

The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

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Brighton Youth Conference



The Thursday night talent show was enjoyed by the Youth Conference attendees.

By Paula Cassels

ORLANDO — The 7th Annual Brighton Youth Conference was held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel & Inns on the week of August 5-9.

The welcome committee of Alice Sweat, Jenny Johns, Salina Dorgan, Sarah Sampson, Dawn Ferrittia, Lonnie Gore and Lois J. Smith distributed conference packets, agenda, Talent Show information and Family Quest papers to conference attendees as they entered the hotel lobby. After signing in with the welcome committee, the attendees also received towels and tote bags.

On Friday night, the opening dinner featured a dedication to Smawley Holata, a tireless volunteer at past youth conferences who recently passed away. Her mother, Alice Snow, gave a prayer in Creek to start off the event's buffet dinner.

After dinner, Brighton Council Representative John Wayne Huff, Sr. said

when Holata worked in his office she always had a smile and said "Good Morning" or "How are you doing?" when she came to work.

Huff, who had just returned from the North American Indigenous Games that morning, wanted to thank the committee and everyone who helped organize the Brighton youth conference.

Huff said he would like to see more young people compete in the indigenous games in Canada. He knows the Seminole Tribe has good athletes and felt it would help make the tribe stronger if more athletes would participate.

Huff noted that the Adults and Children's classes sounded like everyone would have a good time and thanked the conference organizers for inviting him to speak at the dinner.

Brighton Board Representative

See YOUTH, page 5

Board Approves Charter Amendment Resolution

By Elrod Bowers

HOLLYWOOD — The Board of Directors, at the Aug. 15 meeting, approved a resolution which seeks the ratification, amendment and modification of Article VI- Section 3(b), Section 4, Section 5, Section 6, Section 7, Section 10; Article VII and Article X of the Board Corporate Charter.

The amendments, and the amendment process, were explained to Tribal citizens by Tribal and BIA officials in series of community meetings on the Hollywood, Big Cypress and Brighton reservations.

"What we have here is the result of those meetings," said Jim Edenso,

See Board, page 6

Setting Priorities

Setting priorities means that something which must be done, or taken care of first, takes precedence over everything else.

There are many responsible and upstanding individuals in the Seminole Tribe who have not one, but many priorities. They set, and accomplish, many small goals day in and day out for a healthier environment.

Isn't this a healthy habit to instill in our Seminole children to insure that they will succeed later in life?

Especially with all the uncertainties that can devour them now. Dropping out of school, experimenting with every evil created to destroy life, and the old peer pressure syndrome.

Our children only deny themselves of their true potential when they take these routes. They think they know it all when they turn eighteen, but do they really know how to survive without the proper guidance?

Young Tribal members, your mentors, role models or parents will not be the ones destroying your life. To the contrary, these are the people who will encourage you constantly, praying that you will amount to more than someone who just depends on a monthly stipend to live upon.

Our elders gathered to make a less hectic life for our Tribe as a whole. To work, live and love each other in a powerful community of respectable

human beings. Their hopes for us were not to settle for less, but know we are capable of more.

We have to use our common sense and talents to accomplish our goals, there is no short cut.

Visions were seen years ago for this nation to stumble, fall and rise again. In our generation, the Tribe is still striving to remain unconquered.

Therefore, think twice before

you think that the Tribe is falling apart. Instead, talk with the many clan members who have seen it all and can remind you that we are stronger than ever.

The same applies when you have been hired to work for your Tribe. Take pride in your performance, help those that approach you.

Any advantages you take to benefit only yourself must come to a halt, because you might think that you aren't hurting anyone, but you are.

You can hide your actions for a while, but a vicious tongue or a poor attitude is always a sure sign that something is going on.

It's not very exciting to try to do the right thing, and it is easy to give in. But it's all about character, taking responsibility for our actions, good or bad. We all know people who will continue to blame everyone else but themselves.

Striving for a better tomorrow takes responsibility and commitment, and it can start now. Are you afraid?



Editor's Thoughts

By Virginia Mitchell



2002 - 2003 Title holders: Miss Seminole Ida F. Osceola of Tamiami Trail and Junior Miss Seminole Mary Huff of Brighton.

Ida F. Osceola Crowned Miss Seminole

By Alexandra Frank

HOLLYWOOD — A year has come and gone since the last princess pageant was held to determine who would represent the tribe as Miss Seminole and Junior Miss Seminole.

This year, nine contestants entered. Two contestants vied for Miss Seminole and seven for the Jr. Miss Seminole title.

The nine young women represented Trail, and the Hollywood, Big Cypress, Immokalee, and Brighton reservations. The contestants' ages ranged from 12 to 23 years old.

During the week of the Princess Pageant, the nine contestants spent the better part of three days with each other, three judges, their families, and the princess committee at the Holiday Inn in Hollywood.

On their first evening together, the contestants were treated to a poolside dinner. At the beginning of dinner, the contestants were introduced to everyone in attendance.

For tribal officials and judges, this was a chance to wish all contestants well and congratulate them for entering the prestigious event.

The evening also featured a luau, which got the contestants, along with judges and well-wishers, up and dancing around. Thus, the contest weekend started off on a festive note that everyone seemed to enjoy.

On Friday, the contestants were practicing their entrances onto the stage, where they would perform their talent demonstration on Saturday night.

The three Princess Pageant judges, Edmond Nevaquaya, Donnie Hamilton, and Miss Indian World Tia Smith, toured the Hollywood Reservation on Friday. They were also treated to lunch at Benihana's by outgoing Miss Seminole Mercedes Osceola and mother, Virginia Osceola.

During their tour, the three judges visited the Anhinga Museum and the Okalee Village and Museum. All three enjoyed the tour and had a chance to purchase Seminole arts and crafts to remember their visit to the Hollywood Reservation.

However, the day was far from over. A formal dinner was held for the contestants at the Tower Club Banquet in downtown Ft. Lauderdale on Friday night.

See PRINCESS, page 12

Tribal Fair Committee Budget Meeting Held

By Alexandra Frank

HOLLYWOOD — On August 14, the Seminole Tribal Fair Committee held a meeting in order to approve the prior month's minutes and to collect budgets for the upcoming 2003 Tribal Fair.

The Committee received budget proposals from the Clothing Contest, Tribal Fair & Pow Wow, and the Fine Arts Contest.

Two programs that have yet to submit their budget proposals were the Arts & Crafts Contest and the Recreation Department.

One important topic discussed

was that many people still ask if the 2003 Tribal Fair will be held and, if so, will it be at same location at the intersection of Stirling and 441.

The answer was that, so far as anyone on the Tribal Fair Committee or the Board knows, the 2003 Tribal Fair will still be held, and at the same location.

An increase in ticket prices was announced at the last meeting.

However, clarification was needed regarding the ticket prices for children. During the weekend, the admission will be \$4.00 per child.

Policemen, Firemen, and

Servicemen will again be admitted free on Thursday and Friday. During the weekend, all three groups will pay only half price to enter. They must be currently employed or on active duty to benefit from this offer.

David Dehass said that any new budgets, proposals or business must be submitted at the next Tribal Fair Committee meeting, which will be held on September 25 in the Auditorium lobby of the Tribal Headquarters building in Hollywood.

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President Mitchell Cypress with the Seminole Tribe Color Guard.

Seminoles Visit Yakama Nation

Submitted by Jenny Johns
WASHINGTON — On June 5-10, tribal members and the Seminole Color Guard visited the Yakama Nation in Washington state.

The visit was coordinated by Dolly Ganelas and Jenny Johns, two old friends who were reunited last year in Montana 30 or so years after graduating from boarding school.

The focus of the visit was the

riors, and after the meeting were treated to a huge lunch at their Tribal Council lodge. The afternoon was filled with tours of their enterprises, including the forestry division, where everyone donned a hard hat to see their logging industry.

On Saturday, President/Acting Chairman Mitchell Cypress was the Grand Marshal of the parade. Accompanying him was the Brighton Princess, Jenna McDuffie. The Seminole Color Guard, along with the Yakama warriors, carried flags.



Cowboys Justin Gopher, Alex and Koty Brugh competed in the rodeo event.

45th annual Treaty Days Celebration, an event which celebrates the time when the Yakamas became a nation.

Upon our arrival, we were treated to a “welcome” barbecue. However, there were no chicken or ribs, the menu was all-salmon, with all sorts of side dishes and desserts. The next day, we were invited for breakfast at the Heritage Culture Center.

Afterwards, we visited with the Yakama Tribal Council and Yakama war-

put on a great performance for the crowd. The group that attended were Timmy Johns, Billy Cypress, Paul Bowers, Clarence Johnson, Alice Sweat, James Sweat, Stevie Brantley, Justin Gopher, Koty Brugh, Jenny Johns, Jenna McDuffie, Nancy McInturff, and grandson.

Thank you to Tribal Officials Mitchell Cypress, Alex Johns Elaine Aguilar and John Wayne Huff, Sr.



Hollywood Tribal Members and Recreation Staff.

Seminoles End Summer At Islands Of Adventure

By Paula Cassels
HOLLYWOOD — On Aug. 23 at 6:00 a.m., the commercial bus sitting in front of the Seminole Gymnasium was filling up fast, and the parking lot was full of tribal members ready for a long trip to Islands of Adventure.

School was starting in three days and the kids didn’t want to miss the last field trip of the summer: a two-day, one-night field stay at the Hard Rock Hotel in Orlando. Two sleepy tribal members Eco and Silver Wolf were so excited about starting their adventure on Friday morning, they were unable to sleep the night before.

After a 3-4 hour drive, the commercial bus pulled up to the Hard Rock Hotel at 10:30 a.m. The rooms weren’t ready, so everyone went for a water taxi ride to the Islands of Adventure theme park, which was just a short distance away.

The adventure started at the Marvel Super Hero Island, where the comic characters Rocky and Bullwinkle were walking around greeting the parkgoers. Marvel Island has some of the park’s scariest rides.

Everyone had to be at least 54” inch tall to ride the Incredible Hulk Coaster, 52” tall to ride Doctor Doom’s Fearfall and 40” tall to see The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man.

The excited youth said hello to

many of their favorite comic book superheroes like Spider-Man, Captain America and the Silver Surfer.

After Marvel Island, we entered the Toon Lagoon, where the Dudley Do-Right’s Ripsaw Falls ride has one of the steepest water drops in Orlando.

After Ripsaw Falls, the kids ran to Popeye & Bluto’s Bilge-Rat Barges ride, and went down the white water rapids in a twisting and splashing raft ride.

After lunch, everyone traveled on to the Jurassic Park River Adventure ride, where they enjoyed a thrilling river raft ride in dinosaur country.

Later in the day, the more adventurous ones walked over to The Lost Continent, where they rode on the Dueling Dragons, two roller coaster rides with loops and twists.

The smaller kids rode on The Flying Unicorn ride, a roller coaster that soared through an enchanted forest.

The end of the day came fast, and everyone returned to the Hard Rock Hotel to relax, eat dinner, watch some TV and turn in for the evening. The next morning, the group went to Universal Studios Park, and returned to Hollywood at 8:30 p.m. Saturday night.

The trip went smoothly, thanks to the summer program coordinator Steve Young and chaperones Patrice Mecrea, Kristin Duda and staff.

Seminole/Sho-Ban 4-H Exchange: Where East Meets West

Submitted by Polly Hayes
POCATELLO, ID — It was another beautiful Sunday morning as the sun rose over the vast everglades and the Big Cypress Swamp. Sitting on the tarmac of the Big Cypress Airstrip is the crown jewel and flagship of Seminole Aviation, the tribe’s Gulfstream IV.

The crew of the jet was waiting for the arrival of the Seminole 4-Hers who were headed for the second annual cultural exchange.

This year, the 4-H youth were traveling to the home of the Shoshone Bannock Tribe, the Fort Hall Reservation located in Pocatello, ID. For the next week, the young Seminole 4-Hers were hosted by the Shoshone Bannock 4-H Club.

