Indian River Community College and served as an auxiliary police officer with the Okeechobee City Police Department. Koloske is a nine-year resident of Okeechobee and graduated from Okeechobee High School in 1999. When Koloske isn't working at the Brighton Police Department, she likes spending time with her family and son Tyler, who is a Seminole tribal member. Koloske enjoys her white cockatoo, which she says talks too much, working out and watching the latest movies. What Koloske likes about being an officer is that everyday brings new challenges and experiences, and she hopes to make a difference. Glad to have you aboard, Vanessa Koloske.

Meet New Extension Agent, Yu Kudo

By Paula Cassels
BRIGHTON — Yu Kudo started work with the Cattle and Land Range Office on the Brighton Reservation in January as the New Program Extension Agent. Kudo is originally from Japan, where she studied English, later she continued her education in the United States. Kudo arrived at Tucson Arizona in 1997, and attended the Institute of Food and Agricultural Studies at the University of Arizona for five years. She recently moved to Okeechobee, Florida in December 2002. Although Kudo's office is located on the Brighton Reservation, her mission here is to be a liaison and information desk from the IFAS at University of Florida to the Seminole community. The Institute of Food and Agriculture Studies (IFAS) at the University of Florida has various departments that may be able to assist the community for better living. Issues include Agriculture/Natural Resource Management, Natural Resource/Energy Conservation, Food Safety and Nutrition, Child and Family Development, and Youth Development, which includes 4-H programs.



Yu Kudo

to help with problem solving. You can call Kudo to visit you, this will help her learn about the community, and let her know how she can help you. The activities of the Program Extension Agents are supported by federal, state and the tribe, therefore, her services are free of charge to anyone in the community. Kudo says now that she is a Floridian, she wants to learn how to horseback ride and do some scuba diving. Her favorite American food is French fries. Kudo said she is very excited to be here, and is ready to serve the community. Feel free to call her at (863)763-5020, x115.



Elvis sings a love song.

BC Hot Meals Hosts Valentines Day Luncheon



Dolly opened up the music act.

By Alexandra Frank
BIG CYPRESS — On Feb. 14, the Big Cypress Hot Meals held a Valentines Day Luncheon for Seminole Seniors. There were raffle drawings and two special guests, the "King" and "Dolly Parton." As the Seniors ate lunch, both performers sang their greatest hits and the hits of other music legends. The day was a special one for the Seniors, and it was a time to come together and show how much they care about each other. Everyone had a blast as the two look-alikes made their rounds to the luncheon participants who either sang along to the music or just kept the beat of the song. I hope you all enjoyed your Valentines Day and spent it with someone special.

Time Travel

Continued from page 1

his body on January 30, 1838. Before his death, Osceola asked that his body be taken to Florida and buried there so that he may rest in peace eternally. However, Osceola was buried on the grounds of Fort Moultrie. A headstone marks his gravesite, which is located on the grounds just outside of the fort. The name is misspelled, but the remarks written about a man, warrior, father, and most importantly, a Seminole leader, ring true. On Thursday, Jan. 30, a Program/Ceremony was held to honor, not only the 165th year of Osceola's death, but the fact that Osceola and other Seminole warriors did not fight in vain in an attempt to keep their people free. The Mayor of Sullivan's Island, Marshall Stith, gave a brief ceremony statement, he gave a highlighting of the Seminole Tribe's visit to Charleston 5 years ago. Mayor Stith spoke of how the Seminoles brought with them their rich



Alexandra Frank

Mayor Stith with a portrait of Osceola.

cultural heritage and how the tribal leaders presented their people as free and self-governing. The visit, five years ago, marked the 160th anniversary of Osceola's death, Mayor Stith remarked that is an honor to again meet with the Seminoles on this day of honoring and remembering Osceola. The Mayor of the City of the Isle of Palms, Michael Satillie, presented a key to the city to Priscilla Sayen, Tribal Secretary/Treasurer. A picture of Osceola was given to Mayor Stith, who assured everyone it would be placed at Town Hall. Mayor Stith asked Dr. Wickman to introduce Bobby Henry, Medicine Man,

who would give the invocation. As Dr. Wickman introduced Bobby Henry, she gave brief insight into how a medicine man may have many names from many cultures but he is an important factor to Seminole culture. Henry explained to the crowd that had gathered together on the over-cast day that he would speak his native Miccosukee language. Henry spoke of the facts about what brought the Seminoles to Fort Moultrie. Henry also shared that, because there were survivors of those warriors from the Seminole Wars, it is imperative to keep the Seminole culture alive. It is important to tell the stories of those individuals who fought to keep the Seminole free. Mayor Stith called on Josephine North, who was in attendance to represent David Dehass, Hollywood Board Representative. The Board, Josephine pointed out, is the economic side of the Seminole Tribe. The Board supports business ventures such as citrus groves, tobacco sales, and cattle. North said there are five reservations in Florida and that



Alexandra Frank

Mayor Satillie and Bobby Henry.

said Priscilla comments about coming to the site, and it bringing out a sad emotion, was true. In an emotional testimony, Wickman said that the Seminole leaders of years gone by had not fought in vain. They had, through the battles they fought and died in, kept their descendants free. Bobby Henry finished the program by singing a few songs called the "Welcome Dance" and the "Open Dance." He explained that the songs were done during the "Green Corn Dance," and that the songs are almost always about animals.

Mayor Stith thanked everyone present at the 165th Anniversary program marking the death of Osceola. He extended a welcome from the second home of the Seminoles and encouraged everyone to spend time mingling with one another. The end of the anniversary program was not the end of the day for the TT Tour participants, arrangements had been made for everyone to tour Charleston by horse-drawn carriage. The Tour ended in Savannah, GA, where they shopped and ate dinner at Fort Jackson. The first of February was travel day. All in all, this Time Travel Tour was educational, fun, and emotional. Plans for future Time Travel Tours have not been discussed yet. But don't worry, another will, without a doubt, be put into motion by Dr. Wickman, Lisa Mullenix, Lavonne Kippenburger, and Geneva Shore. See you then.

Brighton Dedicates New Billy Osceola Library Addition

By Paula Cassels
BRIGHTON — On Feb. 2, friends and the Brighton Seminole community attended the blessing and dedication of the new addition to the Billy Osceola Memorial Library. The efforts of the Brighton Seminole Ministry, the Florida Annual Conference and the General Global Ministries were directly responsible for the construction of the library in the past and the new addition to the library. Pat Griner and Robert Glass made the beautiful stained glass window inside the library's new addition. Rev. Simeon Cummings led everyone in the consecration of the library's new addition. In 1973, Naomi and Fred Orpurt two devoted volunteers to minister the love of Jesus Christ to the Seminole people. Naomi attended the Candler School of Theology at Emory University and was ordained a Deacon in the United Methodist Church. Orpurt started the United Methodist Seminole Ministry of Florida on the Brighton Seminole Reservation. The Brighton Seminole Ministry developed a garden project where the elders would teach the children to grow corn, beans, squash, and sweet potatoes. Another one of the ministry's earliest efforts was to purchase a trailer for the 4-H program, which later became the early childhood program for the Brighton reservation. Naomi and her husband Fred Orpurt found that the Brighton Seminole community had a lot of needs, and developed projects and programs, which



Paula Cassels

Mable Haught and the United Methodist Seminole Ministry Board.

included the construction of the Billy Osceola Memorial Library. In 1974, Naomi appealed to the Florida Conference and United Methodist Board of Global Ministries for help. In 1976, a joint effort of the Brighton Seminole Ministry, the Florida Conference and United Methodist women, resulted in the construction of the Billy Osceola Memorial Library. The library was dedicated to Billy Osceola, a primary figure in the

tribe. He was the first Chairman of the Seminole Tribe and served for a total of 10 years. While in office, Osceola made education a priority and supported efforts to establish an education division in the tribe. After serving as chairman, Osceola became Director of the Community Action Program. One year later, he decided to devote his life full-time to ministry. In 1979, tribal member Mable Haught became the Indigenous Community Developer under the program of the General Board of Global Ministries. In 1996, she became the Executive Director and eventually retired in 2001. Haught attended all the construction work of the new addition and met with the volunteers until the project was completed. The United Methodist Seminole Ministry of the Florida Board: Rev. Jeff Ramsland Chair Nancy Shore, Vice Chair Dr. Sharon Patch, Rev. Delton Collins, Director Rev. Jim Wade and Helen Richardson honored Mable Haught at the Feb. 2 ceremony. Mable Haught was presented with a plaque of appreciation for her many years of selfless and devoted service to the Seminole Ministry and Seminole people. Manle's daughter, Rita Youngman, inspired by a scripture in the Bible, dedicated a song "A Virtuous Woman" to her mother, whom she loves dearly. Special thanks to Councilman John Wayne Huff Sr. for sponsoring the dedication dinner.



Paula Cassels

Rita Youngman sings "A Virtuous Woman."

Seminoles Kick Off NHL All Star Week

By Paula Cassels
FT. LAUDERDALE — On Jan 29, the Seminoles helped kick off the NHL All-Star opening night Celebration Street party.

The NHL All-Star open night celebration was just one of the exciting events that took place to promote the NHL All-Star game.

The festivities began with a bang, with fireworks on the Intracoastal Waterway, followed by a boat procession.

The Seminoles led the way in traditional cypress canoes, followed by two dragon boats, and the Stanley Cup which rode upon a 41 ft. Coast Guard boat.

The street party featured the official Mayor of Broward County Diana Wasserman, and live music by Fifth Year Crush.

Illusionist Kevin Spencer put the Stanley Cup in to an empty chest and covered it with a cloth. He then raised the chest vertically in the air, and removed the cloth. The chest was empty.

Local radio station, 94.9 ZETA announced that Spencer would make the Stanley Cup reappear the next day at the NHL All-Star Block Party, where it would stay for the next four days.

On Jan. 30, Seminole youngsters participated in the " Hockey is for Everyone" clinic at the NHL All-Star Block Party.

The Seminole youth learned and practiced hockey skills outfitted with the latest inline hockey skates. Coaches were



Seminole youth participate in "Hockey is for Everyone" clinic.

Paula Cassels

on hand to give pointers on hockey techniques.

Some of the young Seminoles took part in interactive hockey games that measured their slapshot against a radar gun, and other outdoor hockey festivities.

They also saw the Stanley Cup up close and met NHL star Larry Robinson, an eight-time winner of the

Stanley Cup.

Seminole kids were also able to attend the officially unveiling of the LEGO Hockey line. There was a life-size hockey figure made out of LEGOs, and the first person to guess how many pieces were used to make the figure received a set of the new LEGO hockey toys.

Brighton Miss

Continued from page 1



Emma Johns

Brighton Jr. Miss Contestants (L-R): Stephanie Smith, Reba Osceola, Jennifer Chalfant and Ehricka Osceola.

In the Brighton Jr. Miss division, Stevie Brantley was awarded the trophy for best talent, she sang Amazing Grace in the Creek language.

3rd runner up overall was Destiny Nunez, 2nd runner up was Shyla Jones, 1st runner up was Stevie Brantley. Jaryaca Baker, daughter of Preston and Ramona Baker, was crowned this year's Brighton Jr. Miss title. Good job, Jaryaca!

In the Sr. Division, Miss Codene Jumper relinquished her title as 2002-2003 Brighton Sr. Miss. Codene wished all of the contestants the best of luck. She also shared what a wonderful experience she had while serving as the 2002-2003 Brighton Sr. Miss.

This year's talent winner for the Sr. Miss division was Reba Osceola, who performed a demonstration

on sewing Seminole patchwork.

3rd runner up overall was Jennifer Chalfant, 2nd runner up was Stephanie Smith, 1st runner up was Reba Osceola. Miss Ehricka Osceola was crowned 2003-2004 Brighton Sr. Miss.

Ehricka is the 17 year old daughter of Shane and Arica Buck, and attends Moore Haven Jr./Sr. High School. Good luck Ehricka, as you begin your year as Brighton Sr. Miss.

This year's contest was a wonderful tribute to Seminole culture, each contestant did a great job displaying their knowledge of their Tribe and their community. All of the contestants were winners, and Brighton is blessed to have such beautiful and talented young ladies representing their community.



Alexandra Frank

Little Mr. Seminole contest winners.

Little Miss

Continued from page 1

boys would have made their great-grandfathers proud as they paraded around the judges table.

The hard part of the contest for the participants was over, it was now time for the judges to make the decision of who would represent the Seminole Tribe as Little Mr. & Miss Seminole.

Outgoing Little Mr. Seminole Erik Garcia and the outgoing Little Miss Seminole Brooke Osceola were called up to make their final bows.

Ida Osceola Miss Seminole and Jr. Miss Seminole Mary Huff were also called forward to be recognized and given thanks for the work they performed during the Little Mr. & Miss Seminole contest.

Also called forward to receive recognition and a gift from the Little Mr. & Miss Seminole Committee were Little Miss Seminole Nation, Jr. Miss Seminole Nation, and Miss Seminole.

