

# The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

"Voice of the Unconquered"

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## The 2004 Miss Florida Seminole and Junior Miss Seminole Princess Pageant



(L-R) Junior Miss Seminole Krystle Young, Miss National Congress of American Indians 2003-2004 Cheryl V. Dixon, and Miss Seminole Jo Jo Osceola. Congratulations to all the winners and participants! Please see the special Seminole Princess Pageant section on page 21.

## Tiffany Doctor Memorial All Girl Rodeo

**By Felix DoBosz**  
**DAVIE, FL** — On Saturday August 14, the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Davie Rodeo Association at the Davie Rodeo Arena sponsored an all girl rodeo. The Hollywood Horse Club organized this second annual event for the late Tiffany Doctor, who was tragically killed in an auto accident on Snake Road near Big Cypress in early 2002.

"They called her T-bone at the rodeo," her mother Colleen Osceola remembers. "She played football with the boys at her school in St. Petersburg, Admiral Farragut Academy. Tiffany often loved to play sports at her school; she excelled in basketball, softball and even boxing. Big Jim Osceola trained her to practice boxing. She was one of those girls that did everything, if she liked it, she did it again."

Doctor was not

only a great athlete, but was also quite popular. Many admired her because, even though she had many friends, she never limited her friendships to people who were the most pop-

ular at that time. She loved her family the most, and took great pride in being an active member of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

She is greatly missed by her family and friends and people who never even met her but had heard through different sources what a warm, kind, beautiful, and dynamic person she really was.

Debbie DeHass, of the Hollywood Horse Club said "Fifty-five girls of all ages were competing for all around Buckles, in 26 different categories in this year's all girl rodeo."

Doctor worked for Hollywood Board Representative David DeHass, helping out every chance she got, she learned to bull-ride and got really good with the horses too.

Debbie said, "Tiffany was a tough and popular girl, she loved to



Reba Osceola rides horse Bay in the steer roping competition.

Felix DoBosz  
See RODEO, page 12

## NAJA at the UNITY 2004 Convention

**By Adelsa Williams**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Each year the Native American Journalists Association (NAJA) hosts a conference for all its members. NAJA, being one of four associations that make up the UNITY organization, partook in this year's UNITY Journalists of Color, Inc. convention, which is held every five years.

This event marks the third ever UNITY convention. The first two conventions were held in Atlanta, Ga. in 1999 and Green Bay, Wis. in 1994. This year, UNITY members gathered in the nation's capital from August 4-8. Conveniently, this is a presidential election year, and both candidates made a stop to speak at the UNITY conference.

UNITY 2004 held more full-day training sessions than any journalism convention. It also held a massive media and career expo that featured more than 400 recruiters and exhibitors from across the country. Also, there were receptions and other social gatherings including golf tournaments for the early arrivals, prior to the start of the convention.

Each of the four national organizations that form UNITY, the Asian American Journalists Association, the National Association of Hispanic



(L-R) Iretta Tiger, Shelley Marmor, Felix DoBosz, Michael Kelly, Virginia Mitchell, Darline Buster, Melissa Sherman, Adelsa Williams, Stephen Galla.

## Suraiya Smith Graduates with Bachelor's Degree



(L-R) Grandmother Josephine Villa, graduate Suraiya Smith holding son Kamani, and mother Grace Koontz.

**By Adelsa Williams**  
**FORT LAUDERDALE, FL** — Tribal citizen Suraiya Smith, Bird clan, proudly walked down the aisle to receive her bachelor's degree of business administration from the American Intercontinental University (AIU).

During the Commencement ceremony that was held at the Broward Convention Center on Saturday August 14, keynote Speaker Elaine Fitzgerald addressed the 2004 graduating class with a few words of wisdom.

"Attitude is everything; with the right attitude you will go far," she said. "Good things come to people who are willing to work hard."

Originally from the Brighton reservation, Smith has recently taken an internship position in the Seminole Tribe's housing department. Through the newly developed Professional Development and Training Program, under the human resources department, Smith has received the proper guidance and placement into the start of her career. She is also another advocate of the higher education program.

Smith commented that AIU is one of three schools she attended prior to completing her degree, and found it to be the most comfortable experience of all. She feels that some schools are overcrowded and students lose motivation because the environment is just not right for them.

"You have to find a school that's right for you," she said.

Smith plans to learn more about other programs within the tribe and eventually get into the marketing venue, specifically the cultural aspect.

"When people hear 'Seminole Tribe,' I want them to know that is not only just about the casino," said Smith.

## Immokalee Celebrates Elaine Aguilar's Birthday

**By Judy Weeks**  
**IMMOKALEE** — The Immokalee community turned out in large numbers on Tuesday August 17 for an appreciation/birthday party for Liaison Elaine Aguilar. The gym was attractively decorated with purple banquet tables, balloons, banners and beautiful floral centerpieces. Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress was glad to be the sponsor of this happy occasion.

Despite a week of planning, distribution of flyers and careful preparations, this surprise party was a well kept secret. Elaine had a morning appointment in Fort Myers, which made it possible to put everything together without her knowledge.

At noon everyone had gathered in the gym in anticipation of her arrival. A quick phone call located her 15 minutes away and preparing to stop for lunch. Her daughter, Sheila, told her that she did not have time.

"David and some men have been waiting here for over an hour regarding some projects. Hurry," she told her mother.

When she pulled up to the tribal field office, which was empty, she was amazed to see all of the vehicles at the gym and went to investigate. As she opened the door she was greeted by a round of applause and a chorus of happy birthday. The shocked look on her face was enough to satisfy everyone that she was genuinely surprised.

Elaine was escorted to the table of honor by Amy Yzaguirre who was acting as emcee. Along the way, she encountered her husband and children who all proudly hugged and congratulated her.

David Cypress took the microphone and wished her a happy birthday not only on his behalf, but also Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Board Representative Paul Bowers, who regretted that they could not

## Tribal Council Welcomes UM President, New Seminole Princess

**By Shelley Marmor**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — After invocation by Maggie Osceola, the Tribal Council welcomed the 2004-2005 Seminole Princess, Jo Jo Osceola. Osceola, 17, spoke briefly, saying she was honored to be the new princess, and assured the council that she would be happy to attend any events they needed her to in order to represent the tribe.

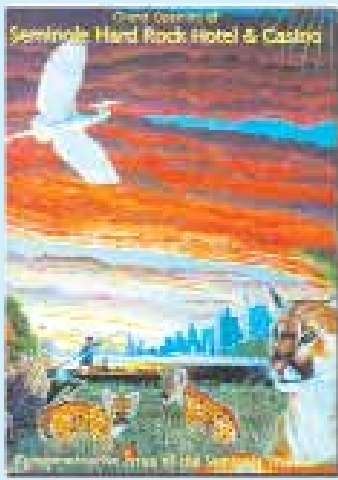
Immediately after, the council welcomed their special guest, University of Miami (UM) President Donna Shalala. She asked Osceola to stay after and speak with her about attending UM after she graduates high school.

"She looks like a 'Cane to me," Shalala said about Osceola.

Shalala spoke to the council, including UM alum and Hollywood Representative Max Osceola Jr., about some programs the university would like the tribe to sponsor. This included sponsorship of a breast cancer program, an environmental program, an educational research program focused on keeping people in school, and a \$2.5 million grant for UM's Diabetes Research Institute.



## Grand Opening of Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Commemorative Issue of The Seminole Tribune



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## The Seminole Tribune

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## Editorials

# Lobbying Is A Must

By Dr. Dean Chavers

For the past 30 years I have been worried about the lack of lobbying for Capitol Hill by Indian people. I was so frustrated about the lack of it that I ran for the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) board twice, hoping NIEA would be the one to get on the hill and push for legislation. NIEA still has not done it.

So let me tell you how happy I am that there are at least two Indian organizations that are actively lobbying on the hill. They are the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) and the National Indian Impacted Schools Association (NIISA). And we need a lot more than this.

I got so frustrated at NIEA not doing it that some of us 15 years ago created an organization solely devoted to lobbying on the hill. It was called the Coalition for Indian Education. To make a long story short, after a few years, some people took over and ran it into the ground.

But starting in 1990, I started trying to get a delegation of people on the hill every year. The first year, despite my pleas to a lot of people, I was the only person who showed up. As I went before the late Representative William Natcher's Housing and Urban Development/Labor/Health and Human Services Committee to testify, I asked one of the staffers who the only Indian presenting testimony would be. The room was full of people, but no Indians.

Not one single other Indian individual or organization testified before that committee that year. And it was a powerful committee with many programs under it. I was really impressed with the huge seals of the three departments on the wall behind Natcher. They were several feet tall.

Several years before I started trying to get an Indian delegation on the hill, the National Congress on American Indians (NCAI) eliminated its education staff position in an internal power struggle. That position has never been restored. National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA) had just gone out of business. So for a decade and a half, NCAI, NIEA, and NTCA have not mounted a consistent lobbying effort on the hill. I went to one NCAI mid-year meeting 15 years ago, thinking we were going on the hill. But instead we sat around in a hotel for two days and listened to Indian leaders talk. What frustration! Here we are in Washington DC but we were avoiding the action, which is always on the hill.

I was also frustrated in trying to get people to go to DC. By about 1994 I had identified 2,700 people, my colleagues, whom I thought should be going to see their Senators and Representatives. I sent them all letters, and got 15 of them to go. Most of the 15 came from Adam Webster of Green Bay, Wis. who brought a van full of people.

The next year I mailed letter to the same 2,700 people and got 17 to go. And we decided that Monday morning when we met to plan strategy that we would ask all members of Congress what other Indians they had seen during the year. By the end of that week, we had found out of the 80 people we had met with that only one had seen an Indian of any kind all year! By the way, our feet were killing us every day. When you go, wear tennis shoes. The marble halls of Congress are pure hell on feet.

No wonder they don't understand what the problems are in Indian Country. We don't tell them. No wonder they think all Indians are rich from gaming, when in fact it is less than 2 percent of Indians are well off from gaming. They have no idea of what's happening in Indian Country because they never hear from us.

National Indian Impacted Schools Association (NIISA) has been lobbying regularly for years through its larger sister organization, the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS). NAFIS is headed by John Forkenbrock, who is known as "Mr. Impact Aid." NAFIS represents both the Indian impact aid schools and the military impact aid schools.

NAFIS has two meetings a year in DC and NIISA has its own meeting every summer as well. The NAFIS meetings will

have 200 or more Indian representatives present. They spend a full day on the hill talking directly to members of Congress. Dr. Richard Bordeaux of Todd County Schools in South Dakota is the past president of both NAFIS and NIISA. I attended the NIISA summer meeting in Reno, Nev. in June, and was again highly impressed with the caliber of this organization.

Brent Gish is the Executive Director of NIISA. He is also the Superintendent of the Mahanomen Public Schools in Minnesota, and I interviewed him later about the situation. He told me they started 15 years ago to lobby seriously. John Forkenbrock told them that the only way to grow is to tell their story to Congress personally. He said the best lobbyist is an Indian school board member.

When I asked Brent what worked best when lobbying, he said they have found that talking about successes really helps. Many members of Congress still do not know how Indian schools have to have impact aid just to operate. But giving them the hard facts about the Indian child is their best resource.

They are now working to develop a profile of the typical Indian child to present to Congress. Congressional members do not understand the poverty of Indian Country and how it affects education, how Indian students have to travel up to 70 miles one way to get to school, and so on. Bryan Jernigan, the communications director for NAFIS, is working on this profile, which originated in a committee.

Terry Smith, the representative from Wapato, Wash., who also runs the NIISA meeting, said it really helps to know your Congressional representative personally. The NIISA representatives have no trouble getting in to see their Congressional representative, according to both Terry and Brent. One of the frustrations we had when I was leading delegations to the hill was that we rarely got to meet with the actual representative. We usually got to meet with some staffer. But superintendents are important, so they know their representative on a first name basis.

Brent is a longtime NIISA member. He has been superintendent at Mahanomen for 13 years, and has been in the district for 31 years. He is a graduate of Mahanomen High School. And his grandmother's sister was superintendent of the district in the 1930s, after she was graduated high school in 1923. So he recognizes the importance of the program, and the support from the president for it. The White House usually does not include impact aid in its budget, he said, but President Bush has put it into his budget. This means the Congressional representatives who handle impact aid do not have to get in put back in each year.

NIGA and NCAI sometimes join NIISA in lobbying. Brent says, but he is not aware that NIEA ever does. And the tribal offices in DC do not join them. He said we are still so fragmented in Indian Country. We need a united front. The No Child Left Behind Act has put an additional burden on Indian land districts, he says. There is no immediate threat to impact aid now, but they need to get inflationary increases and an Indian lands supplemental as the military recently got. But the main battles, which they have never won, are to get the program fully funded and to get it forward funded.

I am so glad that both NIISA and NIGA are on the hill on a regular basis. I just wish the other organizations-NCAI, NIEA, intertribals, and tribal offices-would join in and see the value of lobbying. And we need to have our own travel agency, to bring members of Congress out to Indian Country. We have a small cohort of members who look out for Indian interests-Inouye, Hayworth, Kildee, Nighthorse Campbell, Bingaman, and so on. But Indians do not make it onto the agenda of at least 500 of the 535 members in a given year.

If Indian Country ever gets into trouble again, such as the termination movement of the 1950s and 1960s, it will be because of the ignorance of the members about Indian affairs. I hope someday we will have a major impact on the hill year round.

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## Letters & E-mail

6300 Stirling Road Hollywood, FL 33024 ♦ [tribune@semtribe.com](mailto:tribune@semtribe.com)

Dear Seminole Marketplace,

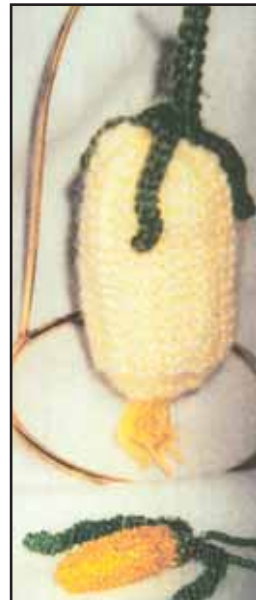
I belong to a Sasha Doll Club and we held a three-day festival in Ft. Lauderdale in June of 2004. I have read Betty Mae Jumper's book "Legends of the Seminoles" and in it is the legend of the Corn Lady. At the festival, I gave away a helper gift, "The Corn Lady" video, which I purchased at the Seminole marketplace online, along with a few other gifts.

We would like to thank Betty Mae Jumper because the Sasha Festival was a great success [Editor's note: please see the letter below].

Sincerely,  
**Laura Ramshead**

Dear Bette Mae Jumper,

The Sasha festival was a huge success! The ladies who put on the festival had made



Seminole outfits for the dolls.

I had put together a folder on the Corn Lady with a little story on you, and from the book "Legends of the Seminoles" a copy of the Corn Lady from the book. I also included a crocheted pattern for a Corn Lady potholder.

These were donated on your behalf along with the video "Legends of the Seminoles." The lady who won the video sent me a note for you to read [Editor's note: please see the letter below]. I have the cassette tape and I am enjoying it very much, especially the Corn Lady. I just wanted to thank you again from the bottom of my heart!

Sincerely,  
**Laura Ramshead**

Hi Laura,  
I won the wonderful tape of Seminole stories,

and it was the one item I wanted. I was so happy when I won and have really enjoyed it so much.

As a child I never went to Florida, but I knew of the Seminole people. My Aunt Hazel would bring back postcards with all the colorful clothes, and my friend even had a doll. I have, for as long as I can remember, wanted to meet a Seminole and that happened this year for all of us when we came to Florida. The tape just means that I can have a part of that at home with me to see and enjoy anytime.

On the tape you can see I did, both Seminole and non-Seminole. If I, as a child, had gone to Florida that could have been me with all those other children; what fun. Please pass on how much this tape of stories means to me. I love the Corn Lady story the best.

Thank you so much,  
**Alexis**

Dear Editor,

Hi, I hope you can help me. I was looking at the sofkee recipe on your website and I am a little confused it has baking soda in the recipe list, and in the instructions it has to add teaspoon of baking powder? Which one do you use? Thanks for your time

Have a great day,  
**Cherie**

Dear Cherie,

You should use baking soda, not baking powder.  
**Sincerely,**  
**Seminole Marketplace**

Dear Editor,

I am the director of The Kidzeum, a children's museum in Grenada Elementary School, Grenada, Miss. We are preparing for an exhibit about Seminoles, and have built a chickee house for our students to visit. I know that child will ask why it's called a chickee house, and I can't find the answer anywhere. Can you help, please?