Polly Hayes had called for a 10:00 am departure from Big Cypress. The flight crew of the Gulfstream was captained by Chris McGinley, with Ken Dunn in the second chair and Cheryl Russell in the cabin.

The crew and passengers departed on schedule, as the jet took to the sky for the four hour flight from the Big Cypress Swamp to Pocatello, ID.

Seminole 4-H director Polly Hayes set the adventure up with Nola Cate of the Shoshone Bannock Tribe’s Fort Hall Reservation earlier in the spring during an exchange between the Northwest Shoshone Bannock and the Southeastern Seminole youth groups.

The 4-H leaders had set the dates of the exchange to coincide with the Shoshone Bannock Tribe’s 39th annual Pow-Wow on Aug. 8-11.

Planning the trip around the annual celebration gave the Seminole youth a chance to view another Indian tribe’s way of life.

The youth saw first hand the arts, crafts, drumming and dancing of various Northwestern States and Canadian Tribes as the guest of the Shoshone Bannocks..

The plane was met by Nola Cates and younger brother, Curt Cates, who was to be our bus driver and tour guide; Kim Becker, Nola’s younger sister, who drove the runner vehicle; and a host of Shoshone Bannock 4-H members: “Hoss” Suppah, Kameryn Farmer, Kimberli Farmer, Allison Farmer, Brant Bache, Hailey Becker, Andra Cates and Corrina Rondleas.



Shoshone Bannock 4-H Youth: (L-R) Kameryn Farmer, Allison Farmer, Kimberly Farmer, Brant Bache, Hoss Suppah, Hailey Becker.

Wednesday morning, it was off to Yellowstone National Park. The bus on which 4-Hers were riding chugged along the mountain trail while its passengers kept a sharp look out for a glimpse of the parks wildlife it is noted for.

Many animals call the park home: Squirrels, Chipmunks, Coyotes, Wolves, Mule Deer, Pronghorn ,Elk, Moose Big Horn Sheep, Buffalo Black and Grizzly Bears were all on the watch-for list.

The park too is a haven for birds too, Magpies, osprey, Nutcrackers, Canadian Geese, Trumpeter Swans.

A pelican was even spotted by Anita Johns. We also caught a glimpse of an American Bald Eagle soaring on the wing, gliding effortlessly over lakes and grasslands of the pristine park

We stopped to see “Old Faithful” and, true to its word, like clock-work, it began to spit and sputter and then, with all its majesty, it blew higher and higher into the Montana Sky. Then it returned back to the hot, bubbling underground spring.

We also stopped to see the “Painted Mud Pots,” an “Artist Point,” and its waterfalls along the way.

The yellow bus then started towards Jackson Hole Wyoming, and the Teton National Park

The majestic mountains were a breathtaking sight to behold. Stopping for several picture opportunities, the group pressed on.

A stop had been planned to visit the 4-H camp at Alpine, Wyoming, but due to the lack of time, we only got to see the entrance of the facility.

With 600 miles and three states behind us, the lights of the Pocatello Holiday Inn were a welcome sight to all of the Florida travelers and the Idahoans as well.

The next couple days were filled with the Sho-Ban Pow-Wow, its rodeo, parades pageants, arts and crafts, drumming and dancing, and the Buffalo and Salmon Feast. Everything that make the Sho-Ban 39th annual Pow-Wow a success.

There were traditional handball games, softball tournaments, and drumming and dancing competitions for both youth and adults. The Indian Horse Relay Races were a sight to be seen and one of the most exciting events of the Shoshone Bannock Festival.



Chaperone Anita Johns and daughter.

The Sho-Ban Indian Relay Horses Races were unique and exciting. The horses were started on the run and the riders had a quarter mile to settle their horses before they reached the race starter. If everything was in order, he flagged them to start and the race was on.

The riders ran their horses over a mile track, full out. They then pulled up and leapt from one horse to another as fast as they could.

The first horse had to be caught, and the second horse ridden back on the mile track in a clean exchange while trying not to lose any valuable time.

This was all done bareback, only a bridle and neck rope assisted the rider’s balance, there were no saddles.

The week-long trip will be always remembered by the



“Old Faithful” was true to its word when the Seminole 4-Hers visited.

Seminole 4-Hers who participated: Nolan Gopher, Hilliard Gopher, Nathan Billie, Serena Green Nicole Osceola, Benny Hernandez and Joel Benn.

The chaperones Samantha Jimmie, Connie Williams Anita Johns a big thank you for your kindness and services making the Seminole/ Sho-Ban exchange where East meets West a great success.



Hollywood Youth Group BBQ

HOLLYWOOD — On August 2, the Hollywood Family Services Program held a barbecue during one of its youth groups. The children participated in fun activities such as “pin the tail on the donkey” and had a chance to break the candy-filled piñata. Some children also served as chefs, and helped prepare the cheeseburgers and hotdogs. The meal was topped off by everyone cooling down with a slice of juicy watermelon. Fun was had by all.



Larry Hamilton - Seminole Department Of Law Enforcement Community Service Aid Officer

By Paula Cassels
HOLLYWOOD—Meet Larry Hamilton the Police Service Aid for the Seminole Department of Law Enforcement.

You may have seen Larry at the front desk of the Holly wood Tribal headquarters. He is in charge of building security, and checks in and assists all visitors to the Tribal office building.

He also notifies employees when they have a visitor in the lobby, and answers general questions that visitors may have.

Hamilton also helps page employees, transfer



Larry Hamilton front Desk Security.

incoming calls, accept deliveries and arrange for their deliveries.

Hamilton started working with the Seminole Police Department in June 12, 2000 and was previously employed by the Ft. Lauderdale Police Department from 1964-1982, where he was a patrol officer and a sergeant.

Hamilton is a graduate of the Ft. Lauderdale Police Academy and a graduate of Broward Community College in Associate Science, he has attended numerous training sessions and seminars during his police career.

He was born and raised in Ft. Lauderdale and his hobby is bowling.

Larry said what he likes best about his job is assisting and helping people. Glad to have you with us, Larry Hamilton.

Seminole Employment Assistance And Training Program: Who We Are And What We Do

The Seminole Tribe Employment Assistance and Training Program's mission is to assist economically disadvantaged, underemployed, or unemployed Native Americans, Native Alaskans and Native Hawaiians to obtain employment and training assistance.

We are able to accomplish our mission by providing the following services:

Vocational/Job Training, Job Placement, Work Experience, GED Attainment.

Vocational/Job Training. Vocational/Job Training provides adult education and classroom training assistance to participating individuals.

Students will also receive funding towards the cost of their tuition and textbooks when they enroll into an Adult Basic Education Program, GED preparation and Certificate, Diploma or other Vocational/Technical Degree Program.

Work Experience. The Work Experience Program provides participants with services such as Job Placement and On-The-Job Training.

Youth Program. Youth Program allows youth

from the ages of 14-21 to gain employability skills. It instills in them good working habits and values, which will be an added benefit for their future.

How To Enroll . . . Following are the steps needed in order to enroll into the Employment Assistance and Training Program:

Please fill out the "Employment Assistance & Training Application form." You must establish your Native American Heritage by providing a copy of your Tribal Photo ID or CDIB. Provide a copy of a Photo ID and Social Security Card. Make copies of your most recent student transcripts, GED, or High School Diploma.

For Vocational/Job Training: Select a school and program of study. Submit the information to the Employment Assistance and Training Department who will determine if the school is eligible. If not, you will be contacted.

For Work Experience or Youth Program: Please fill out, sign and date the "W-4 2001 Form and I-9" which is provided on the back of the Application Form.



Big Cypress Seniors Nature Walk.

Big Cypress Seniors Visit Flamingo Gardens

By Paula Cassels
DAVIE — On Aug. 28, the Big Cypress seniors arrived at the Flamingo Gardens at 10:00 a.m. Everyone met in the gift shop to pick up their tickets and check out the merchandise.

Flamingo Gardens, which is on Flamingo Road just north of Griffin Road, takes you back to the 1930's, an enchanting time when south Florida was mostly wetlands.

As the seniors walked down the path through the botanical garden, they saw 200-year old live oaks amidst the Champions, Cohune Palms, Ear Pods, White Sapotes, Cluster figs, and African Tulips.

The path led to a tram train, where the seniors received refreshments and listened to a narrated tour of the Flamingo Gardens citrus groves.

After the tour, the seniors entered the Everglades Wildlife Sanctuary, the home of king snakes, bald eagles, hawks, bobcats, alligators, otters, flamingos and a host of birds.

Flamingo Gardens provides a repository for endangered species, and breeds and releases native species of south Florida birds into their natural habitats.

Later that morning, everyone walked back through the flowing trees and Heliconia Garden.

The end of the path led back to the gift shop, where the seniors enjoyed some shopping and toured the tropical plant house before they left for the Big Cypress reservation.



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Youth

Continued from page 1

speak at the dinner.

Brighton Board Representative Alex Johns thanked all the people that helped organize the youth conference.

“All the people that put together the event were the tribal leaders and Smawley Holata was a tribal leader,” said Johns.

He asked the children and everyone to “take the classes to heart and learn what you can, today’s youth are tomorrow’s leaders”. Johns said this youth conference was in honor of Smawley Holata and her family, and wished them the best.

Speaker Jack Smith, Jr. also addressed the conference attendees, he thanked the youth conference committee and the Holata family for inviting him to speak at the dinner.

Following the speakers, a four-minute video in memory of Smawley Holata was presented by family members and Maureen Vass, and a song was dedicated to her by Mr. Dodley Hunt.

Maureen Vass presented a plaque from the Brighton community to Smawley’s mother, Alice Snow, and family members in her honor for the work she done in the community.

After the dedication, speaker Jenny Johns stated the rules and regulations that would be in effect during the conference, which included no drugs in the rooms, anyone who broke this rule faced a loss of room and would be asked to leave.

President/Acting Chairman Mitchell Cypress arrived in the banquet room in time to share a story about Smawley. He recalled that, a few years ago, he saw her at a rodeo in another state.

Smawley came up and told him that she had to spend the night in jail, Mitchell said to her, “You are the last person I thought would go to jail!” and they both laughed. He said he will always remember her as a hard working lady.

The morning after, and for the next three days at 6:00 a.m., 25 participants started the day with a one-hour fitness class by certified instructor Jenny Johns. The class activities included a Green band stretch, jumping rope and a fast walk two times around the Ramada Inn building.

Later in the day, at a PAC meeting Moses Osceola director of Seminole Employment Assistance and Training, spoke of how his department’s mission is to assist disadvantaged tribal members and other Indian students and young adults who need help to obtain employment or training programs for employment.

For more information about funding programs for schools, books and tools please contact him at the Education Department on the Hollywood Reservation.

There was also a class on Adult heath and Diabetes, taught by Phil Kaplan. Kaplan said that, on average, people are eating too much sugar. The average person eats 168 pounds of sugar in a year. People need to learn to drink a lot of water for a healthy body.

Kaplan said that you must also eat more food, about every 3 to 3 1/2 hours a day, to get your body use to burning fat.

The conference also held Juvenile Division classes, which focused on parent awareness about juvenile drug and substance use and gave pointers on what to look out for. They also outlined steps to take if you suspect a problem, and helped conference attendees learn to recognize the signs of alcohol abuse and even experimentation.

The classes stressed the need to help your child deal with peer pressure, children who are taught to be gentle and loving may need parental permission to say “no” to negative peer pressure. Team up with other parents to join a support groups, they can take steps that will reinforce the guidance that is provided at home.

The Seminole Police program showed a video about teenagers caught by police selling drugs, they were arrested and sent to jail. The video also showed the truth about teens on drugs and the consequences. The video showed a newborn baby coming down from drugs because the mother was an addict.

The parents were also shown hardcore drug and substance abuse involving alcohol drinking and the inhaling of household toxic sprays, and what it can do to their body organs.

