

The Indian Leader

The Oldest Native American Student Newspaper

Since 1897



Native American Journalists Association

Volume 113 - Issue 3



New Haskell Security Offers Safety Advice for Students



By Joshua D. Woospitti
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Security at Haskell Indian Nations University has received help through Vend Tech Enterprise, a security enforcement agency which is located in Wichita, Kansas. Through this agency Haskell made a contract for five years to have security guards be placed here at Haskell to help patrol the grounds. The former security used to be Teddi James and Ernie Wilson. Since the dorms have less Residential Assistants (RA), Teddi has been placed with Roe Cloud Hall and Ernie Wilson with Osceola-Keokuk (OK) Hall. Both of the former security have been detailed, Teddi was moved last year and Ernie this semester.

Ernie "Chief" Wilson has been detailed to OK Hall until May of this year. Mr. Wilson's job title still reads the same, Federal Security. This new detail is for the betterment of the school as well as campus safety. With his new working environment he can help monitor the largest co-ed dorms on campus. Ernie stated that an advantage of having multiple security officers on duty was that there would be "a lot of extra hands to watch the campus." He believes the security is doing what they are supposed to be doing. The security on campus, deal with the same procedures as the rest of employees at Haskell. They have to have the clearance to drive the government vehicles, gators and have a processed background check on file.

The first security officers is named David Edmonds. His perspective of his detail here at Haskell thus far is "great, the staff and students are great, everyone is polite." His average night includes checking the doors around the campus, dorms and patrolling the campus. Haskell Indian Nations University is just like any major university, so students

need to be careful when returning to their dorms. Anything could happen and some advice Mr. Edmonds talks about is "to always be around someone. Because when you are by yourself there are things that can happen. This campus is lit very well, but there are also a number of dark areas." Students should always remember that your safety is always important and try to avoid any unnecessary harm while here at Haskell.

The second security officer, Russell Bonebreak of the Citizen Band Potawatomi tribe has been working in law enforcement/security since 2000. With his experience within this field his main focus would be kept on the students who walk in and out of the back doors of the campus dormitories. "Do not prop open the back doors, they are closed for the safety of the students." What Mr. Bonebreak is referring to is that if a back door is left open any unwanted intruder could walk in, potentially harming students and threatening the safety of those who follow the campus rules and guidelines. There are rules that every student must follow. If you are questioning his position on this specific rule, ponder this: what if you had a younger sister who just came to Haskell and she followed the rules. Yet, a student who propped open a backdoor and let a stranger walk in. What would you do if this "hypothetical sister" of yours was raped? Any student, faculty, staff and employee would probably do what they could to promote campus awareness. This is a very good reason why these campus rules should be followed.

The third Vend Tech Enterprise's security is Charles Greer. He has been active at Haskell since Dec. 1, 2009. Charles talks about how "the students are really pleasant, they are nice to deal with." His average nights are checking the perimeters of the structures on the campus. The security also double checks the wetlands and patrolling around the sweat lodges and outside perimeter of Haskell Indian Nations University.

Haskell Cheer Squad Says Good-bye to Icon

jumps, even earning his self the nickname "Toe-touch." He is not only an inspiration to the crowd and players but to his fellow teammates both in and out of practice. Leading by example every step of the way, he pushes others to reach their full potential and push themselves to their limits. "He's been kind of our sole male on the team and he does a lot, we are going to miss him when he goes. He's been a joy to work with," said Haskell cheer coach, Dena Johnston, "replacing him will be hard to do."

At the last home game of the 2009-2010 basketball season, seniors from the men's and women's teams were recognized in a half time ceremony. The senior athletes were called to the center of the court and were honored with an honor song and received congratulations from their coaches, peers, and those in the crowd. Standing just

The security can be seen either walking or driving around the campus and talking with students who have any problems. Charles goes on to say "You have students who are going to school to better themselves, and I am all for that." His roots go deep since he was a former Lawrence police officer for 30 years and a Deputy Sheriff for 12. With his past law enforcement experience, the campus and faculty should feel relieved in knowing that he would do what he can for the students and dorm staff. Mr. Greer also described how the older he gets, the more tolerant he becomes. With this tolerance it will help him when dealing with a situation that requires his attention.



David Edmonds (Left) and Ernie Wilson (right) keep the campus and the students safe.

It is Security officers on the Haskell campus job to keep the students safe. The officers are here for campus safety of the students, residential advisors and visitors to the campus. After discussing how the campus should be impacted, all of whom responded with saying that more officers mean less trouble. Or if trouble would arise, there would be multiple people to help deal with any situation that comes up. If you have any questions about what you can do to help promote campus safety please talk with one of the security officers or talk with the Haskell Safety Team at Haskell ext. 763.