Thanks so much,  
**Eloise Portera**, Director  
The Kidzeum  
Grenada Elementary School

Dear Eloise,

Chickee means house in the Miccosukee language.  
**Sincerely,**  
**Seminole Marketplace**

**Mark your Calendars Today:**

**18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL IAC SYMPOSIUM**

**November 1 - 6, 2004**

**Hard Rock Resort & Casino**  
**Hollywood, Florida**

**'This year's host Tribe is the Seminole Tribe of Florida who will be hosting this year's symposium at their newly built Hard Rock Resort & Casino.**

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**AND IN THE SUMMER NEWSLETTER.**



# Billie Swamp Safari Debuts New ‘Swamp Critter Show’

*Swamp safari also features airboat rides, swamp buggy tours, eco-tours, Seminole culture and much more!*



Ray Becerra (right) educates visitors about birds of prey.

Submitted by Gary Bitner

**BIG CYPRESS** — An all-new swamp critter show is on tap for visitors to Billie Swamp Safari, the Seminole Tribe’s popular tourist attraction in Big Cypress. The new show combines entertainment and education and includes several of the most interesting animals found on the reservation. The Seminoles treat the land with reverence and work hard to preserve the natural environment. As a result, the wonders of the Florida Everglades continue to bring joy to visitors from around the world.

The Swamp Critter Show is scheduled daily at 1:15 p.m. and costs \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. Among the animals featured in the 45 minute show are the armadillo, skunk, opossum, ferret, southern razorback hog and Florida white-tailed deer, as well as non-venomous snakes such as the bald python and red rat snake. Birds of prey are also featured, including owls and red-tailed hawks, as are tarantulas and scorpions. Shows will vary based on the availability of animals and their trainers.



Yusday Martinez (right) holds one of the animals from the new critter show.

In addition to the Swamp Critter Show, swamp buggy eco-tours and airboat rides operate daily. Visitors can travel high above the wet prairie edge of Florida’s Everglades or glide effortlessly along an airboat trail. A separate venomous snake and alligator presentation is also scheduled to take place daily. True adventurers can stay overnight in a traditional Seminole chickee surrounded by more than 2,200 acres of abundant native wildlife. Visitors witness first-hand the ecosystem of a land on the edge of civilization and the solitary beauty of tropical hardwood hammocks, cypress domes, airplants and gum sloughs. They marvel at wildlife, from the rare panther to alligators and crocodiles, deer, antelope, bison, and southern razorback hogs.

In the main compound area, visitors can enjoy an authentic Seminole village with many native Seminole chickees, a nature trail, animal and bird exhibits, including a herpetarium, an alligator pit, a council house, restaurant and gift shop. The gift shop is open from 8:30 a.m.–6 p.m. and is filled with native arts, crafts, clothing, jewelry and souvenirs. The Swamp Water Café serves American fare and Seminole delicacies such as catfish, frog legs, gator tail nuggets, and traditional Seminole fry bread. It is open from 7:30 a.m.–6 p.m.

Billie Swamp Safari is open year ‘round except Christmas Day. Admission is free and visitors are welcome to stroll the grounds and enjoy many of the displays without charge. Tickets for the Swamp Critter Show, airboat rides, swamp buggy eco-tours and alligator and snake educational show can be purchased individually or as a day package at the gift shop.

The airboat rides operate every half hour from 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m. The price is \$12. Narrated Swamp Buggy Eco-Tours operate from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. The price is \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors age 61 or over, and \$10 for children ages 4–12. The 45-minute Alligator and Snake Educational Show is

scheduled periodically throughout the day. The price is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 4–12. Children up to age three are always free with a paid adult.

Day packages are also available for purchase at the gift shop. Visitors should arrive no later than 2 p.m. to enjoy each of the rides. The price is \$38 for adults, \$36 for seniors age 61 or over, and \$24 for children ages 4–12. Children up to age three are free with a paid adult. In addition, AAA members are eligible for a 10 percent discount, and discounted rates are available for groups of 15 or more.

A rustic camping village at Billie Swamp Safari includes native-style chickees for overnight stays. The overnight safaris run from noon to noon and include two swamp buggy eco-tours, one during the day and one during the evening, the alligator and snake educational show, campfire storytelling, chickee lodging and an airboat ride. For more information or reservations, call (800) 949-6101 or (863) 983-6101 or visit [www.seminoletours.com](http://www.seminoletours.com) on the Internet.

The Big Cypress Campground offers RV sites, tent sites and air conditioned cabins. For more information, call (800) 437-4102 or (863) 983-1330.

On the road to Billie Swamp Safari is the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum—the nation’s largest display of the life and culture of the Florida Seminoles. The museum includes 5,000 square feet of exhibits in a modern museum adjacent to a cypress dome near the Florida Everglades. Visitors enjoy lifelike displays of how Seminoles lived in the 1800s, along with rare artifacts. Part of the Seminole collection on loan from the Smithsonian is featured at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, including moccasins, leggings, turtle shell rattles, silverwork, beaded sashes, and medicine baskets. The museum also has exhibits of its own holdings, including southeastern beaded shoulder bags and Seminole patchwork clothing.

The exhibit gallery includes user-friendly computers where visitors can find more information on the Seminole Tribe’s rich history and culture. In addition to the informative exhibits, the Museum features a Legends Theater that presents the traditional beliefs and legends of the Seminoles in a camp-like setting.

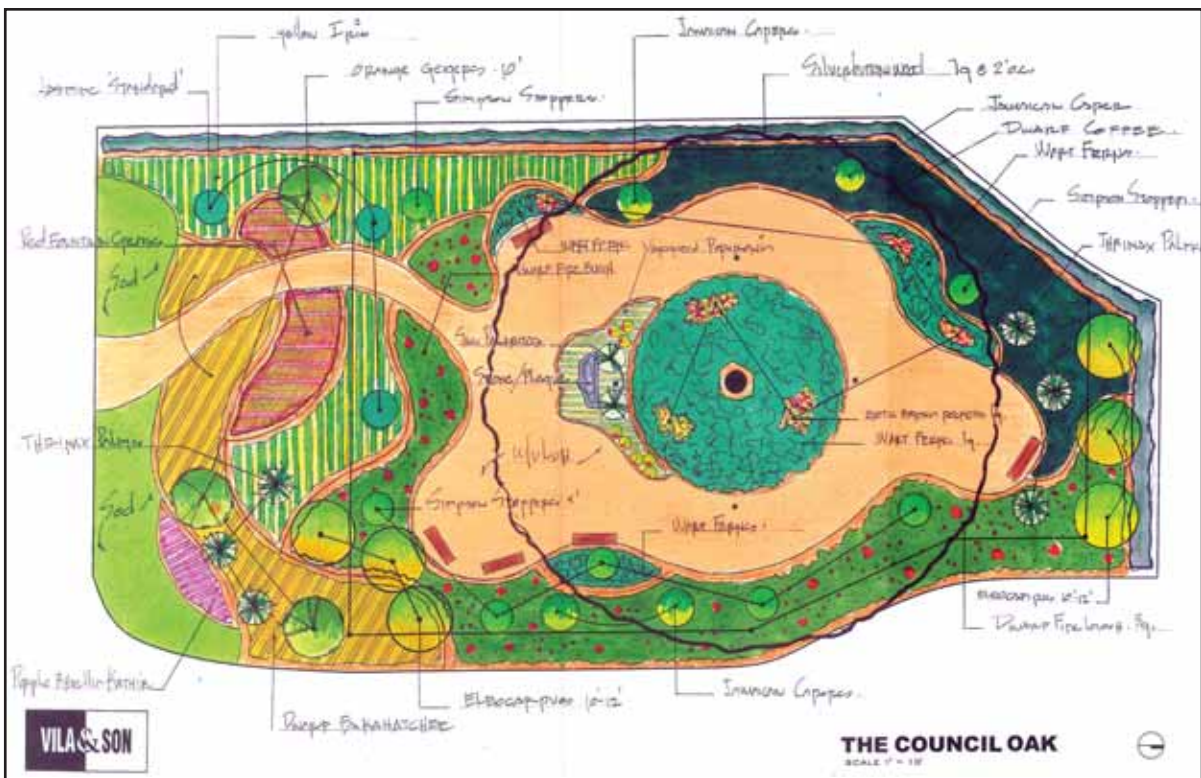
Topics include: transportation, economy, history, rare artifacts, living village, spiritual beliefs, gift shop, and nature trail.



Gus “One Bear” Batista has his hands full with baby gators.

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum is open daily except Monday and holidays from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children up to age six. For more information, call (863) 902-1113.

Billie Swamp Safari and the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum are located on the Big Cypress Seminole Reservation, midway between Fort Lauderdale and Naples off I-75 (Alligator Alley). Take I-75 to exit 49, then drive north 19 miles. Sho-naa-bish! (Thanks!)



The site plan for what the council oak and its surrounding area will look like.

## Big Plans for Historic Council Oak

By Iretta Tiger

**HOLLYWOOD** — With so many people to take care of and so many businesses to manage it’s hard for the tribe to remember everything. Perhaps because it’s a tree, most of us forget that the council oak needs our help from time to time.

Jim Allen, CEO of Gaming Operations, recognizes the importance of the council oak and has taken a personal interest in the welfare of the tree.

“It started with mowing the lawn around it and making it look a little more presentable” said Allen “Then we started to notice that the tree was

council oak is now on a regular maintenance schedule.

Allen has landscapers Vila and Son check it on a monthly basis. Vila and Son also maintain the landscaping for the Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel.

However, the improvements for the council oak do not end there. Plans for the beautification around the council oak have been approved by the council and should begin in September 2004. These plans include benches, flowers and other landscaping and irrigation for the council oak and landscaping.



The council oak tree as it appears today, thanks to some help from Jim Allen.

getting a little bit sickly, it didn’t look healthy so we, in the casino division, just took the initiative to have somebody come in and have an evaluation of the tree.”

The diagnosis was not bad at all, it only needed two procedures: pruning and shooting fertilizer into the ground. With both procedures done the

restaurant. Even at the site of the tree a plaque will be placed near its base telling the importance of this tree to the Seminole tribe.

Thank you Jim Allen, for both your compassion and for acting on that compassion. Everything you are doing is greatly appreciated.

## Council

Continued from page 1

“Each one of them speaks to issues that pertain to the Seminole people,” she said.

After telling the council that Native Americans are two-and-a-half times more likely to contract diabetes, Shalala reminded them that finding out more about the disease will have secondary rewards.

“[The research aims] to save lives,” she said. “But more importantly to save heartache.”

Tribal Treasurer Mike Tiger thanked Shalala for coming, and said the tribe is “looking forward to working closely with UM in the future.” Max Osceola Jr. also thanked Shalala, and said the council will discuss sponsoring these programs in the future.

Executive Administrator Ken Fields then went over the 10 item consent agenda, and the council unanimously approved the items. Fields then called Education Director Louise Gopher up to speak on a resolution that will honor the late Billy Cypress.

This resolution, which passed unanimously, changed the name of the Higher Education Scholarship Program to the Billy L. Cypress Scholarship Program. This change is fitting, according to Cypress’s widow Carol Cypress since “he really did love learning.”

Chairman Mitchell Cypress said the tribe will also honor Cypress at the Veteran’s Day celebration in Big Cypress next month.

The next resolution dealt with allowing tribal citizens to enter residential treatment programs, if the treatment they need is not provided by the family services department. Family Services Director Crissie Carter spoke on this resolution and the council unanimously approved it.

Director of Law Enforcement Mike Floyd informed the council on the next resolution. This dealt with expanding voluntary cooperation between law enforcement agencies. The resolution passed unanimously, and Seminole law enforcement can now share applicable information with surrounding area law enforcement agencies.

Fields then informed the council that the Seminole police department and the aviation department located the pilot, John Kagan, who crashed his Hughes 500 helicopter in Big Cypress on Thursday August 19. He commended those who were pivotal in Kagan’s rescue.

One of the final resolutions the council voted on was a sponsorship agreement with Winterfest, Inc., the company that puts on the annual Winterfest Boat Parade. The council approved this sponsorship unanimously, and now the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino’s logo will be featured on all advertisement for the boat parade, and all radio ads will mention the Hard Rock.

This sponsorship agreement will last five years, beginning with this year’s boat parade in December going all the way through to the 2008 Winterfest Boat Parade.

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Labor Day Weekend

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John Anderson



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- Picture Taking
- Fun Fun Fun!

10 a.m. - Gates Open

11 a.m. - Seminole Color Guard

11:30 a.m. - Smoken

12:30 p.m. - Cowbone Band

1:30 p.m. - Jesse & Noah Bellamy

2:45 p.m. - Bellamy Brothers

4:45 p.m. - John Anderson



Free parking. No alcoholic beverages or coolers allowed, not responsible for lost or damaged property. Directions: From Naples or Ft. Lauderdale take I-75 to EXIT 49, then 16 miles north on Snake Road (County Road 833).

# Celebrate Labor Day at Afachkeke Festival

Tribe Supports Hurricane Charley Recovery Fund

By Shelley Marmor

In case you haven't heard already, the Seminole Tribe is presenting the Afachkeke Festival at the Big Cypress Seminole reservation rodeo arena. The festival will take place on Saturday, September 4, from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Labor Day weekend.

The idea for the festival came from Big Cypress Tribal Councilman David Cypress. However, after the recent tragedy caused by Hurricane Charley on Florida's west coast, the Afachkeke Festival will now join the many efforts to provide relief to the victims.

Visitors are encouraged to visit the "Hurricane Charley Recovery Fund—Neighbors Helping Neighbors" table, set up onsite at the festival. Representatives from the tribe's department of emergency services will be collecting donations. All the money will be split 50/50 between the Red Cross and the Salvation Army for those in the hardest hit counties (Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades, Hendry, and DeSoto). Although the Afachkeke Festival is a free event, Chairman Mitchell Cypress and David Cypress encourage donations.

Afachkeke is the Miccosukee word meaning "a happy day." The festival got its name from Seminole tribal citizen Mary Tigertail because she thought it would best describe the event.

The Afachkeke Festival is a family affair and will feature a children's village. While at the village, youngsters can jump around in the bounce house, get their faces painted by a clown, and even enjoy some popcorn and a snow cone. The adults will not be left out in the food department either—vendors will be onsite selling Seminole cuisine.

Gates at the festival will open at 10 a.m. The Seminole Color Guard, consisting of Paul Bowers, Stephen Bowers, Mitchell Cypress and Charles Hiers Billie, will appear shortly after at 11 a.m. Tribal citizen Jessica Buster will follow the Color Guard with the singing of the national anthem. Brian Zepeda, Operations Director at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, will emcee the festival.

There will be lots of music to enjoy. The first of five bands will be Smoken. They will take the stage for a 30 minute set beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Smoken features Hollywood tribal employee Vinnie Fontana on the bass guitar. Fontana said they will do mostly cover songs at Afachkeke, playing tunes from artists including Janis Joplin and Trick Pony. The band also has two CDs out, so pay close attention for original material.

Tribal citizen Paul Buster his Cowbone Band will follow Smoken for a 30 minute set.

Jesse & Noah take the stage at 1:30 p.m., and will play for 45 minutes. They are the sons of the David Bellamy, one half of the Bellamy Brothers, which will perform immediately following Jesse & Noah's performance.

David Bellamy and his brother Howard Bellamy, better known as the Bellamy Brothers, will take the stage at 2:45 p.m. and play for 90 minutes. The Bellamy Brothers are co-headlining the festival along with John Anderson.

These two

have been making music for more than two decades, and will no doubt play some of the hits they are known for, including "Let Your Love Flow" and "For All the Wrong Reasons." The Bellamy Brothers are the most nominated duo in country music today, so they definitely know how to entertain a crowd.

The final musical event at the Afachkeke Festival is co-headliner John Anderson, who will appear on stage at 4:45 p.m. and play until the festival's close at 6 p.m. He is a country music legend with more than 20 albums to his credit and more than 30 songs that have made the Billboard top 20 chart.

With so many hit songs, Anderson will have a hard time picking and choosing which ones to play. One song that will likely make the cut is "Seminole Wind," a song he brought the house down at the grand opening of the Tampa Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in March.

Directions: From Naples or Fort Lauderdale take I-75 to Exit 49, then 16 miles north on Snake Road (County Road 833). From Fort Myers take State Road 80 east through LaBelle to 833 south through the Big Cypress Reservation, Rodeo grounds on right (west) side of road. From Lake Okeechobee take SR 27 south to 80 west three miles to 833. For further information, please call (561) 308-0101. Also visit our website for a printable map [www.seminoletribe.com/afachkeke](http://www.seminoletribe.com/afachkeke).

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(L-R) Thommy Doud, Robert North Sr., Catherine Jumper, Amber Giebtbrock, Angie Margotta, Damon “Leon” Pewo, Robert North Jr., Herbert Jim, Catlin Jim, Max Osceola Jr., and Neko Osceola (front).

# Boys & Girls Club Discuss Ultimate Warrior Experience

**By Adelsa Williams**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Following the Ultimate Warrior Challenge trip to Snake River, Idaho in June, The Boys and Girls Club gathered for a luncheon held on the Hollywood reservation at June Tiger’s property.

Boys & Girls Club member and warrior experience traveler, Robert North Jr., opened the event with prayer.