Motivational speaker Joseph Jennings told of his life as a gang member, his drug abuse and what it did to his family. As a young man, Jennings supported himself by selling drugs.

Jennings’ message was about change and wanting a better life for you and your family.

The turnaround in Jennings life happened when he was shot five times. He had to stop and ask himself, “Is this what I want for my kids? Do I want

them to follow in my footsteps?”

Jennings said he changed his life, he found God and his family goes to church every Sunday and he doesn’t hit his wife anymore.

Joseph Jennings implored everyone to start right now, to change their life for their wife and children.

The children’s classes focused on education. The Seminole Police had a table set up so the kids could have a picture I.D. and finger printing done, which will be helpful to identify them in the future. Bike stickers and balloons were handed out to the

kids to make beaded daisy necklaces.

For the 9-12 grade, Alice Snow play a game called language bingo with the kids. The game was like regular bingo, but played with pictures of animals with the creek name on them.

After the classes were over, an afternoon dip in the cool waters of the pool or just lounging at the poolside helped end the days on a high note.

On Thursday, in the afternoon everyone drove to Water Mania, where the water was just right and the sun was hot and bright. They had huge water slides, and the kids had a great time.

That night, Dusty Nunez staged the talent show. Singers, dancers, men, women and children from Brighton came out to show off their special talent.

The favorite was the Miss Brighton Pageant, when three ladies dress in their teeny-weeny bikinis. Contestant number one, Miss Booty, contestant number two, Miss Chesty, and contestant number three, Miss No Bottom, ran a tough race and no one could decide on a winner.

At the end of the show, all the kids got up on stage and danced to the music. On Friday morning, everyone meet in the banquet room to have breakfast and the closing ceremony.

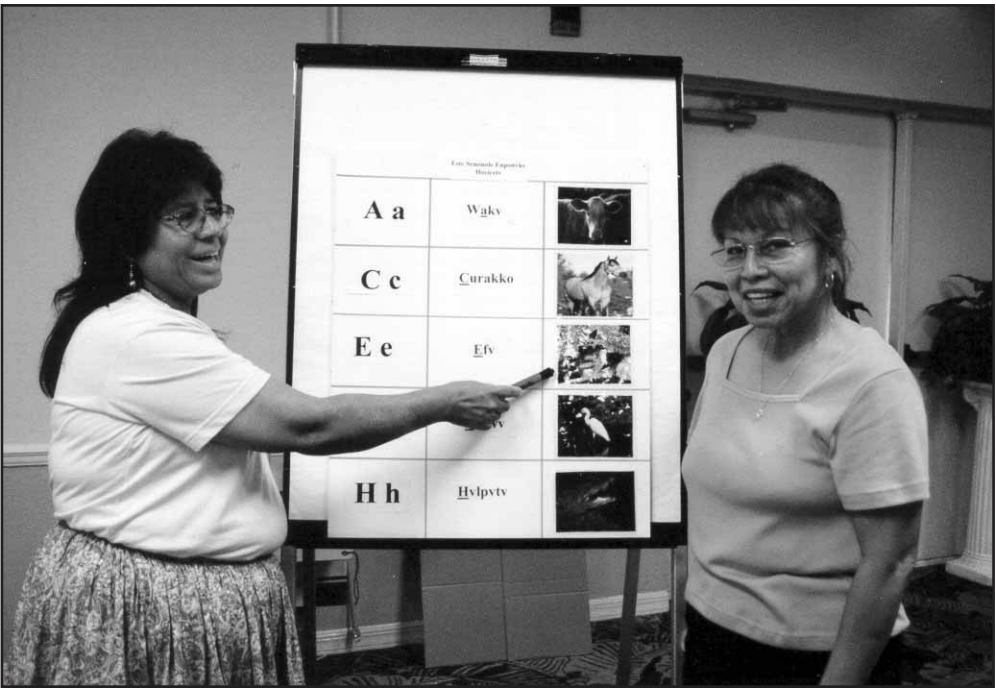
During the closing ceremonies Dusty Nunez gave cash awards to the singers, dances, family quest winners and jeopardy champions.

Jenny Johns gave medals to the fitness participants, and presented the Brighton Youth Conference Working Committee

members with a portfolio booklet, towels and small travel journals.

Johns thanked everyone for coming, and told them to make plans to come back next year.

Special recognition goes to John Wayne Huff Sr. (Sponsor), Alice Sweat, Jenny Johns, Salina Dorgan, Diane Smith, Sarah Sampson, Denise Girtman, Alice Snow, Lorene Gopher, Jenny Shore, Louise Gopher, Dawn Ferrittia, Stacy Jones, Dallas Nunez, Lonnie Gore, Lois J. Smith for their help in putting together this year’s youth conference.



Jenny Shore and Jenny John teach the Seminole alphabet sounds using animals.

kids for participating.

The K-2 grade, the students about the different touches: good touch, bad touch and a secret touch. The kids learned not to be afraid to tell an adult if someone touches them in their private places.

In the K-2 rodeo class, the children learned to compete with other kids. The kids were set up in teams and ran down and around trash cans on the back of a stick horse.

In the 3-6th grade culture craft class, the kids made Dreamcatchers and Jenny Shore taught the

members with a portfolio booklet, towels and small travel journals.

Johns thanked everyone for coming, and told them to make plans to come back next year.

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Summer Tiger, Academic Achiever

By Alexandra Frank
COCONUT GROVE — When I first met Summer Tiger, she struck me as a nice, presentable young woman. After talking with Summer over lunch, on a Friday afternoon in Coconut Grove, I recognized that she was an articulate and intelligent young lady.

Summer, the daughter of Lee and Andrea Tiger, resides in the Coconut Grove area and attends the University of Miami. Her accomplishments at the university includes the Dean's List, and membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

Summer attended Palmetto High School. High school was not a favorite area for her, so Summer earned her Diploma through a GED. Summer's mother wanted her to have, and hold, a job during her GED education.

She went to Miami/Dade College for English studies, and it was there that she decided to attend college once she earned her high school diploma. She then attended the University of Northern Colorado for two years.

When she started classes at the university, she wasn't sure what area of study she was truly interested in. However, as she progressed at Northern Colorado, Summer was able to figure out what courses she found interesting and which ones she did not.

Summer also spent time working in a college program. It was a good experience, but, in the end, it was more along the lines of being used as cheap manual labor. She worked there for three months and then headed off to Florida State University. Summer said that she's experienced just about every educational venue and it has been great.

Going to FSU helped her focus on the type of field she would like to enter. Summer then headed back to Miami, so that she could focus on the type of school she would like to attend.

Her grandfather, who has Parkinson's Disease, suffered a heart attack and was nearly on his deathbed when she went to visit him.

This was the first time Summer had experienced a life or death situation. She wanted to help him with his illness, so she went online to learn more about the life threatening disease, and health in general.

This sparked an interest in health care. Summer

thought then of becoming a doctor. Summer felt it also would be beneficial towards the tribe and its health facilities.

Summer enrolled at the University of Miami, had her first biology class and really enjoyed the course. This helped to determine her chosen profession; she decided to major in Neuro Science and minor in chemistry.

Summer's other accomplishments include being a member of the Honor Society and the Pre-Med Honor Society. She is also planning to do research at the campus, what type of research has not been determined.

Summer also helped founder a Native American organization on the UM campus. A professor, who is married to a Native American, approached her about the idea of starting the group.

Summer feels it is important to create such a group. Because Native Americans are such a small percentage of college students on the campus, having a support group can be beneficial to the school, Native students, and others.

Although they are in the starting stages of the organization, she has talked to a few teachers and is in the process of telling other Native American students about plans for the group. A focus will be to hold events, such as a Native American art exhibition the university plans to hold in November.

Twenty-five Miccosukee high school students will be invited to the event so they can experience the university first hand. Hopefully, this will be positive influence for everyone, especially the school, since they are trying to promote college education to the Native Peoples.

Summer's family, mother and father are proud of her, and support her efforts towards earning a college degree. Her brother Eric is currently attending college as well.

Summer gets continued encouragement from the education department. Her grandfather Buffalo Tiger



Summer Tiger may become the first physician for the Tribe.

said that if he had known she wanted to become a doctor he would have mentioned it in his book.

Summer wants to encourage other tribal members and Native Americans to pursue education in the medical field because of the low numbers of natives who major in the health care field. It would be beneficial to have natives as doctors or nurses on the reservation, because they are better equipped to deal on a daily basis with native patients.

Incorporating traditional medicine into modern technology can prove to be a positive factor when native medical personnel administer it. This might also increase improvement in the native community in the area of health care.

Summer feels that if tribal citizens see another tribal citizen make it in the medical field, or other fields, there would be an increase in higher education students.

Congratulations to Summer on her endeavors to become a doctor, her family is extremely proud of her and so is her tribe. It is great to have such a bright, thoughtful individual go for their dream.

She will set a good example for her family, people and the native community in large. Keep up the good work, and soon we will call you Doctor with pride and enthusiasm.

School Schedules

Ahfachkee School, Big Cypress	
Sept. 2	No school, Labor Day
Sept. 13	Early Release
Sept. 18	Progress Reports Issued
Sept. 23	Count Week, 9/23 - 9/27
Sept. 27	No school, American Indian Day
Oct. 11	Early Release
Oct. 22	End of 1 st Grading Period
Oct. 23	Start of 2 nd Grading Period
Oct. 25	No school, Staff Workday
Nov. 5	Parent Teacher Conferences
Nov. 8	Report Cards Issued
Nov. 11	Early Release
Nov. 27	No school, Veteran's Day
Nov. 28	Staff and Students Early Release
Nov. 29	Progress Reports Issued
Nov. 29	No school, Thanksgiving
Dec. 6	Early Release
Dec. 19	Christmas Show
Dec. 20	Staff and Students Early Release
Dec. 23	Christmas Holiday, 12/23 - 1/3/03

The Vanguard School, Lake Wales, FL	
Sept. 3	Students Arrive
Nov. 22	Students Depart, Thanksgiving Recess
Dec. 1	Students Return, Thanksgiving Recess
Dec. 2	Classes Resume
Dec. 18	Students Depart, Christmas Vacation
Jan. 6	Students Return, Christmas Vacation
Jan. 7	Classes Resume
Jan. 30	End First Semester

American Heritage/American Academy, Plantation, FL	
Sept. 3	Classes Begin
Sept. 16	Yom Kippur, No Classes
Oct. 14	Columbus Day, No Classes
Nov. 4	Second Quarter Begins
Nov. 15	Conference Day, No Classes
Nov. 28	Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov. 29	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 19	Winter Holidays Begin (End of Day) Jan. 6
Classes Resume	
Jan. 20	M. L. King, Jr. Holiday, No Classes
Jan. 22	Exams A.M. – Only Upper School
Jan. 23	Exams A.M. – Only Upper School
Jan. 24	Exams A.M. – Only Upper School

Clewiston High School	
Sept. 5	Progress Reports
Sept. 25	Faculty Meeting
Oct. 14	End of 1 st Nine Weeks
Oct. 18	Teacher Workday
Oct. 21	Report Cards Distributed
Oct. 23	SAC Meeting, 5-6:00 p.m.
Oct. 23	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 6-7:00 p.m.
Nov. 7	Progress Reports
Nov. 13	Faculty Meeting
Nov. 27-29	Thanksgiving (Holiday)
Dec. 20	End of Semester
Dec. 23	Christmas Vacation Begins
Jan. 3	Christmas Vacation Ends
Jan. 13	Report Cards Distributed
Jan. 16	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	SAC Meeting, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Meet Education Counselor Cindy Corriher

HOLLYWOOD — Cindy Corriher has recently been employed by the Education Division to serve as the new Seminole Education Counselor.

Corriher has earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education and is a certified teacher with the State of Florida. She has taught children of all ages, from preschool to high school age.

Her experience includes teaching at a Montessori school in California and teaching elementary school grades 2, 4, and 5. From there, she moved up to middle school, where she taught English to 6th grade students and was elected Department Head of Language Arts.