The winners of the Little Miss Seminole category from 6th-1 Place Runner Up are: 6th - Chloe Smith, 5th -

Rumor Juarez, 4th - Deliah Carrillo, 3rd - Baylee Micco, 2nd - Appolonia Nunez, and 1st - Destinee Jumper.

The new Little Miss Seminole 2003-2004 title goes to Tarina Young, daughter of Iris Tiger and T. J. Young. Tarina is from the Panther Clan and resides on the Hollywood Reservation.

The winners of the Little Mr. Seminole category from 6th-1st Place Runner Up are: 6th - Rudy Juarez, 5th - Tyson Osceola, 4th - Donovan Osceola, 3rd - Royce Osceola, 2nd - Imillakiyo Osceola, and 1st - Jonathan Boromei.

The new Little Mr. Seminole 2003-2004 title is Jessie Sanchez, son of Clifford & Alicia Sanchez. Jessie is from the Big Town Clan and lives on the Hollywood Reservation.

It is the duty of Little Mr. & Miss Seminole royalty to attend tribal functions, and represent the tribe whenever they travel to local activities at the discretion of the Seminole Princess Committee.

Congratulations to both Tarina Young and Jessie Sanchez. Fun wherever you go as Little Mr. & Miss Seminole 2003-2004, and be proud to say you are Seminole.



Alexandra Frank

Little Miss Seminole contest winners.

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Casino Gambling

By Ken Goosens

[Editor's note. Ken Goosens works for the Tribe in Housing Finance and counsels Tribal members on loans and their credit. The opinions he expresses in this column are his own.]

Casino gambling is a popular and exciting form of recreation, but it can also be dangerous to your finances. If you are going to gamble, how can you avoid harming your finances?

Never become addicted to gambling. Gambling becomes an addiction when people can't or won't stop, repeatedly play until they lose all their money, usually give everything back they win, and either gamble in long binges or spend much of their free time gambling.

Addicts start living for the emotional highs of winning and the thrill of beating the odds. This kind of gambling destroys families and lives, and is a sickness. Like other addictions, if you can't control it, learn how to recognize triggers for such behavior and steer yourself away from them.

People addicted often are in denial and are the last to acknowledge that they need professional help. Do you run out of money when gambling? Do you borrow from others? Are you not available for family and other people? Look to your family and friends to find out if your gambling is hurting them.

Never gamble for more than you can afford to lose, set a limit on your losses before you ever start, and stop gambling once your losses hit that limit. Don't make the mistake of betting money you need to pay your bills.

Pick the games with the highest odds of paying back money, and study those games to learn how to play to get the greatest chance of winning.

The only game against the house that gives you nearly a 50-50 chance of winning is dealer blackjack. To get nearly 50-50 odds, *the dealer must not cheat and you must know the best strategy for every situation, always count the cards, and make no mistakes.*

Even then, the odds are that after hours of playing, you will come out near even rather than win. Blackjack is one of the games where knowledge and skill make the biggest difference, but still gives you only near even odds.

Among machines, the best overall financial payoff is from video poker. To get the best odds, you must be able to figure out how to place bets and learn how to hold and draw cards for all possible hands.

Before you ever put your money at risk in a casino, first hone your skills on a computer at home, using a game that instructs you whenever you make a mistake and tracks how much you win or lose. The alternative to building skills at home is to lose your money in a casino either learning the hard way or not learning at all.

Don't cling to the belief that, unlike all those other losers out there, you are good, smart, or lucky enough to win. That cocky attitude is exactly what the casinos want you to think, so that you will keep on playing to get the big win that is due you. Instead, accept that the only financial difference between poor and skilled gamblers is how slowly they lose money.

Keep in mind that the only way the gaming industry can be profitable is for most gamblers to lose money. Realize that those gambling losses have to pay for buildings, the acres of machines, the glitter and bright lights, the "free" entertainment, as well as the salaries of lovelies plying you with mind-dulling drinks, dealers with hands faster than your eyes, and a myriad of support staff you don't see.

Remember that every part of the gambling operation, down to each machine, is monitored for costs and income generated, and if it doesn't make enough profits, that operation is changed or eliminated.

Still stubbornly think that while most people lose, you still have a good chance to beat the system and win? Still think that when you play games of chance, like slot machines, that you possess a special strategy for finding machines likely to pay?

Only two strategies at casinos can expect to win. The first is to be more skilled at competitive games, like poker, where one player wins the pot and you play against not the house but other players.

For this strategy to work, you must consistently play at tables where the others play worse than you, which is very difficult to know. Only a few professional gamblers make money this way.

The second strategy that works is to play only those games where the house gives you special deals, like free pulls, coupons that augment your winnings, or coupons to bet with in place of your own money.

For this strategy to work, you must play only the special deals, which probably amounts to a few minutes. So, who's going to a casino and stop after playing the specials, you ask. Exactly - which is why casinos make people using these teasers to get money started.

Treat casino gambling as the entertainment it really is - an adventure with danger and opportunity at every unpredictable turn, the ecstasy of beating odds against you, and the agony of just missing pay-offs you could taste. But do not get suckered into thinking you have reasonable odds of winning, or that just by playing some more, you increase your odds of coming out ahead.

Casinos are basically businesses that always stack the odds in their favor for taking money from gamblers in return for providing them with exciting entertainment. Count yourself lucky, as a Seminole, that you are part owner of the house, and give thanks to all those thrill-seeking gamblers so willing to share their hard-earned wealth with you in exchange for an emotional high.



4-H Livestock Show & Sale

By Paula Cassels

BRIGHTON — On Feb.15, the 17th Annual BRIGHTON 4-H Youth Livestock Show & Sale was held. The 4-H youngsters put a lot of effort in to their animals this year, before the show they washed, fed, and shaved their animals.

Once the youngsters and their cows were in the show ring, Norman Johns, the Beef Ringmaster, helped keep the animals standing and under control.

This year's Swine Ringmaster was Frank Thomas, who helped the youngsters keep the pigs apart so they wouldn't fight or play with each another.

Sheyanna Osceola, of the Hollywood Reservation, showed Pebbles, a 50-pound white and brown piglet.

Sheyanna said it was hard to keep Pebbles clean, but she brushed and washed Pebbles everyday. On Saturday morning, Pebbles weighed in at 245 pounds.

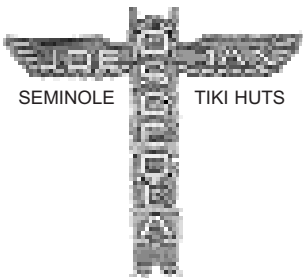
Sheyanna's hard work paid off, the swine Judge Kenneth Arnold placed Pebbles as this year Grand Reserve Swine.

Steer, Miquel Mata, Immokalee, Grand Champion, Blue, 1059 lbs
Swine, Jaryaca Baker, Brighton, Grand Champion, Blue, 237 lbs
Steer, Maranda Osceola, Big Cypress, Grand Reserve, Blue, 1100 lbs
Swine, Sheyanna Osceola, Hollywood, Grand Reserve, Blue, 245 lbs
Steer, Michael Doctor, Hollywood, First In Class, Blue, 980 lbs
Swine, Kerwin Miller, Brighton, First In Class, Blue, 250 lbs
Steer, Wilson Bowers, Big Cypress, First In Class, Blue, 922 lbs
Swine, Destiny Nunez, Brighton, First In Class, Blue, 235 lbs
Steer, Jody Simone, Big Cypress, First In Class, Blue, 1084 lbs
Swine, Frankie Marrero, Immokalee, First In Class, Blue, 225 lbs
Steer, Tara Osceola, Big Cypress, Second In Class, Blue, 1050 lbs
Swine, Steele Gopher, Brighton, First In Class, Blue, 210 lbs
Steer, Victoria Hernandez, Big Cypress, Second In Class, Blue, 984 lbs
Swine, Nikki Davis, Immokalee, First In Class, Blue, 209 lbs
Steer, Klaressa Osceola, Big Cypress, Second In Class, Blue, 940 lbs
Swine, Chad Motlow, Immokalee, First In Class, Blue, 195 lbs
Steer, Hollywood Club Steer, Hollywood, Third In Class, Red, 1250 lbs
Swine, Deidra Hall, Immokalee, First In Class, Blue, 187 lbs
Steer, Ravenne Osceola, Brighton, Third In Class, Red, 1041 lbs
Swine, Lazara Marrero, Immokalee, Second In Class, Blue, 250 lbs
Steer, Ayze Henry, Big Cypress, Third In Class, Red, 982 lbs
Swine, Janet Mata, Immokalee, Second In Class, Blue, 227 lbs
Steer, Mark Arriaga, Immokalee, Third In Class, Red, 959 lbs
Swine, Nicole Osceola, Hollywood, Second In Class, Blue, 226 lbs

Steer, Ruben Billie, Big Cypress, Fourth In Class, Red, 1090 lbs
Swine, Ethan Gopher, Brighton, Second In Class, Blue, 219 lbs
Steer, Benny Hernandez, Big Cypress, Fourth In Class, Red, 1060 lbs
Swine, Chyenne McInturff, Immokalee, Second In Class, Blue, 209 lbs
Steer, Leanna Billie, Brighton, Fourth In Class, Red, 948 lbs
Swine, Dami Garza, Immokalee, Second In Class, Blue, 192 lbs
Steer, Shelby Osceola, Hollywood, Fifth In Class, Red, 1039 lbs
Swine, Jonathan Rodriquez, Immokalee, Second In Class, Blue, 183 lbs
Steer, Homer Villareal, Immokalee, Fifth In Class, Red, 924 lbs
Swine, Immokalee Club Hog, Immokalee, Third In Class, Blue, 250 lbs
Swine, Krystle Young, Hollywood, Third In Class, Blue, 249 lbs
Swine, Josie Davis, Immokalee, Third In Class, Blue, 231 lbs
Swine, Big Cypress Club Hog, Big Cypress, Third In Class, Blue, 223 lbs
Swine, Bonnie Davis, Immokalee, Third In Class, Blue, 212 lbs
Swine, Hollywood Club Hog, Hollywood, Third In Class, Blue, 205 lbs
Swine, Justin Garza, Immokalee, Third In Class, Blue, 189 lbs
Swine, Tois Billie, Brighton, Third In Class, Blue, 181 lbs
Swine, Taylor Boone, Immokalee, Fourth In Class, Blue, 250 lbs
Swine, Lhuston Osceola, Hollywood, Fourth In Class, Blue, 228 lbs
Swine, Megan Bettleyoun, Big Cypress, Fourth In Class, Blue, 225 lbs
Swine, Allison Garza, Immokalee, Fourth In Class, Blue
Swine, Roy Yzaguirre, Immokalee, Fourth In Class, Blue, 207 lbs
Swine, Tommy Benson, Immokalee, Fourth In Class, Blue, 189 lbs
Swine, Ideforest Carter, Big Cypress, Fourth In Class, Blue, 181 lbs
Swine, Corey Garcia, Immokalee, Fifth In Class, Blue, 249 lbs
Swine, Ruby Ann Alexander., Big Cypress, Fifth In Class, Blue, 227 lbs
Swine, Cassandra Jimmie, Immokalee, Fifth In Class, Blue, 222 lbs
Swine, Erena Billie, Immokalee, Fifth In Class, Blue, 217 lbs
Swine, Krystal Garza, Immokalee, Fifth In Class, Blue, 200 lbs
Swine, Nauthkee Henry, Big Cypress, Sixth In Class, Blue, 235 lbs
Swine, Florena Puente, Immokalee, Sixth In Class, Blue, 223 lbs
Swine, Clarrisa Garza, Immokalee, Fourth In Class, Red, 250 lbs
Swine, Erica Mata, Immokalee, Sixth In Class, Red, 181 lbs
Swine, Jessica Lopez, Immokalee, Sixth In Class, Red, 250 lbs
Swine, Michael Shaffer, Immokalee, Sixth In Class, Red, 201 lbs
Swine, Justin Villareal, Immokalee, Sixth In Class, Red, 181 lbs
Swine, Katrina Bettleyoun, Immokalee, Seventh In Class, Red, 200 lbs



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EIRA Begins Another Season

By Emma Johns Brown
BIG CYPRESS — The Eastern Indian Rodeo Association kicked off another season with their first rodeo of the year on Jan. 31 at the Junior Cypress Memorial Rodeo Arena.
It was a very exciting start for the EIRA, with the non-sanctioned events (kids rodeo) beginning at 5:00 p.m. and the sanctioned events beginning at 7:00 p.m.
The non-sanctioned events began with the



Kalgary Johns holding on for dear life.

very entertaining mutton busting event, followed by pony riding, calf riding, steer riding, Jr. bull riding, and barrel racing. This rodeo usually consists of tribal member and affiliate children, and is a great exhibition of talented Seminole youth.

If you have never taken in one of these rodeos, you are definitely missing out on witnessing some fine Cowboys and cowgirls developing great skill and talent. The children involved in the EIRA show such great passion for rodeo, and it is evident that their primary goal is to have fun.