The Haskell Security office is located in Roe Cloud Hall first floor. The Indian Leader staff wishes the best of luck to these individuals and wishes for their safety while they are keeping the students of this campus safe.

a few feet away from the sidelines was another senior athlete who had also been at every game, cheering for them every step of the way.

At the end of this semester Sheridan will be graduating with his Bachelor's Degree from the Indigenous and American Indian Studies program and plans to put his talents as a leader to use and go on to be an elementary school teacher on a reservation. He would also like to continue to contribute to the Haskell cheer squad as an assistant coach and cheer choreographer in the years to come. He encourages any and everyone, male and female, to try out for next year's team. Try outs will be held in April on the 22nd, 24th, and 26th. For more information visit the Cheer Squad page on the Haskell website at www.haskell.edu or reach Coach Dena Johnston at djkjandfam@yahoo.com.

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Upcoming Stamp Dance

Upcoming Events:

- March 2, 9
Student Senate Meeting
6:00 P.M. Sjidham Hall
- March 4, 9, 11
Beginning Beadwork
Minoka Hall
- March 5, 12
Indian Leader Meeting
12:30P.M. Tecumseh Hall
- March 13
Ice Skating
Dinner at Golden Corral
- March 15-20
SPRING BREAK
Alternative Spring Break

Photo by Miciana Hutcherson



Ricky Sheridan carries his nickname of "Toe-Touch" with his display of athleticism.

By Miciana Hutcherson
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Ricky Sheridan is the only senior on the Haskell varsity cheer squad. He has been on the team since 2006 and has been the team captain for two years running. He is a dedicated athlete who doesn't take his position lightly, leading the team with unparalleled tenacity, spirit, and enthusiasm. It is clear to anyone he meets that he is passionate about his sport and says "I'm going to miss it, it was a really good experience for me." When asked what the highlight of his career would be, looking up with a bittersweet smile and glint in his eye he simply said "there's no one highlight".

Over the years, Sheridan has become somewhat of an icon at school sporting events, getting the crowd pumped up with his amazing stunts and awe-inspiring

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Letters to the Editor

You are an integral part of the Haskell community and we want to know how your college experience is shaping up for you. Care to share your opinions, views or wishes with your fellows here on campus?

Then write it down and send it to the Indian Leader so we can all get to know what makes you tick, what ticks you off or what your two-cents is really worth.

All letters received are subject to edit, refusal or publication. By submitting a letter you are giving us permission to publish and edit. You also acknowledge that you are the author and accept all responsibilities. Your full name, Haskell email and cell number, if you have one, MUST accompany all submissions and are subject to verification.

--Thank You-Staff--

From The Indian Leader Editor's Desk



Michael Dunaway
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Apathy is a dangerous thing. It is easier to be interested in the new app on an Ipad than it is to take an interest in what's going on around campus. In the senate room, most students only attend under threat that their club will be sanctioned. Clubs have seen a drop in their attendance.

Haskell is a family and our experiences here will be carried throughout our lifetime. What do we want those experiences to be? It is up to each of us to create our own Haskell experience. Even when someone steps up it is hard for them to find support for their efforts. Most people are more interested in tearing down people than helping them to step up. Haskell has been referred to as "crabs in a bucket". Crabs never get out of a bucket because they spend all of their time trying to get to the

top of the pile while pulling the other crabs down.

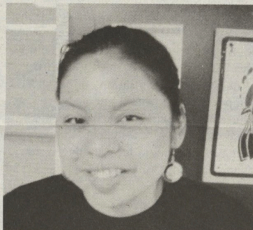
The Indian Leader would like to ask the students to start participating in Haskell. Go to club meetings. Start a new club. Try something different. The students have all the power on the campus. The staff, faculty, and administration work for the students. Without the students, Haskell wouldn't exist.

A group of students is going to Washington to lobby for the National Science Foundation this week. Also this week a group of students is going to New York for Israel Apartheid Week. A support group for women is also forming on campus along with a sorority. March 3rd there is scheduled a student forum where students can ask questions of the administration and staff. These are just a few examples of what Haskell students are capable of doing. These students didn't ask the administration permission to do these things, they told the school what they are doing.

The Indian Leader is proud to announce that we have become the first tribal

What Are you Going to Do with Your Pell Grant Money?

Photos and Survey by Brandon Bandy



Shalaya Williams
Umatilla from Oregon
Senior, Tribal Management

"I always use my pell to travel with. I have hit almost every mainland state. I plan to go to Hawaii. At the end of the year me and the foreigners plan to do a west coast tour."