Herbert Jim, Seminole preschool language instructor and Coordinator Robert North Sr. conducted a series of questions for the youth regarding their learned experiences during their traditional and spiritual adventure.

North started by explaining the different kind of activities the group encountered while on the trip. The group camped each night and had all provisions and drew upon ancestry on how to live off the land.

For young warrior Catlin Jim, it was exciting since it was his first time riding in an airplane while Damon “Leon” Pewo said that he was scared to “fall in” while rafting the Snake River.

During the rafting experience, the youth learned about teamwork. Everyone took turns playing captain while on the paddle boat. This required the team to trust the captain’s command for proper steering of the paddle boat while rafting on the rough rapids.

Besides rafting, the youth seemed enthusiastic sharing their fishing experiences. After catching a fish, the youth learned how to cut and clean a fish.

“It was only gross when the tail was still moving,” said Damon “Leon” Pewo.

Herbert Jim asked the youth how they felt about the spiritual aspect of the trip and being exposed to the ancestral Nez Perce people’s sacred lands.

“Tense and emotional,” said Robert North Jr. “I felt like something was watching us all the time,” said Catlin Jim.

Robert North Sr. asked this final question to the youth; what is a warrior?

“Someone who accepts challenges,” answered Neko Osceola.

Catlin Jim said, “A warrior is a person that’s not afraid and fights within the heart, has a good soul, helps others, is emotional, and has love.”

Herbert Jim added that a warrior is someone who is full of understanding of their native traditional ways.

“We [Seminoles] are warriors because we are passed down from our ancient wars, and today we are here because of our soldiers,” said Herbert Jim, “If an elder has something to say, listen, because they are trying to tell you something, you just don’t understand it yet, but later in life you will find a place to use these teachings.”

Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola Jr. attended the luncheon to congratulate the youth and shared a couple of words of wisdom as well.

“Congratulations, you did something on your own, even though you had people with you,” said Osceola, “We can tell you how to do it, but now you saw how everything is done.”

“You are all warriors, you have strength, and we want to show you that you can get high without using drugs or alcohol, high on life. When you’re strong, you make your family strong and you can make the tribe strong.”

Osceola encouraged the students to pass the word to their friends and advise on any other challenges they can come up with.

“You are tomorrow, we want to prepare you for that, so you can make the right choices,” concluded Osceola.



Adelsa Williams  
Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola Jr. addresses the youth.

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# Delegates Enjoy Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum During USET Conference



**(L-R) Juan Torrer, Cesar Arciero and Chris McHaney put out the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum welcome sign for USET delegates during their semi-annual meeting held June 14-17.**

**By Tom Gallaher**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — Tour guides Sarah Kirkland and Chris McHaney, along with Museum Director David Blackard gave about 50 United Southern and Eastern Tribes (USET) delegates a tour of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. The delegates ventured across the Everglades during the semi-annual USET meeting held at the Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, June 14-17. Delegates from many of the 24 USET member tribes saw the five-screen film entitled “We Seminoles” and toured the exhibit gallery. Some also walked the nature trail and visited the new curatorial museum. “They loved the museum display,” said Curator of Education Mornin Osceola. “Some didn’t go to visit the nature trail, but the ones who did go on the boardwalk really enjoyed it.”

The purpose of the USET meeting was “to strengthen relationships between the tribes and the agencies and organizations with which they interact daily by inviting representatives of those agencies and organizations to provide valuable information to the board and members,” according to a press release.

The attendees also enjoyed the beautiful surroundings and the hospitality of the Seminoles during their field trip to the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and Big Cypress reservation.

# Meet the Real Estate Department Staff

**By Adelsa Williams**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The real estate services department is located in the first floor of the Seminole Tribe headquarters in Hollywood and is composed of three employees.

The department’s main function is to assist everyone who intends to use or occupy tribal land for business or residential purposes. The process begins with an application to obtain a permit, lease or other form of legal authorization.

The department is responsible for the progress of these applications through development review, land use commission, presentation before the Tribal Council for approval and ratification by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The department also arranges for a boundary survey of the subject property as required.

Real estate services is frequently called upon by the Tribal Council to evaluate real estate matters, mediate boundary or other land use disputes, and provide recommendations. On occasion, individual tribal members request advice regarding personal family real estate matters and Real Estate Services is prepared to assist them.



**Real estate employees: (L-R) Jennifer Kolakowski, Director Fred Hopkins and Dawna Bowman.**

Department Director Fred Hopkins said, “If it’s real estate related, call or come by and our staff will be happy to assist.”

You may contact the real estate services department at (954) 966-6300, direct (954) 967-3400, or by fax (954) 967-3497.

# Tribal Office Adds Temporary Parking

**By Michael Kelly**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — For those employees yearning for additional parking spaces at the main tribal office, your wish has come true—at least temporarily. An additional parking area has been added at the south side of the parking lot.

“We’ll be adding about 30 temporary parking spaces, which will be used primarily for the service vehicles,” said Building and Grounds Assistant Manager Alex Adams.

This will include field vehicles, buses, trucks, vans, and trailers.

Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola Jr., approved the use of the vacant lot, located on 40th Street. This should alleviate the parking situation until home construction begins in the near future.

Future plans are in the works to add permanent parking spaces along the service road located near the Stirling Road underpass.



**Building and grounds employee breaks through cement on the south side of the lot, clearing the way for additional parking.**

## Labor Day Singing

On Sunday September 5, First Seminole Baptist Church will hold a Labor Day singing event. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m., and singing begins at 7:00 p.m.

For more information, please call Vivian Delgado at (954) 444-2954, or the First Seminole Baptist Church at (954) 585-0400, fax at (954) 585-0311.

## Celebrate Grandparent’s Day On September 12

Sunday, September 12, is National Grandparent’s Day. It is a day to honor and remember our grandparents, to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children’s children, and to help children become aware of the strength, information and guidance older people can offer.

## Boys & Girls Club of the Seminole Tribe of Florida Essay Contest

Subject: “What Veteran’s Day Means to Me”

Entries must be received by September 24 and turned in to the chairman’s office in Hollywood.

The winners will be asked to read their essay at the Veteran’s Day celebration at the Big Cypress entertainment complex on November 9.

Winners and winning essays will also appear in *The Seminole Tribune*.

Please call (954) 967-3900 with any questions.

## Dolphins Football Season is Here

Hollywood community members may get their name on the Miami Dolphins ticket list. For more information, contact Robin Osceola at (954) 214-0155

Sunday September 12, DOLPHINS VS TITANS, 1 p.m.
Sunday September 26, DOLPHINS VS STEELERS, 1 p.m.
Sunday October 3, DOLPHINS VS JETS, 4:15 p.m.
Sunday October 24, DOLPHINS VS RAMS, 1 p.m.
Sunday November 7, DOLPHINS VS CARDINALS, 1 p.m.
Sunday December 5, DOLPHINS VS BILLS, 1 p.m.
Sunday December 20, DOLPHINS VS PATRIOTS, 9 p.m.
Sunday December 26, DOLPHINS VS BROWNS, 8:30 p.m.

# Seminoles Starting a New Life in Idaho

**By Iretta Tiger**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Seminole artist Erica Deitz is starting a new chapter in her life. Deitz, her husband Bruce and their two children recently moved to Idaho. Deitz is the daughter of Robert and Josephine North and Bruce Deitz is the son of the late Ruby Deitz.

The Hollywood reservation has been their home for many years. The move to Idaho is not done on a whim; the Dietz’s have been planning this for several years and have been house hunting.

Deitz also hopes that the change of scenery will bring new inspiration to her art work. Her creations have received numerous awards not only within the tribe but internationally. The move will also allow her to dedicate more time to her art and to explore into other art mediums. She especially looks forward to delving into jewelry making.

Before moving, Deitz was the material/artist developer for the Seminole preschool language department where she created educational material specially developed for Seminole children. She will continue to work with the tribe on a consultation basis.

Deitz looks forward to the change in seasons but most of all she said she wants to “use this [move] to prove myself, and not rely on the tribe.”

Deitz and her family are not moving to another reservation but they do have family nearby. Dietz’s father-in-law lives nearby and did the final walk through of their new home.

Deitz has been teased about moving; most people tell her that she’ll be back, but to this tribal citizen, it’s wonderful that they’re experiencing life outside of Florida and not a reservation. Good luck to the Deitz family!

# Think Your Job is Dangerous? Just Ask Jonathan Vazquez and Ray Becerra

**By Michael Kelly**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — Alligators, snakes, birds of prey, and various lizards are just some of the “clients” Jonathan Vazquez and Ray Becerra work with on a daily basis at the Billie Swamp Safari and Everglades Eco-Tours in Big Cypress. And even though these skilled professionals know that one wrong move could be fatal, they thoroughly enjoy their jobs.

Vazquez, operations manager at Billie Swamp Safari and Ray Becerra, general falconer, have the dubious honor of handling South Florida’s most dangerous animals.

enjoy finding snakes, taking photos and handling them.”

Vazquez also looks for abnormalities in the various species to make sure they’re healthy.

Ray Becerra takes pride in educating visitors from all over the world about the birds of prey found in Big Cypress. Birds of prey, or raptors, are birds with keen eyesight, strong curved beaks and long curved strong talons. Like Vazquez, Becerra is a registered class one, two and three state licensed handler, which allows him to demonstrate these beautiful animals throughout the state of Florida and U.S.

With years of experience, they both display a cool confident demeanor, even when dealing with 10-foot alligators and venomous snakes. Vazquez, who specializes in alligator wrestling, and appears on the cover of the Billie Swamp Safari brochure, has been interested in reptiles since age four.

“My father loves reptiles,” said Vazquez. “No doubt that rubbed off on me.”



**Ray Becerra holds a falcon, one of the birds of prey on display at Billie Swamp Safari.**

According to Vazquez, nearly all the tourists that visit the Billie Swamp Safari come to see the alligators. But even though alligators take up a majority of his day, snakes are his first passion.

Not surprisingly, on his free time, Vazquez enjoys tracking down the slithery creatures, traveling from the barren deserts of Arizona to the hot and humid climate of Costa Rica.

“I consider it fun research,” said Vazquez. “I invite him to visit the reservation.”

Becerra, who has worked for the tribe for the past seven years and lives in Big Cypress, conducts shows anywhere he is asked. “I’ve done television programs, and lot of other places in the U.S.

Between the both of them, Vazquez and Becerra have nearly 30 years on experience combined. And whether they’re educating people about alligators, panthers, or poisonous rattlesnakes, visitors at the Billie Swamp Safari can relax, knowing they’re in good hands.

“I have a lot of respect for the animals that I handle,” said Becerra. “I love what I do.”

Becerra also spends time with a fellow nature enthusiast, Manny Puig. Originally from Cuba, Puig has the unbelievable ability to connect with all types of animals, including sharks and alligators.

“I’m good friends with him,” said Becerra. “I would like to

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# Health Corner ♦ Chah-nee-ken chàò-ke ♦ Cvfeknetv onakv

## Seniors Learn Nutrition Tips and Play ‘Healthier You Bingo’

**By Shelley Marmor**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — On Thursday August 12, eight seniors met at the Senior Center to learn healthy eating tips from Shannon McKeown, tribal health educator, and have some fun playing a few games of bingo.

McKeown showed the seniors about 10 transparencies on the overhead projector that covered several health-related topics. The topics included: old Native American diets versus present day diets, factors contributing to death, good foods to eat and added sugars in the typical U.S. diet.

Only a few decades ago, McKeown said the Native American diet consisted of less fat and more fiber. She also added that during that time people exercised much more. These two changes have caused many health problems on the reservations, according to McKeown.

She also discussed diabetes, possibly the most significant health-related problem facing Native



(L-R) Maggie Osceola and Mary Gay Osceola participate in a game of bingo over a healthy breakfast at the Senior Center.



Health Educator Shannon McKeown talks to seniors about the importance of healthy eating.

Americans. McKeown informed the seniors that lifestyle choices—including diet, exercise and stress level—account for 51 percent of the reason behind people developing diabetes. Therefore, she said it can be prevented more often than not.

“You have the control to make the choice to get or not get a disease like diabetes,” McKeown said. “I’m here to tell you you’re not destined to get diabetes.”

McKeown informed the seniors of what foods will help them stay healthy; including carrots, spinach, beans, soy foods, salmon and other cold water fish and whole citrus fruits, to name a few. She said it is helpful not to think of eating healthy as a diet, which implies that there is a dietary restriction. McKeown said people should not focus on what they can’t eat and focus on what they can.

After going through all her informational transparencies, McKeown began the “Healthier You Bingo” game. This bingo game, however, was not the typical game because there was a lot more thinking involved.

Once one of the players had one of the bingo numbers McKeown picked out they also had to answer a question about the nutritional presentation they just saw to earn the stamp on their bingo card.

The three winners for bingo were: first place Maggie Osceola, second place Mary Gay Osceola and David Jumper in third. Each person won a gift basket with healthy food items including, bananas, grapes, plums, soy protein bars, whole grain cereal and green tea.

## Don’t Delay; Get Your Flu Shot Today!

It’s hard to believe the flu season is upon us already. It seems like only yesterday that we observed hundreds of people waiting in line to receive their flu shot. To their surprise and disappointment, many of them were turned away due to the shortage of the flu vaccine. The following guidelines can help you decide whether the flu shot is right for you.

Why should I get the flu shot? Medicare provides four reasons why:

1. The flu is serious business. The flu is not just a runny nose or upset stomach. It is a serious illness that can lead to pneumonia. At least 45,000 Americans die each year from influenza and pneumonia, the sixth leading cause of death in the United States. 90 percent of these deaths are among people 65 years of age or over.
2. The flu can be very dangerous for people 50 and older. People 50 years of age or over should get a flu shot, unless they are allergic to eggs. It’s also important for those with a chronic illness, and for those who spend a lot of time around sick or elderly people.
- Some of the most common symptoms of the flu are fever, chills, headache, dry cough, runny or stuffy nose, sore throat, and muscle aches. Unlike other common respiratory infections such as the common cold, the flu can cause extreme fatigue lasting several days to more than a week. The flu is spread easily from person to person primarily when an infected person coughs or sneezes, just like the common cold.
- After a person has been infected with the virus, symptoms usually appear within two to four days. The infection is considered contagious for another three to four days after symptoms appear. Often times, the flu is mistakenly associated with what people call the stomach flu. While it is true that some children who suffer from the flu will sometimes experience nausea and vomiting, the flu mainly causes severe upper respiratory difficulty in adults. Plus, the flu cannot be treated with antibiotics because it’s a virus, just like the common cold. The best treatment for the flu is prevention.
3. A flu shot is safe and helps you protect others. Flu shots are safe and effective. And when you get a flu shot, you help yourself and those around you. By avoiding the flu, you avoid giving it to friends and family.
4. Medicare Part B pays for it. When you have Medicare Part B and you get your flu shot from a Medicare provider, you pay no co-insurance or deductible. Also, if the person giving the shot agrees not to charge more than the amount Medicare pays, you pay nothing.
- Medicare Part B also pays for the pneumococcal vaccination. Ask your health care provider about both of these vaccines. (Note: Managed Care Plan members may be required to get shots from their Managed Care Plan. Ask your Managed Care Plan for more information.)



provider agrees not to charge you more than Medicare pays.

To find local health care providers who accept Medicare as payment in full for the flu shot, contact 1-800-MEDICARE or search Medicare’s website at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

Other common questions about flu shots include:

When should I get the flu shot? Influenza is most common in the U.S. from December to April, so it’s best to get the flu shot from October through mid-November. The vaccine begins to protect you after one to two weeks.

Do I need a flu shot every year? Yes. Although only a few different influenza viruses circulate at any given time, people continue to become ill with the flu throughout their lives. The reason for this continuing susceptibility is that influenza viruses are continually changing, usually as a result of mutations in the viral genes.

Each year the vaccine is updated to include the most current influenza virus strains. The fact that influenza viruses continually change is one of the reasons vaccine must be taken every year.

Another reason is that antibody produced by the person in response to the vaccine declines over time, and antibody levels are often low one year after vaccination.

Uh oh, I have the flu. What do I do? Once a person has the flu, treatment usually consists of resting in bed, drinking plenty of fluids, and taking medication such as aspirin or acetaminophen to relieve fever and discomfort. Children with the flu should not take aspirin because of the associated risk of a rare, but very serious illness called Reyes syndrome.

When should I call my doctor? Call your doctor if you have any signs of the flu. You should also contact your doctor if you have breathing or heart problems, or other serious health problems, you are taking drugs that fight cancer (chemotherapy) or weaken your body’s natural defenses against illness, you feel sick and don’t seem to be getting better, you have a cough that begins to produce phlegm and turns wet, and/or you are worried about your health and have other questions.

Medicare currently provides coverage for flu and pneumonia vaccinations. Medicare covers one flu shot a year, in the fall or winter. All people with Medicare are covered. You do not pay for a flu shot if the doctor or health care provider accepts assignment.