Following the non-sanctioned events were the sanctioned events. This is the part of the EIRA that the cowboys and cowgirls are able to exhibit their skill, and compete for a shot at the Indian National Finals Rodeo.

You can also see the senior citizens prove that they are not so "senior" by watching the 50 and over breakaway roping.

Jan 31 Results
Non-Sanctioned Events
Mutton Busting- 1) 11.03, Blevyns Jumper 2) 6.43, Toby Gopher 3) 2.28, Kalgary Johns

Pony Riding- 1) 59, Seth Randolph 2) 54, Justin Aldridge 3-4) 43, Willaim Bearden, Hilliard Gopher
Calf Riding- 1) 1.66, Brandtley Osceola 2) Nathan Gopher
Steer Riding- 1) 68, Seth Randolph 2) 66, Dayne Johns
Barrel Racing- 4-8 yrs: 1) 18.74, Nauthkcee Henry 2) 20.71, Zane Ducheneaux 3) 24.48, Andre Jumper
9-12 yrs: 1) 25.80, Ravenne Osceola 2) 27.56, Shyla Jones
13-18 yrs: 1) 17.87, Jade Brashwell 2) 18.94, Leanna Billie
Non-Sanctioned Events
Bareback Riding- 1) 69, Alex Johns, 10 points
Saddle Bronc Riding- No Qualified Rides
Calf Roping- 1) 14.98, Naha Jumper, 10 points 2) 19.32, Josh Jumper, 9 points
Women's Breakaway- 1) 4.42, Lizzie Dixie, 10 points 2) 20.43, Billie Tiger, 9 points 3) 34.94, Trina Bowers, 8 points
Steer Wrestling- 1) 8.42, Joe Tiger, 10 points 2) 14.01, Rodney Osceola, 9 points
Team Roping- 1) 7.50, Josh/Naha Jumper, 10 points 2) 17.57, Willie Johns/Joe Tiger, 9 points 3) 20.34, Jeff/Todd Johns, 8 points 4) 55.35, Joey/Mike Henry, 7 points
Women's Barrel Racing- 1) 17.65, Tess Ducheneaux, 10 points 2) 18.61, Sheyanna Osceola, 8 points
Bull Riding- No Qualified Rides

If you are not familiar with the sport of rodeo, come out this year and take in a few. You can also support the association by becoming a general member or an affiliate member.

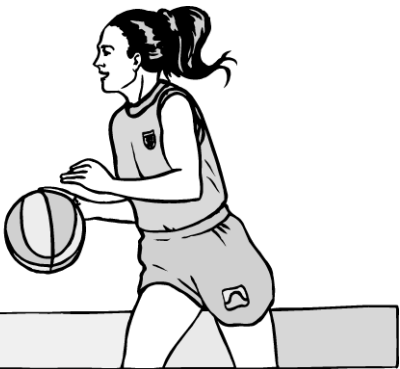
If you have an interest in becoming a member or a contestant, please contact one of your respective directors for the EIRA.

2003 EIRA Directors:
President- Alex Johns
Vice President- Cicero Osceola
Secretary Treasurer- Clarissa Bowers
Bareback Director- Adam Turtle
Saddle Bronc Director- Robert Youngblood
Bull Riding Director- Justin Gopher
Breakaway Director- Joleigh Jumper
Barrel Racing Director- Emma Johns Brown
Steer Wrestling Director- Naha Jumper
Calf Roping Director- Josh Jumper
Team Roping Director- Paul Bowers, Sr.

Seminole Tribe Hall of Fame Golf Tournament Results

Two-man Scramble- 1) (72) Jerry Ordiss & Charlie Cypress 2) (72) Joshua Harrison & Corey Deuel 3) (76) Marcy Osceola & Salaw Hummingbird 4) (76) Terry Hahn & Maxie Tommie 5) (76) Del Riley & Chris Grant
Most Honest Score- (106) Joe Billie Jr. & Raleigh Osceola
Closest to the Pin- Hole # 3- Marcy Osceola, Keith

Kraft, Terry Hahn **Hole # 6-** Marcy Osceola, Sandy Pemberton **Hole # 12-** Joshua Harrison, Neal Johnson **Hole # 17-** Chris Grant, Ernest Riley
Long Drive- Ken Miskokomon, George Grasshopper, Linda Tommie, Blanche Huff
Straightest Drive- William Huff, Jim Harrison, Gina Allardyce, Blanche Huff



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EASTERN INDIAN RODEO ASSOCIATION 2003 RODEO SCHEDULE

Big Cypress Rodeo - Saturday, March 29, 2003 Kids Events at 5:00 p.m.
Sanctioned Events at 7:00 p.m.
Brighton Rodeo - Saturday, April 12, 2003 Kids Events at 5:00 p.m.
Sanctioned Events at 7:00 p.m.
Immokalee Rodeo - Saturday, May 3, 2003 Kids Events at 5:00 p.m.
Sanctioned Events at 7:00 p.m.
Hollywood Rodeo - Sunday, May 25, 2003 Kids Events at 2:00 p.m.
Sanctioned Events at 4:00 p.m.
Brighton Rodeo - Saturday, July 5, 2003 Kids Events at 6:00 p.m.
Sanctioned Events at 8:00 p.m.
Hollywood Rodeo - Saturday, July 26, 2003 Kids Events at 5:00 p.m.
Sanctioned Events at 7:00 p.m.
Clewiston Rodeo - Saturday, August 9, 2003 Kids Events at 6:00 p.m.
Sanctioned Events at 8:00 p.m.



PBR Star Visits Tribe

By Elrod Bowers
HOLLYWOOD — If you are a dedicated rodeo fan, you may have noticed a familiar face helping out at the Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo. Professional bullrider Tony Mendes attended the Tribal Fair as the guest of Board Representative David Dehass.

Mendes, 25, has spent five years on the Professional Bull Riders tour. During the Tribal Fair, he was preparing for the Atlanta Classic on Feb. 8.

Mendes grew up in Reno, NV, where his family worked cattle and moved hay. He began his riding career at a young age on calves and sheep.

He soon moved up to junior and high school rodeos, and won state championships in the Bareback and Bullriding events.

After finishing high school, he decided to dedicate himself to bull riding fulltime. "The prize money was one of the deciding factors," said Mendes.

Mendes was crowned NARC World Finals Champion in 1995 and awarded the PRCA Rookie of the Year in 1996.

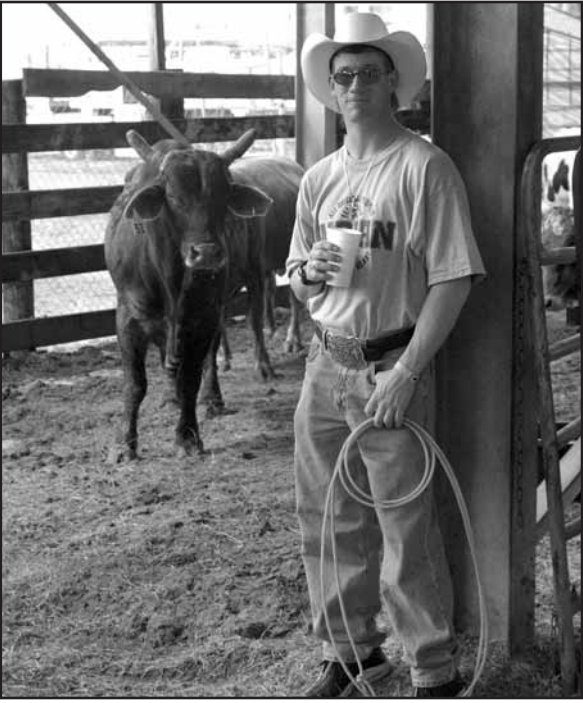
Mendes qualified for the National Finals Rodeo in 1998 and 1999. In 1999, he also qualified for the PBR Finals, where he went 4/5. He also qualified for the PBR Finals in 2001 and 2002.

He finally broke the ice in 2002, winning the Baltimore Bud Light Cup by riding 3/3. Mendes finished the 2002 season with over \$155,000 in prize money and was ranked #6 going into the 2003 season.

According to pbrnow.com, Mendes is currently ranked #18 on the PBR Qualifier Standings, the top 45 cowboys qualify for the PBR World Finals.

Mendes credits his family for much of his success, especially brother, Scott, who was the 1997 PRCA World Champion Bullrider. "We push each other and help each other out," said Mendes.

"I also learned by watching everyone else, seeing what they do and how they do it."



Elrod Bowers

Another day at the office for Tony Mendes

Mendes also attended the Gary Leffew Riding School when he was younger and is currently developing his own riding school.

Mendes met Dehass at the Mohegan Sun Invitational, the first PBR event of the year. The meeting resulted in a couple of visits, including a chance to experience the Tribal Fair.

According to Mendes, he is eager to help some of the young Tribal cowboys, "There are some great people here in the Tribe, and I want to stay long term and help the kids make it to the professional level."

2003 Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament

By Alexandra Frank
HOLLYWOOD — On Feb. 7-8, the Hollywood Gymnasium served as the site for the 2003 Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament. The two-day tournament featured eight men's teams and seven women's teams.

The tournament offered a winner takes all prize of \$2,000 for first place. Also given out were T-shirts announcing the tournament and, of course, the rights to boast being champions of the tournament.

There were three women's teams to watch out for during this event: the Seminoles, Seneca Stars, and Native Honeys. The Seminoles and Native Honeys were both undefeated throughout the tournament.

The Seneca Stars had to battle their way back to third place from the loser's bracket. They defeated Brighton, Miccosukee, Hollywood, and Outlaw Women in order to regain footing for a shot at the tournament championship title.

The third game before the championship playoff had the Honeys face off with the Seminoles. In a game that pitted talent and stamina against strong will and perseverance, the Seminoles defeated Native Honeys 56-26.

Native Honeys now in the loser bracket had to face off with the Seneca Stars. Native Honeys put up a good fight, but the Seneca Stars, who like to outrun their opponents, soon began to tire out the Honeys.

The Seneca Stars then began to control the ball and stay a couple of points ahead of the Honey's. The Native Honeys put up a good fight, but they could not pull ahead of the Seneca Stars, who beat the Honeys, 36-32.

The Seneca Stars now had to face off with the Seminoles. Both teams are strong in their defense and their offense skills. The Seneca Stars, perhaps feeling the pressure to win, played hard and fast.

The Seminoles, also feeling that same pres-

sion. The Seneca Stars were last year's winners and, even though they came in second this year, they received a consolation award.

In the men's division, the dominant teams were the Hurricanes and IAC. However, a team lost its first game, but came back in the loser's bracket.



Alexandra Frank

Tournament winners Lady Seminoles.

et quite strongly, was the Immokalee team. This team was made up entirely of Cherokee players. Wesley Garcia, who hails from Immokalee, served as Coach/player throughout the four games needed to get the team back on track towards winning the tournament.

Immokalee did well in those four games, it was when they played IAC that things got a little tough.

Immokalee lacked a decent 3-point shooter and their defense was lacking in speed. IAC ultimately beat Immokalee, 50 to 36. The next game pitted two rivals against each other for the Tribal Fair Tournament championship.

The Hurricanes and IAC recently faced each other at the 2003 NASA Tournament in Philadelphia, MS. IAC could only get 4th place while the Hurricanes netted 3rd place.

Now, they faced each other on the Hurricanes' home turf. Both teams started off well, they both have strong defense and offense skills and strong 3-point shooters.

The Hurricanes had strong coordinated plays that helped secure them a 20-point lead throughout the game. They used younger players' speed to dismantle the other teams.

The Hurricanes defeated IAC 99 to 66, a big game from last year's upset when IAC pulled an upset and went on to win the 2002 Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament. The 2003 Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament Champions are the Hurricanes.

They won \$2,000 winner take all prize and received T-shirts, IAC walked away with a consolation prize and a little insight into what they will face when they cross paths with the Hurricanes again.

Congratulations to all the winners and to those who played. The name of the game is to play to win, but it should also be fun and entertaining, good luck to you all next year.



Alexandra Frank

Tournament winners the Hurricanes.

sure to win, put all they had into keeping their score above the Stars until the end. The final score: Seminoles-52, Seneca Stars-42.

The Seminoles are the 2003 Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament winners in the women's divi-

Tribal Fair Golf

HOLLYWOOD — On Feb. 5, Tribal members, employees and guests competed in the Tribal Fair Golf Tournament at the Grande Oaks Country Club.

Formerly known as Rolling Hills, the course had been redesigned but the original clubhouse, which was featured in the film "Caddyshack," is still there.

After the tournament, which was a two-man best ball format, was finished the players enjoyed a sumptuous buffet on the clubhouse veranda.