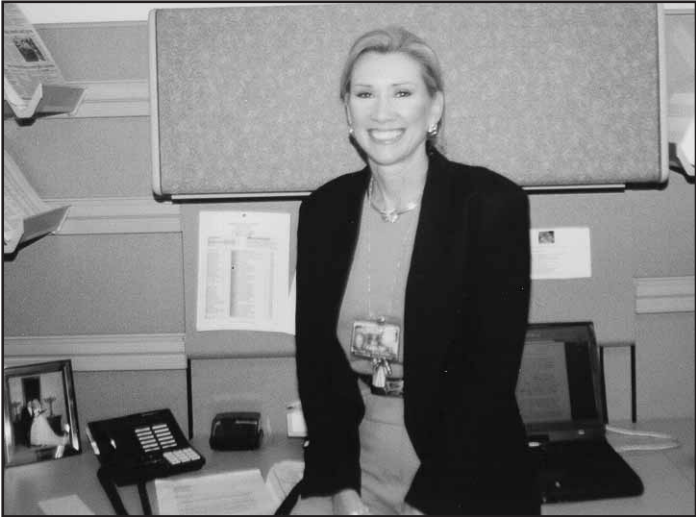
She has also worked as a Reading teacher and Counselor at a school for juvenile delinquents aged 13-18 years. This school has a special program for students to help them change their destructive behavior, which caused them to become involved with the Juvenile Justice Department and at the same time, finish their high school education.

She enjoys working with children of all ages, and is a strong supporter of the need for quality education. Her position as Education Counselor requires her to help Seminole students find a quality and respected school in which they can grow.

Corriher, who moved to Florida in 1988, is originally from Michigan. She is married and has two children, ages 16 and 18. Cindy also enjoys spending time with her three dogs, Peanut, Precious, and Pumpkin.

You will probably find Cindy on the weekends golfing with her husband. She has recently taken up the sport and now considers herself a "fanatic". Her goal is to break a score of 90.

Other interests are a love of reading, fishing on the west coast of Florida with her family, and shopping with her daughter.



Cindy Corriher

New Director Of Education, Maria del Rio-Rumbaitis

HOLLYWOOD — Maria del Rio-Rumbaitis started on the week of August 12 as the new Director of Education.

She will be responsible for the management of all educational programs on all Seminole Reservations in Florida, including Early Childhood, Head Start, Elementary, Secondary, Undergraduate, Graduate, Adult, Vocational, Tutorial, Employment Assistance, Libraries and Language and Cultural Programs.

Among her first priorities, Maria says, will be to get a deep understanding of the functioning of the current programs, meet parents, students and school staffs in order to create a strong foundation for innovations and improvements.

Maria's main goal is to provide the highest quality education to our Seminole students.

Maria is from Argentina, but has lived in the United States for the last 30 years. She is married to an American she met while attending graduate school in

Tallahassee. She has one child, a great daughter, Cristina Maria, who is completing her own doctorate in Bio-Geo-Chemistry at the University of Colorado.

Asked about her hobbies and favorite pastimes, Maria says that she loves aerobics and exercising, yoga and meditation, nature, reading and spending quality time with her dog, Fluffy, who, she says, replaced her daughter Cristina, when she left for college a long 10 years ago.

Maria came to the United States originally to study for her Master's degree as a Fulbright Scholar. As Maria likes to say, "My scholarship was a rather complete one, because it ended up including my husband and second homeland."

Maria has a Ph.D. in Education and a Master's in linguistics from U.S. universities, and a degree in English Language and



Maria del-Rio Rumbaitis

Literature from her native Argentina. She

has a great deal of experience in the design, delivery and management of educational and social programs at both the domestic and international levels.

In Argentina, she directed a bilingual Argentine American Language and Cultural Exchange Institution with over 1,000 students. In Denver, Colorado, she served as the coordinator for an adult education program operating in five regional centers.

She has also taught at the University of Denver, University of Colorado, Denver Community College and at Georgetown University, in Washington, D.C.

A move from Denver to Washington, D.C. got Maria started on her international career. She started with the Department of Education at the Organization of American States, where she conducted evaluation missions and designed education and training programs for Latin American and Caribbean nations.

From there, Maria moved on to the World Bank, where she first served as Manager of the Communication Skills Unit where 80 different languages were taught to hundreds of World Bank personnel.

A few years later, she became a trainer at the Economic Development Institute at the World Bank, organizing seminars in public social policy for high ranking officials from around the world.

Later, Maria became a consultant working both independently and also handling education, training, health and social welfare project design and evaluation for a number of consulting firms and for the U.S. Government as well.

For the last six years, Maria worked for the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C. She served first as an education specialist, then as a social impact specialist and lastly as the social science specialist for Mexico.

Maria spent the last 3 ½ years at the Inter-American Development Bank's Mexico City Country Programs Office, where she was in charge of projects in Education, Youth Substance Abuse Prevention, Indigenous Peoples Maternal and Child Health, Women's Reproductive Health Improvement, Family Domestic Violence and other social sector programs designed to help at-risk populations throughout Mexico.

Maria says that her Washington years have given her the opportunity to work in every country in the Americas and the Caribbean, with the exception of Cuba.

Let's all wish Maria the Best of Luck in her new duties!

Board

Continued from page 1

Board of Directors Executive Administrator.

Edenso felt that, in the Bureau of Indian Affairs, there was "good solid support for the changes and actions taken by the Board of Directors."

The resolution now will go the Bureau of Indian Affairs, who will conduct the tribe-wide election.

"The bottom line is that the voting membership will have final say on the proposed amendments," said Brighton Board Representative Alex Johns.

The Board also:

- *Announced policy changes for the short term loan program.
- According to Robert Maza, the changes will include:
- Loan applicants who have advanced to the \$3,000 level, and have a good credit history, will no longer need a co-signer for loans.
- Loans will now start at \$600. In the past, in order to establish a credit history, loans started at \$300. Maza felt that \$600 was a better starting point.
- Once loan applicants get to \$1500 credit level, the next level will be \$3,000. In the past, the levels went up in increments of \$500 (\$1500, \$2000, \$2500, \$3000). Now, loan applicants who are at the \$1500 level will proceed directly to the \$3000 level.
- In the matter of accounts that were delinquent 90 days or more, once the loan has been paid off, and contact made with the Credit & Finance Department regarding the reasons for the late payment, the 60 day waiting period may be waived.
- "If the reasons for the late payment were temporary, we see no reason to make them wait," said Maza.
- *Made policy changes to the Agribusiness Program.
- Agribusiness loans have been raised from \$5,000 to \$10,000.
- Although the credit limit was raised to help cattle owners, "You don't have to be a cattle owner, just in the field of agriculture," said President Mitchell Cypress.

New Big Cypress Education Counselor

The Education Department recently employed Marijade Maryam Ali as Education Counselor for the Big Cypress reservation of the Seminole Tribe.

Trinidad born Marijade, who currently lives in Miramar, is pursuing a doctorate degree in Adult Education at Nova Southeastern University. She holds a Master of Science degree in Human Resource Development and Administration and her Bachelors in Legal Studies and Behavioral Sciences.

Marijade has three adult children and three grandchildren. Over the past 12 years, she has worked for various organizations in the areas of judicial administration, healthcare and education.

Care more recently held the position of Career Strategist, Director of Accreditation (SACS self-study) and adjunct faculty at American InterContinental University. Marijade is currently working on her first CD album. As a new recording artist, she brings a breath of fresh air to the reggae music industry with her mellow mood and uplifting songs of consciousness.

Her personal goal is to do research, share knowledge and develop her corporation, The Trumpet Sound Development Foundation, Inc.

Marijade stresses that her love for culture drew her to the Seminole Tribe of Florida. She has an open door policy for all students and would like the Big Cypress community to feel free to visit her office at the Learning Resource Center, or call her at (863) 902-3200, ext. 1133.



Marijade Maryam Ali



Diabetic Fun Day participants prepare to board the Riverfront Cruise.

Hollywood Diabetic Fun Day

By Alexandra Frank
FORT LAUDERDALE — Once again, diabetics from the Seminole Tribe’s Hollywood Reservation participated in a one-day boat tour of Ft. Lauderdale’s New River.

The eleven tribal citizens enjoyed their ride on the New River on Riverfront Cruises, which featured some of the most expensive homes owned by individuals such as Wayne Huizenga.

During the tour, some of the participants were allowed to drive the boat. It seems some of our tribal citizens, like Yvonne Courtney and Lawrence Osceola, are closet boat captains.

After the cruise, everyone was treated at Marino’s Tavern, a restaurant dedicated to former Dolphins quarterback Dan Marino.

Here, a surprise birthday celebration was held for Mary Birthers. Mary received a slice of strawberry shortcake to celebrate the event.

If you are a diabetic, or know someone who is, this type of fun activity is the kind that you can share with a fellow diabetic. The day is spent with other people who have diabetes, just having good, clean fun and enjoying each other’s company. I know we all did.

Exercises And Stretches For Your Lower Back

Imagine, just for a second, being unable to bend down and tie your shoes. Unable to sleep peacefully. Unable to exercise. Unable to even walk more than a few yards without a jolt of pain shooting through your body.

These are just a few of the problems sometimes caused by lower back injuries. And unfortunately, many of us will eventually experience them specifically-hand. The lower lumbar muscles – first-hand the erector spinae, which run along the spine starting just above the hips — are involved in just about everything we do, from bending and reaching to twisting, lifting and even standing.

Unsurprisingly, work-related back injuries are the nation’s number one occupational hazard, and four out of five adults will experience significant low back pain sometime during their life.

And while back problems – which can range from muscular strains and ligament sprains to pinched nerves, ruptured discs, joint irritation and arthritis — are very tough to eliminate, they are fairly easy to avoid.

In addition to regular activity (walking, biking, swimming, etc.), the best way to thwart these setbacks is through a thorough and consistent conditioning program that focuses on the trunk.

The trunk includes the lower back and abdominal muscles, which help stabilize the torso and are critical to lower-back health, and the obliques, which run diagonally up and down your sides. Other important muscles for lower back health include the hips and thighs.

The stretches and exercises below can be performed with little or no equipment. Where you do them – at home, at the gym, in the office — is up to you. The key is consistency: Try to stretch every day, and train for strength three times a week.

Before beginning any exercise program, consult with your doctor.

Stretches

Before exercising or stretching you should warm up with slow, rhythmic exercises like walking or bike riding or swimming. If you’re short on time, get creative: stretch in bed, in the shower, during work breaks.

Hold stretches for 20-30 seconds, then repeat and try to push a little farther each time, without causing pain. Repeat up to five times.

***Forward Chair Lean (easy):** Relaxing static stretch of lower back, best used during cooldown. Sit in chair with feet flat on floor, slightly more than shoulder-width apart. Lean forward slowly, letting upper body, arms and head fall between knees. Reach arms through legs and under chair.

***Standing Back Bend (easy):** Stand with your feet slightly apart. Place your hands in the small of your back. Keep your knees straight. Bend backwards at the waist as far as possible and hold the position for one or two seconds.

***Knees to Chest (moderate):** Lie on your back with your knees bent and feet flat on your bed or floor. Raise your knees toward your chest. Place both hands under your knees and gently pull your knees as close to your chest as possible. Do not raise your head. Do not straighten your legs as you lower them.

***Lying Torso Twist (moderate):** Static stretch that’s easy to do in bed. Lie on back with knees bent and feet flat on floor. Keeping shoulders flat, slowly pull both knees down to left as far as possible and look in opposite direction. Can also be performed with one leg straight and one leg bent. Either way, repeat to other side. Turn it into an active stretch by rolling legs back and forth 10 times without pausing.