While Medicare strongly encourages people 50 years and older to get their annual flu shot, be sure to contact your physician if you are unsure if you need a flu shot. If a flu shot is recommended, don’t delay; get your flu shot today.

Flu shots will be available in October through reservation clinics. To contact one of them, please call (954) 962-2009 in Hollywood, (863) 983-5151 in Big Cypress, and (863) 763-0271 in Brighton. You may also contact 1-800-MEDICARE or log onto <http://www.medicare.gov> to find a provider near you.

## Ninth Annual Brighton Youth Conference

**By: Emma Brown**  
**TAMPA** — The Ninth Annual Brighton Youth Conference was held at the Tampa Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino from Sunday August 1–Thursday August 5. The conference began on Sunday evening with a dinner and opening ceremonies.

During the opening ceremonies there was a



Youngsters practiced their beadwork at the youth conference.

Each day began at 6 a.m. with fitness hour for the energetic early birds. On the first morning of the conference, Light Foot, a Native American actor and spokesperson, spoke with the entire group and delivered an eye opening message to the parents and children.

Light Foot spoke about the importance of being in touch with your creator and about the importance of prayer. Following breakfast each morning, all participants reported to class to begin the day.

There were many different departments from within the tribe that were conducting classes for the youth conference. The health department, family services, education, recreation, Seminole police department, language and culture, and fire rescue all volunteered their time to teach the Seminole youth about their departments’ services. It is a wonderful sight to see all of the tribe’s resources being utilized for such a purpose.

Planned activities, such as a trip to Busch Gardens and Universal Studios Islands Of Adventure® took place each afternoon after lunch. On Wednesday night, the conference ended with a talent and traditional clothing contest.

It was amazing to see how many talented young Seminoles the Brighton community has, and how the youth conference and the sharing that goes on there abolishes the stage fright that many of them deal with. The youth conference, as always, was a fun-filled, learning-enriched week for the entire family.

## Seminole Tribe Department of Emergency Services Announces Free Smoke Alarms

Seminole Tribe’s department of emergency services will issue smoke alarms as part of Fire Prevention Week, October 3–9. As part of a community-wide fire prevention effort, firefighters from the department of emergency services will issue to tribal families a free smoke alarm.

The Free Smoke Alarm Program is part of Fire Prevention Week 2004, a public safety campaign intended to educate children and families about fire safety. This year’s theme, “Test Your Smoke Alarms” emphasizes that, because fire can spread so quickly, it’s essential that families know what to do in the event of a fire. The campaign helps families prepare for such an emergency by teaching them how to install and test smoke alarms, as well as how to plan and practice home escape plans.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, the international nonprofit safety advocate and official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 80 years, half of all

home fire deaths in the U.S. occur in the six percent of homes without smoke alarms.

“Smoke alarms are the most effective early warning device there is,” said David Logan, Fire Inspector/Public Education Specialist. “Having a smoke alarm in your home cuts your chance of dying almost in half.”

Fire can grow and spread through a home in a matter of minutes. Because time is of the essence, the advance warning provided by smoke alarms can be enough to save lives. By participating in this community smoke alarm installation, Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue is helping to ensure that local residents are safer in their homes.

During the three-day smoke alarm program, Big Cypress and Brighton firefighters will take names of residents who wish to obtain a free smoke detector and will distribute these by October 22. Firefighters will also offer tips on installation.

For more information call the department of emergency services at (863) 983-2150.



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		espresso served with steamed milk
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Assorted Flavors \$3 to \$5		espresso served with steamed half & half
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		espresso served with steamed soy milk

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## Elaine

Continued from page 1

## Family Services Back to School Booth

The tribute was concluded when Elaine opened and displayed several beautiful gifts which included beaded glassware, hand made ceramics, a patchwork skirt, beaded salt and pepper shakers, household accessories, a blanket, bedspread and much, much more. The gift table was adorned with several bouquets of red roses and a large basket of flowers and fruit.

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# 2004 Hollywood Incentive Awards

**By Iretta Tiger**

**HOLLYWOOD** — For Seminole students of all ages, this is the time of year when all those long hours and hard work in school is rewarded. On August 10, the Seminole education department held its annual incentive awards banquet.

This year's banquet was held in the ballrooms at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. The centerpieces were arts and crafts made by the participants in the culture program.

The presentation of awards started with the preschoolers and continued through those receiving their degrees. The award recipients are as follows:

**Kindergarten:** Ethan Cypress, Isaiah Pichardo, Tarina Young, Marsha Osceola, Kathlyn Kippenberger, Jackie Willie, Tyson Osceola, Mingo Jones, Janay Cypress, Carson Knaby, Luke Baxley Jr., Kiana Bell, Joelli Frank, Devan Bowers, Shania Johns, Alexander Escobar, Knananochet Osceola, Fairuza Billie, Jade Young, Gerret Osceola, Nathaniel Jim, Jesse Sanchez, Denise Osceola, Travis Baker, Eden Jumper, Rande Osceola, Cameron Jumper, Taylor Holata, Natomah Robbins, Sharka Frank, Elizabeth Osceola.

**First Grade:** Raevin Frank, Jonathan Idle, Brianna Blais-Billie, Baylee Micco, Tous Young Jr., Elijah Snell, Briana Bilodeau, Jennie Eagle, Elden Osceola, Neko Osceola, Kassandra Houseman, Deila Harjo, Isiah Thomas, Ellyse Frank, Cameron Osceola, Daija Baxley, Esyra Frank.

**Second Grade:** Dominique Motlow, Trewston Pierce, Nicholas Jumper, Neyom Osceola, Anissa Osceola, Wyatt Deitz, KC McDonald, Peter Billie Jr., Konrad Jones, Alisia Billie, Tiffany Baker, Tia Blais-Billie, Jaide Micco, Cheyenne Kippenberger, Jack Osceola, Tristina Osceola, Isabel Tucker, Adahma Sirota, Jonathan Bowers, Trevor Osceola, Katelyn Young, Dakota Tiger, Kayla Billie, Aaron Osceola.

**Third Grade:** Zechariah Lacey, Rayel Billie, Lorelei Tommie, Jesse Mitchell, Alexis Jumper, Darion Cypress, Elena Jim, Jonathon Frank, Justin Frank, Hunter Osceola, Joseph John, Clarissa Jumper, Aileen Cypress, Darian Cypress-Osceola, Tyler Baker, Maleah Isaac.

**Fourth Grade:** Tianna Young, Braudie Blias-Billie, Dalton Jumper, Houston Osceola, Victoria Lacey, Kristy Johns, Devin Billie, Aria Osceola, Kendrick Osceola, Tucomah Robbins, Tayler Cypress, Charlie Osceola.

**Fifth Grade:** Malcom Lacey Jr., Talena Castillo, Jean Frank, Jessica Osceola, Kristen Billie, Marissa Osceola, Courtney Osceola, Jason Dodd, Darryl Fuentez, Kyle Baker, Darwin Cypress, Klayton Sanders, Tiyonda Farrior.

**Sixth Grade:** Duelle Gore, Anahhna Sirota, Miles Osceola, Shelli Osceola, Eric Sanders Jr., Mariah Buster-Osceola, Nelson Osceola.

**Seventh Grade:** Sheyanna Osceola, Christian Osceola, Robert Osceola, Joe Jimmie, James Tiger Jr., Falon Keyser, Allyson Billie, Joseph Hiers, Cody Billie, Jackson Richardson, Victor Osceola, Shelby DeHass, Rande McDonald.

**Eighth Grade:** Garrett Anderson, Chelsea Mountain, Robert North Jr., Demetria Tigertail, Robert Frank III, Krystle Young, Kayla Bowers, Nickolas Doctor-Jumper.

**Ninth Grade:** Shelby Osceola, Samantha Hisler, Summer Billie, Calvin Tiger Jr., Michael Doctor.

**Tenth Grade:** Joshua Fish, David Doctor, Jerome Davis Jr., David Anderson Jr., Clifford Sanchez, Casey McCall, Kurya Kippenberger, Atlanta Johns, Gary Frank.

**Eleventh Grade:** Joseph Richardson, Drew Osceola, Stephen Billie, Tasha Osceola, Jo-Jo Osceola, Christine McCall.

**Twelfth Grade:** Whitney Tucker, Mia Sapp.

**College:** Jennifer Chadwick, Gregory Thomas, O'Hara Tommie, Laura Tucker, Jamenia Thomas, Blake Osceola, Christina Billie, Mitchell Osceola, Sunshine Frank, Melissa DeMayo, JoLin Osceola, Anthony Frank, Courtney Doctor, Larissa Tucker, Laura Billie, Elrod Bowers, Jessica Buster-Billie, Ericka Cypress-Osceola, Kyle Doney, Vanessa Frank, Carla Gopher, Andrea Holata, Anthony Pacheco, Diane Pequeno, Zena Simmons, Jarrid Smith, Kashane Tiger, Marina Tigertail, Jaimie Yzaguirre.

A special award was then introduced by Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola Jr., the Billy L. Cypress Higher Education Scholarship. Created by the Seminole Tribal Council, this award recognizes those who have earned a bachelors degree or higher, regardless of the year the degree was achieved.

The council named the award after Cypress because he was the first person in the tribe to achieve that goal, graduating from Stetson University in 1965. He was also the first person to receive the award. His widow Carol Cypress and their son William Cypress Jr. accepted the award on his behalf.

The other recipients of the Billy L. Cypress Higher Education Scholarship are: Max Osceola Jr., Moses Osceola, Tony Sanchez, Paula Sanchez, Ted Nelson Jr., JoLin Osceola, Ella DeHass, Jerome Jumper and Anthony Frank. Each person was also awarded with a gold presidential Rolex with their name and graduation date engraved on the back.

Following the Billy L. Cypress awards, the culture program recognized and awarded those who participated in their program throughout the year. They also bestowed appreciation awards to those who supported and were mentors in the program.

The evening concluded with a magic show for the children and several adults stayed to enjoy the show with them. Congratulations to all award winners! It can never be said enough—please stay in school.



The first and second grade Incentive Award recipients with Board President Moses Osceola (back, left) and Hollywood Councilman Max B. Osceola (back, right).



Third, fourth and fifth graders.



Sixth, seventh and eighth graders.



Recipients of the Billy L. Cypress Higher Education Scholarship: (back row, left) Max B. Osceola Jr., Moses B. Osceola (back row, right), (front row, L-R) Ella DeHass, Shirley MacLannan, Joe Dan Osceola accepting for his daughter JoLin Osceola, Teddy Nelson Jr., Anthony Frank, and William Cypress accepting on behalf of his late father Billy L. Cypress. Also pictured Hollywood Board Representative David DeHass (back row, center).



Hollywood Board Representative David DeHass congratulates eleventh grade award recipient Tasha Osceola.



Max B. Osceola congratulates his daughter Melissa DeMayo, who received a college incentive award.



# Students Participate In EMAHAKV VPELOFV—‘Teaching Hammock’

**By Emma Brown**  
**BRIGHTON** — July 30 marked the celebration of EMAHAKV VPELOFV, the Creek word meaning “teaching hammock,” for the Brighton 1–6 grade students. This program is designed to provide Brighton’s elementary students with two weeks of summer enrichment before heading back to school.

The program is centered on: language experience approach, cultural relevancy, peer mentoring, and partnered teaching. Seminole culture is given relevancy by a language experience approach as students and teachers hear stories, draw pictures, learn about Seminole culture, and create personal reading materials and math problems while implementing Seminole culture.

This year’s program consisted of five classes taught using the team-teaching method of instruction. Each class was instructed by either a certified teacher or teacher trainee with one or more Seminole teachers to assist. Each class also was assisted by junior teachers which are Seminole students in middle school and high school.

This method allows teacher trainees the opportunity to gain practical experience in cross-cultural teaching and also allows the Seminole teachers to develop competencies in teaching/tutoring skills that can be applied to tutor Seminole children, and even their own children.

Each morning the students gathered in the library for the morning assembly and salute to the Seminole and American flags. Once the assembly concluded, students made their way to their first classes and settled down for a day of cultural experi-



(L-R) Yopilakiyo and DeLaney Osceola at Teaching Hammock.

Huff and Donna Harmon. Math taught by Mary Johns, Jennifer Perez, and Mabel Haught. Writing taught by Jenny Shore, Jennifer Tubb, and Jade Braswell.

The junior teachers for the program were

Bess DeHass, Brittany Smith, Shelby Huff and Jewel Buck.

The summer school participants learned many new things about math, reading and writing by incorporating Seminole culture into their learning process. Many beautiful bracelets, necklaces and art work were created by the students, which were on display for everyone to see during the open house.

This year’s program celebrated its final day on Friday July 30 with an open house for the parents and community. Each parent arrived at the education department and went to each of their child’s classrooms to see the different items that he or she had created and were able to meet the teacher and hear about the wonderful learning that took place during the two weeks.

Each parent who attended received door prize tickets, which were given away after the delicious barbecue dinner.

EMAHAKV VPELOFV has been running for several years and the high attendance that increases each year proves that program is a success and joy for the Brighton community. Shelly Walker, program coordinator, along with each of the Seminole and non-Seminole teachers, put in many hours of hard work and effort to create such a successful program this year.

Without daily efforts and dedication of the teachers, there would be no summer school for our children in the Brighton community and they are to be commended for a job well done.



Teacher Jennifer Tubb (right) speaks with parents Ethel Gopher and Danny Harmon.

ence. The classes were as follows: Creek reading taught by Lawn Morris-Lorene Gopher, Dawn Morris-Manke, and Danette Bowers. History taught by Willie Johns and Loretta Peterson. Arts and crafts taught by Martha Jones, Joanne Osceola, Mary Alice



(L-R) Hollywood Preschool Center Manager Carol Crenshaw and Amber Giebtbrock.

## Preschool Welcomes New Students in Style

**By Shelley Marmor**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The Dorothy Scott Osceola preschool building was transformed on Thursday August 12, decked out in a 1950s-theme. The ladies from preschool wore poodle skirts and danced around to music, from artists ranging from Dolly Parton to Jimmy Buffett, coming from a juke box. There was even an Elvis Presley look alike.

On this day, the staff of the Hollywood preschool welcomed future preschoolers and their parents to the annual orientation event. Parents received handbooks that provided tips for how to transition their children to preschool life.

According to Disability Services Coordinator Thommy Doud, the preschool department always welcomes the new preschoolers and their parents in a grand fashion.

“We try to have a theme every year,” he said. “This year it’s the 50s. But before this we’ve had a Hawaiian theme and a movie theme, with a red carpet for everyone to walk down.”

Parents and children alike enjoyed the 50s décor, complete with black and white checkered racing flags and a replica diner. At Shirley’s Diner, everyone could relive the 50s with hamburgers for 40 cents, hot dogs for 30 cents, and 25 cent French fries.



Allison Osceola (right) with Ariissa Cypress.



Preschool teacher Elva Montez instructs students.

## Preschool Open House Goes 1960s

**By Judy Weeks**  
**IMMOKALEE** — The 1960s was the theme for the Immokalee preschool open house held at the preschool on Thursday August 12. The school was decorated with hippie beads, classic emblems of the flower children era and the teachers dressed in the appropriate attire.

It was a full house with all the parents of the students in attendance. Preschool Manager Michelle Ford made the presentation and passed out handbooks for all parents. A careful review was done of all the materials in the handbook and the school’s proposed schedule was announced.

Each teacher from the preschool staff was introduced. Several good questions were asked and answered, making for a very good meeting. The parents were asked to think about possible fund raising projects that might take place during the upcoming school year.

The open house concluded with a review of the facilities and serving of refreshments.



(L-R) Elva Montez, Michelle Ford, and Ruby Garcia get groovy at the Immokalee preschool in their 1960s attire.

## Open House Kicks Off 2004–2005 School Year

**By Jaime Restrepo**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — The Big Cypress preschool hosted an open house and parent orientation on August 11. Preschool Director, Leona Tommie Williams, was on hand to answer questions and address any concerns of the attendees.

This is the first year of such an orientation, unlike in previous years, which was done on an individual basis. Parents, relatives, and guardians of registered children were in attendance.

The preschool has a full complement of personnel and teaching tools, along with an education program designed to prepare very young students for life in a classroom setting, interaction with other children, and other social skills. Special attention is paid to the diet, hygiene and general health of the child.

In addition to preschool education, the facility boasts a child care center for children as young as one year old. Children are placed in age groups and are exposed to a wide assortment of activities and care while their parents are either working or at school. The preschool provides an art area, a reading area, a quiet area and a block area. There is also an outdoor playground.

Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress was on hand to tour the school and listen to the presentation made by the staff. He also participated in a scavenger hunt along with other school children.

Cypress helped clarify the eligibility requirements for registration.

In general, the child must be: an enrolled Seminole tribal citizen, an enrolled Seminole tribal citizen in foster care, a direct descendant of an enrolled tribal citizen, and/or an enrolled tribal citizen of another recognized band or tribe.

Priority is given to parents who are working or enrolled in school. Self-employment is acceptable. All students who are turned down are placed on a waiting list.