Men's: 1) (66) Jerry Ordiss & Bo Young 2) (66) G. Hickok & Ernest Riley 3) (67) Sandy Pemberton & Charlie Cypress 4) (67) Chris Grant & Harry Kennedy 5) (68) Corey Deuel & Troy Frank
Most Honest Score: (99) Don Osceola & Ray Lucero
Women's: 1) (75) Linda Tommie & Terry Hahn 2)

(85) Barb Miskokomon & Mary Sebastian
Co-Ed: 1) (67) Dorian Lange & Pete Russo 2) (68) Max Osceola & Melissa DeMayo 3) (73) Georgia Pedro & Jim Harrison 4) (76) Marcella Green & Bob Green 5) (84) John Kenny & Blanche Huff
Most Honest Score: (93) Vince Micco & Loretta Micco

Closest to pin: Hole # 5- Joshua Harrison, Melissa DeMayo, Sylvester Humphrey
Hole # 7- Bobby Frank, Dorian Lange, Pete Russo
Hole # 11- Joshua Harrison, Marcella Green, Neal Johnson, DeMayo, Ernest Riley
Hole # 17- Jason Tommie, Melissa DeMayo, Ernest Holey

Long Drive- Marcy Osceola, Melissa DeMayo, Jim Harrison, Georgia Pedro
Straightest Drive- Harry Kennedy III, Gina Allardyce, Neal Johnson, Barb Miskokomon



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Health Corner v Chaneege enchogé v Cvfeknetv onakv



Heart Health Month

Submitted by the Health Department

In honor of American Heart Month, I have put together some valuable information on heart disease. Heart disease is very common and often symptom free, it is important to recognize the factors that put you at risk. Positive lifestyle changes have been very effective for reducing the risk of developing heart disease. Making healthy lifestyle changes will also benefit you in other ways, especially in your overall well-being. By being aware, you can reduce your risk of heart disease.

Risk Factors

Male sex, older age, family history of heart disease, smoking, high "bad" cholesterol and low "good" cholesterol, uncontrolled high blood pressure, sedentary lifestyle, diet, obesity, uncontrolled diabetes, stress.

Did you know?

- Smokers have more than twice the risk for heart attack as nonsmokers and are much more likely to die if they suffer a heart attack.
- The risk for heart disease increases as your total amount of cholesterol increases. A total cholesterol level over 200, a HDL cholesterol level under 40, or a LDL cholesterol level over 160 indicates an increased risk for

- heart disease.
- Over 50 million people in the U.S. have hypertension, making it the most common heart disease risk factor.
- Many of us lead sedentary lives. Even, leisure-time activities like gardening or walking can lower your risk of heart disease.
- Eating a heart-healthy diet low in fat and cholesterol can substantially decrease your chances of getting heart disease.

- Excess weight puts excessive strain on your heart and worsens several other heart disease risk factors such as diabetes.
- Poorly controlled stress and anger can lead to heart attacks and strokes.
- If diabetes is not properly controlled, diabetes can lead to heart damage including heart attacks and death.

Remember! You can reduce your risk for heart disease. You can have a healthy heart. The clinic staff at the health department can help you prevent heart disease. Please make an appointment to come in and start living heart healthy today! Be sure to ask about our upcoming wellness program.

Reference: American Heart Association



HHS Obtains More Ambulances for Tribal EMS Programs

Four more Tribes are receiving refurbished ambulances as part of the continuing effort of the Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Indian Health Service (IHS) to increase access to care for underserved populations.

This will bring the total to 9 ambulances that have been provided to IHS and Tribal emergency medical service (EMS) programs since last July through collaborative efforts of the IHS and the Department of Defense's TRANSAM Project.

"This Administration is committed to ensuring that people in rural areas have access to the same quality of care as everyone else in the country. The lack of emergency transportation vehicles in Indian country is a major issue, especially in very isolated areas," said Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy G. Thompson. "Because of the great distances involved in providing health care in rural areas of the country, having an ambulance available often means the difference between life and death."

This week the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Ambulance Service in Fort Thompson, South Dakota, and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation in Oregon will receive ambulances.

Last week the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe Ambulance Service in Lower Brule, South Dakota, and the Big Horn County Ambulance Service in Hardin, Montana, each received an emergency vehicle. The ambulances are similar to the one pictured above, which

was one of the ambulances provided to the Cherokees.

"No doubt about it, these ambulances will save lives," said Dr. Charles W. Grim, Interim Director of the Indian Health Service. "The EMS vehicles bring the emergency room to the patient and life-saving procedures can be started and, hopefully, the patient can be stabilized during the journey to the health facility. These ambulances will reduce the time between the adverse health event and the start of treatment."

These EMS vehicles are not Department of Defense surplus vehicles but low-mileage vehicles purchased by TRANSAM from a commercial vendor. The vendor refurbishes them to be mechanically sound to meet state certification requirements and ensures that all medical systems in the vehicle are in working order. The cost of a refurbished vehicle versus a new ambulance saves the government approximately \$65,000.

Secretary Thompson, in his visits to reservations and meetings with Tribal leaders, found that emergency transportation needs were critical to saving lives of those most distant from medical facilities and to those who have no means of transportation. An assessment of the need for EMS vehicles was conducted by the IHS in 2001 of the 80 IHS and Tribal EMS programs.

Findings from the survey show that 50% of responding programs did not have a backup EMS vehicle or needed additional vehicles to meet the needs of their communities.

By Kenny Bayon C. FT

Quick quiz: Which is the biggest part of the arm, the biceps or the triceps? The answer to that question, fellow fitness enthusiasts, is the key that makes the difference between nice arms and symmetrically challenged arms.

Here are the facts. The upper arm is made up of both the triceps (a.k.a. tris, the back of the arm) and the Biceps (a.k.a. bis, the front of the arm); the bottom half is the forearm.

Many people — not you, of course — but many gym devotees spend a whole lot of time training their biceps. Give a man a bar and a set of weights and come back in five minutes, and you can bet he'll be doing barbell curls.

The triceps, on the other hand, doesn't get nearly as much attention in the gym. Maybe a tri kickback here, a press-down there, but certainly not the game-plan and focus owed a muscle that makes up two-thirds of the upper arm.

Of course, a properly and symmetrically sculpted body requires balance ... which means you shouldn't over-emphasize or neglect either your tris or bis.

In order to bust through your shirtsleeves, you'll need to smartly and efficiently target both the tris and bis. And I'm here to help by presenting a unique workout that can get you started on the way to building some hard and defined "pipes."

If you're already getting routine results from your current arms routine, you can occasionally substitute one or more of the exercises presented here to give yourself a new stimulus.

Work out your tris and bis at least once a week (together or separately), but no more than twice a week.

Triceps

Before you begin the workout below, keep in mind:

*The triceps can be chiseled in a couple of different ways. In a press, the tris work in conjunction with the chest and shoulders to move a weight above the torso from a lying-down position or overhead from a standing or seated position. In an extension, you straighten your arm against resistance while your shoulder remains stationary.

*According to David McWhorter, Ph.D., C.S.C.S., an anatomy professor in Kansas City, Mo., extensions work the triceps more directly. "Any exercise in which there's only movement at the elbow and not at the shoulder will work the tris the hardest," he says. "On the other hand, exercises that involve both the elbow and shoulder [such as a close-grip press] are going to share the work among different muscle groups."

*Choose a weight that allows you to comfortably maintain a two-second cadence on the lifting and lowering parts of the exercise. Remember: leave your ego out of it. You're weight training, not weightlifting.

Reverse, Close-Grip Bench

(heavy use of lateral and medial heads; moderate use of long head)

3 sets; 12 reps, 10 reps
Lie back on a flat bench and grasp a barbell with a reverse grip and your hands about shoulder-width apart. (Don't go any closer, as you'll have to angle your wrists to bring the bar down, a position that can cause discomfort or injury.) Straighten your arms and hold the bar above your chest. Breathe in as you lower it down to your chest, almost touching down just below your nipples. Breathe out as you fully contract your triceps to lift the bar upward. Straighten your elbows at the top, stopping short of locking them out, and repeat.
Consider having a spotter for the reverse, close-grip bench press. As an option, for slightly more safety, you can use a Smith machine with the stops set right above chest level.

Seated Rope Extension

(heavy use of all three heads)
2 sets, 8-12 reps
Place a short-back bench in a cable pulley station, facing away from the weight stack. Attach a rope to the bottom pulley. Grasping the rope in both hands, sit with

your hands directly above your head, knuckles aimed at the ceiling. Slowly lower the rope behind your head, pause when your triceps are fully stretched, and return to the starting position and repeat.



The range of motion extends from a full stretch down behind your head to a point straight above you, elbows extended at the top. Keep your upper arms firmly in place next to the sides of your head, with the only movement occurring at your elbow joint.

Fixed Bar Triceps Extension

(heavy use of lateral and medial heads; moderate use of long head)

2 sets, 8-12 reps
This is a classic Arnold Schwarzenegger favorite. You'll need to find a fixed bar about waist high. A barbell set on an adjustable power rack will work, as will a Smith-machine bar. Take a shoulder-width grasp on the bar, then step back until you are in a modified push-up position. From there, bend at the elbows to lower your body until your head drops below the level of the bar. Then contract your triceps to straighten your elbows, return to the starting position and repeat.

Take your time. This move puts the long head of the triceps under maximum stretch at the bottom, which in theory leads to a stronger contraction on the positive part of each rep.

But for best results, a slow, steady pace and a full contraction of the tris will make you feel like you're etching new detail into the muscle before the first of the two sets is history.

Lying, Cross-Body Dumbbell Extension (heavy use of lateral head; moderate use of long and medial heads)

3 sets, 10-12 reps
Lie down on a flat bench with a dumbbell in one hand. Lift the dumbbell up to arm's



length above you. Keeping your upper arm locked in place and bending only at the elbow, bring the dumbbell across your body toward your nonworking arm. Stop just before the dumbbell touches your body and reverse the motion, breathing out and flexing your triceps hard to bring the weight back to the starting position. Repeat.

For the first reps of this exercise, move the dumbbell slowly through the full range of motion, flexing on the way up and maintaining muscle tension on the way down. As you tire, you can speed up the concentric portion of the rep while maintaining a deliberate descent, squeezing the remaining energy and power out of every last muscle fiber in the back of your arms.

Biceps

The key to successful biceps training, and training in general, is maintaining a full contraction for the total range of motion. To maintain a full contraction during curls—rep in, rep out—you must keep your forearms flexed throughout the movement.

If they're not fully contracted, neither will your biceps be. And without that contraction, your training will result in minimal gains.

Competitive bodybuilders learn to "pose," or contract, their muscles to maximize their appearance and look as big as possible. When bodybuilders pose their biceps, ever notice how the palm is rotated toward the forearm, and the thumb is either tucked inside the fingers or across the middle digit of the fist? There's good science behind this quirk. The rotation generates a full contraction, thus maximizing the "peak" appearance of the biceps.

Using this grip while curling will produce surprising results. Simply position your grip on the bar so the bar rests closer to the butt of your hand, and rotate your knuckles upward. This position must be maintained throughout the range of motion.

With your wrists locked, pin your elbows to your sides, forcefully grip the bar and curl upward. At the bottom of the movement, keep the knuckles rotated upward.

Adopting this grip into your curling regimen will do two things: It will force you to totally isolate the biceps, and also force you to utilize the oft-overlooked brachialis, the muscle that runs in between the biceps and triceps. Developing the brachialis will push the biceps and triceps apart, creating a bigger arm.

Here are a few exercises to add to your arsenal:

Standing Barbell Curl

(This is the most basic of biceps movements, placing primary stress on the biceps muscles and secondary emphasis on the brachialis and forearm flexor muscles. It's also an excellent mass builder.)
3 Sets, 10-12 Reps

Grasp a shoulder-width underhand grip and stand with it hanging in front of you. With your wrists locked straight and your elbows stationary against your sides, curl the weight upward on a two-count to below your chin, squeeze and return to the start position on a four-count.

Dumbbell Concentration Curls (This movement works the entire belly of the biceps and places secondary stress on the brachialis and forearm flexor muscles.)
3 Sets, 10-12 Reps

Sit at the end of a flat bench with your feet flat on the floor, four to six inches wider than your shoulders. Grasp a dumbbell with your left hand (palm up), brace your left triceps against the inside of your left thigh and completely straighten your arm. With your wrist straight, curl the dumbbell upward on a two-count to below your chin, squeeze and return to the start position on a four-count.

Seated Hammer Curl (brachialis and forearm supinator exercise.)
3Sets, 12-15 Reps

Movement: Grasp a pair of dumbbells with a neutral (palms in) grip and sit at the end of a flat bench with your feet firmly on the floor and your back erect. With your wrist straight and your firm throughout the movement, curl the right dumbbell upward on a two-count to shoulder level, squeeze and return to the start position on a four-count. Repeat with the left arm, alternating for the appropriate number of reps. For the tool-inclined among you, think of hammering a nail.

Barbell Preacher Curl (This movement is an excellent overall mass builder that places a significant amount of stress on the lower section of the biceps.)
3 Sets, 10-12 Reps

Movement: Grasp a barbell with an underhand grip, hands slightly wider than shoulder width apart. Place your triceps flush against the pad and straighten your arms. Curl the barbell upward on a two-count to just below your chin, squeeze and slowly return to the start position on a four-count. Your arms are at an angle, so be careful not to hyperextend your elbows at the midpoint of the movement.