***Cross-Leg Roll (moderate):** Static stretch of the back, obliques and butt. Lie on back and bend right leg at about 90-degree angle with right foot planted firmly on floor. Cross left ankle over right knee. Keeping shoulders grounded, roll hips toward right side of body until side of right thigh and bottom of left foot touch floor. Holding same leg position, roll to the left side. Switch leg positions and repeat. Turn it into an active stretch by rolling hips back and forth 10 times without pausing.

***Lying Leg Pull (difficult):** Static stretch for the back, hamstring and butt muscles. Lie on back with arms under thighs. Pull knees to chest. Keeping knees against chest, extend legs overhead and hold.

Strength Exercises

Perform three times a week. Warm up beforehand with 5-10 minutes of cardiovascular exercise and stretching.

The body is a machine – every part affects the others – so condition all muscles. Tighten the abs during exercise to create a natural girdle that helps support and protect the lower back.

Use a steady pace to work through a full range of motion. Inhale deeply before each repetition of an exercise and exhale when performing each repetition.

Perform 5-10 repetitions on each set, and aim for three sets per exercise per workout.

***Wall slides to strengthen back, leg and hip muscles:** Stand with your back against a wall and feet shoulder-width apart. Slide down into a crouch with knees bent to about 90 degrees. Count to five and slide back up the wall. Repeat five times.

***Leg raises to strengthen back and hip muscles:**

Lie on your stomach. Tighten the muscles in one leg and raise it from the floor. Hold your leg up for a count of 10 and return it to the floor. Do the same with the other leg. Repeat five times with each leg.

***Leg raises to strengthen stomach and hip muscles:** Lie on your back with your arms at your sides. Lift one leg off the floor. Hold your leg up for a count of 10 and return it to the floor. Do the same with the other leg. Repeat five times with each leg. If that is too difficult, keep one knee bent and the foot flat on the ground while raising the leg.

You can also sit upright in a chair with legs straight and extended at an angle to the floor. Lift one leg waist high. Slowly return your leg to the floor. Do the same with the other leg. Repeat five times with each leg.

***Partial sit-up to strengthen stomach muscles:**

Lie on your back with knees bent and feet flat on floor. Slowly raise your head and shoulders off the floor and reach with both hands toward your knees. Count to 10. Repeat five times.

***Back leg swing to strengthen hip and back muscles:** Stand behind a chair with your hands on the back of the chair. Lift one leg back and up while keeping the knee straight. Return slowly. Raise other leg and return. Repeat five times with each leg.

More Exercises for the Lower Back

***Pelvic thrust (easy):** Lie on back with knees bent, feet flat on floor and arms by side. Raise pelvis so there’s slight arch in lower back or until you can draw a straight line from knees to shoulders. Hold for 2-3 seconds, then slowly return to starting position. Repeat 5-10 times.

***Superman (moderate):** Lie flat on stomach with arms straight in front. Lift chest and arms off ground and pause for 2-3 seconds. Return to starting position and repeat 5-10 times. Tougher variations of this include lifting just the thighs off the ground; lifting the arms, chest and thighs; and alternately lifting the right arm and left thigh and left arm and right thigh.

***Cross body lift (difficult):** Assume facedown position while on hands and knees. Inhale slightly more than usual and hold breath while lifting one arm and opposite leg. Raise them until in line with, or slightly above, spine. Hold for 2-3 seconds, then gently lower and repeat 5-10 times each way.

More Exercises for the Abdominals & Obliques

***Crunch (easy):** Lie on back with knees bent. For lumbar protection, keep the back as flat as possible. While contracting stomach muscles curl up and forward so shoulder blades lift off floor. Use hands to guide head up, but don’t pull on neck. Return to starting position and repeat until 10-20 times.

To work the obliques, use same form as regular crunch, but rotate elbow to opposing knee at top of movement. Alternate sides for symmetry. Crunches can also be done with legs flat on ground or elevated on bench.

***Reverse crunch (moderate):** Isolates the lower abs. Lie on back with legs off ground and thighs perpendicular to trunk. Contract abs while pulling legs and pelvis toward chest. Return to starting position and repeat 10-20 times.

***Straight Leg Raises (moderate):** Lie on your back with one leg straight and one knee bent. Tighten abdominal muscles to stabilize low back. Slowly lift leg about 6 to 12 inches and hold up to five seconds. Lower leg slowly and repeat 5-10 times with each leg.

***Lying leg rotation (very difficult):** Targets the obliques; also a great back stretch.

Lie on back with arms out to sides and palms down (body should look like letter T). Raise legs in air so thighs are vertical and together. Try to keep legs straight, or slightly bent, while lowering them to one side. Touch floor with outside of foot or knee, while keeping shoulders and arms in contact with floor.

Then, raise legs up and over to other side and alternate up to five times each way. If shoulders come off floor during exercise, have someone hold them down.

Contact Kenny Bayon C.P.T if you have any questions or comments at Kbay07@aol.com.

How To Prevent Back Pain

You are most at risk for back pain if:

- your job requires frequent bending and lifting;
- you must twist your body when lifting and carrying an object;
- you must lift and carry in a hurry;
- you are overweight;
- you do not exercise regularly or do not engage in recreational activities;

• you smoke.

Underlying causes of back pain and weakness:

- lack of back exercises or poor technique;
- incorrect body mechanics;
- dangerous or under-researched back exercise programs;
- lack of information on the subject;
- prolonged sitting or standing;
- muscle imbalances;
- muscle inflexibility;
- stress;
- poor work habits.

How to prevent back pain:

- Use correct lifting technique.
- Exercise regularly to keep the muscles that support your back strong and flexible.
- Don’t slouch; poor posture puts a strain on the lower back.
- Maintain your proper body weight to avoid straining your back muscles.

• Keep a positive attitude about your job and home life; studies show that persons who are unhappy at work or home tend to have more back problems and take longer to recover than persons who have a positive attitude.

• When Seated: be aware of how you sit, whether at home, at the office or in a car. Keep your feet flat on the floor, so that your knees are level with your hips;

• When Standing: stand tall - pull in your abdominal muscles and envision a string at the top of your head keeping you aligned. Your weight should be distributed evenly on both feet;

• When Sleeping: sleep on a firm mattress preferably on your side. If this is unattainable try lying on your back with a pillow under your knees.

The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons has developed tips to help you reduce your risk of back pain. Whether you are lifting and moving a person or a heavy object, the guidelines are the same.

- Plan ahead what you want to do and don’t be in a hurry.
- Spread your feet shoulder-width apart to give yourself a solid base of support.

- Bend your knees.
- Tighten your stomach muscles.
- Position the person or object close to your body before lifting.
- Lift with your leg muscles. Never lift an object by keeping your legs stiff, while bending over it.

• Avoid twisting your body; instead, point your toes in the direction you want to move and pivot in that direction.

• When placing an object on a high shelf, move close to the shelf. Do not stand far away and extend your arms with the object in your hands.

- Maintain the natural curve of your spine; don’t bend at your waist.
- When appropriate, use a device such as a transfer belt, sliding board or draw sheet to move a person.

• Do not try to lift by yourself something that is too heavy or an awkward shape. Get help. Characteristics of good posture:

- head is balanced / chin does not jut forward;
- chest is raised slightly;
- abdomen does not protrude;
- relaxed knees;
- shoulders are level;
- hips are level and directly under the shoulders;
- kneecaps point straight forward;
- feet directly beneath the knees, facing forward;
- natural curve in the lower back;
- hands at the sides / palms face each other.

Benefits of good posture:

- improved breathing;
- improved efficiency of movement;
- decreased likelihood of injury;
- improved muscular recruitment;
- improved efficacy in sports.

Other Tips:

- If you’ve been driving too long, make frequent stops and stretch.
- Use shoe insoles, specifically designed to eliminate back problems.
- If you normally wear high-heeled shoes, try low-heeled or flat shoes.

• If you sleep on a soft mattress, try a firm one instead.

• If your computer monitor is not at eye level, reposition it so it is. Does your job require prolonged periods of standing? Place your foot up on a small stool to help minimize stress on your lower back.

• Do you carry a heavy hand bag or back pack? Try a small wallet, or lighten up on the bag.

NOTICE TO ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS

The Credit & Finance Program has loan programs especially designed for you.

Short Term Loan –

Start your credit at \$600 & build to \$3,000.

Agribusiness Loan –

You can get up to \$10,000 for your Agriculture business by applying.

Please stop by the President’s Office in the Hollywood building or call (954) 966 – 6300 and be sure to ask for Bob Maza at extension 1315. Bob is our new Director of Credit & Finance, and he will be happy to get you started in one of our loan programs.

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Team Florida Wrestling Profiles

By Kenny Bayon, Team Florida Wrestling Coach, Gold Medalist
Mitchell Simmons (The Giant) — Wrestling at Juvenile Men’s 130 kg, Mitchell thoroughly dominated his weight class by pinning every one of his opponents!

On the opening day, he pinned both of his opponents in less than a half-minute, including one in just 17 seconds! The second day, he pinned his first foe in about 90 seconds.

Finally, in the gold-medal match, he pinned an undefeated youngster from North Dakota 45 seconds into the second period. He pinned him with a powerful head and arm move that left his opponent counting lights.

Mitchell dedicated the gold medal to his father, Keith Simmons (The assistant coach), “because he helped guide me every step of the way.” He also added, “I wanted to set an example to all of the youth in my tribe, that the only way to get anywhere is through hard work and dedication.”

Mitchell is a currently a junior at Brandon



Team Florida Wrestling (L-R) Austin Billie, Tyrell Osceola, Mitchell Simmons and Peter Hahn.

High School in Tampa, where he excels in football (a two year starter) and wrestling. Last year as a sophomore he made it to the Florida high school wrestling championships. This year he has dedicated the summer to winning the state championship.

The young 17 year old is wise in his years as his nickname will attest to. He always lets his actions speak louder than his words.

However, he did say, “I can’t wait till 2005 to defend my title.” Next time around, he will be wrestling against the men and from what I’ve witnessed, I feel sorry for them.

Bronze Medalist
Tyrell Osceola (The Big Show) — Wrestling at Senior Men’s 130 kg, Tyrell started almost as impressively as Mitchell by pinning his first opponent in dominating fashion.

He was not as fortunate during his second match, however. While winning 4-2, he made a mistake and suddenly found himself on his back.

Then, poor fortune struck again the next

day when he woke up with a stiff back after having moved a heavy object the night before. The next day he was to wrestle the eventual gold medalist, but he could not get well enough for that match, so he had to forfeit by injury.

Instead, he focused on preparing for the bronze-medal match. With a grimace on his face, he dashed at his opponent like an angry bear and made quick work of him to capture third-place in his weight class. This was by far the most inspirational match of the meet.

Tyrell just graduated from high school and plans on playing college football and wrestling. Anyone who knows the brash, young 18 year old will agree that his nickname makes sense. Wherever Tyrell is, it’s always a big show.

Fourth Place Finishers
Peter Hahn (The Captain) – Pete showed great athleticism and heart. He was down 7-0 in the first match and then roared back like a champion to close the gap to 7-6.

Unfortunatly, he ran out of time and that match ended up deciding the bronze-medal winner. Despite Pete’s disappointment, he expressed that this will make him work even harder for the next Indigenous Games.

Knowing Pete and his pit-bull attitude, I feel sorry for his opponents at the next Games.

Pete, from Brighton, is a former Indigenous Games gold medalist who currently is attending school at Haskell University. He is going to be the starting quarterback this season.

After the season, he plans on joining the local wrestling club so he can start preparing for the 2005 Indigenous Games. Everyone who knows Pete knows that he is just a natural born leader and that he will be successful in anything he plans on doing.

Austin Billie (The Rebel) – Austin unfortunately competed in the senior division, which included two collegiate wrestlers. Although he lost the bronze-medal match by two points, he did record the fastest pin on our team by wrapping up an opponent in an amazing 16 seconds! He just put an over under mover and slammed him on his back.

Austin a former state qualifier from Hollywood Hills High, is determined to return to his medal status from the last games. The 18-year old plans on helping the Hollywood community improve the wrestling within the youth. This rebel with a cause has shown that once he puts his mind to it, he will do it.