Dinner and refreshments were served. Door prizes were awarded with a winner in each age group.

There are four centers within the Seminole Tribe. They are in Big Cypress, Hollywood, Immokalee and Brighton. In Big Cypress, the school hours are 8 a.m.–3:15 p.m., with extended care until 5:30 p.m.

## Conversations on Higher Education

**By Dora Bell, Higher Education Advisor**  
The Sunday August 1 edition of the *New York Times* featured an article entitled “American Indians Expand College Hopes.” The following themes are developed in the article:

Every summer Ivy League schools get together to offer a five day crash course called College Horizons. This course aims to prepare Native American juniors and seniors for application to elite schools in the U.S. universities, including Harvard, Yale, Stanford and 19 other schools.

American Indians and Alaskan Natives, who make up one percent of the nation’s population, are underrepresented at many highly selective schools.

On average, less than one in five Indians who enroll in college earn a bachelor’s degree. Presently, Harvard has 55 Native Americans out of a total enrollment of 6,500.

Some tribes offer scholarships to their members with revenues from casinos. However, tribe-financed scholarships are not available to most students because only about 30 of the 500 tribes in the U.S. run lucrative gaming operations.

Among members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, an interest in higher education is increasing. At the time, there are 72 students enrolled in the higher education program.

## Back to School: Keep Illness Away

**By Patrick Peck, MA, REHS**  
This is the time of the year when parents are scurrying to get their children ready for the school year. Along with school supplies and the latest fashion trends, parents are to place health at the top of their back to school list.

Children are constantly exposed to other individuals’ body fluids. Whether it is by wiping one’s nose and then slapping a hive five, sharing a common cup or borrowing a pencil, health education ought to be at the forefront of school concerns over the spread of infectious diseases.

The single most important routine that kids can do to prevent spreading of diseases is to wash their hands. Hands should be washed any time one handles a suspected contaminated item or before eating.

Hand washing is absolutely the number one thing kids can do according to infectious disease spe-

cialists. It is one behavior that can be taught at home and at school that can have a real impact on the spread of infectious diseases.

As a general rule, the easiest way to stop the spread of infection lies in the easiest solutions. Viruses, bacteria and other germs are all around us. They are part of our natural environment. The trick is to prevent them from growing and spreading. This can be done by protecting oneself.

Another essential thing is to keep up with immunizations, getting a physical exam and for those 10 and older to maintain an open dialogue about sex, drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

Parents should establish good communication with their kid especially in the middle and high school years.

For more information on the above please contact environmental health services at (954) 962-2009, Ext. 125.







# Tribal Citizen Makes Football Debut Playing for FAU Owls

**By Kenny Bayon**  
**BOCA RATON, FL** — Down, set, hut! That’s what Seminole citizen Jarrid Smith will hear when he hikes the football for the first time as starting center for the Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Owls.

Wearing his number 72 blue and white jersey, Smith will make his debut on Sept. 4 as he steps



Jarrid Smith making practice runs.

Felix DoBosz

on the field against the University of Hawaii, in Oahu, Hawaii, where he will make his first collegiate start as a red-shirted freshman.

The Brighton resident worked very hard this summer to earn a starting position. He spent the summer both at school and at home to train for the upcoming season. He built himself up to an athletic six-foot-three-inch, 268 pound blocking machine.

Smith graduated from Okeechobee High, and was a star in football, basketball and a track and field shot putter and discus thrower. After high school, he was given only one opportunity to continue his love of football. The only school to offer him a scholarship was FAU. He intends to repay them by working harder than anyone else on the team.

Parents Camillia Smith Osceola and Curtis Osceola have always known their son was going to be special. Camillia had said that even when Jarred was as young as 10 years, he always took it upon himself to make sure everything was right, even if it meant getting on his mom to make sure he wasn’t late for practice.

“His coaches were always in awe of his work ethic and determination,” says Camillia. “He was always taking the initiative to make sure business was taken care of. He never messed around

when it was time to be serious.”

As of now, he has no major, but after a recent visit with Big Cypress Councilman David Cypress, he plans to look into receiving his degree in political science. This will help him in what he eventually wants to do, which is to help his tribe.

I sat down with Jarred one day before practice to ask him a few questions:

*Kenny Bayon: How does it feel to be a role model for the young children in the tribe?*

Jarrid Smith: It’s a motivation factor to help me keep going during the rough times when I’m really tired or I just don’t feel like practicing. I want to make sure the youth have someone that they could look up to and see on TV doing what I love. It wasn’t easy, but it was worth it. You can do anything if you put your mind to it and want it bad enough.

*KB: How does it feel to play for a legendary coach like Howard Schnellenberger?*

JS: It’s really good because of all the experience that he has coaching at all different levels such as major college football where he won the national championship with the Miami Hurricanes in ‘83 to being a professional coach. I learn something new everyday from him and I feel really lucky to have him as my head coach.



Felix DoBosz

Smith is thrilled to play football with the Owls.

*KB: Starting as a red-shirted freshman for an up and coming program would you say you’re thrilled at this chance to be on the first team?*

JS: It’s real exciting. I knew that I had a chance to start after practicing last year. I had the confidence that I could go out there and produce and that I can get the job done. All I wanted was the opportunity to show what I can do.



Felix DoBosz

Diamond Bergeron races through the barrels.

## ♦ Rodeo

Continued from page 1

bull-ride because it was such a thrill for her. Once she was thrown from a bull, but she wasn’t really hurt; she just couldn’t wait for the next chance to ride again.”

Doctor’s passion was bull riding, even though her mother Colleen Osceola didn’t approve because it was just so dangerous.

“She would have been very proud of this event and all the brave girls that participated here today,” Osceola said.

She was also an avid NFL football fan; she especially liked the Buffalo Bills team, and enjoyed going to the games with her step-dad, Dan Osceola Jr., a big Dolphin fan. They enjoyed the camaraderie of ragging on each other’s team during the games and after.

One of her good friends was Cherelee Hall, the former Miss Seminole. The two attended the

Roping competition.

Everyone agreed it was a lot of fun and big congratulations to all the winners. Here are the final results from the 2nd annual Tiffany Doctor Memorial All Girl Rodeo:

### Pe Wee

All Around: 1. Courtney Gore, 2. Calgary Jumper, 3. Lauren Taft; Mutton Busting: 1. Calgary Jumper, 2. Courtney Gore; Hairpin: 1. Courtney Gore, 2. Lauren Taft, 3. Calgary Jumper; Barrel Race: 1. Calgary Jumper, 2. Lauren Taft; Four Pole Bending: 1. Lauren Taft, 2. Courtney Gore.

### Junior

All Around: 1. Lexi Peaden; Barrel Race: 1. Lexi Peaden, 17.744, 2. Taylor Moulden, 18.143, 3. Macy Culligan, 18.149, 4. Giania Orsi, 18.56; Pole Bending: 1. Lexi Peaden, 22.694, 2. Taylor Moulden, 24.233, 3. Marcy Culligan, 24.515; Goat Tying: 1. Lexi Peaden, 18.86; 2. Marcy Culligan, 23.05; Steer Undercoating (No Winner-Ground Money): 1. Christina Diaz, 2. Giania Orsi, 3. Kindall Tindell, 4. Diamond Bergeron; Calf Riding: 1. Christina Diaz, 2. Kindall Tindell.

### Youth

All Around: 1. Jennifer Deveaugh; Breakaway Roping (No Winner-Ground Money): 1. Sara Anderson, 2. Reba Osceola, 3. Leanna Billie, 4. Jenna Addams; Goat Tying: 1. Bobby Jo Haverland, 12.66, 2. Jennifer Deveaugh, 17.22, 3. Shelby DeHass, 17.7; Steer Undercoating: 1. Paige Pohlle, 4.04; 2. Sara Anderson, 11.83, 3. Reba Osceola, 12.27, 4. Jennifer Deveaugh, 13.31; Bull Riding: 1. Jennifer Deveaugh, 64, 2. Megan Gonsalves, 51, 3. Shelby DeHass, 50; Barrel Race: 1. Bobby Jo Haverland, 15.954, 2. Jennifer Deveaugh, 16.265, 3. Paige Pohlle, 16.62, 4. Nicki Zee, 16.975; Pole Bending: 1. Nicki Zee, 22.429, 2. Amanda Norman, 22.905, 3. Jennifer Deveaugh, 24.399, 4. Stephanie Romans, 24.617.

Senior

All Around: 1. Lynette Tindell; Barrel Race: 1. Michelle Nesselt, 15.927, 2. Laverne Jones, 16.212, 3. Laura Babawicz, 16.219, 4. Lanette Tindell, 16.424; Pole Bending: 1. Lynette Tindell, 22.073, 2. Stephanie Sullivan, 27.063, 3. Julie Vining, 27.96; Breakaway Roping: 1. Lori Brinker, 4.75, 2. Boogie Jumper, 5.96, 3. Lynette Tindell, 14.71; Goat Tying: 1. Marlene Burchard, 14.93, 2. Lynette Tindell, 17.8, 3. Holly Oglesby, 20.59; Steer Undercoating: 1. Boogie Jumper, 2.77, 2. Julie Viking, 3.54, 3. Lori Brinker, 18.05; Team Roping: 1. Stephanie Sullivan and Holly Oglesby, 55.89; Bull Riding: 1. Julie Viking, 53; 2. Cory Lupo, 48.

same school together in St. Petersburg, Fla. Doctor was a great jingle dress dancer at community events for almost six years with her legion of friends who loved hanging out with her.

David DeHass recalled that Doctor would often ask why the tribe did not sponsor an all girl rodeo. The tribe eventually honored her request by memorializing this wonderful event in her honor. Doctor will be well remembered by the loving people she left behind and the strangers that got to know her through the touching stories and the short-term legacy she left behind. Her spirit will live on through this great rodeo event.

Adorable 3-year old, Madison Osceola tried her best in the Barrel Racing event. Christina Osceola was very active in this all girls Rodeo event. Christina Diaz won first place for Jr. calf riding. Boogie Jumper won first place in Sr. Steer Undercoating, and second place in Sr. Breakaway



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Madison Osceola gets set to ride.

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Future home of the Hooters restaurant at Seminole Paradise.

## Hard Rock Prepares for Seminole Paradise

By Shelley Marmor

**HOLLYWOOD** — On Thursday August 26, the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino held a press event to get the word out that the businesses at the Seminole Paradise will be opening their doors before the end of the year. All stores, restaurants,

Seminole Paradise possible. Hollywood Councilman Max B. Osceola Jr. was present, and said a few words to the crowd.

"The natives and the Seminoles welcome you," Osceola said.

Jo North attended, representing the Seminole Okalee Museum & Village, which will also be part of Seminole Paradise. It will be located on the northeast side of Seminole Paradise.

Cordish Co. Executive Vice President Joe Weinberg also attended. The Cordish Co., a Baltimore, Md.-based company, developed both the Hollywood and Tampa Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's.

Weinberg called the Seminole Paradise "one of the preeminent restaurant, entertainment, retail projects in the country," saying it will be "the adult theme park for South Florida.

Representatives from *Jazziz* magazine, which focuses on jazz music, also attended. *Jazziz* magazine will be opening a night club of the same name in Seminole Paradise.

They brought with them internationally renown jazz master flutist Nestor Torres. Torres donated a flute to the Hard Rock, which he also autographed and played a few notes on before presenting it to Max Osceola Jr., who thanked him for the flute.

bars, night clubs, and more are all slated to officially open by November 2004.

The \$80 million Seminole Paradise is located on the east side of the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. It will feature 350,000 square feet of space, and is currently completely pre-leased to businesses. The Seminole Paradise will create approximately 1,000 new jobs through the various businesses that will open there.

Some of the businesses that will make up the Seminole Paradise include: Hard Rock Live!, Hooters, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, Quicksilver, Ritchie Swimwear, Hollywood Choppers, Murphy's Law Irish Pub and Headliners Comedy Club, to name just a few.

The only part of the Seminole Paradise that will not open by Nov. 2004 is the Hard Rock Live!, which should be completed in 2005. The Hard Rock Live! is a 6,000-seat venue that will host live concerts and other events.

Jim Allen, CEO of Gaming Operations, opened the presentation saying the Seminole Hard Rock is one of the finest facilities he has ever been a part of, and expects the Seminole Paradise to be the same.

He acknowledged the efforts of developers The Cordish Co. and the tribal council in making



Felix DoBosz

Jazz flutist Nestor Torres (right) presents a signed flute to Max B. Osceola.



Felix DoBosz

The 44 businesses making up Seminole Paradise surround the beautiful Paradise Lake.

Torres said he is excited because he and other fellow musicians "will get to make music [at Jazziz]."



Felix DoBosz

The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino towers over the nearly-complete Seminole Paradise complex.

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<b>HOLLYWOOD</b>	<b>Salary: \$8 per hour</b>	<b>Position:</b> Micro Computer Support Specialist <b>Department:</b> Information Systems <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-1-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Weed Control Technician <b>Department:</b> Water Resources <b>Position Opens:</b> 5-17-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$9.50 per hour, with benefits	<b>Department:</b> Family Services <b>Position Opens:</b> 3-22-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits
<b>Position:</b> A/P Data Entry Clerk <b>Department:</b> Accounting <b>Position Opens:</b> 4-19-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Janitor/Maintenance <b>Department:</b> Okalee Village <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with experience	<b>Position:</b> Administrative Assistant <b>Department:</b> Ah-Tha-Thi-Ki Museum <b>Position Opens:</b> 9-16-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$20,800 annually with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Lifeguard (P/T) <b>Department:</b> Recreation <b>Position Opens:</b> 5-4-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$10 per hour	<b>Position:</b> Head Teacher <b>Department:</b> Preschool <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-16-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits
<b>Position:</b> Accountant <b>Department:</b> Corp Board <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-9-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Plumber <b>Department:</b> Housing <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-7-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$7 per hour	<b>Position:</b> Instructional Aide <b>Department:</b> Ahfachkee School <b>Position:</b> Still available <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with experience, with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Tag Clerk (F/T) <b>Department:</b> Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-1-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$11.50 per hour, with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Operator Maintenance Trainee <b>Department:</b> Utilities <b>Position Opens:</b> 3-15-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$18,700 annually with benefits
<b>Position:</b> Diabetes Management Specialist <b>Department:</b> Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-12-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Snake Handler <b>Department:</b> Okalee Village <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with experience	<b>Position:</b> Elementary Music Teacher <b>Department:</b> Ahfachkee School <b>Position:</b> Still available <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Transfer Station Compost Support <b>Department:</b> Family Services <b>Position Opens:</b> 9-16-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$30,000 with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Water Treatment Plant Operator <b>Department:</b> Utilities <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$17–\$20 per hour with benefits
<b>Position:</b> Culture Exhibitor (Seminole or Miccosukee tribal citizen only) <b>Department:</b> Okalee Village <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$12 per hour	<b>Position:</b> Birds of Prey Handler <b>Department:</b> Okalee Village <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$10 per hour, with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Planning Representative <b>Department:</b> Housing <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-1-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with experience, with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Maintenance Worker <b>Department:</b> Corp, Board, Gas <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Teacher I <b>Department:</b> Preschool <b>Position Opens:</b> 11-24-03 <b>Position Closes:</b> 12-08-03 <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with experience, with benefits
<b>Position:</b> Rodman <b>Department:</b> Real Estate <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-16-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$10–\$11 per hour, with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Environmental Health Specialist/Administrative Assistant <b>Department:</b> Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-1-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Project Coordinator <b>Department:</b> Utilities <b>Position Opens:</b> 5-3-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$48,000 annually with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Surveillance Specialist <b>Department:</b> Gaming <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-2-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> Accountant <b>Department:</b> Accounting <b>Position Opens:</b> 4-5-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Counselor II <b>Department:</b> Family Services <b>Position Opens:</b> 3-22-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Transfer Station Operator Trainee <b>Department:</b> Utilities <b>Position:</b> Still Available <b>Salary:</b> \$18,720 annually with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Distribution/Collection System Crew Leader <b>Department:</b> Utilities <b>Position Opens:</b> 5-3-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$40,000 annually with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> Carpenter <b>Department:</b> Housing <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner <b>Department:</b> Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-21-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Environmental Health Specialist <b>Department:</b> Information Systems <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-12-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Head Teacher and Certified Head Teacher <b>Department:</b> Preschool <b>Position Opens:</b> 4-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> Maintenance Mechanic II <b>Department:</b> Housing <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Health Education Coordinator <b>Department:</b> Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-12-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Nutritionist/Dieticial <b>Department:</b> Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-12-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Bus Driver <b>Department:</b> Education <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-7-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> HVAC Appliance Mechanic <b>Department:</b> Housing <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-9-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Foster Care Team Supervisor <b>Department:</b> Family Services <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-1-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Food Preparation and Service Associate <b>Department:</b> Corp, Board, Gas <b>Position:</b> Still Available <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Store Manager <b>Department:</b> Corp, Gas, Board <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-12-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> Surveillance Specialist <b>Department:</b> Gaming <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-2-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>BIG CYPRESS</b>	<b>Position:</b> Middle School Teacher <b>Department:</b> Ahfachkee <b>Position Opens:</b> 5-3-2004 <b>Position Closes:</b> when filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Teacher Aide <b>Department:</b> Preschool <b>Position Opens:</b> 4-19-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits and education	
<b>Position:</b> Maintenance Supervisor <b>Department:</b> Housing <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-16-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$10 per hour, with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Tour Guide <b>Department:</b> Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum <b>Position Opens:</b> 10-13-03 <b>Position Closes:</b> 10-27-03 <b>Salary:</b> \$7.50/hour, with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Assistant Store Manager <b>Department:</b> Corp, Board, Gas <b>Position:</b> Still Available <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Tribal Outreach Worker II <b>Department:</b> Family Services, Health <b>Position:</b> Still available <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> Tour Guide <b>Department:</b> Okalee Village <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-16-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Sales Associate (F/T & P/T) <b>Department:</b> Corp. Board, Gas <b>Position Opens:</b> 10-21-03 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with experience, with benefits	<b>BRIGHTON</b>	<b>Position:</b> Tribal Outreach Worker II <b>Department:</b> Family Services, Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 4-19-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> System Administrator <b>Department:</b> Information Systems <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-2-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Medical Receptionist <b>Department:</b> Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-21-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Brighton/Ft. Pierce Lieutenant <b>Department:</b> Seminole Police Department <b>Position Closes:</b> 8-6-04 <b>Salary:</b> \$50,529.26–\$78,387.47, depending on qualifications	<b>Position:</b> Maintenance Mechanic II <b>Department:</b> Housing <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> Programmer Analyst <b>Department:</b> Information Systems <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-2-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Maintenance Worker II <b>Department:</b> Health <b>Position Opens:</b> 6-1-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Transfer Station Operator Trainee <b>Department:</b> Utilities <b>Position:</b> Still Available <b>Salary:</b> \$18,720 annually with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Bus Monitor <b>Department:</b> Education <b>Position Opens:</b> 8-9-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	
<b>Position:</b> Alligator Wrestler and Wildlife Handler (F/T & P/T) <b>Department:</b> Okalee Village <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with experience	<b>Position:</b> Environ Health Facilities Management Representative <b>Department:</b> Housing <b>Position Opens:</b> 3-22-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Project Coordinator <b>Department:</b> Utilities <b>Position Opens:</b> 5-3-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$48,000 annually with benefits	<b>IMMOKALEE</b>	
<b>Position:</b> Animal Caretaker (F/T & P/T) <b>Department:</b> Okalee Village <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$8 per hour	<b>Position:</b> Art/Music Teacher <b>Department:</b> Ahfachkee School <b>Position Opens:</b> 5-3-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Counselor II <b>Department:</b> Family Services <b>Position Opens:</b> 3-22-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> Negotiable with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Lieutenant <b>Department:</b> Seminole Police Department <b>Position Closes:</b> 8-6-04 <b>Salary:</b> \$50,529.26–\$78,387.47, depending on qualifications	
<b>Position:</b> Gift Shop Attendant/Cashier <b>Department:</b> Okalee Village <b>Position Opens:</b> 7-26-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled	<b>Position:</b> Operator Maintenance Trainee <b>Department:</b> Utilities <b>Position Opens:</b> 3-15-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$18,700 annually with benefits	<b>Position:</b> Lifeguard (P/T) <b>Department:</b> Recreation <b>Position Opens:</b> 5-4-04 <b>Position Closes:</b> When filled <b>Salary:</b> \$10 per hour	<b>Position:</b> Counselor II	