South Florida Chapter Walks to Cure Diabetes

FORT LAUDERDALE — On March 22, more than 3,000 walkers are expected to turn out for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International's (JDRF) annual Walk to Cure Diabetes, at the Sawgrass International Corporate Park in Broward County from 8:00 am - 12:00 p.m.

The chapter's goal is to raise over \$500,000 dollars for research to find a cure for diabetes and its complications.

"It's great to be working together with JDRF on such an important goal - curing a disease which kills one American every three minutes and costs our nation more than \$105 billion a year in health care expenses," says Michelle Mejia, Chapter Board President and mother of a son with Type 1 Diabetes.

"That's why we are committed to raising money for cutting-edge research. By working together, we can make a difference."

On a national level, Leeza Gibbons is Honorary Chair of JDRF's Walk to Cure Diabetes.

For Sugar Ray Leonard, National Chair of JDRF's Walk to Cure Diabetes, the "fight" to cure diabetes is a very personal one. Because his dad has diabetes, Leonard is committed to finding a cure.

Leonard, an Olympic Gold Medal Winner and former boxing champion, recently launched Sugar Ray Leonard Boxing, Inc. and a partnership with ESPN, to produce and promote exciting competitive boxing events for a nationwide TV audience.

Entire families enjoy participating in the Walk to Cure Diabetes. On-site registration begins at 8:00 a.m. at

the Sawgrass International Corporate Park in Broward.

"We are immensely appreciative of Mark B. Templeton, President & CEO of Citrix Systems Inc. who is serving as Corporate Recruitment Chair for the Walk," said Mejia.

"Mr. Templeton's enthusiastic commitment enables us to accelerate research to more quickly find a cure for diabetes, because insulin is life support, not a cure. This is corporate citizenship at its best."

The South Florida Chapter Walk to Cure Diabetes is one of the many held in more than 225 cities worldwide. More than 550,000 people worldwide walked to cure diabetes last year, and more than 750,000 are expected this year. Nationally, the JDRF Walks raised \$78 million last year, and this year are expected to exceed that number.

JDRF, the world's leading nonprofit, nongovernmental funder of diabetes research, was founded in 1970 by the parents of children with juvenile diabetes—a disease which strikes children suddenly, makes them insulin dependent for life, and carries the constant threat of devastating complications.

Since inception, JDRF has provided more than \$600 million to diabetes research worldwide. In a typical year, 85 percent of JDRF's expenditures directly support research and education about research. JDRF's mission is constant: to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research.

For more information on how to participate in this year's Walk, visit the JDRF website: www.idrf.org or call 954-768-9008.

Brighton Weight Loss: 336 pounds

By Barbara Boling, Health Educator & Beth Skinner, Nutritionist

BRIGHTON — The Brighton community recently completed their fall weight loss contest. The contest started Oct. 4, 2002 and ended Jan. 24, 2003.

In 16 weeks time, tribal members, community members, and employees lost a grand total of 336 pounds!

First place awards go to the following people for losing the most weight in each category: Parker Jones, adult male

Tribal/community member; Farrah Jones, adult female Tribal/community member; H. James Girtman, youth male Tribal/community member; Nicki Osceola, youth female Tribal/community member; Gerald Meisenheimer (SPD), male employee; and Brenda Walker (Family Services), female employee.

Congratulations to all of the participants! The holiday season is a challenging time of year to lose weight. Exercise and healthy eating habits do pay

off.

Thank you to the Chairman's office, Councilman John Huff Sr., Brighton Recreation, and the Health Department for sponsorship of this event.

An awards luncheon was held on Feb. 12 in the Field Office and the participants attended and collected their winnings.

We will continue our weight loss efforts with a Spring Contest running from Jan. 31 through April 25, 2003.

1st Annual Seminole Men's Wellness Conference April 14-17, 2003

All Participants Must Complete An Application – Even If Rooming Together! All participants must arrive at the Hard Rock Hotel in Orlando, and register for the

conference by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2003.

Please note, you will be responsible for obtaining leave from your employment

to attend the 1st Annual Men's Wellness Conference.

Please indicate below if you have a room-mate preference during your hotel stay:

Due to space limitations, it will be necessary to limit the number of partic-

ipants in the 1st Annual Seminole Men's Wellness Conference. You must be male, 18 or older and you

must commit yourself to participate for the duration of the conference.

Those who are pursuing a healthier drug and alcohol free lifestyle will have first priority if the Seminole Men's Conference registration exceeds the limit. Early checkout will be at your expense. Rooms and meals are provided only for those in attendance at the conference.

Please indicate if you require any special hotel accommodation.

You can pick up applications beginning Feb. 3, 2003

Pick up and drop off registration at:

Brighton Clinic & Field Office, contact person- Harold Baxley (863) 763-7700

B.C. Clinic & Field Office, contact person- Mike Smith (863)983-6557 or (863) 447-2238

Hollywood Clinic & Field Office, contact person- Ralph Billie (954) 963-7429 or (954) 646-2454

Immokalee Field Office & Family Services Bldg, contact person- Billie Napper (239) 657-6567

Trail: Andy Buster (786) 236-6604

Application Deadline is March 28, 2003



Paula Cassels
The Bill Osceola Rodeo started off with the Mutton Bustin event.

Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo

By Paula Cassels

HOLLYWOOD — On Feb. 7, the Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo started in the late afternoon with the Mutton Bustin event. Three, four and five-year-olds competed for buckles and saddles. Brantley Osceola, a young cowboy who started at age three in the Mutton Bustin event, now participates in the calf-riding event. That night, Osceola won his first saddle, a buckle and cash prize in the calf-riding event.

The Bill Osceola Memorial Indian Rodeo was a very tough competition of beast against cowboy. The livestock tossed the cowboys around and onto the ground like toys. Seminole bullrider Sampson Gopher suffered an eye injury when a bull kicked him during his ride.

Halfway through the rodeo, Jr. Miss Seminole Mary Huff presented Trina Bowers with a dozen red roses, and crowned her Miss Seminole Rodeo Queen 2003.

Trina rode her horse into the middle of the area, and was recognized as a hardworking cowgirl who is dependable, reliable and shows good sportsmanship when competing in the EIRA rodeos.

Steer Riding- 1) Seth Randolph, 72 2) Dayne Johns, 46
Mutton Bustin- 1) Blevins Jumper 2) Frank Huff 3) Kalgary Johns 4/5)Kelton Smedley, Layton Thomas

Calf Riding- 1) Brantley Osceola 2) J.J. Johns
Pony Riding- 1) Hilliard Gopher 2) Seth Randolph.

4-8 Barrels- 1) Zane Ducheneaux, 17.87 2) Nauthkee Henry, 18.27 3) Andre Jumper, 22.01 4) Courtney Gore, 23.96.

9-12 Barrels- 1) Shyla Jones, 19.95 2) Raven Osceola, 22.75.

13-18 Barrels- 1) Jade Braswell, 16.67 2) Tina Billie, 18.12.

Jr. Bulls- 1) Chad Fish.

Womans Breakaway- 1) Shelby Osceola, 4.2 2) Lizzie Dixie, 4.2 3) Tie, Joleigh Jumper, Billy Tiger, 5.3.

Bareback Riding- 1) Alex Johns, 71 2) Adam Turtle, 59.

Steer Wrestling- 1) Jeff Johns, 7.4 2) Sydney Gore, 11.7 3) Jason Grasshopper, 19.4.

Saddle Bronc- 1) Robert Youngblood, 51.

Calf Roping- 1) Naha Jumper,18.2 2) Howard Edmundson, 18.7 3) Josh Jumper, 24.7.

50 over Breakaway- 1) Amos Tiger, 5.2 2) Rudy Osceola, 5.8 3) Moses Jumper, 31.5

Barrels- 1) Shelby Osceola, 16.82 2) Boogie Jumper, 17.13 3) Holly Johns, 17.18.

Bull Riding- 1) Justin Gopher.

Team Roping 1.Billie Tiger/Amos Tiger, 9.9 2) Justin Gopher/Sampson Gopher, 12.3 3) Josh Jumper/Naha Jumper, 15.8 4) Howard Edmundson/Branson, 25.3 5) Cicero Osceola/Rudy Osceola, 32.9



Paula Cassels
Boogie Jumper placed second in barrels.

Education v

What is the PULL OUT Program?

By Louise Gopher, Assistant Director of Education

The Pull Out Program is a name given to a Language/Cultural Program held on the Brighton Reservation. All of the Seminole elementary students attending the Okeechobee Public Schools are allowed to remain on the reservation every Friday.

The children receive language and cultural teachings from their own people. Students who are in kindergarten through fifth grade attend the program. Most of them attend the Seminole Elementary School in Okeechobee Monday – Thursday.

However, Seminole students attending other public schools in Okeechobee may attend as well. There are forty-eight elementary students attending the Friday Pull Out Program.

The day is broken down into five classes by grades. The classes and instructors are: History – Willie Johns; Reading & Writing the Creek Language – Lorene and Louise Gopher; Science and Math – Dr. Susan Stans, Rita Gopher, & Joleigh Jumper; Reading and Writing – Diane Smith, Diane Snow, & Jenny Johns; and Arts & Crafts – Jenny Shore and Martha Jones.

Lunch and transportation are provided for the students. Attendance is called into their school by 9:00 a.m.

The idea for this unique venture came from a student who used to be in the Okeechobee's Gifted Program. While in this program, she was taken out of her regular classes one day a week to attend the Gifted Program activities. She posed the question, "why can't we do that for our Seminole children and

teach language and culture?"

With this idea, and after getting approval from the Okeechobee School Superintendent, a group from Brighton visited the Department of Education in Tallahassee and presented this idea. They too gave their enthusiastic approval. This took place in May of 2001 under the leadership of former Councilman, Jack Smith, Jr. and former Education Director, Dr. Wilmes.

After a year of planning and agonizing over the project, the school officially started on September 6, 2002. Dr. Susan Stans from Florida Gulf Coast University provides technical and consultant services. The Pull Out Program is part of the Seminole Tribe's Cultural Program.

Exciting activities are planned for the second half of school year including planting a vegetable garden outside the Brighton Education Building. They have also been talking about having an open house for tribal officials and other communities to showcase the Pull Out Program. The Tribune will be doing a more extensive coverage of the program in future issues.

Parents and grandparents, if you have special knowledge or skill pertaining to the history and culture of the Seminole Tribe, please drop by any Friday to the Pull Out Program in Brighton. We would be happy to record your contributions and share with our younger generation.

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed!

Preschool Language Department: Hollywood, Big Cypress, Brighton, Immokalee

Submitted by Josephine North

The Language Department was first initiated by the Seminole Tribe of Florida in 1999 beginning with one staff member on the Hollywood Reservation. Soon thereafter Language Coordinators and staff were recruited and hired for the Big Cypress, Brighton and Immokalee Reservations.

The two major native language groups spoken within the Seminole Tribal population are represented, Mikasuki and Creek languages. Curriculum has been developed to be implemented by native speaking teachers in each of the reservations mentioned previously.

The Language Department continues to develop teaching and cultural materials for the Hollywood, Big Cypress, Brighton and Immokalee Preschool Programs. The present Mikasuki /Creek Language classrooms have speakers of the native language in each classroom from Infant age to five years old.

The language teachers have been working with the Preschool teachers and integrating the language Immersion within the classroom curriculum since the inception of the Language Department in 1999.

The Language Department has had an on going working relationship with the Seminole Broadcasting Department for documentation and viewing of important Seminole culture activities within the Hollywood community.

The following are areas are focused on:

Reading Skills: Reading skills are built within each student when they identify an object by name, color, shape and commonality.

Writing Skills: Writing skills are built when each student uses crayons and markers to express ideas and words through the process of drawing pictures.

Language Skills: Games skills are built when students play conversion games; repeat familiar songs and stories containing rhymes.

Numbers Skills: Numbers skills are built when students use days of the month from one to thirty-one, in English and Mikasuki/Creek.

Culture component: Using our Bead mak-

ing, Basket making and Doll making in the curriculum the children are learning about their culture and at the same time learning about numbers, colors, hand and eye coordination.

The ongoing activities within the Preschool classrooms and in the language classroom are a part of curriculum taken from "portage units" and Preschool Program workbooks.

Starting in this month, Hollywood Preschool will have language class in the afternoon based on the need of the community from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. The Language Department staff have collaborated and converted various pertinent curriculums to allow for effective teaching of the Mikasuki/Creek Language.

Due to reservation community requests, the Language Department has grown beyond the Preschool level with regards to curriculum development and implementation and teaching.

Creek Language: The Brighton Language Program continues to work with the Okeechobee School System in what is called a "Pull Out Program". The Creek Language has been added as a component of learning for 46 students at the Public School level ages kindergarten through the fifth grade. This process bolsters the validity and importance of learning the native language along with the basic Public School curriculum.

Mikasuki Language: The Preschool Language Program in Hollywood continues to work with Home Study, Public and Private School students beyond the pre-school level, up to 18 years of age.