Christopher Marshall
Creek/Euchee/Navajo/Paiute
Junior, Media Communications

"I won't get pell until the end of the semester so I plan to use it for my tuition and summer travel."



Ira Mesplie
Umatilla
Freshman

"I'm an off-campus student so I plan to use my pell for rent and other bills that I have."



Colene Wagnon
UKB Cherokee
Freshman

"I use my pell to help me pay for bills, rent and tuition."



Cecilia Curley
Navajo (Dine')
Junior, Business

"I plan on utilizing my funds in a responsible way. I want to conserve it for summer school, to buy textbooks, pay bills and pay for tuition. I also want to have money for anything that might come up. P.S. I wish I could use it for spring break and blow it all in Mexico... Just kidding."



Lynnasha Galbreath
Navajo
Freshman

"I plan on using it to buy a car!"

Haskell Student Veterans Association Does Community Service

by Brandie Chavez
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Early morning on Sunday Feb. 21, 2010 the Student Veterans Association provided sack lunches for the homeless people in Lawrence. The club members were very eager and happy to start with the preparation of the lunches. The members all took on a role for the sandwich assembly. One did the bread, others did the lettuce, meat, and cheese. Over sixty lunch bags were put together by the club all filled with sandwiches, chips, cookies, with an orange or apple.

Once the sandwiches were completed the club members all decided to car pool to the local homeless shelter in Lawrence. Club members followed each other to Kentucky St. and 10th St. to the homeless shelter from Winona Hall on campus.

When the club walked into the shelter everyone was very eager and happy to grab a lunch bag. They were also very happy to see that the club brought a lot of jackets and sweaters that they had been collecting for weeks before the donation. Many

of the homeless people were happy to have received a free lunch. All were very happy to share thank you's and smiles to the club members. One man in the shelter commented "thank you. I could get used to this, now I don't have to wear a lot of jackets I could just wear one." He was one of the people that received a heavy coat from the pile of jackets the Student Veterans Association donated to the shelter.

The club president Mr. Fernando Foster reflected on the community service he and his club did. He said "I'm happy. I feel good, I like it. You can tell I have a big smile on my face." He really wanted to make a point saying "people these days do not take the time to help someone who is in need." The Student Veterans Association helped the people who needed it during the toughest times of the winter. People who represented all races, all ages, even the young adults that are the same age as any student at Haskell Indian Nations University. Mr. Foster said that one of the members looked around for a place in Lawrence to do community service. The Student Veterans Association wanted to do a community service project all semester. They wanted to do it not only to represent their club but Haskell University as well.



Photo by Brandie Chavez

Haskell Student Veterans Association making sandwiches for Lawrence's homeless population

HINU American Indian Youth Extension Program

by Benton Cooksey
Benton.Cooksey@haskell.edu



For this spring break, if you are not leaving town, you can volunteer your time and make a difference in the community March 15-20, 2010. The Haskell Extension Volunteer Program will be working out at the Pelathe Community Resource Center at 1423 Haskell Avenue. According to the Haskell Extension pamphlet, the goal of the Haskell's Youth Development Program is to "encourage the existence of positive activities for American Indian Youth."

Pelathe, Lawrence's Indian Center, has been closed for some time and volunteers will be cleaning the grounds to get it in shape for reopening. There are future plans for a community garden in the back and a garden behind Winnemucca Hall here on campus.

Volunteers on this alternative

spring break will also be going to two elderly homes: the Pioneer Ridge at 4851 Harvard Road and Brandon Woods at 1501 Inverness Drive. They will be holding games and activity times with the elders, and spending time to talk with them.

"Everybody is welcome to come out, help the elders and give back to the community. Students will find it fulfilling and rewarding," stated Valerie Switzler, Haskell Extension assistant. For more information on this alternative spring break contact Valerie Switzler (785) 832-6663 Minoka Hall room 112.

Upcoming events:
Alternative Spring Break March 15-20, 2010
Beginning Beadwork- May Anne Mitchell, March 4, 9, and 11, TU & TR 101 Minoka Hall
Tae Kwon Do- Thomas "Ed" Smith, Present to May, TU 3:45-5:00 PM Fitness Trailer
Handmade Star Quilts- Kepsy Fixico, Present to April 24, 2010, Saturday 2-4 PM OK Hall

Haskell Alumnus C.C. Roberts Passes Away



by Joshua Woospitti
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Jenks, OK- Calvin Coolidge (C.C.) Roberts passed away at the age of 88, on Jan. 1, 2010 at Glenwood Health Center in Glenpool, OK, located just three miles from his residence in Jenks, Oklahoma.