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If you have

- Been searched without your permission
- Had your car searched without permission
- Been pulled over for no reason
- Had police walk into your house without a warrant
- Had DCF or the Police try to get in your home without a warrant;

Call us now. Protect your rights.  
Once you give them up you never get them back.  
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The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should be based solely upon advertisement. Guy J. Seligman worked as a Certified Legal Intern in both the State Attorney and Public Defenders offices in Dade and Broward County; he has been in private practice for 16 years. He graduated from Nova Southeastern University Law School in 1987. and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1988.

Jobs For Tribal Citizens

Are you a Seminole tribal citizen interested in a management career in the hotel and casino industry? If so, apply with the career development program. For more information or to apply, contact Betty Jones Goosens at (954) 797-5459 or (954) 214-0163.

What is the tribal career development program?  
The tribal career development program prepares you for a career within Seminole gaming and hospitality. No prior experience in gaming and hospitality is required. Trainees learn from a blend of on-the-job technical training, specialized classroom training, seminars and workshops dedicated to management’s best practices, and work experience.

How long is the training program?  
The program lasts two or three years, depending on your background, experience and how rapidly you progress.

What are the main phases of the training?  
Phase I of the program is a one or two year initiative comprised of on-the-job training, specialized classroom training, seminars and development activities all designed to provide the participant with a variety of learning opportunities.

Phase II is an intensive, advanced one year program open to those who have successfully completed phase I. The participant becomes immersed in the business of hotel and casino operations. For each area of specialization, the participant will be working in the functional area and complete an assignment under the guidance of the manager, to solve a problem or improve the operation within that area.

What are the eligibility requirements?  
The program is open to all who meet the following three criteria: 18 years of age, Seminole tribal citizen and completed high school diploma or GED. Placement in the program will be on a first come, first serve basis.

At which location will I train?  
Placement will be at any of the following six locations: Brighton Casino, Coconut Creek Casino, Hollywood Classic Casino, Immokalee Casino, Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino-Tampa, or Seminole Police Department offices, or call (954) 967-8900. Application and resume must be received by 4:30pm on the closing date for the position.



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**Kaylee**

You are so special  
And your teens have not begun  
Not of my body  
But in my heart you're the first one  
We met jest before you turned seven  
You same into my life like an angel sent from heaven  
From the start we became home team  
Mom, you and me, that was a dream  
You would call me "Les" when you got mad  
Later that night you'd come lay with me dad  
I remember your fear of scary rides

I would say "I'll be with you till it's through"  
My promise was "I'll never let anything happen to you"  
Now you ride more than me  
A beautiful young lady you're turning out to be  
Have fun as you age another year on September 26th  
Sorry I had to miss  
Hope to be there for the next  
We'll just say wait and see  
Best wishes to my baby  
Happy birthday Kaylee

—Leslie J. Gopher

**Over**

I would say it would never be over  
I just knew she'd never give me as cold shoulder  
Her letter I must have read a thousand times  
I would study every word, memorize every line  
Once we planned to grow old together  
Hard to believe all that is through  
Said goodbye, no more me and you  
As I wrote this my eyes would water  
Thinking of our son and our daughter  
I promised myself: A family if I had, I

would keep  
Life is shallow yet waters run deep  
Lying at night, wondering where I went wrong  
Wishing somewhere in her heart I could belong  
I was who I could be, I am what I am  
She made me a much better man  
Advice to anyone who someday finds love  
Hold it tight, never let go  
Once it's over, it's painful, trust me I know

—Leslie J. Gopher

**Baby Les**

My how time flies  
Seems like only yesterday you came into my life  
Holding you, wiping tears from your eyes  
I gave your mom a kiss and said "thank you"  
Hard to believe four years have come through  
I haven't seen you in a minute

Grandma says you look fine  
Johanna writes and says you're bigger every time  
Some say you look like another me  
But I know that's not true  
Because there's only one Baby Les, and son that's you  
Wishing you a happy birthday on September 13

—Leslie J. Gopher

**The Way I Feel**

When I was younger I always felt alone  
I would walk by myself with my head hanging low  
I was always down  
Thinking to myself that nobody didn't want me around  
That is when I met the most beautiful woman in my life today  
As time passed we fell more and more in love  
Now we have three precious children  
Who I love very much  
I thank her everyday for giving me the chance to be a father  
Because I thought it would never be that way  
I love my woman and children very much  
Sometimes I think how lucky I am for coming across this woman  
Or how blessed I am  
These are times when we have our bad days  
But the love that we have for each other  
Always brings us together  
I think we are a perfect match and I never want it to end  
We have a good relationship but it can

always be better  
My children bring me a lot of good and happiness  
And that is something good for someone like me  
Children and a nice woman are very good to have  
Because joyful days and happiness it will always bring  
I love my family a whole bunch  
It makes me feel like now I have something to live for  
I know I have to fix myself and do better  
Or they might show me the door  
I love you all  
Michelle, Michaela, Lil' Myron and Mya  
And don't y'all forget that I will be there until my time has come  
We have a really good friendship  
My family and me  
I never want to lose that  
Because I don't know what I'll do or how I'll be  
I love you all very much—Michelle, Michaela, Lil' Myron and Mya

Only Me,  
—Myron Cypress

**Junk Daddy**

Out there he is they say  
Uncontrollable rage by first drink  
But normal during the day  
His impossible task can only be completed  
At the end of his first flask  
Timber is the war cry before the intoxicating crash  
Followed by belching sounds of a clown's laugh  
Should I hide?  
Yes...hide from your junk daddy  
Am I a child of the Lord—or of a drunk?  
Ninety proof through the roof  
Go to thoughts that I stunk  
Red boy with his breath smelly

Claims to be a poet like Machiavelli  
Down the hatch; brew another batch, daddy cries  
Movies tomorrow daddy says, but daddy lies  
Daddy claims that daddy tried  
And as his child I could see  
The bulls\*t in daddy's eyes  
Now as a daddy myself  
I seem to be keeping daddy's tradition alive  
This daddy is too addicted to the witch's brew  
And I seem to be now  
The daddy that the child too chooses to despise

—Markell Billie

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Happy Birthday



**Happy 12th birthday to Rowdy Osceola** on July 18. Grandpa Rudy Osceola and his wife traveled to Oklahoma for Rowdy's celebration. Rowdy sends a big hello to Grandma Louise, relatives, friends, and the Seminole Tribe.



**Happy 3rd birthday to Josiah Dee**, A very special gift to us all. We love you very much, Mom, Luis, Isaiah, Cierra, Aunt Karen, Aunt Sharon, Uncle Wes, Nana, Grandma Peg and Tine, Papa, and the rest of the Deer clan family

We would like to wish your son **Heith Lawrence** a **happy 1st birthday** on September 1. Watching you grow this past year has brought us a lot of joy. You have truly been a blessing in our life. Loving you always,  
**Mommy and Daddy**

Haskell Association  
of Alabama  
Reunion 2004

Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma of the Haskell Indian Nations University invites all Haskell alumni and friends to join us at the annual reunion. The reunion will take place Oct 29–31 at the Biltmore Hotel, 1-40 & Meridian, Oklahoma City, Okla. For more information, please contact Leon Yahola at (918) 616-3757 or Kenneth Scott at (918) 628-0969. Golfers can contact Simon Mitchell at (405) 672-7923. Please pass this information to all alumni and friends!



**Happy 23rd birthday** to our number one daddy **Raymond C. Stewart Jr.** We hope you have a fun day because you deserve it. Dad we love you with all our hearts, and hope you have many more. Love always,  
**Raylene C. Stewart, Keishawn C. Stewart, Raymond C. Stewart III, LaDonna A. Tucker**



We would like to wish **Mrs. Nettie Stewart** a very **happy birthday** on Sept. 9. We love you very much and we want you to know that whenever you need someone to talk to, or just need a good laugh to brighten up your day, we are here for you. Don't worry Grandma, Grandpa Sugarfoot is doing okay; he is in good hands. You know he remembers your birthday. He is celebrating right along with us. Have fun on your day also. Love always,  
**Your grandchildren, Raylene, Keishawn, Raymond III**

Important Information About Submissions

When submitting a birthday, baby, or marriage announcement, you must include the names of both parents, grandparents, and/or other family members. Also, please use the actual name of the person you are referring to. Include your address so we can mail your photos back to you. Thank you.

For Sale

1998 Yamaha Royal Star motorcycle. 4-Cylinder 1,300 cc with 28,000 miles. This collector's bike was last manufactured in 2000. Garage kept and includes all maintenance records. Has won many trophies and comes with leather-like lockable side bags, two seats, and two windshields. \$4,000 worth of chrome! Maintenance-free drive shaft. Black studded seats, night purple LED lights, and new tires. \$9,800 firm. Contact Nery at (954) 232-5714.



Wedding



**Alice Smith and Curtis Hardy** are to be wed at Lawtrey Correctional Institution in November of 2004. To Curtis, the man I love, you have shown me the true meaning of love; to be there for each other and put faith and love in our Heavenly Father.

**Deadline: September 10, 2004**  
**Who is eligible: Young Native American women and men who will be entering grades 9–12 this fall (and those graduates of May or August 2004 are also considered eligible) that are enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe.**

**Topic: The Role of Native Women in Agriculture: Past, Present and Future.**

**Writing Competition**

**Winners & Prize:** Five (5) semi-finalist winners will be announced in early October 2004. These five finalists will be provided an all-expense paid trip to the 2004 Inter-Tribal Agricultural Council (IAC) annual meeting. This meeting is November 1–5, 2004 in Hollywood, Florida. This year's conference will be hosted by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The grand winner will be announced at the IAC meeting during special ceremonies.

**Guidelines:**  
• 3–6 pages  
• Typed  
• One inch margin  
• Double space  
• 12 point font

**Judging Criteria:**  
1. Creativity  
2. Quality of sources  
3. Quality of grammar  
4. Spelling and punctuation  
5. Organization  
6. Length of entry  
7. Documentation of sources (3-5)  
8. Whether information relates to the topic

**Submission:** All entries must arrive no later than 5:00 p.m. September 10, 2004 at the following address. Entries may be mailed, faxed or sent as an email attachment in Microsoft Word format.  
J. Papp  
217 Agriculture Building  
A&B  
University of Arkansas  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
Fax: 479-575-5306  
Email: jpapp@uark.edu

All entries must be accompanied by a sheet containing the following information:  
• Student's name  
• Address  
• Telephone  
• Email address  
• School Name  
Email submissions:  
Must include "The Role of Native Women in Agriculture: Past, Present and Future" in the subject line of the email.

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# 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 follow:

RE proposes to construct or expand and renovate four (4) single family homes located on scattered sites in the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation within the confines of Hendry County in the State of Florida, five (5) single family homes located in a housing development in the Immokalee Seminole Indian Reservation within the confines of Collier County in the State of Florida, and four (4) single family homes in the Brighton Seminole Indian Reservation within the confines of Glades County in the State of Florida.

Funding for construction, expansion or renovation is provided by Indian Housing Block Grant Program (IHBG) for Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2002, grant number 02IT1228220 in the amount of \$87,911 and 2003, grant number 03IT1228220 in the amount of \$1,669,500, as provided for by the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA), 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) 967-3800, Extension 1751

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 IHBG funds under NAHASDA, grant numbers 02IT1228220 and 03IT1228220, awarded in FFY 2002 and 2003, to undertake the subject Project. Mitchell Cypress, 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's approval of the certification satisfies HUD's responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the RE to use program funds. 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:

- the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the RE
- the RE has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58
- the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or
- another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1054 has submitted a written finding that the Project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

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 the comments relate to, i.e. FONSI, or NOI/RROF.

## Seminole Police Department Crime Statistics

July 2004

Classification of Offenses	Total Number of Offenses	Total Value Property Stolen	Total Arrests	JUVENILES		ADULTS		RACE			
				Male	Female	Male	Female	Caucasian	Black	American Indian	Asian
Murder											
Sex Offense											
Robbery											
Aggravated Battery	8		3			2	1	1		2	
Battery	42		30			22	8	26		4	
Burglary	3	\$2,118									
Larceny	37	\$15,569	9			5	4	8	1		
Motor Vehicle Theft	9	\$200,800	1			1			1		

Classification of Offenses	Total Arrests	JUVENILES		ADULTS		RACE			
		Male	Female	Male	Female	White	Black	American Indian	Asian
DUI	6	1		4		3	1	2	
Stolen Property									
Weapons Violation									
Liquor Law Violation	3			3		3			
Miscellaneous	38			34	4	24	4	9	1
Drugs (Possession / Sale)	19	1		11	7	13	2	4	

Narcotics Confiscated During Arrests		
Drug Type	Amount	Value
Marijuana (grams)	283.2	\$1429
Cocaine (grams)	9.5	\$500
Crack Cocaine (grams)	1.5	\$175
Alprazolam / Xanax (pills)	1	\$
Oxycodone (pills)	11	\$33
Oxycontin (pills)		
Crystal Methamphetamines	0.5	\$25
Other Narcotics (pills)	4.5	\$50

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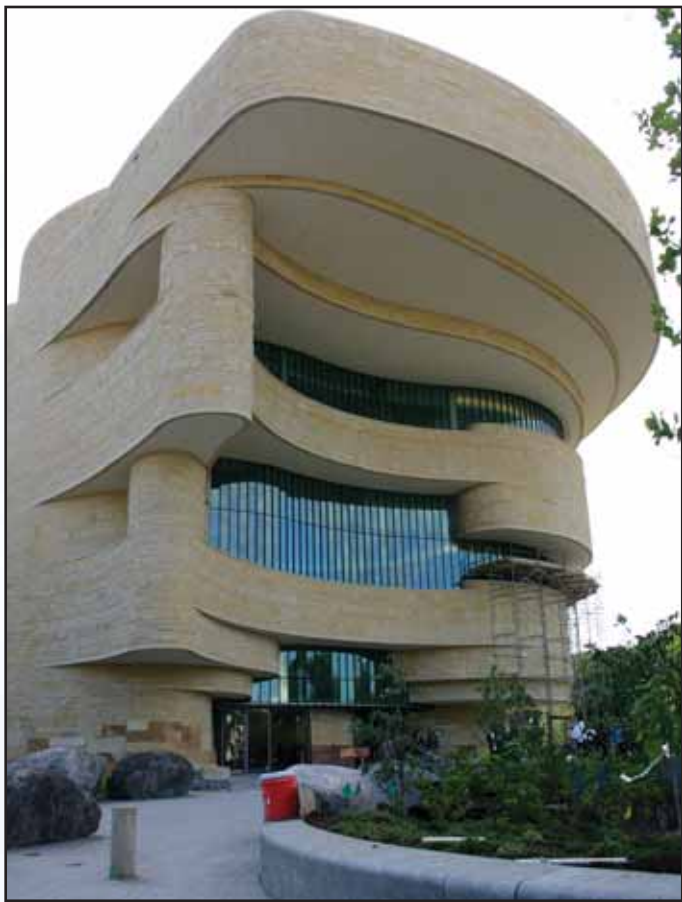
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Adelsa Williams  
The soon-to-be completed National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC. It is slated to open on September 21.