These classes are available at the Hollywood Language Program from 8:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Preschool Language Program in Big Cypress and Immokalee Preschool Language Program are following the same program.

A curriculum workbook has been developed for Mikasuki/Creek students between the ages of four and five to be utilized in the classroom and also for take home assignments. This workbook utilizes visual and sound concepts with cobra and various shapes. The Language Department follows the guidelines of the Florida State Readiness standards developed for the year 2002.

2003 American Indian Journalism Institute Seeks Student Nominations

VERMILLION, SD—The Freedom Forum will fully fund and run an academic journalism program for American Indian college students again this summer and the University of South Dakota will award four hours of college credit to graduates of the three-week course.

The American Indian Journalism Institute will offer 25 Native American student, the opportunity to train as newspaper reporters, editors and photographers. The institute will be held June 1-20 at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, S.D. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in a college and must have completed their freshman year.

The Freedom Forum Neuharth Center will pay all costs, including tuition, fees, room and board, and it will give students who successfully complete the program a \$500 scholarship/stipend. The college level course is sanctioned through the university's Department of Contemporary Media and Journalism, a nationally accredited journalism department. Students may apply to transfer the credits to other schools where they are enrolled.

Follow-up programs for the institute's top graduates include paid internships at daily newspapers, further schooling and eventual job placement.

The summer institute, in its third year, is one of the most significant journalism programs ever directed at American Indian college students, according to USD journalism Professor Ramon Chavez, who will again oversee the institute teaching staff.

"The American Indian Journalism Institute will be the first chance for many tribal college students to study journalism," Chavez said. Their schools typically lack journalism classes and school newspapers, the most common route to journalism careers.

The American Indian Journalism Institute is part of the Freedom Forum's commitment to increase employment diversity at daily newspapers. "Improving diversity -- having just one Native American working in a newsroom -- makes a newspaper more aware of Indians in its community, and more sensitive and intelligent in reporting stories about them," said Jack Marsh, director of the Freedom Forum Neuharth Center at the University of South Dakota.

American Indians are by far the most under-represented people of color in the news media -- and stereotypical and erroneous newspaper coverage of Indian issues and Indian people shows it, said Marsh. Estimates of the number of Native Americans working at daily newspapers range up to about 300 -- out

of more than 55,000 journalists nationwide.

According to Marsh, director of the summer institute, students will take a concentrated academic program teaching the basics of journalism in a university-approved course titled "Journalism Theory and Practice."

Students will concentrate for one week each on reporting, editing and photography, and help publish a newspaper. Weekly field trips will introduce students to other aspects of journalism such as political reporting and sports writing. Faculty and guest presenters will include professional journalists who are Native American.

Each student will have a single room in a dormitory. Meals will be provided on campus. Participants may be nominated by educators, mentors or other interested parties. Nominations should be made in the form of a letter addressed to: Jack Marsh, director, Freedom Forum Neuharth Center, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, S.D. 57069.

Nomination letters should include brief explanations of why nominees should be accepted into the institute and how they can be contacted. Nominees then will be invited to provide further information about themselves and examples of their writing, such as an essay about why they want to attend. Self-nominations also are welcome, as are nominations by e-mail (jmarsh@freedomforum.org).

Nomination letters should be received by April 1, 2003. Students should be able to provide proof of tribal enrollment or lineage, if requested. For further information, call Jack Marsh, director, Freedom Forum Neuharth Center, at (605) 677-6315.

The Freedom Forum, based in Arlington, Va., is a nonpartisan foundation dedicated to free press, free speech and free spirit for all people. The foundation focuses on three main priorities: newsroom diversity, the Newseum and First Amendment issues. The Freedom Forum Neuharth Center at the University of South Dakota honors Allen H. Neuharth, a 1950 graduate of the University of South Dakota who founded USA TODAY and the Freedom Forum.

In addition to journalism education programs at the University of South Dakota, the Freedom Forum Neuharth Center funds and co-directs the Native American Newspaper Career Conference at Crazy Horse Memorial, near Custer, S.D. The workshop, April 22-24, 2003, introduces American Indian high school and tribal college students to the possibilities of a journalism career.

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Brighton PTA Hosts School Readiness Meeting

By Emma Johns Brown
BRIGHTON—Brighton Pre-school has many wonderful aspects that provide a wonderful atmosphere for the children: a brand new facility, a wonderful and caring staff, a very involved PTA program, and a phenomenal Creek language program.

But are they providing our children with the skills and knowledge needed to enter Kindergarten on or above level? This was a question raised by a concerned parent at the January PTA meeting.

Since there was no one at the meeting to answer these questions, the parents of the PTA took the initiative to invite staff from local school districts to help clarify some of these questions, at a Jan. 29 meeting at the Brighton Pre-School.

Letta Jordan, an Okeechobee County Elementary teacher, was one of the speakers at the school readiness meeting. Mrs. Jordan reported that, of the nine Seminole children attending Seminole Elementary in Okeechobee, three were considered below average or at risk, five were average, and one was above average.

It was also reported that all of the students, except for the student who was above average, had attended the Brighton Pre-school program. One of the parents asked what tools were used to determine what level a child is on. Mrs. Jordan said that each child is given a pre-test.

This pre-test, called the Easy-k, is a screening tool used to assess the level of each child. Mrs. Jordan said that Kindergarten changes have been progressive over the last 10 years.

Each teacher in the state of Florida must follow a certain set of rules and standards, which Mrs. Jordan had with her and referred to as her "Bible." These rules and standards are called the Florida State Benchmarks, and everything taught in Kindergarten, or any grade, must follow these benchmarks specifically.

A child now needs to know much more than his ABC's and 1-2-3's to be on level when entering kindergarten. Mrs. Jordan also said that she would like to see a structured pre-school, such as Brighton's pre-school, provide a program that would ensure the production of on or above average children.

Also present at the meeting was Wayne Aldrich, Superintendent of Glades County Schools; Cheryl Heisman, Glades County Elementary teacher; and Debbie Pressley, Curriculum Coordinator for Glades County.

Mr. Aldrich said that there have been rapid changes in Florida for Education. Not only have the curriculum standards changed, but the classroom sizes must be reduced to the ratio of 18 students to one teacher by the year 2010. He said that Glades County Schools are just under the requirements for smaller classroom size.

Mrs. Pressley reiterated what Mrs. Jordan shared about the screening process. She stressed that these screenings are for teachers, but instruments used primarily for tests to assess a child's strengths and weaknesses.

Mrs. Pressley said that these screenings are done within the first three weeks of school, and they are required by law. She said that a behavioral assessment that must be done along with the academic assessment. This is used to gauge where a child is behaviorally.

Mrs. Heisman, teacher of the year for Glades County, shared what she feels is absolutely essential for a child to know before entering kindergarten. A child should be able to take care of personal needs, such as bathrooming, zipping, fastening, using the bathroom on his own. A child should be able to tie his shoe before entering kindergarten.

A child should know his colors. A child should have knowledge in shape recognition. A child should be able to write name legibly.

A child should be able follow simple rules and instructions. A child should be able to concentrate on a task for 10 to 20 minutes. A child should demonstrate social skills and self-control such as sharing and taking turns.

Although there are many more things that a child needs to know to be on level, these are the things that Mrs. Heisman feels is definitely needed to help make the learning process flow more smoothly.

Mrs. Heisman also told the parents to read to their children as much as they can, and ask questions while reading so they can assess the child's knowledge at home.

Also joining was Thommy Doud from the Seminole Pre-School Program. Tommy shared his appreciation to see so many parents, and to hear how concerned they were with their child's education.

He said the pre-school has made changes to fulfill the needs of children's progression and to ensure their readiness for kindergarten. The pre-school is using a Developmental Appropriate Practices approach by using centers and doing table work. They have also created a pre-school workbook that follows along with Florida State Standards in both Creek and English languages.

Tommy said that 12 of 15 seniors at the Brighton pre-school were administered a developmental screening assessment called the LAP-D. This screening tool was used to assess where each child is at this point in time, and the results will be used to develop an IEP (Individual Educational Plan) for each child.

This means that each child will be given an individual plan, based on his assessment, to bring him to the level that he should be on.

The results of this test were as follows:

12/15 tested, and the average age of the children tested was 62 months. The test determines the age level at which the students are performing.

Fine Motor Writing-65 months
Fine Motor Manipulating-63 months
Cognitive Matching-63 months
Cognitive Counting-63 months
Language Naming-68 months
Language Comprehension-62 months

As you can see, on average, Brighton Pre-School seniors are at or above age level according to this assessment. However, this does not mean that each individual child is on or above average.

However, when viewing the class as a whole, they are at a 63 month age level, which is one month over what is expected.

Educating children is a collaborative effort of teachers, parents, and the school system. It is ultimately the parents who provide the child with the background experiences, reinforcement, and encouragement that makes learning possible. Without the help of the parents, it becomes the school's responsibility to provide the foundation of learning.

Dr. Carolyn Brown, a research scientist in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at the University of Iowa found that young children who grew up in homes rich in language and reading material were more likely to become successful readers.

So parents must take time to read to their children and provide them with as much reading tools as they can. It is also important to talk with your child and listen to what they have to say. If it is important enough for them to talk about, then it is important enough to be heard.

To the Brighton Pre-School staff and PTA, keep up the good work. I know we will use this experience as a learning tool, strive to improve our school's academics, and ensure that the Brighton Preschoolers receive the best Education possible.

Brighton parents have the choice of sending their children to one of three schools that were represented at this meeting. The Glades and Okeechobee County Schools are accredited, and the Brighton Baptist School is near accreditation.

On behalf of the PTA, thank you to all of the schools that attended the meeting, and the wealth of information that was shared with the parents.

If you are a parent of a pre-schooler, visit the Education Department, or your local school board to get information on today's requirements of kindergartners.

More On “Parents + Students + Schools + Participation = Success”

By Maria del Rio-Rumbaitis, Director of the Seminole Department of Education.

There have been numerous studies linking parental involvement with the academic success of students. But what is it that parents can do to participate actively and increase their involvement in their children's education??? Following are several different ways of recommended school parental involvement.

Parents need to go to the classrooms, and establish contact with teachers. Teachers recognize parents' interest in education and involve the parents in classroom or school activities, maybe once or twice a month. This is also an opportunity for teachers and parents to talk about children's education, performance, homework and expectations and to bring Seminole culture to the classroom and to the school. This is extremely motivating for the students because the students realize that their parents are part of a common team effort and interest. And... when students' motivation goes up, their grades go up too because of increased academic performance. Teacher morale from a sense that someone cares about their efforts also improves.

Parents should attend their children's school events, such as open house, fundraising activities, food sales, fairs, etc. This is another excellent opportunity to collaborate with the school and to bring Seminole culture to your children's school and to obtain children's involvement in other areas of the school curriculum and to simply show your children that you care. Parents and children can participate as a team in the same activity, example on an exhibit of Seminole clothes, paraphernalia, food preparation, basket weaving, history, craft projects, etc. This is excellent to support school initiatives and develop leadership in yourself, among your children and among other tribal parents, since kinship is very strong among Seminole families.

Regular meetings with school

teachers and counselor and the Seminole Department to plan your children's academic programs. Families of high school students can discuss information about program options, graduation requirements, test schedules, and post secondary options and how to plan for them. This is a very successful motivational instrument since students realize that their parents have very high expectations and pride in them. And... when higher expectations and motivation go up, students' performance also goes higher, truancy is reduced and the dropout rate is also greatly reduced.

Attendance of parent teacher meetings. When parents discuss their children's performance with their teachers, students and teachers get the same message and feeling that parents want their children to do well in school and are concerned about the quality of education that their children are getting. Parents can also discuss school matters and their children's learning with other parents and consequently schools improve from parental feedback.

Involvement in homework. Getting involved with your child's homework increases a child's enthusiasm in the learning process and grades improve. It also enables parents to monitor students' gradual progress in each area of the curriculum and parents may discover problem areas that need extra attention as well as help in identifying special aptitudes that may lead to possible career interest in the future.

EVERYBODY—Parents, Students, Communities, Curriculum, Schools—Gain With Parental Involvement In Children's Education!!!!

Editor's Note: Seminole Education Director Maria del Rio-Rumbaitis was appointed in the last USET meeting as Vice-chairperson of the Advisory Committee on American Indian Education of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Education News from Big Cypress Students

Submitted by Lynn Himebauch, Education Advisor

Congratulations to **L.T. Balentine** for graduating with the December 2002 class at Hidden Lake Academy. L.T., a 10th grader, is currently maintaining a 3.1 average in his post-graduate classes at Hidden Lake. L.T. plays both JV and Varsity Basketball for the Hidden Lake Lions. The Lions currently hold a 7-3 record in the Atlanta Athletic Conference.

In the Feb. 5, 2003 sports section of the Dahlonoga Nugget, reporter Stephen Fairbanks wrote, "L.T.