A Note From Coach Bayon:
All in all, I was very proud of how my team fared. We worked very hard and trained with the utmost intensity and determination that makes champions. They all showed great leadership and were very respectful in the heat of competition. I considered it my honor to be around these fine young men, and I truly believe they should be inspirations for all of Team Florida. Our wrestling team is already thinking about improving our overall performance at the next Games in 2005. Until then, Dream Gold!!!

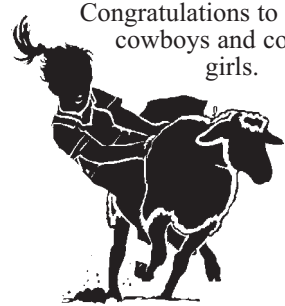
The Last EIRA Rodeo Of The Season

By Paula Cessels
CLEWISTON — On August 10, at the Jason Curry Rodeo Arena, cowboys and cowgirls from all of the Seminole reservations participated in the last EIRA Rodeo of the season.

Two winners from each division will go to the 27th Annual All Indian National Finals Rodeo in San Jacinto, CA. The INFR will be hosted by the Soboba Band of Mission Indians.

The highlight of the rodeo was an Alligator Wrestling Show by Gus Batista and Johnathan Bazques. Batista and Bazques wrestle Alligators at the Billie Swamp Safari in Big Cypress.

Congratulations to the cowboys and cowgirls.



NON-SANCTIONED EVENTS

Mutton Busting**Score****Pts.**
Andre Jumper 9.0610
Nick DeHass3.669

Pony Riding
William Bearde4910
Brandtley Osceola479
Issac Bettelyoun438

Steer Riding
1. Justin Aldridge.....5310
2. Dayne Johns509
3. Seth Randolph.....3.388

Jr. Bull Riding
1. J.W. Kaufnian5510
2. Jasper Thomas.....5.949

Barrels 4-8
No Qualified Times

Barrels 9-12
1. Reba Osceola18.41810
2. Taylor Johns19.7009

Barrels 13-8
1. MacKenzie Johns .18.47910
2. Leanna Billie.....18.8789

SANCTIONED EVENTS

Bare Back**Score****Pts**
1. Koty Brugh.....7010
2. Alex Johns599

Calf Roping
1. Naha Jumper15.59610
2. Adale Driggers18.2769

Women's Breakaway Roping
1. Shelby Osceola4.31610
2. Theresa Bowers.....16.6109

50 & over Breakaway Roping
1. Norman Johns5.83310
2. GROUND MONEY

Team roping
1. Mory Naha Jumper .8.03610
2. Marty Johns/Adale Driggers13.2399
3. Marvin Bowers/Amos Tiger14.8228

Women’s Barrels
1. Shelby Osceola17.35610
2. Trina Bowers.....18.0429
3. Emma J. Brown18.2088

Bull Riding
1. Shawn Best7510
2. Koty Brugh679

Preparing For The Games

It might have seemed like fun and games, but it was time to buckle down and get serious. It was July 24, one week before my Team Florida wrestlers — Mitchell Simmons, Tyrell Osceola, Peter Hahn and Austin Billie — each made an attempt for the ultimate prize ... a gold medal at the North American Indigenous Games in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada!

They would have to be both physically and mentally sharp if they were to have a shot at winning a match, let alone a medal. Because each of their opponents would be equally inspired; they, too, would be chasing down dreams of gold.

Wrestling, one of the world’s oldest sports (it dates back to 778 B.C.), is not the least bit easy. In fact, it’s arguably the toughest of all sports.

A competitor must be in superior all-around shape, possessing bull-like strength, snake-like quickness and cat-like agility, along with the cardiovascular capacity and determination of Rocky.

And perhaps the toughest aspect of all is that there’s no teammate to turn to for help once you’re on the mat. Each individual wrestler is ultimately responsible for his performance.

While there’s no higher feeling than having your hand raised after a pin, there nothing worse than losing on the mat.

And those feeling would only be magnified at the prestigious Indigenous Games.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Finally ... the week leading up to the Games!! After two years of planning, training and sacrifice, here we were on national television walking out to a crowd of 20,000 spectators cheering everyone on for the opening ceremonies. An abundance of colors, pounding drums and the largest contingent of aboriginal athletes ever assembled overwhelmed the crowd and even the organizers of the Games.

“This is awesome. This is your games,” said Alex Nelson, chairman of the NAIG council, as he looked at the largest opening ceremonies in the Games’ history.

“This was awesome, most impressive,” said Lavanna Niles of Team Florida. “I felt so proud to be part of something so special, the pride was flowing though my blood like never before.”

Despite the overwhelmingly exciting Games atmosphere, I told my team to stay focused. As wrestling coach of Team Florida, I held myself responsible for everyone on my squad.

The most important factor was for them not to lose their vision quest for the gold. We’d worked too hard in the months and weeks leading up to this moment to let it slip away.

Here is a great story from Winnipeg the city we were competing in. The morning after we arrived, we had the whole team packed in a van looking for somewhere nice to eat breakfast.

Since I was also the trainer, I recommended we not eat fast food (McDonalds). Instead, to hopefully find something nutritional for the boys, and they agreed.

Well, we drove about for 45 minutes (of course passing up about thirty fast-food places) looking for a diner or anything good. The van was sounding like pack of hungry wolves.

Finally, Mr. Simmons pulled into a car dealer to ask for help. The car was then surrounded by 6 salesmen admiring our van full of beef (about 1500 pounds of athletes) with our shining red Team Florida jackets.

We told them of our dilemma and Gary the salesman stepped up to the van and told us he was from Florida and that he would help. He recommended we go to the famous Dan’s breakfast and brunch at the Forks.

The Forks, which used to be a train station, is a great big food court and mini mall. This was also where the Games held live music concerts and trading posts for pins and stuff.

While he was giving us directions, we were looking at him like he was talking to us in Chinese.

Gary saw the confusion and hunger in our eyes. He told us to follow him and that he would lead us to the promised land.

As we pulled into the parking spaces, he promptly put money in our meter and walked us to Dan’s. Halfway there, he saw a couple that he knew. Within seconds, we were surrounding them with our stomachs growling.

He said good bye and walked us to our destination. He made sure we were taken care of and did not leave without food in our mouths.

We gave him some Team Florida pins and pens as a show of our gratitude. We even tried to offer him money, which he stubbornly declined!

As Gary was leaving, I was thanking him

for the millionth time. I asked why he would do such a kind gesture.

He said” Kenny, in life if you do kind things, then good things happen. Do you remember the couple I greeted earlier? They bought a car off of me years ago. They were actually telling me that their son is now old enough to drive and they were just discussing buying him one. They are going to come and see me later on this afternoon.”

He ended by saying, “If I would not have bought you here, I would have never seen them.”

Now I know why all of the license plates say *Friendly Manitoba*.

Training Schedule
Here is a synopsis of our training during the week before our first match:

Wednesday: Soon after we’d landed in friendly Manitoba and settled in, we went for a three-mile jog through the historic city.

There were two reasons why we ran so much. The first is that in wrestling a athlete has to be in the best condition possible.

The other reason is because for the first couple of days we did not have the facilities to hold a wrestling practice.

Thursday: We headed to the University of Manitoba track, where we started with a two-mile followed by a 15-minute stretch in the middle of the field.

Then we did ultimate suicides (sprints). We marked off 30 yards with a cone at each end.

After sprinting from one end to the other, we immediately did 20 push-ups, followed by 20 sit-ups and 20 mountain climbers.

Then, after a one-minute rest, we repeated the sequence until we’d completed eight in all.

We finished by running stadium steps.

We started at one end of the bleachers at the bottom, jogged until we reached the aisle, and then sprinted all the way up and down.

Once we made it down, we jogged the straightaway until we reached the next aisle and then sprinted up again. Doing this all around the stadium counts as one lap, and we did two of these.

Friday: I decided to have two practices, and we all agreed that we needed it. The morning practice consisted of a half-mile warm-up followed by stretching in the middle field.

Then, we ran six 100-yard sprints separated each by a one-minute rest. Then we did three stadiums.

We finished with descending sets of calisthenics (jumping jacks, push-ups, sit-ups and mountain climbers). This is a very difficult workout, as my boys can attest to.

We began by doing 35 repetitions of each exercise, followed immediately by 30 of each, then 25 each and so forth until we reached five. This is what separates the men from the boys.

The afternoon practice consisted of a three-mile run followed by three sets of 200 times around with two different jump ropes, a speed rope and a power rope. Between jump-rope sets we did 20 each of push-ups, sit-ups and mountain climbers.

Saturday: Probably the toughest practice day.

At 10:00 a.m., we started with a two-mile warm-up outside the stadium. This was tough because the area was very hilly, and we didn’t go around any in our path.

After stretching, we did eight shuttle runs, in which we sprinted down and forth twice between two cones that were 40 yards apart.

Then, we did four stadium step circuits, and finished with descending sets of calisthenics (starting at 45).

We returned to the track at about 6:00 p.m. to run three miles around the stadium, and finished with three stadium runs.

Sunday: Easy day ... just a three-mile run through the city before the Opening Ceremonies.

Monday: Finally, we were given access to a wrestling facility at the University of Winnipeg gym. We wrestled through a grueling, two-hour practice, culminating with calisthenics sets of 50 on down. That evening, we went for a four-mile jog through the city.

Tuesday: Another excruciating, two-hour practice in the morning, followed by a four-mile city run at night.

Wednesday: We went to the University of Manitoba wrestling room for a practice that was open to everyone competing.

Thursday: With weigh-in later that afternoon, and the opening day on Friday, we held our last practice at 6:00 a.m. so we could fine-tune moves and stay sharp.

Friday: Finally, the beginning of the competition we’ve been working so hard for!

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Jobs

Hollywood

Position: Admin. Asst.
Department: Corporate Board Acctg.
Salary: \$Negotiable with benefits.

Position: Alligator Wrestler
Department: Okalee Village
Salary: * Position still available *

Position: Foster Care Worker
Department: Health
Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits.

Position: Health Educator
Department: Health
Salary: \$30,000 annually with benefits.

Position: Operator Maintenance Trainee
Department: Utilities
Salary: \$18,720 annually with benefits.

Position: Operator Maintenance Trainee
Department: Utilities
Salary: \$18,720 annually with benefits.

Position: Medical Assistant
Department: Health
Salary: \$20,800 annually with benefits.

Position: Education Coordinator
Department: Education
Salary: \$Negotiable w/exp. & benefits.

Position: Maintenance Worker
Department: Building & Grounds
Salary: \$16,640 w/benefits.

Position: Tag Clerk
Department: Secretary Treasurer
Salary: \$ Negotiable w/ benefits.

Big Cypress

Position: Journeymen Electrician
Department: Housing
Salary: \$ Negotiable & commensurate w/ experience with benefits.

Position: Maintenance Mechanic (3)
Department: Housing
Salary: \$20,800 – 29,120 annually with benefits.

Position: Master Electrician
Department: Housing
Salary: \$ Negotiable & Commensurate with experience with benefits.

Position: Real Estate Services. Mgr.
Department: Residential Services
Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits.

Position: Receptionist
Department: President’s Office
Salary: \$20,800 annually with benefits.

Position: Chief Operating Officer
Department: Tribal Headquarters
Salary: \$ Negotiable w/experience, w/benefits

Position: Assistant Cook Mgr.
Department: Preschool
Salary: \$18,000 annually with benefits.

Position: Varying Exceptionalities Teacher
Department: Ahfachkee
Salary: Negotiable with experience with benefits.

Position: Exhibition Specialist
Department: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki
Salary: \$20,800 annually with benefits.

Position: Finance Manager
Department: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
Salary: \$26,000 annually with benefits.

Position: Physical Ed. /Health Teacher
Department: Ahfachkee School
Salary: \$Negotiable with Benefits

Position: Utility Clerk
Department: Utilities
Salary: \$18,700 annually with benefits.