## ❖ NAJA

Continued from page 1

Journalists, the National Association of Black Journalists, along with NAJA held their own individual board meetings, banquets and elections.

NAJA held several workshops as well as signature events, such as the NAJA Awards Gala, NAJA Member's General Assembly, National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Reception and NAJA's 20th Anniversary celebration.

During the National Museum of the American Indian reception, NAJA members got a chance to tour the soon to be completed 250,000-square foot space and enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a series of films. The museum is a part of the Smithsonian Institution, and is slated to open to the public September 21. For more information, please visit <http://www.nmai.si.edu>.

The NAJA Awards Gala kicked off with a silent auction of Native American artifacts, books, paintings, and other items, followed by dinner, speeches and finally the presentation of awards. At this event Native American students and journalists are recognized and honored for their efforts in the professional journalism field or academic achievements. Non-native journalists working in a tribal media organization also participate in several categories during the competition.

The *Seminole Tribune* took home a total of three awards. Virginia Mitchell, Editor-in-Chief, took second place, in the twice a

month category for newspaper general excellence, Melissa Sherman, Graphic Designer, won second place for general excellence of the Tribune's website, [www.semtribe.com/tribune](http://www.semtribe.com/tribune). Tribal citizen, Iretta Tiger, Reporter, won honorable mention in the individual photo feature/multiple pictures category for a series of photos taken during the grand opening of the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood.

Congratulations to the communications department for the hard work and dedication in putting together the newspaper; teamwork is the key. The *Seminole Tribune's* excellence shined at this year's as well as other years during the NAJA/UNITY celebration.



Adelsa Williams  
NAJA President Patty Talahongya speaking to NAJA members during the banquet.



Adelsa Williams  
Tribal citizen and former *Seminole Tribune* employee, Alexandra Frank (center) at the NAJA Awards Banquet.

## Bush, Kerry Speak to Minority Journalists at UNITY Conference

### Mark Trahan and Lori Edmo-Suppah represent NAJA on panels

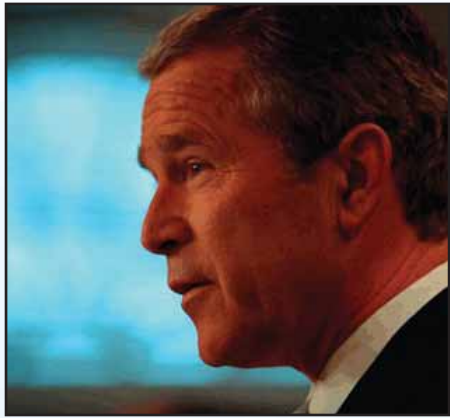
By Shelley Marmor

WASHINGTON, DC — The UNITY 2004 conference brought out some big name speakers, including Secretary of State Colin Powell and Richard D. Parsons, Chairman and CEO of AOL Time Warner.

However, the two speakers who drew the biggest crowds were President George W. Bush and Democratic presidential nominee Senator John Kerry. Both spoke at the Washington Convention Center, Bush on Thursday August 6, and Kerry on Friday August 7.

The speakers opened by discussing their respective platforms and plans for the future of the country. Bush and Kerry also both spoke about the topics they have all along the campaign trail—terrorism, education and taxes—however, they also answered questions proposed to them by a panel of minority journalists representing the four organizations the com-

prise UNITY Journalists of Color, Inc. Mark Trahan, from the Shoshone-Bannock tribe in Idaho, represented the Native American Journalist Association (NAJA) on the Bush panel. Trahan is the editorial page editor at the *Seattle-Post Intelligencer*.



www.georgewbush.com  
President George W. Bush

"Mr. President, most school kids learn about government from the context of city, county, state and federal, and of course tribal governments are not part of that at all," Trahan said. "You have been a governor and a president, and you have the unique experience of looking at it from two directions."

"What do you think tribal sovereignty means in the twenty-first century, and how do we resolve conflicts between tribes and federal

ties."

The previous day, presidential hopeful Kerry also briefly addressed tribal sovereignty, saying he would "restore respect for tribal sovereignty." He also pledged, if elected, to appoint Native Americans to key position in his cabinet.

He also took a question from the NAJA representative Lori Edmo-Suppah, former editor of the *Sho-Ban News*. Edmo-Suppah, also of the from the Shoshone-Bannock tribe in Idaho, asked if Kerry thought Native American tribes should have to get authorization from the state to receive homeland security funding.

He responded: "Tribes were left out of the Homeland Security Act of 2003, despite efforts to include language that would have recognized the government-to-government relationship. As a result, tribes must go through state and local governments to obtain funding for bio-terrorism, emergency preparedness and other critical programs... Some [funds] need to go directly to the tribe."

Bush.

The president replied: "Tribal sovereignty means that; sovereignty. You've been given sovereignty, and you're viewed as a sovereign entity, and therefore, the relationship between the federal government and tribes is one between sovereign enti-



www.johnkerry.com  
Senator John Kerry



Adelsa Williams  
Native drummers opened the NAJA awards ceremony.



Adelsa Williams  
The National Association of Hispanic Journalists, one of the four UNITY organizations, hosted a salsa party that was open to all UNITY members to attend.

## UNITY Journalists of Color, Inc. Conference

### Native American Journalists Association sponsors 'Covering Native America' and other journalism seminars

By Shelley Marmor

WASHINGTON, DC — The UNITY conference's first event kicked off on Friday July 30, with the Asian American Journalist Association's (AAJA) J Camp, a journalism camp for students and prospective journalists. This was the first event of the 10 day long conference, with about a hundred other events that would follow.

UNITY, Inc. is an umbrella organization that represents the Native American Journalist Association (NAJA), the National Association of

Black Journalists, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists as well as the AAJA. UNITY 2004 was the largest UNITY conference to date, in addition to being the largest journalism conference ever, with estimates of up to 7,000 attendees.

Many attendees arrived to the conference on Wednesday August 4, the first official date of the conference. Registration began at 8 a.m., and many seminars followed. Some of these seminars included "Covering Changing Communities: A Leadership Seminar," and "Who Is An American?—A 'Let's Do It Better!' Workshop on Race and Ethnicity."

NAJA coordinated three tribal media institute workshops on Wednesday and two on Thursday. These two seminars "Covering Native America" and "Free Press in Indian Country" were designed to help non-native reporters when they cover stories on native reservations.

Panelists included Paul DeMane, Managing Editor and CEO of the newspaper *News From Indian Country*, Derrick Henry, Internet News Manager of the online news site *Newsday.com* and Frank J. King III, Publisher/Editor of the newspaper *The Native Voice*.

DeMane opened the "Covering Native America" panel saying "this is a very broad subject." He reminded the journalists in the audience that Indian Country extends from the tip of South

American all the way up to the Arctic Circle, and includes many different types of people.

He said that too many non-native journalists rely on the same few sources, namely Vernon Bellcourt, Director of International Affairs for the American Indian Movement Grand Governing Council. However, he said that he should not necessarily represent all of Native America.

"It's easy to call Vern Bellcourt up at any time," DeMane said. "He has something to say about everything. He will say something about everything. And he tends to be very colorful in whatever he has to say. But it doesn't necessarily reflect the political opinion of the tribal leadership from the top down... It doesn't represent anything except Vern Bellcourt's opinion."

He instead said journalists should consult the National Congress of American Indians, an organization that actually does represent several hundred native tribes and can legitimately speak on their behalf. He also said that Bellcourt is a good source on many native issues, however, he stressed that opinion should not be the only one being released to the public in the mainstream media.

King told a story about a non-native woman he knew who was covering a story on a reservation. He said the reporter brought up some issues she has with her experience on the reservation with that tribe's chairman; saying she thought the chairman was avoiding her questions because he did not look her in the eye.

King said he told the woman that it is customary for members to no look married women in the eye, and since the reporter was married, the chairman did not make eye contact. "I had explained that to her, that that's the reaction you get from some of the older Indian leaders who grew up around those customs," King said.

He said learning specific tribal customs before going to the reservation will help non-native reporters get the information they need. He said these journalists should keep in mind that Native Americans, though American, were raised



Adelsa Williams  
UNITY President and Long Island, N.Y. *Newsday.com* editor, Ernest Sotomayor, spoke to NAJA members at the banquet.

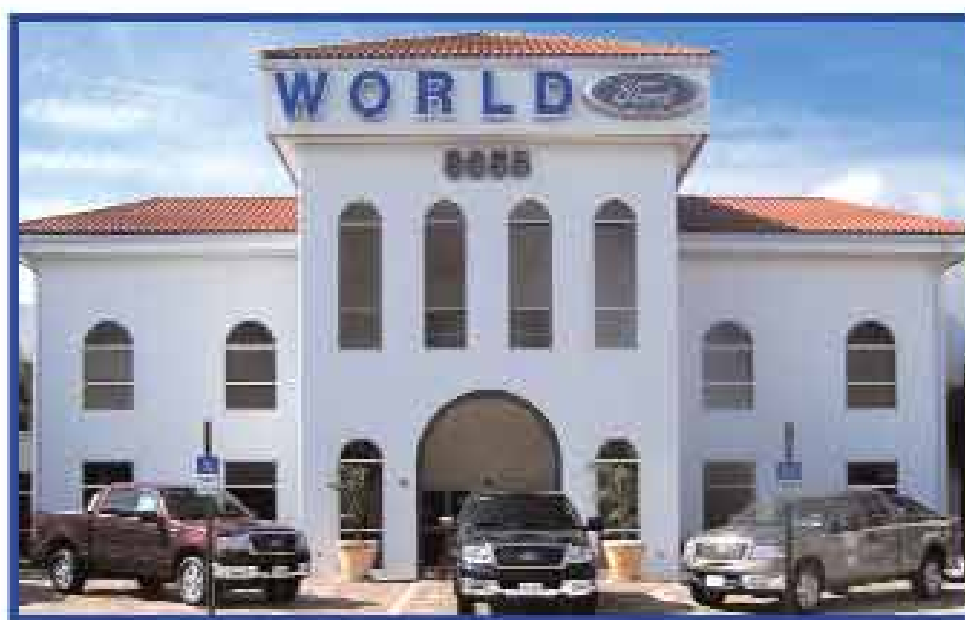


Adelsa Williams  
Panelists (L-R) Frank J. King III, Derrick Henry and Paul DeMane led the discussion during the Covering Native America seminar.



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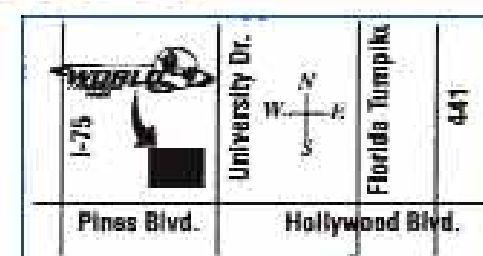
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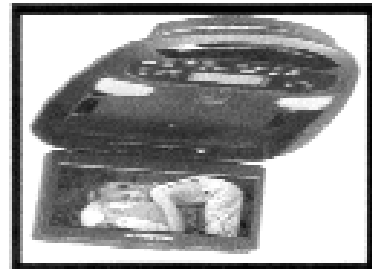


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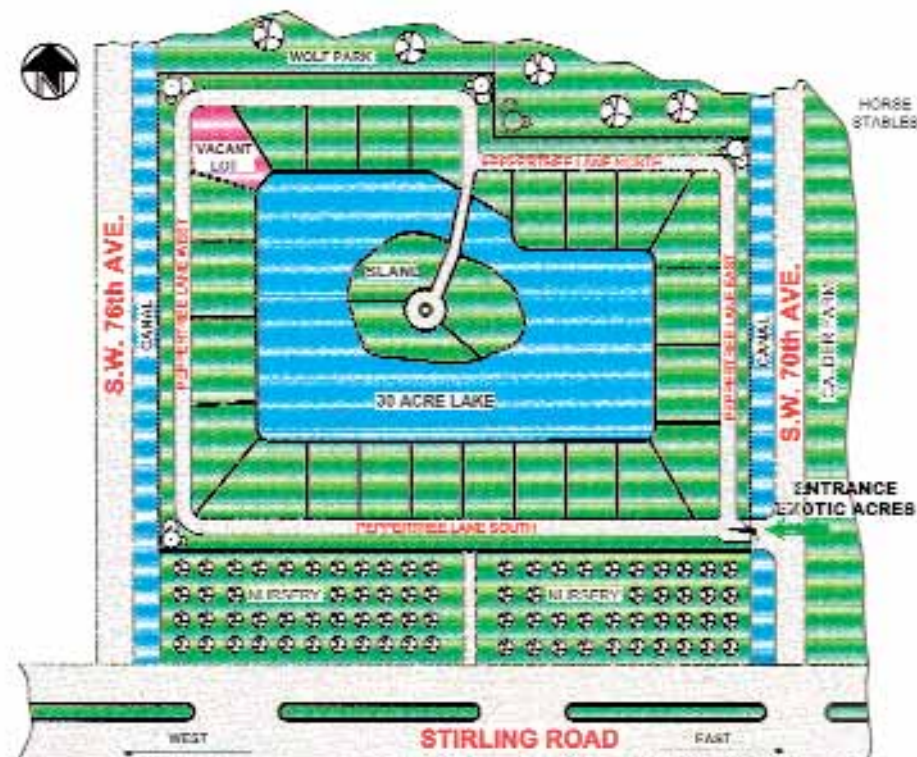
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Fifth grader Merari Martinez's watercolor painting of Seminole Cow Hunter won first prize in the Florida Historical Art Contest.

## Seminole Painting Wins Notoriety for Lake Worth Student

By Tommy Benn

**LAKE WORTH, FL** — The Historical Society of Palm Beach County recently announced that a painting of a Seminole Cow Hunter, painted by Merari Martinez, as a winning entry in their Florida Historical Art Contest. Martinez is a fifth grade student of South Grade Elementary School in Lake Worth, Fla.

The contest was open to all 116,000 Palm Beach County fifth grade students. Thirty winning entries were chosen to be reproduced on eight-by-ten foot vinyl panels, which will cover the restoration fence around the 1916 Palm Beach County Courthouse during its construction restoration in 2004 and 2005.

Seminole calendars, post cards and Seminole art collected over the years and donated by Josephine Benn and photos by her son Thom Benn were used as visual sources of Seminole history by South Grade Elementary fifth grade students to create six different Seminole paintings. Of all the paintings completed by students, Martinez's watercolor painting of a Seminole Cow Hunter was chosen for submission to the Historical Society's contest, by the principal Keith Oswald of Lake Worth's South Grade Elementary and the schools' art teacher Rebecca Hinson.

The Palm Beach fifth graders had various subject matter to chose their art topic from, including Florida pre- and post-Ice Age, early Native American (pre-Columbus), colonial Florida, the Seminole Indian Wars, the Civil War in Florida, historical light-

the Arts during her interview for admission to the prestigious school as a sixth grader. The mission of the school is to help educate the Palm Beach County future artists in various disciplines of the art world, communications, art, dance and music.

Admission to the Bak Middle School of the



Nerlande Carenarc's watercolor of Seminole Cow Hunter.

Arts, a magnet middle school in Palm Beach County, is extremely competitive. Students undergo a rigorous application and interview process. Only about twenty-five percent of applicants are accepted. Martinez received news of her acceptance recently and she credits her Seminole painting for helping her being accepting into the school. A dream comes true for the young woman, a chance for her to develop her Artistic skills and receive an excellent education at the same time.