L.T. Balentine

Balentine brought quite a bit of energy, crashing the boards for an offensive rebound and lay-up, then hustling for a steal and converting another hoop at the other end, giving the Lions a 20-16 lead in the second quarter. . . Five unanswered hoops led to a 29-26 deficit, until Balentine finally ended the drought with a put back to cut the lead to one."

L.T. was the high scorer for his team with 13 points. L.T. plans to complete high school and go on to college.

lege. Congratulations L.T., your community is proud of you.

20 miles to the southeast, in Gainesville, GA at Brenau Academy, belated congratulations go to **Megan Otero**. Megan is president of her senior class, and will graduate in May of 2003.

Megan recently turned 18 on Jan. 22 and, according to her counselor, is performing very well academically and providing excellent leadership to the senior class of 2003.

Also attending Brenau Academy is **Kellie Tigertail**, who recently portrayed Malcom X. Tigertail portrayed her fellow freshman, who were portraying other important historical characters, in a presentation to the student body at Brenau. It was reported that the staff at Brenau are very proud of Kellie and her demonstrated leadership abilities.

Rumor also has it that **Jessalynn Balentine** (LT's younger sister), who also attends Brenau, seriously outscored her peers and teachers at a recent game of bowling!

Keep up the good work, we are all proud of you.

from the Passamaquoddy Tribe is the new Chairperson.



Rumbaitis Elected Vice Chairperson of BIA School Board

Submitted by Louise Gopher, Assistant Director of Education

Congratulations to Maria Rumbaitis! She was recently elected the Vice-Chairperson of the South & Eastern States Agency (SESA) School Board. The meeting and election of the officers for the BIA School Board was held during the USET Impact Week (Feb. 3-6) in Washington.

Dr. Rumbaitis will be attending quarterly meetings at various locations throughout her term. Melissa Francis

Submitted by the Education Department

The Department of Education, with cooperation from the public and private schools, is getting tough with truants. Three of our Seminole students were caught being truant by the Hollywood Police Department.

Because of the good rapport our private schools have with this Department and our staff, these students were not suspended or expelled from school, as they should have been.

Instead, the Principal of the school immediately called the Education Advisor and the students

were released to this Department and the Seminole Police Department for further action.

This Department thanks SPD truant officer, Angie Margotta, who has been working closely with our students in our hopes to eliminate school truancy. We strongly urge all schools, parents, and family members to help in the fight against truancy.

Our congratulations to Big Cypress whose truancy rate is almost zero. I hope that if we all work together, we can eliminate truancy among our Seminole students.

Truants Beware!

Conversations On Higher Education

By Dora Bell

I am the Higher Education Advisor for the Seminole Tribe of Florida. This is our first "Conversations On Higher Education" series for the Seminole Tribune. I will write this column to motivate young Seminole men and women to find out more about higher education. The Seminole Higher Education Grant is a marvelous contribution on the part of the Seminole Tribe Council to support high level educational opportunities.

I am interviewing Douglas Zepeda who works at the Ahfachkee School as a Technology Coordinator, after getting a degree in Information Studies in Dec. 2001 at FSU, when I visited Big Cypress.

DB: Tell me about your childhood.
DZ: "I remember playing at my grandmother's camp. Everyday after school I would play baseball for about 3-5 hours. Sometimes even after the sun went down. While I was playing baseball, my Grandmother (Tahama Osceola) and Great Grandmother (Juanita Osceola) were always cooking in the kitchen. I always loved when they made fried bread and deer meat."

DB: As a young child, how did your parents view the value of education? Why was their opinion important?
DZ: "When I was a young child I knew that I wanted to go to college. My parents

knew that to make it in the real world, you cannot just have a high school degree. I remember my dad once telling me, when he was in high school, getting your diploma was like getting a college degree. Now getting your high school diploma is not as hard as it used to be. I really had no choice but to go to college."

DB: Relationships are the essence of our lives. Tell us about meaningful relationships that led you to seek a higher education degree.

DZ: "My parents and grandmother always told me I had to go to school. If I wanted to get anywhere in life I had to go. I really have to give credit to my parents and grandmother for keeping me on the right path."

DB: If I asked you what was the one event that led you to the university, what would that event be?

DZ: "My sophomore year in high school when I stayed on the FSU campus for 2 weeks with the F.G.C.I.A (Florida Governor's Council on Indian Affairs) youth program. And of course...the football team!"

DB: Tell us about your experience at FSU and your choice of career.

DZ: "When I started FSU, I wanted to be an accountant. I loved math and money. But once I started my math classes and

made friends and joined different organizations, I changed my major. I discovered computers and the Internet."

"I was reading everyday in the news that computers were going to control the world, and the Internet was going to be a big part of it. I had some friends that had computer experience and they taught me the basics of computers.

"Everything we do today involves some type of technology. Along with computers, I was in the Marching Chiefs, which was the band that played at all the home and selected away games. I had a ton of fun in the band. I was able to meet the football players like Peter Warrick and Ron Dugans and also meet celebrities such as John Goodman and Dennis Haskins(Mr. Belding from Saved By The Bell).

"I also joined a music fraternity called Kappa Kappa Psi, Gamma Nu chapter. Although I had a lot of fun in college, it was kind of hard to manage my time but I survived".

DB: If I asked you to give one piece of advice to Seminole girls and boys regarding higher education, what would this advice be?

DZ: "Try not to let anything distract you from achieving your dreams. Manage your time wisely, work hard and it will all pay off".

and at school. Make up fun learning games for everyday activities. Example: Ask the child to point out everything green on the way to school or counting the bubbles in the bath water. You will be surprised on what you will learn about your child. Ask them open-ended questions. An open-ended question is a question that has endless answers. It encourages your child to express him or herself. It also encourages free thinking.

Read, Read, Read. It is very important to expose children to the written word. Read everything out loud and in front of the child. Read the comics, read the sport page, read a recipe, it doesn't matter what it is, as long as you make it fun. Point out the words when you read a book. This will help the child understand that printed letters equal words. On the way to school point out familiar signs and symbols, like McDonalds. M for McDonalds or S T O P spells the word stop.

If you have any questions about this piece or need ideas for fun activities, you can contact me at (954)-989-6840 ext.1312

explore their never ending potentials in life.

As parents and caregivers we must do everything in our power to embrace their childhood curiosity and provide them with every opportunity to learn. We are in luck, it is not as hard as we may think.

It is actually pretty easy. It is as easy as pointing out the colors of the road sign when driving down the street, giving choices at dinner time, and letting them make a mess with you when you bake a cake or fix a sink.

It is counting the bubbles at bath time, or explaining why the rubber ducky floats but Daddy's wallet sinks when put in the bathtub. It is pointing out the shapes of the clouds in the sky or explaining tragedy to a child much too young and much too precious to have to deal with such a thing.

It is teaching them from life and to be honest with you, there is no book that can teach that.

Listed below are a few helpful tips about making every second count. Get involved with their activities at home

Every Second Counts

By Thommy Doud

"Would you wait a minute, please", "in a second!", "give me a minute!", "wait a second!", "I'll see ya in a minute", "I'll be with you in a minute", "please give me a second". How many times a day do we say these little phrases?

To us adults, they are simple words that tell us to have patience or to get out of a person's way because they are about to snap. To a child, they are much more.

"In a second!" could mean not knowing the difference between a Blue Jay and a Parakeet. "I'll be with you in a minute" could mean not reading a book for the first time.

"I said in a second!" could mean that a child missed the opportunity to learn what the word on the road sign was. "Would you wait a minute, please" could mean a missed "I love you" from the cute little child strapped in the car seat behind you.

You see, in early childhood development every second really does count. Every moment a child is awake is an opportunity for that child to learn and

Education

Tampa PAC Meeting

Submitted by **Dora Bell, Higher Education Advisor**

RUSKIN, FL — On Jan. 22 , the Tampa PAC held a meeting at the Bahia Beach Hotel. The main points of discussion were the favorable impressions gathered in the schools visited in the area by Maria Rumbaitis, Director of Education, Carol Foret, Education Advisor, and Dora Bell, Higher Education Advisor, and the necessity of early parental involvement in the educational process.

Maria Rumbaitis expressed her satisfaction for the positive reports received from teachers and principals regarding Seminole students. Since parental involvement was mentioned many times, it was noted that this always generates immediate positive results. Parents in the Tampa area are very actively involved in their children’s schools and contribute with cultural awareness classes and in fund raising events.

Louise Gopher attributed the educational success of most Seminole children in the Tampa area to the fact that parents have always selected accredited schools for their children and have realized the importance of school continuity to the point that tribal trips are not consid-

ered as an excused absence from the classroom.

Parents are encouraged not to take students out of school for trips. The strict attendance policy implemented in Hillsborough County by the local authorities also helps. Truancy may mean jail for the parents.

Dora Bell spoke of the choices and possibilities of success open to those who follow the college path. She also remarked the importance of early parental nurturing so that the child can say to him/herself: “I am loved, I have the power to make decisions, I can succeed, I have a purpose in my life.” This child is likely to pursue his/her dreams through higher education.

Early intervention was also supported by Carol Foret, Tampa Education Advisor, who made reference to the availability of tutoring. She recommended a partnership between the parent, the child’s teacher, and the tutor.

Also present at this meeting were Richard Henry, Tampa Liaison; Ronnie Doctor, PAC President; Phillip Smith, PAC Vice-President; Lilla Henry, PAC Secretary; Joanie Henry, Culture; Annie Henry, Grandparent; and Debbie Henry, Recreation Director.

Okeechobee County School Board Honors Jarrid Smith

By **Paula Cassels**
OKEECHOBEE — On Feb. 11, Tribal member Jarrid Smith was honored by the Okeechobee County School Board for his athletic and educational achievements.

The officials were Chairperson Gay Carlton, Vice Chairperson David Williams, Members Joe Arnold, Donna Enrico and India Riedel

The officials presented Smith with a recognition plaque for representing OHS in the Outback Steakhouse All-Star Football Game and his acceptance of a football scholarship with Florida Atlantic University Owls.

OHS Athletic Director Mike Radebaugh said that Smith is the first OHS student to sign with a Division I school in six years.

Smith left the meeting early to attend a basketball game against Ft. Pierce Central at the Okeechobee High School gym. Athletic Director Mike Radebaugh said that Jarrid is doing very well on the basketball team, playing the forward and center positions.

This year, the OHS varsity basketball team is doing better than in the last three years with 9 wins and 13 losses with three more games to go.

Jarrid Smith officially signed with the Florida Atlantic Owls on February 5. Witnessing this special ceremony were Camellia Smith Osceola, head



Paula Cassels

Honoree Jarrid Smith

OHS football coach Tod Dresser, OHS Athletic Director Mike Radebaugh and OHS principal Gary Kirsch.

Smith, who is looking forward to a variety of training before starting with FAU next year, said, "I feel very thankful for all of these opportunities that have come my way and all that I have to do now is to make the best of them".

Slough

Continued from page 1

watching the U.S. military soldiers, waited for the right moment to attack.

Two Seminole warriors in a canoe emerged from the small stream at the back of the clearing. Explosions went off in the water from the military cannon, another blackpowder gun went off as the Seminoles warriors started their attack.

Tribal members Moses



Jumper and Happy Jumper led the attack on horseback. As they charged the government soldiers, the rest of the Seminole band followed behind them on foot.

The U.S. government soldiers stood in a line, shooting their black-powder guns, and the Seminoles showed the soldiers they were ready to fight as they engaged in a shootout.

When the smoke cleared, a few warriors were down, but all of the U.S. government soldiers lay dead, a day of victory for the Seminole warriors.



Milestone

Continued from page 1

Tribe,” said President/Acting Chairman Mitchell Cypress, “Pat yourselves on the back for the work you have accomplished and we are honored to share dinner with you all.”

“You are a part of Seminole History,” said Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola, Jr., “We had a vision but you have helped us make it a reality.”

According to Allen, there are approximately 500 workers on the Tamp construction site with an “astounding safety record” despite “a very aggressive schedule”.

The existing Tampa casino is bordered by the new casino on the west and the 250-room hotel tower on the east. When the new casino opens in June it will represent about 45% of the total planned gaming space, the old casino will be razed and the new casino and hotel will be connected.

The entire project is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2004.



Elrod Bowers

Workers lift the beam, signed by tribal members, and an evergreen tree to the top of the construction site.



Elrod Bowers

President Mitchell Cypress radios the crew to lift the beam.

Job Opportunities

For an application or more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 954-967-3403

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Department: Health
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Position Closes: 1-20-03
Salary: \$negotiable with benefits

Position: Business Analyst
Department: Info. Tech., Hard Rock Casino
Position Opens: 1-27-03
Position Closes: 2-10-03
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Database Administrator
Department: Information Systems
Position Opens: 11-4-02
Position still available
Salary: \$Negotiable with benefits

Position: Maintenance Worker
Department: Building & Grounds, DSO
Position Opens: 1-27-03
Position Closes: 2-10-03
Salary: \$16,640.00 annually with benefits

Position: Skilled Carpenter (3)
Department: Housing
Position Opens: 6-6-02
Position still available
Salary: \$ 29,120 – 33,280 annually with benefits.