Immokalee

Position: Skilled Carpenter (3)
Department: Housing
Salary: \$29,120 – 33,280 annually with benefits.

Position: Skilled Laborer (2)
Department: Housing
Salary: \$20,800 – 29,120 annually with benefits.

Position: Snake Handler
Department: Okalee Village
Salary: \$20,800 with benefits

Position: Working Superintendent (2)
Department: Housing
Salary: \$35,360 – 37,440 annually with benefits.

Position: Maintenance Worker
Department: Recreation
Salary: \$14,500 with benefits.

Position: Operator Maint. Trainee
Department: Utilities
Salary: \$18,700 annually with benefits.

Position: Teacher Aide 1 & 3 yrs.
Department: Preschool
Salary: \$18,150 annually with benefits

Position: Video Programmer
Department: Broadcasting

Brighton

Position: Foster Care Worker
Department: Health
Salary: \$ Negotiable w/benefits

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Police Officer
Starting Salary: \$35,992.95
Police Officer position available. Must already have his/her certification. Needs to be a citizen or have alien resident card, 19 years or older, with a high school diploma or GED. Shift work. Excellent benefits. If you are interested please call (954) 967-8900.

Poem

Remnants of a Nation
*We are destroying this **GIFT** that we’ve been given,
So we need to **DO** something about the way we are living.
My **SPIRIT** feels as if it’s being **tortured**,
When I can see how my people have **FORGOT** our culture.
Can’t you see that **WE** are so lucky,
That we were not **BORN** an aa-nut-kee!
All that they strive for is **MONEY & POWER**,
So that makes them nothing but a **COWARD**.
They are **STILL** trying to take away **OUR** lands,
For **WHAT?** So they can **EXPAND?**
Are **YOU** willing to act like some dummy,
FORGETTING who you are?
Just to have a little **MONEY** and drive that fancy **CAR!**
Living in **MATERIALISM** isn’t how to be,
If you do might as well be an **AA-NUT-KEE**.
My people are living in such a **HAZE**,
So much they forget our **TRADITIONAL** ways.
We need to start **PRESERVING** for the young generations **FUTURE**,
What should they be without any **CULTURE?**
A **YAT-KE-TESH-EE** doesn’t need to have some number;
WHEN are my people going to awake from this **SLUMBER?**
To be a yat-ke-tesh-ee don’t mean to get a **DIVI-DEND**,*

*It’s about having things you **CAN’T** even spend!
Please, will you **REALIZE** that a yat-ke-tesh-ee’s spirit is always **FREE**,
You must **SUSTAIN** the **KNOWLEDGE**, do you know what I mean???
You can’t get this from college or **BUY** it in some store,
YAT-KE-TESH-EE is to be a whole lot more!!!*

*Written By: Lea Osceola '02
of the Bird Clan*

*Another night so lonely, I cried myself to sleep.
Baby, if you knew, just how much I weep.
Even though I try, I can’t forget your charms.
Longing to see you, and hold you in these arms.*

*Honey, no one can’t ever take your place.
In my mind, I’ll always see your face.
Never in my life, have I known one like you.
Only if you could hear me, would you believe it’s true?
Just as always, I guess I’ll never know.
Oppress my love, you’ll, come back into my show.
Someday I hope, you’ll, so tie into my life.
All the while, this love cuts me like a knife.*

Lea Osceola '02

In Memoriam

In loving memory of Ricky Ray Baxley
Happy Birthday Daddy on Aug. 30, I have never forgot about you nor stopped thinking about you. My memories of us are neverending. It’s a struggle through life which I faced alone. I still can’t believe it’s almost been 7 years without you. I wish I could see you one more time I’ll never forget you for as long as I live. I’m so glad that you were my Dad and I was your little girl. And the love you gave me was all I needed. You were the best father ever. You’re number one in my heart and always will be. My love will continue to grow for you with every passing moment. You’re my inspiration and that will never change. I love you Daddy!
Love always,
Your first daughter
Carolee J. Nelson

Ricky Ray Baxley
Another year has come and gone and yet my pain still lingers on I’m waiting for the day I see you again and waiting for the feeling of happiness to begin People don’t understand the loss of you, they even tell me you’re not my real Dad too. I don’t care what they say it doesn’t matter to me, I was your little girl You did everything to fulfill my world. From the day I was born until the day you left, You gave me unconditional love that I could never forget. Happy Birthday Daddy wherever you are I’ll be missing you near or far.
Love,
Carolee J. Nelson

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❖ Incubus❖

❖ Rolling Stones❖

❖ Bruce Springsteen❖

Announcements ♦ Ahnahhegeh ♦ Nakorkerkecetv



Wedding



Congratulations to **George Micco and Stella R.**, who were United in Marriage on July 27, 2002.

Birth



Jennifer and Kenny are happy to celebrate their new arrival baby **KJ Davis** born July 29 at 4:58 weighing 9 pounds 5 ounces, measuring 18 inches long.



Hunter O'Donnell, Aug. 10, 2001. May you have a real blessed birthday, my "little big man", **Happy 1st. Grams**



Happy 32nd Birthday Daddy on September 2! Love always, your baby boy **Robbi**.

Happy Birthday Mike, we hope you have a great day you old fart! Love always, your baby's **momma**.



Wishing you a very **Happy 18th Birthday. Clinton**, you have grown into a fine young man that we are very proud of, and I know you will be a good person. Your father would be very proud of you. Love from your **mom, dad, brothers, aunts and cousins**.



Happy Belated 6th Birthday to our special daughter **Delaney Rayann Osceola** on August 13. It just seems like it was yesterday you were born and now you are growing up. We hope your birthday was special like you are. We love you very much, Dad and Mom.

We would like to wish our big sister a happy belated birthday, and we love you sis. Imillakiyo and Yopalakiyo



September 1, 2002. **Happy 10th Birthday** to our "Boo" **CeeJae!!** We love you baby! **Camellia, Jarrid, Stephanie & Vinson**

Happy Birthday to Michelle Billie from your son **Mo**.



Twice the fun! Twice the grins! It's Birthday Time for two special twins! Each of you are wonderful in your own special way . . . and we love you both the same. **Happy 5th Birthday** on Sept. 8th. We love you, Dad and Mom.

Happy Birthday to my brothers **Imillakiyo and Yopalakiyo Osceola**. I love you, Delaney.



We would like to wish **Malcolm DeeJay Jones** Happy 1st Birthday on Sept. 11th. You made us happy on a sad day that no one will ever forget. **Happy Birthday Baby!** From: Mom, Dad, Mel, She, and Deveon and the rest of your Brighton family.

Also to the rest of our Osceola family:

- Delaney** – August 13
 - Minnie** – August 6
 - Cody** – August 20
 - Cady** – August 29
 - Imillakiyo & Yopalakiyo & George** – Sept. 8
 - Malcolm** – Sept. 11
 - Richard** – Sept. 13
- Happy Birthday!**

We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to **Richard F. Osceola** on Sept. 13. We hope your birthday is as special as you are. We love you. Dana, Delaney, Imillakiyo and Yopalakiyo

Happy 18th Birthday, **Ashley Elaine Cypress**. Wishing you the best of luck in school and life. You are one of the nicest young ladies we know. Love, from Barbara, Clinton, and boys.

Congratulations



Congratulations to **Melanie Danielle Jones!** On participating in an all-star tournament with Okeechobee All-Stars. Melanie plays shortstop for the team. Although you didn't get first place and finished 2nd we are still proud of you, so keep playing hard as now you will be on the road playing with the Okeechobee Traveling Team. Good Luck and we love you, Mom, Dad, She, Malcolm, and Deveon, Richard & Family and Grandpa and Grandma.



Wishing you a **Happy Birthday** this **September** to **Virginia Osceola** and many more, the Communications Staff.



We want to wish **Amya Elle Baxley** Happy 3rd Birthday on September 10. We love you very much. Keep smiling and stay cool! Love Dad, Mom, Daija, Chooge, Teja.

September Birthdays

Lena Gopher
Alice Tony Osceola
Alice Micco Snow
Leoda Josephine Osceola
Albert Osceola Sr.
Herbert Mills Cypress
Johnny F Tucker Sr.
Anne Osceola Jumper
Leah Johns Minnick
Patsy Billie
Billy Wm. L Cypress
Billie Micco
Judy Ann Baker
Agnes Bowers
Alice Osceola
Lorraine L Cypress
Tommy Henson Billie
David Jumper
Rudy Osceola
Michael Clay
Raymond Osceola
Cecil Jumper
Mary Foster Tigertail
Reuben Henry Billie, Sr.
Daniel Jumper
Claudia Cypress Doctor
Amos Tiger
Genesis Osceola
Leroy Billie
Elias (Noah) Jim
Nettie Doctor Stewart
Marvin Jason Billie, Sr.
Elton Carl Baxley
Sharon Debbie Osceola
Jenny Doctor
Diane Snow Smith
Samuel C. Osceola Sr.
Linda Lee Storm
Diane Marie Roberts
Mingo Jones
Geraldine Osceola
Sandy Billie Jr.
Mahala Ruth Madrigal
Cordell D Jumper Sr.
Darline Buster
Glenn Emmons Osceola
Virginia Osceola
Vincent William Micco
Sylvia Ann Tommie
Oliver Billie
Clinton Howard Tommie
Christine Jimmie Franklin
Grace Marie Koontz
Hyde Jim Gopher
James Junior Balentine
Freeman Osceola
Timothy Allen DeHass
Arnie Lou Gore
Tracey Smith
Celeste Billie
Manuel Garza
Johnny Lee Jimmie
Edith Ann Smith
Brenda Elizabeth Fuller
Victoria Sue Baker
Patricia Ann Wilcox
Tina Marie Osceola
Norman Jeffery Billie
Pernell Hosea Bert
Rufus Tiger, Jr.
Eric Lee Tiger
Christopher Scott Osceola
Wade Parrish Osceola
Douglas Mitchell Smith
Mariel Johanna Gopher
Peggy Kim Osceola
Michelle Louise Billie
Louis Dixie Jim, Jr.
Stacy Lynn Sanchez
Robert Allen Stivers
Franklin James Moore Jr.
Lyle Vandell Billie
Toby Libra Johns
Tisha Lee Walker
Larry Lee Howard
Paulette Renee Lawrence

Dorothy Alice Benson
Tara Dale Robbins
Rita Jayne Gopher
Sherri Jumper
Virginia Carmen Garcia
Dawn Marie Billie
Michael Micco
Wendi Elizabeth Bowers
Adam Ray Turtle
Richard Francis Osceola
Lenora Marlene Roberts
Jackie Leona Smith
Stephanie Lynn Hyatt
Catherine Janell Alexander
Gilbert Wayne King
Dallas Nunez
Elton James Shore
Tj Koenes
Sara Billie Osceola
Lavanda Yvonne Tommie
Thomas Jeffery Storm
Louise Billie
Jeremy Smith
Justin Davis
Melissa Joy Osceola
Caryn Billie
Daniel Gibson
Elliot Audris Young
Lenny Ray Jim
Jimmy Joe Pacheco
Suraiya Tiffany Youngblood
Rena Michelle Frank
Tirell Octavius Timothy
Raymond Charles Stewart Jr.
Mandy Wesley
Maressa A Cantu
Davey Lee Snow
Alexander Rodregus Tommie
Elijah Davaughn Marrero
Leslie Renee Fish
Avalon Susie Jumper
Jason Todd Osceola
Alfred Roy Tucker
George Henry Osceola
Cecilia Pequeno
Jonah Charles H Billie
Jessica Frances Buster
Dwayne Billie
Zena Elizabeth A Simmons
Derrick Curtis Johns
Brian Christopher Osceola
Leon James Billie
Bruce Keith Tommie
Adrian Michael Baker
Christopher Ray Green
Justin Campos
Amanda Lee Sisneroz
Ildy Jose Garcia
Raynaldo Yzaguirre, III,
Bryan Wayne Arledge
Courtney Michelle Doctor
Tiffany Nicole Frank
Joshua Andrew Girtman
Tatiana Luisa Gomez
Lucas Kaine Osceola
Onnie Dallas Cypress
Russell Chip Wilson
Heather Nikole Josh
Lysandra Frances Apa Osceola
Celeste Theresa Stockton
Robert Donald Cypress, Jr.
James Frank Tiger, Jr.
Courtney Lissite Sanchez
William Scott Nelson
Josiah Clifford Williams
Ernest Keith Stout
Dominic Porter Venzor, Jr.
Travis Quentin Pacheco
Marlissa Angnette Tiger
Stephanie Leeann Hall
Megan Courtney Jones
Damen Kirk Bert
Garrett Billie Anderson
Dean Tommie Stokes, Jr.
Solita Murina Perez
Spencer Lee Battiest