A print of Martinez's Seminole Cow Hunter was also chosen by the Palm Beach County School Board to be added to their art collection. Another print of the painting will be displayed in the gallery of the *Palm Beach Post* newspaper. Another print of the Seminole Cow Hunter is currently on display at Lake Worth City Hall.

In May, Stanlo Johns, a Seminole tribal citizen visited the South Grade Elementary School to share Seminole culture and heritage first hand with the fifth grade student body. He was greatly received by the young students who enjoyed his sharing of his life experience as a Native American and member of the Seminole Tribe of Florida growing up in and around the Lake Okeechobee area, on Phillip and



South Grade Elementary Frances Gomez's representation of Seminole Cow Hunter.

houses and some thirty-plus other subjects of Florida's vast history to chose from.

Martinez also submitted a print of her Seminole Cow Hunter to the Bak Middle School of

Stewart Iglrharts' Bluefield Ranch.

Johns explained the importance of an education to the young audience and the importance of education and the many doors of life it can open.

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# Treasurer's Office Hosts Party for Wachovia Bank Executives

**By Felix DoBosz**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — On Wednesday August 11, Tribal Treasurer Mike D. Tiger, along with other employees from the treasurer's office, met with a small group of Wachovia bank executives at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. They focused on reinforcing the partnership and improving the great relationship that Wachovia Bank shares with the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

A couple dozen people gathered around small tables in the luxurious meeting room for this party. They talked about getting to know one another as they sipped beverages and took turns eating the delicious little morsels that everyone there seemed to enjoy sampling.

Kent Ellert, Broward County President of Wachovia banks, attended the meeting.

"We are gathered here in an ever growing and equally beneficial relationship with the tribe for which we are very grateful," he said. "In addition to that, I also am a member of the Florida diversity council for Wachovia Bank. Our diversity council does the mission by the awareness, education, and skills training found understanding cultural differences within our tribe. We have been in business for almost five years, we do a number of projects around our mission, one of which we have twice a year celebration specifically identify differences within our community. This fall we are educating 10,000 employees in Florida concerning American Indian tribes.

Mike Tiger, as a great partner, has agreed to help us develop a deeper more complete understanding of the cultural identity and issues facing tribe members today. It's our view that only through this kind of partnership can we get the right information to create the proper awareness...so we're just downright excited about the chance to come, more aware ourselves of the diversity council members and improve our journey to take back to 10,000 employees. Tonight we are having fellowship, and a dinner, and we are going to see a couple of movies that Mike Tiger is involved with and is sponsoring. Tomorrow we're going to Big Cypress and learn about the history and current cultural activities and the environmental issues. We're excited, the people that are with me represent all areas of our company and have traveled from as far away as Jacksonville, Tallahassee, Tampa,

Naples, Palm Beach, Miami and even Punta Gorda to be here tonight."

The name Wachovia is very interesting. It is derived from a valley in Europe that settlers from North Carolina came from more than 150 years ago, located in the Alsace-Lorraine region in France. In the Vaca valley, the people were called "Vacovians," which loosely translated in English came out Wachovians.

Bob Helms, CEO of Wachovia's Florida banks said, "We would like to play a bigger role with the tribe, not only financial, but expand and support similar interests by referrals of business and cultural exchanges. This includes more job hiring and training of Seminoles citizens. We are thrilled to be here at the Hard Rock Casino and conference center and are excited to be supporting this property and its corporate entity."

Mike Tiger said he was glad everyone was here to see the movie presentation that Seminole broadcasting had put together. The movie showed the history and origins of the Seminole people and there culture through interviews with prominent Seminole leaders of the past and present. They took turns describing their own personal life struggles that they had faced with their families. After the short film ended showing the evolution of the tribe, everyone agreed that the film had been very educational and inspiring by providing more insights into how the tribe originated and struggled for survival against tremendous odds. Later, all the

Wachovia bank executives were invited to attend a nice dinner at the Council Oak restaurant.

The next day, Mike Tiger and his staff led the Wachovia group by charter bus to Big Cypress for a first hand look at what the Seminole Tribe is all about. The group toured Billie Swamp Safari; they went on a swamp buggy ride into the Everglades and looked at a lot of wildlife in its natural habitat. They also got the grand tour treatment at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and they took in the new nature trail boardwalk.

Guides lectured about the different subjects being viewed and answered questions that the guests had on the tour. The outing was cut short due to lightening storms in the area and everyone returned to the bus for the quick trip back to Hollywood.



**Hollywood Tribal Treasurer Mike D. Tiger addresses Wachovia representatives.**



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# 2004 Miss Florida Seminole and Junior Miss Seminole Princess Pageant



Excited 2004-2005 Junior Miss Seminole Krystle Young (left) and Miss Florida Seminole Jo Jo Osceola (right).



Miss Seminole contestants model traditional dresses during the princess pageant.

## Jo Jo Osceola Crowned Miss Seminole; Krystle Young, Junior Miss Seminole

Photos and Story By Adelsa Williams

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Seminole Tribe of Florida hosted the 47th Annual Junior Miss and Miss Florida Seminole Princess Pageant on Saturday August 14. For days, six young Seminole ladies competed fiercely to be considered for the crown, while being closely watched by a group of judges.

Judging began at early hours of the morning as participants gathered for a group breakfast.

The pageant committee members, chaperones and volunteers then steered contestants to their next scheduled destination. Contestants were transported in grand style by a limousine driver, who made many stops at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, where the participants roomed at the end of each day of the competition.

On the first day of the competition, contestants attended an orientation where the pageant's staff was introduced and committee members went over the entire pageant itinerary. During orientation, contestants learned the proper dress codes, punctuality and certain little nick picks the judges would look for such as body language and poise.

Each day, contestants practiced their walks, speeches and performances at the Hollywood office auditorium where they were assisted by various stage

coaches.

Former Mr. Seminole, Brian Zepeda, assisted in the public speaking aspect of the competition as he discussed with contestants typical discomforts they would encounter while on stage, such as emotional tension and physical discomfort. He coached contestants on how to stay focused and keep their concentration.

After a hard day of practice, contestants were treated to several entertaining dinners. The first dinner was a social gathering and contestants were not judged. The group boarded the Jungle Queen® Riverboat cruise and went to a remote island where they enjoyed a dinner and show.

The next two events were held at the Hard Rock's ballroom, one occasion was themed a Hawaiian luau style and the other was the popular Mardi Gras.

Contestants also enjoyed a makeup session with a Mary Kay® consultant and a Target® run.

Judges conducted individual personal interviews with the contestants prior to the actual pageant.

Wanda Bowers, a former Miss Seminole and current princess pageant chairwoman, spoke briefly about the history of the pageant.

Emcee Brian Zepeda along with co-host and also former Miss Seminole Suraiya Smith did the introduction of the princess committee members and volunteers, followed by the introduction of tribal officials.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Vice Chairman Moses Osceola, Brighton Representative Roger Smith and Trail Liaison William Osceola shared a couple of welcoming remarks with the audience. Cypress presented medals as a token of appreciation to former Seminole Princesses in attendance as they were called up to the stage to be recognized.

The reigning 2003-2004 Miss Florida Seminole Cherelee K. Hall and Junior Miss Seminole Brittany Smith shared a couple of welcoming remarks as well. Hall acknowledged the hard work and dedication the princess committee demonstrated during the week of the pageant and also congratulated contestants for their never ending effort.

"It takes a lot of effort to compete, I cannot stress that enough," said Hall.

As part of the application process, each contestant was asked to write an essay on the topic of their choice and also tell why they want to become Junior Miss or Miss Seminole.

Elrod Bowers, with the Seminole sports management department, did the introductions of contestants as they modeled across the stage arrayed in Seminole dresses. They then briefly introduced themselves and as they continued their walk, Bowers

See PRINCESS, page 22



Junior Miss and Miss Seminole contestants pose for pictures at the Hard Rock Hotel pool.



Contestant Jennifer Chalfant at the Mardi Gras dinner.



Miss Seminole contestant Danette Bowers performs her talent-storytelling.

Oliver Wareham



2003-2004 Miss Seminole Cherelee Hall poses with Mardi Gras dinner entertainers.





Seminole Nation of Oklahoma royalty with former Miss Seminole Cherelee Hall (center).



Miss Florida USA Melissa Witek (center) assisted with judging the pageant.



Miss Seminole contestant Christine McCall enjoys a dance with her mother Wanda Bowers.



Chairman Mitchell Cypress dances the night away during the luau dinner.



Princess Committee Chairwoman Wanda Bowers (left) instructs the contestants during the luau dinner.

# Princess

Continued from page 21

read a biography of each contestant based on their essay.

Following the introductions, the program moved on to the modeling portion, where contestants modeled their tradition Seminole dress. The co-host described the color and type of the dress and style and also announced the designers, most of which were members of the contestant's family.

Cheryl V. Dixon, Miss National Congress of American Indians 2003-2004 was the motivational speaker for the evening. She is a 19-year-old proud member of the Pueblo of Isleta, located in New Mexico. She is entering her junior year at the University of New Mexico, where she plans to double major in Biology and English and one day become a doctor.

Dixon congratulated all the contestants and shared a few words of advice. She said she hopes to motivate and encourage youth to pursue their educational endeavors.

"There are several people who believe in us to carry on our traditions and tribal voice in contemporary America so that we can be able to carry on our culture and defend our rights that we worked so long to establish," said Dixon. "Education is the key to many doors and opportunities; it is our ticket in this competitive world. Life is not always perfect, but regardless, never put your dreams, goals and aspirations by the way side."

Contestants proceeded with their individual selective presentations of talent. They answered impromptu questions that were specifically regarding their Seminole culture.

After both farewell speeches by the 2003-2004 Princesses, the talent and Miss Congeniality winners were announced.

Last but not least, the new Junior Miss and Miss Seminole were announced.

Krystle Young, Panther clan, was crowned Junior Miss Seminole as she triumphed over Jennifer Diane Chalfant and Amber Anochee Craig, both from the Brighton reservation. Young is the daughter of Brenda Cypress and Steve Young, and resides in the Hollywood reservation.

Young said she wanted to become Junior Miss Seminole because it would be a great experience and a chance to learn a lot of new and important things that would benefit her in life. She loves to meet new people and visit places that have great educational values.

She said, "Without my family, I would have nothing that's why they are the most important thing in my life, my point being, that all good things are sometimes right under your nose."

The 2004-2005 Miss Seminole winner is Jo Jo Osceola, Bird clan, from the Hollywood reservation. Her proud parents are Virginia and Joe Dan Osceola.

Runner ups were Danette Bowers from Brighton and Christine McCall from Hollywood.

Osceola said she wanted to become Miss Seminole to have the opportunity to build bridges between cultures and help others understand her culture. She wants to change the negative views some may have of Native Americans.

"My long term goals are to be content with who I am and to remain ambitious throughout my life," Osceola said. "I plan to attend college, specialize in American Indian law and become an attorney to help improve my tribe."

Acknowledgements to the princess committees and volunteers are as follow:

See PRINCESS, page 23



Guest judge Miss Indian World Delana Smith.



Junior Miss Seminole contestant Amber Craig.



Princess committee members make preparations for the pageant events.





Chairman Mitchell Cypress recognized some of the past 46 Seminole princesses who attended this year’s pageant.

## Princess

Continued from page 22

Wanda Bowers, Chairwoman, Salina Snow Dorgan, Vice Chairwoman and Tabulation Coordinator, Priscilla Sayen, Committee Treasurer, Suraiya Smith, Pageant Coordinator, Holly Tiger, Stage Coordinator, Connie Frank Gowen, judge’s gifts, Lawana Niles, Chaperone, Alice Billie, Chaperone, Josephine North, Tabulator, Diane Buster, Tabulator, Brian Zepeda, Jeanette Cypress, Danielle Jumper

Frye and Desiree Jumper.  
Also, the judges: James Grant, Chairman of the Otoe-Missouria tribe, Melissa Witek, Miss Florida USA, Alyssa Burhans, Miss NCAI Coordinator, Delana Smith, Miss Indian World 2004 and Melanie Mathews, Miss Indian World Coordinator.

Special Thanks to the communications, broadcasting, Seminole sports management and Seminole police departments, The Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Marcellus Osceola Jr. with Arrow Limousine, First Place Trophies, Event Source Productions, Hooray’s from Hollywood, Inc. and Sara Summy.



Miss Indian World Coordinator and guest judge Melanie Mathews enjoys the luau.



Krystle Young gets crowned the 2004–2005 Junior Miss Seminole by former Junior Miss Seminole Brittany Smith.



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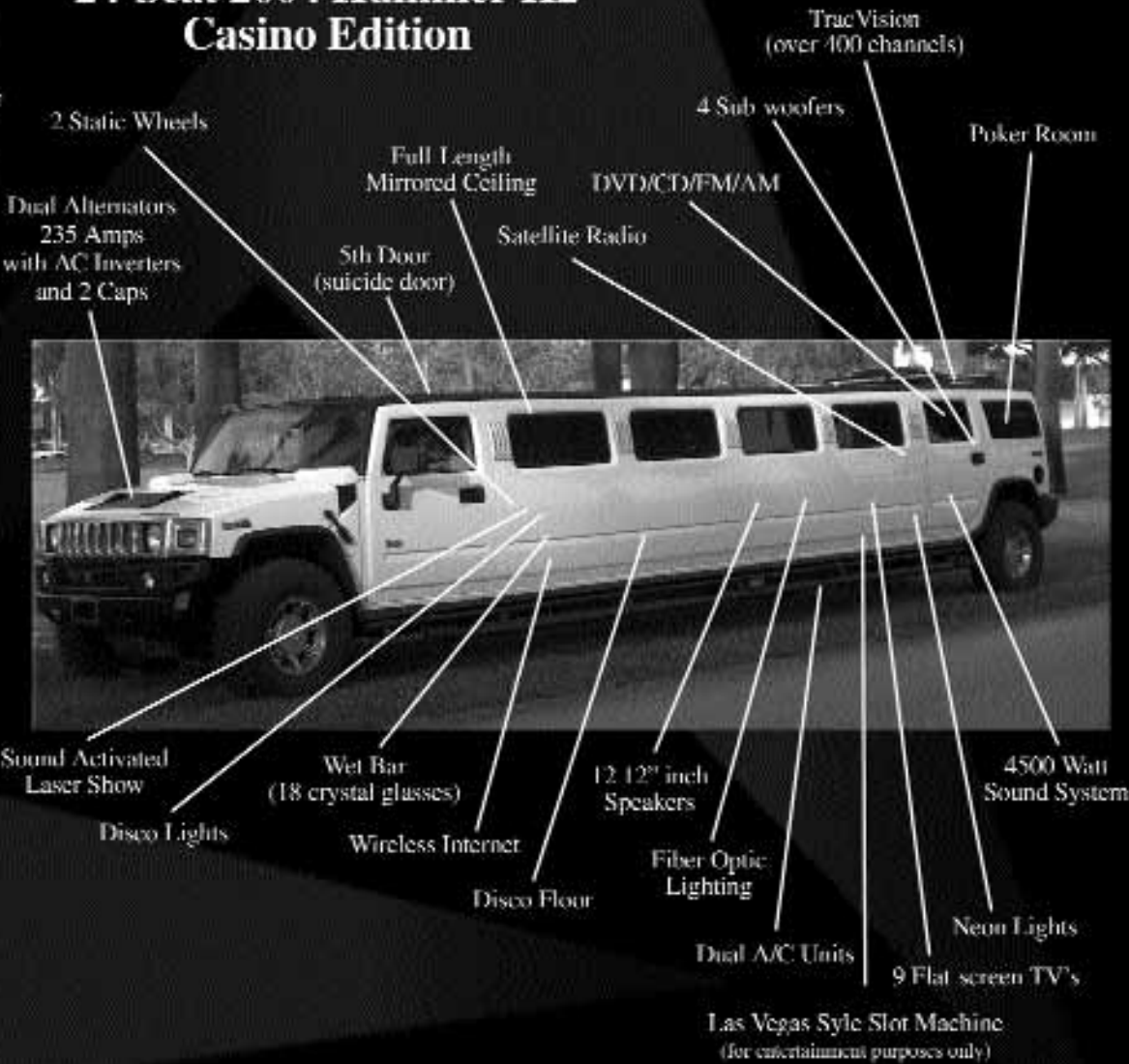
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Christine McCall arrayed in her traditional Seminole dress.



Luau dancers entertain the pageant attendees during a dinner on Thursday August 12.



Elrod Bowers introduced contestants during the modeling portion.



Princess pageant contestants shared dances and smiles.



Contestant Jennifer Chalfant represented Brighton.



Miss Florida USA Melissa Witek was a pageant judge.



2003-2004 Junior Miss Seminole Brittany Smith says her farewells.



Krystle Young displays her patchwork-making talent.



Miss Seminole contestant Danette Bowers from Brighton.