Position: Dir. Marketing & Promotions
Department: Marketing, Hard Rock Casino

Position Opens: 1-27-03
Position Closes: 2-10-03
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: RN Case Manager
Department: Health
Position Opens: 1-6-03
Position Closes: 1-20-03
Salary: \$Negotiable with benefits

Position: Dental Receptionist
Department: Health
Position Opens: 1-6-03
Position Closes: 1-20-03
Salary: \$20,800 - \$22880 annually w/benefits

Position: Skilled Laborer (2)
Department: Housing
Position Opens: 6-6-02
Position still available
Salary: \$ 20,800 – 29,120 annually with benefits.

Position: Allied Health Admin Ast.
Department: Health
Position Opens: 1-6-03
Position Closes: 1-20-03
Salary: \$25,916 - \$31,658 annually w/benefits

Position: Marketing Services Administrator
Department: Marketing, Hard Rock Casino
Position Opens: 2-10-03
Position Closes: 2-24-03
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Residential Design & Evaluation Manager
Department: Housing, with travel to all Reservations
Position Opens: 2-3-03
Position Closes: 2-18-03
Salary: \$42,000 - \$60,000 annually with benefits

Position: Journeyman Electrician
Department: Housing
Position Opens: 2-10-03
Position Closes: 2-24-03
Salary: \$35,360 - \$39,520 annually with benefits

BRIGHTON
Position: Counselor I

Department: Family Services, Health
Position Opens: 12-9-02
Position Closes: 12-23-02
Salary Negotiable with benefits

Position: Counselor II
Department: Family Services, Health
Position Opens: 12-9-02
Position Closes: 12-23-02

Position: Assistant Cook
Department: Preschool
Position Opens: 2-3-03
Position Closes: 2-18-03
Salary: \$Negotiable with benefits

Position: Receptionist
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 11-4-02
Position Closes: 11-18-02
Salary: \$18,720 annually w/benefits

Position: Recreation Aide
Department: Recreation
Position Opens: 10-7-02
Position still available
Salary: \$13, 520 - \$18,720 annually with benefits

Position: Surveillance Manager
Department: Department of Gaming Compliance & Regulations
Position Opens: 2-10-03
Position Closes:2-24-03
Salary: \$Negotiable with benefits

Position: Education Advisor Assistant
Department: Education
Position Opens: 2-10-03
Position Closes: 2-24-03
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Water/Wastewater C Operator
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 12-9-02
Position Closes: 12-23-02
Salary: \$35, 500.00 annually with benefits

Position: Bus Driver, P/T
Department: Education

Position: Tribal Outreach Worker II
Department: Family Services, Health
Position Opens: 12-9-02
Position Closes: 12-23-02
Salary Negotiable with benefits

BIG CYPRESS
Position: Modernization Supervisor
Department: Housing
Position Opens: 9-30-02

Position still available
Salary: \$Negotiable w/ Experience w/benefits

Position: Gift Shop Cashier
Department: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
Position Opens: 12-16-02
Position Closes: 12-30-02
Salary: \$15,600 annually with benefits

Position: Tour Guide (1)
Department: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
Position Opens: 9-30-02
Position still available
Salary: \$15,184.00 w/benefits

Position: HVAC/Appliance Mechanic
Department: Housing, Travel to all Reservations
Position Opens: 1-20-03
Position Closes: 2-3-03
Salary: \$30,534.4 w/benefits

Position: Sr. Counselor, P/T
Department: Family Services, Health
Position Opens: 12-9-02
Position Closes: 12-23-02
Salary Negotiable with benefits

Position: Assistant Cook Mgr.
Department: Preschool
Position Opens: 10-7-02
Position still available
Salary: \$ 18,158 annually with benefits.

Position: Patient Services Coordinator
Department: Health
Position Opens: 11-25-02
Position Closes: 2-3-03
Salary: \$21,840 with benefits

Position: Varying Exceptionalities Teacher
Department: Ahfachkee School
Position Opens: 7-29-02
Position still available
Salary: Negotiable with experience with benefits. *Position still available*

FORT PIERCE
Position: Sr. Counselor, P/T
Department: Family Services, Health
Position Opens: 12-9-02
Position Closes: 12-23-02
Salary Negotiable with benefits, Part-Time

IMMOKALEE
Position: Counselor I
Department: Family Services, Health
Position Opens: 12-9-02
Position Closes: 12-23-02

Salary Negotiable with benefits

Position: Counselor II
Department: Family Services, Health
Position Opens: 12-9-01
Position still available
Salary Negotiable with benefits

Position: Maintenance Worker
Department: Recreation
Position Opens: 12-19-01
Position still available
Salary: \$ 14,500 with benefits.

Position: Operator Maint. Trainee
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 6-6-02
Position still available
Salary: \$ 18,700 annually with benefits.

Position: Modernization Supervisor
Department: Housing
Position Opens: 9-30-02
Position still available
Salary: \$Negotiable w/ Experience w/benefits

Position: Receptionist
Department: Health
Position Opens: 1-06-03
Position Closes: 1-20-03
Salary: \$20,800 - \$22,880 annually w/benefits

Position: Nutritionist /Health Educator
Department: Health
Position Opens: 1-6-03
Position Closes: 11-25-03
Salary: \$Negotiable w/benefits

Position: Video Programmer
Department: Broadcasting
Position still available

COCONUT CREEK
Position: Surveillance Operator
Department: Gaming
Position Opens: 01-20-03
Position Closes: Until Filled
Salary: \$19,760 annually with benefits

TAMPA
Position: Surveillance Technician
Department: Department of Gaming Compliance & Regulations
Position Opens: 02/07/03
Position Closes: 02/22/03
Salary: \$Negotiable with benefits.

Announcements v Ahnahhegeh v Nakorkerkecety



The Seminole Okalee Indian Village will close March 2, 2003.

We will re-open with the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, projected to be March 2004.

Due to closing, we have equipment that will be for sale.

List of equipment for sale:

Outdoor Equipment

- 1 zero turn Scag Riding Mower
- 2 backpack Blowers
- 2 Weed Eaters
- 1 50-horsepower Tractor
- 1 17-horsepower Tractor with bucket

Kitchen Equipment

- 1 Star Hotdog Rotisserie
- 1 Vulcan Stove,
- 4 Burners plus Griddle
- 1 Hubert Char Broiler
- 2 Deep Fryers

Retail Cases

- 1 60" L X 50" H Glass Show Case
- 1 60" L X 72" H Glass Show Case
- 4 Miscellaneous Clothes Racks

You can stop by anytime convenient to you between now and March 14, 2003 or call (954) 583-3404 or (954) 792-1213.

Haskell Reunion For 1950-1955 Graduates

The National Haskell Alumni Association announces their annual Alumni Reunion for 1950-1955 graduates. All graduates of the fifties are invited to register May 8-11, 2003, at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas.

Please RSVP to Eugene Leitka at 3420 Black Hills Rd, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111. Phone number: 505/299-5231. Email at: gleitka@aol.com.

Or, RSVP to Louis Taylor at 2108 Stoneham Place, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120.

Events include commencement, reception, banquet, alumni dance, and Haskell Pow Wow.

To receive special rates for motel accommodations at Holiday Inn (Holidome) reserve by April 24 at (785) 841-7077, or Hampton Inn by April 10 at (785) 841-4994.

Anyone may donate to the Reunion Fund or bring items to be auctioned.

Notice Of Finding Of No Significant Impact And Notice Of Intent To Request Release Of Funds

This publication covers two separate procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Seminole Tribe of Florida, responsible entity (the "RE") as follows:

RE proposes to construct a three-story multi-family apartment complex (24 units) in the Hollywood Seminole Indian Reservation located within the confines of Broward County in the State of Florida (the "Project"). Funding for construction is provided by a new development grant, number FL93BO59032, awarded in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1997, as provided by the United States Housing Act of 1937, which is administered by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

RE has assumed responsibility for environmental review, including but not limited to an Environmental Assessment, as required by HUD regulations 24 C.F.R. Part 58. RE has determined that the Project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Accordingly, as required by 24 C.F.R. Part 58, RE hereby provides this Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Project information including the Environmental Review Record is available for examination and review at the RE address below. The public or a public agency should address any written comments or objections to this determination within fifteen (15) days from the date of this Notice to RE address. All such comments will be considered by the RE prior to completion of its environmental certification and submission of its Request for Release of Funds.


Address: Seminole Tribe of Florida, Housing Department, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024
Telephone: (954) 966-6300 Ext. 1730

RE hereby provides Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI/RROF); address comments to RE, same comment period as hereinabove. On or about the first day after the expiration of the comment period provided hereinabove, the RE will submit a Request for Release of Funds (RROF) to HUD for the release of funds under the United States Housing Act of 1937, grant number FL93BO59032, awarded in FFY 1997, to undertake the subject Project. Mitchell Cypress, Vice Chairman of the Tribal Council of RE will certify to HUD that it has fulfilled its responsibilities relevant to environmental review as provided by 24 C.F.R. Part 58, and that he is an authorized official of RE and consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal court if action is brought by HUD to enforce RE's responsibilities. HUD will accept objections to the release of funds and the RE's certification for a period of fifteen (15) days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the Request for Release of Funds, whichever is later, but only if the objections are relevant to any one of four bases. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with 24 C.F.R. Part 58 and should be addressed to:

Office of Native American Programs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604-3507, Attention: Grants Management Specialist and Elton Jones.

Commenter must specify which notice your comments relate to, i.e., FONSI, or NOI/RROF.

Happy Birthday



Nelda,


A couple of months ago I was thinking how time goes by so fast wondering what to get for your birthday. Anyway I wanted to wish you "A Happy Birthday." Also to let you know how proud I am to be your mom! I am blessed to have a daughter like you. Through the years you've become such a mature young lady! Especially when I see how much you do to have the kind of family you have today. You and Jason and "Lil Jason" are the light of my life that keeps me going!

Sometime when you get a chance, listen to my favorite song "Forever Young." **Nelda** you'll always be my "Lil Girl." I'll always be here for you. Love you very much, Mom!

Happy Birthday to Bessie Tommie

We love you and best wishes From **Kassim, Tommi and Kids**

Anniversary



Happy Anniversary!
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Poems

"I will dream no more"

I have had my dream -like others- And it has come to nothing, so that I remain now carelessly With feet now planted on the ground And look up at the sky- Feeling my clothes about me, The weight of my body in my shoes The rim of my hat tilted, The air passing in and out at my nose, And I decided to dream no more.

I Miss You

I only wish I could see you one more time. I would hug you so tight, To feel you're heart beat close to mine. To watch your graceful soul walk out of heaven. And see your light shine would be divine.

Father I miss you madly. Day after day Night after night, Father, I miss you badly. But I'm alright.

It's a must I stay strong And keep all thoughts positive Your memory will never die, In my heart you'll always live.

Every night when you visit me in my dreams, I feel complete for those few moments But then you disappear Into the smoke screen

I know I sound crazy, When I tell folks I still see you. Only I don't care 'Cause regardless of their comments Your son knows you're there.

By: Markell Alan Billie



2002 Income Tax Return Preparations

The Seminole Tribe of Florida has arranged for RSM McGladrey, Inc. to assist Tribal Members in the preparation of their 2002 Individual Income Tax Returns. The tax accountants will be on each reservation per the following schedule:

Hollywood
Feb. 3 thru April 15
Big Cypress
Feb. 3 & March 3
Immokalee
Feb. 4 & March 4
Monday thru Thursday

Brighton
Feb. 3, 4, & 17
Tampa
By Appointment
Ft. Pierce
By Appointment
March 3

Tribal members will be assisted on a first-come first-serve basis on the scheduled days. If you have any questions please contact Tina McGrath of RSM McGladrey, Inc. at (561) 712-4808.

RSM McGladrey, Inc. is pleased to announce that ELECTRONIC FILING will be available for the majority of the 2002 tax returns. RSM McGladrey, Inc. estimates that the majority of returns will be completed and mailed, or electronically filed, within 3 to 5 business days.

Please bring the following information pertaining to your tax return with you when you meet with the accountant:

1. Copy of your 2001 tax return (Form 1040) if we did not prepare your 2001 tax return.
2. Any correspondence received from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) during 2002.
3. Form W-2 from all employers.
4. List of children (dependents) with their birth dates and social security numbers.
5. Form 1099-Misc showing income received during 2002 from the Seminole Tribe of Florida.
6. Form 1099R, if you are receiving any funds from a pension plan.
7. Name, address, and tax identification number of the person or company to which you paid child care expenses.
8. Form 1098 showing the amount of interest you paid to a bank or mortgage company.

Social Security statement, if you are drawing Social Security.
List of charitable contributions.

11. Property tax bills.
12. Daytime telephone number.
13. Any other documents that pertain to your income tax return.



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Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Rev. Arlen Payne: Pastor
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\$10 off for Tribal Members

32nd Annual Seminole Tribal Fair, Pow-Wow and Rodeo



Look for more Tribal Fair coverage in the next issue of the Tribune