Kalisa Denise Baker
Clayton Isaac Hall
Nicole Marie Osceola
Letitia Teal Foster
Brandon Daniels Billie
Demi Marie Garza
Ethan Lynn Gopher
Bret Noah Spencer
Hudson Roberts Jumper
Esmeralda Sabrina Billie
Ceejae Dakota Smith
Courtney Ann Kippenberger
Terence Daniels Billie
Deandra Rogene Tiger
Kaylee Brianna Jumper
Tianna Hall Garcia
Klayton Duane Sanders
Kassandra Lorn Brady
Jonathan Dustin Robbins
Jessica Lyn Motlow
Jason Gregory Melton, II,
Akol Markuise Billie
Tyler Joshua Baker
Kristy Rebecca Johns
Leonardo Yzaguirre
Vcenv Totkv Bowers
Shawna Colleen Billie
Kelton Kelbert Josh
Anthony Mitchell Cypress
Alexander Lee Buck
Kaitlin Michelle Billy
Destiny Jade Nunez
Tylor Duane Tigertail
Randy Marc Shore
Huber Leon Jr.
Zechariah Nathaniel Lacey
Rickyjoe Osceola Alumbaugh
Kirsten Elise Doney
Brianna Skye Nunez
Reagan Thawdape Whitecloud
Katelyn Rene Young
Darryl Jay Billie
Jennifer Marlene Holdiness
Skyler Lain Burke
Daniel Nunez, Jr.
Kendal Lauren Bowers
Fairuza Bentley Billie
Imillakiyo R D Osceola
Yopalakiyo R J Osceola
Tyrus Colby Billie
Kalgary Ann Johns- Motlow
Jayce Tulane Smith
Knananochet Agullbu Osceola
Brydgett Thai Koontz
Rachael Marie Jumper
Taryn Montana Storm
Hunter Jacob Tiger
Graysdn Beartrack Billie
Sydnee Rayzheen Cypress
Odessa Rayne King
Bly James Davidson
Dennis Manuel Gonzales, Jr.
Kenzie Skylar Motlow
Logan Cj Ortiz
Rhett Anthony Tiger
Bethany Karyn Billie
Elizabeth Marie Osceola
Randee Patricia Osceola
Michaela Raquel Cypress
Blake Oscar Baker
Aiyana Leann Tommie
Amya Elle Baxley
Mariah Bowers
Pernell Paul Bert
Cecil Shadow Wolf Johns
Jonathan Lonnie-Chey Buck
Cassidy Dawn Bert
Danyelle Jaime Boromei
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Robert Allen Stivers, Jr.
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Miss Florida Seminole Princess Pageant



Princess

Continued from page 1

Miss Seminole Mercedes Osceola and Jr. Miss Seminole June Jumper, along with emcee Moses Jumper Jr., again introduced the contestants of the Miss Seminole and Jr. Miss Seminole pageant.

This time, the contestants were called up to introduce and share a little bit about themselves to everyone in attendance. This allowed everyone, especially the judges, to see how articulate and well spoken these young women are.

Each one of the contestants were clothed in beautiful Seminole patchwork outfits and shared their knowledge of Seminole culture.

The members of the Princess Committee were also introduced. Many members of the committee are former Miss Seminoles who still promote the contest and what it stands for: positive Seminole representation.

Then it was Saturday, the big day. The contestants started off with "personal interviews" with the judges. During this process, the judges begin to learn how a contestant speaks, how well they present themselves, and how knowledgeable they are about their people and culture, and if they are committed to getting an education.

The personal interview also helps the judges to become acquainted with the contestants in a one-on-one atmosphere. This is important, because the judges can see the communication level of a contestant, which is important.

The personal interviews also show how well a contestant can handle questions when put on the spot, so to speak. It also displays a contestant's knowledge of current events and how conscious they are of the world around them.

The time had finally arrived for the evening event, which was held the Administrative building. The lobby was packed with Tribal citizens who had come to cheer on their favorite contestant, but everyone socialized during the community dinner, which was served to all who attended the event.

Excitement filled the air as Moses Jumper Jr., and co-host Suraiya Youngblood began the event with an introduction of the judges. Each judged conveyed how privileged they felt to be given the chance to select the new Miss and Jr. Miss Seminole.

After the judges spoke, Moses then introduced the Tribal Officials present at the pageant.

The first to be called up was Max Osceola, Jr., the Council Representative for Hollywood. Max spoke of the pride he felt by having the Seminole Tribe being represented by these beautiful young women.

Osceola said that the young contestants were a reflection of the tribe, the elders, and the family.

"While the Seminoles, at one time, did not have much money or a lot of material possessions, they were always rich in tradition, culture, and family," said Osceola.

Osceola said that, although there would only be two crowned princesses, all of the participants were winners because they were involved in the pageant. They were present because they are the best the tribe has to offer.

This year, the qualifications for entry into the pageant had been raised. These young women had to excel in tradition, culture, and in school. Everyone knows education is the key, but these young women must personify that belief because they are going to represent the tribe.

"When they go out, others will see Seminole," said Osceola, who also said he was proud of them because of the representation they will be conveying. Osceola then gave his thanks for being able to share his thoughts with the audience.

Other representatives called on to

share a few encouraging words were John Wayne Huff, Council Representative for Brighton; Elaine Aguilar, Council Representative for Immokalee; and William Osceola, Council Liaison for the Tamiami Trail.

They wished all of the contestants the best of luck and said that the contestants were all winners, no matter what place they took home, or if they placed at all.

Joe Dan Osceola, Ambassador to the tribe, remarked that the Princess Pageant has grown roots within the tribe's history and that the women chosen to represent the tribe have always done so in a positive manner. He said that he was glad to see so many Tribal officials supporting the pageant and the contestants.

Suraiya then introduced the reigning Miss Seminole Mercedes Osceola and Jr. Miss Seminole June Jumper. Mercedes wished all the contestants well and thanked everyone for coming out to support the pageant.

Jr. Miss Seminole June Jumper welcomed everyone to the event and thanked them for their support. She also intoned that all the contestants were winners no matter if they won or lost in the pageant.

June acknowledged that it took a lot of courage for them to enter and compete in the pageant and that they should be proud of who they are. She again wished all the contestants the best of luck and congratulated them for their efforts.

Recognition was extended to the tribe's other titleholders in attendance, including 2002-2003 Little Mr. Seminole Eric Garcia, 2002-2003 Miss Brighton Codene Jumper, Jr. Miss Brighton Jenna McDuffie, and Brooke Osceola, the 2002-2003 Little Miss Seminole.

Suraiya then started things off by introducing the Jr. Miss Seminole contestants by number.

The first contestant was Mary Huff of the Brighton Reservation. Contestant number 2 was Erica Billie of Immokalee. Contest number 3 was Christine McCall of Hollywood. Contestant number 4 was Stephanie Hall of the Big Cypress reservation.

Contestant number 5 was Codene Jumper of the Brighton Reservation. Contestant number 6 was Janet Billie of the Immokalee Reservation. Last, but not least, was contestant number 7 Harmony Stewart of the Hollywood Reservation.

The next group to be introduced were the Miss Seminole contestants.

The first contestant came from Tamiami Trail, Ida Frances Osceola. The second contestant was Rachel Billie who came from Tamiami Trail as well.

During the introductions, a number of contestants gave their Seminole name and clan, some speaking in their native language. This impressed the judges, as well as a number of pageant attendees.

After the introduction segment, the Seminole Outfit review was conducted. Each contestant wore an impressive ensemble of patchwork clothing.

The contestants were called onto the stage and modeled the clothes, which ranged from traditional to modern traditional, for the judges and the audience.

After the outfit review was the much-anticipated Talent presentation.

Mary Huff spoke of a legend about the "Box Turtle", Erica Billie did as well. Christine McCall and Harmony Stewart demonstrated the art of making palmetto.

Stephanie Hall gave a demonstration about sweetgrass basket weaving. She described, in detail, the supplies needed to make a basket, obtaining the supplies, and finally, how to create a basket that would be considered a work of art.

Contestant number 5 Codene Jumper performed the song, "In the Sweet Bye and Bye," in the Creek language. Codene gave an excellent performance and received a rousing round of applause when she was finished.

Contestant number 6 Janet Billie spoke about the game of "stickball" and the equipment needed to play. She also

explained how the game is played between men and women.

All of the Jr. Miss contestants were well versed in their talent/demonstration. The next to present their talent/demonstration were the Miss Seminole contestants.

Ida Osceola demonstrated the art of "stomp dancing". She displayed the equipment needed to create the shakers, using examples dating back to the 1800's to the present style used today.

Rachel Billie demonstrated the art of fry bread making. She demonstrated how the flour and water are mixed and used to create bread so scrumptious many people have been known to sell their souls for it.

She even had a few samples that, to the audience's despair, she handed out to the judges ONLY. Remind me to try and be judge next time.

After the Talent segment, a video, created by the Seminole Broadcasting Department, was shown. The video was rich in historical photos of Seminole women and video footage of past princess pageants.

It was a wonderful tribute that celebrated the longevity of the princess pageant and to the beauty within all Seminole women.

Then, it was "Impromptu Questions" time. Some the questions asked were "What is being done in your community to promote diabetes awareness?" and "The tribe has two languages, what are they and how important is it to maintain them?"

Some of these questions stumped a few of the contestants. Which was the point, these impromptu questions help determine if an individual can handle questions while representing the tribe.

The questions showed how the princesses would likely react to some of the questions about their people, culture, and beliefs.

It also showed how well the tribe will be represented by whoever is chosen to wear the Miss Seminole or Jr. Miss Seminole crown.

After an intermission that featured the "Black Hawk Blues Band," it was finally time to announce the winners for the "Talent" and "Miss Congeniality" awards. The talent winners were Stephanie Hall and Ida Osceola in the Jr. Miss and Miss Seminole categories, respectively.

Miss Congeniality was awarded in the Jr. Miss category to Mary Huff and Ida Osceola in the Miss Seminole category. The "Miss Congeniality" award was based on points given by other contestants, not the judges.

The moment had come to announce the winners.

In the Junior Miss category, Third Runner Up went to Codene Jumper, Second Runner Up to Stephanie Hall, First Runner Up was Christine McCall and the new Junior Miss Seminole 2002-2003 was Mary Huff of Brighton!

With a loud cheer from the audience, Mary became the newly crowned Junior Miss Seminole.

When the next crown was being announced, a hush fell over the audience who wondered, would it be Rachel or Ida?

The Third Runner Up was Rachel Billie, which meant the newly crowned Miss Seminole 2002-2003 was none other than Ida Osceola.

Again, a loud cheer rose from the crowd, as a stunned Ida received the crown she had competed for over the last three days.

Congratulations to Ida and Mary, there is no doubt these two young women will represent the Seminole Tribe proudly and honorably.

Congratulations also to all of the young women who entered the pageant. You all showed that you could compete with beauty, grace, and perseverance!

Good luck to the Ida and Mary, our new princesses in the upcoming year, may you travel to new places and have wonderful experiences as you represent the Tribe with pride, honor and tradition.