C.C. was born to Solomon Roberts and Carrie Eva Osborn on December 15, 1921 at the family residence in Bennington, Oklahoma. Childhood memories included spending time with his brothers Woodie, Grady, and Gloyd. Mr. Roberts was a golfer and spent his days fixing things around the house.

C.C. joined the national guard and was the youngest sergeant at age 16. Mr. Roberts completed a Navy tour and on Feb. 6, 1941 he was honorably discharged as fireman third class after serving on tankers.

Calvin Coolidge "C.C." Roberts attended Haskell, studying welding. While attending Haskell Mr. Roberts met his wife, He married Ina Mae McGuire of Pawnee, OK., on May 29, 1943 in Savannah, Georgia. In May of 2009 they celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary.

He was proud of his full blood, Choctaw Nation heritage and will be missed. He is survived by his wife Ina, daughter Brenda Cum-

mings of Jenks, Ok.; grandchildren Jonathan Enoch and Jenny Ann Cummings of Midland, TX; Carrie Eva and Mike Thompson of Dublin, CA; three great-grandchildren, Kristen Rose and Colton Calvin Cummings, Nicholas Robert Thompson, and his brother Gloyd and wife Coring Haggard Roberts of Lawton, OK.

Mr. Roberts was preceded in death by his parents Solomon and Carrie Roberts, Woodrow Armstrong and Rose Roberts, and Grady Roberts.

Graveside services were held 2pm Sat., Jan. 2, 2010 at the Highland Cemetery Chapel in Durant, Oklahoma. Interment was at the Highland Cemetery. Michael Thompson officiated the service. Services were provided by the Coffey-Murray Funeral Home in Durant, OK.

The Indian Leader Association, Haskell NAJA student chapter, and the Haskell family would like to send their condolences to the Roberts family. We would like to thank his daughter Brenda Cummings for sending his information and obituary from the Sapulpa Daily to be put in this edition of the Indian Leader.

If anyone has any funeral regarding obituaries, Haskell births, Haskell weddings, job promotions or other important information, please send your information to: Haskell Indian Nations University, ATTN: Indian Leader, Box 4999, Lawrence, KS -66046.

Cross-Country Team and Runners donate 'Shoes for Haiti'

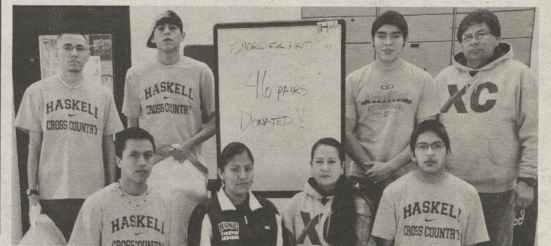
by Von Villareal
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On one of the nicer days during the last week of January, a few of the members from the cross-country team took a run downtown. As they were there heading in the general area, they decided to stop into Gary Gribbles Running Sports store to check out the upcoming road races in the area. While there, they noticed a flier that stated Gary Gribbles was collecting footwear for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. Along with the fliers about upcoming races, each runner grabbed a flier regarding the 'Shoes for Haiti' campaign.

Upon returning to Thorpe Fitness Center, the runners decided to try to collect here at Haskell for Gary Gribbles' campaign. They set up a sign with a box for donations. Shortly after that, the cross-country team put up fliers around

campus informing other students of what they were trying to do. They weren't sure how much the student body would be able to contribute, but they wanted to try to give back and help where they could. The community, Haskell's student body and the faculty stepped up and showed great support. The Haskell Cross Country team had collected 46 pairs of shoes by 1:00pm on Thurs. Feb. 18th. However, before we were completely finished we had received a total of 68 pairs of shoes for this campaign.

The Haskell Cross-Country team and 'Shoes for Haiti' would like to say thank you to all of those that gave their support. A thank you to all that showed their support by either giving, spreading the campaign by word of mouth and organizing the event. A huge thank you to all that donated shoes!



Back Row L to R: Dwight Carlston, Delvin Benny, Bryn Fragua and Coach Gipp. Front Row L to R: Angelo James, Lenora Loreto, Von Villareal, and Dion John.



by Abigail Jones
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It was Friday evening and I was sitting in my favorite spot on the couch, the corner part where I could see everything that was going on in the living room, nursing my son before putting him to bed for the night. The glow of the television illuminated the room, but not too much that it kept Osceola awake. Nursing him was so much easier than trying to feed him baby food, or a bottle. Neither of which he enjoyed as much as nursing. I sat there staring into his wide eyes that showed the whites all the way around the retinas. They were drooping as he drew closer to his slumber. He was determined to stay awake and spend more time snuggled in my arms. His hands kept rubbing my face and I pretended to eat his fingers while he giggled so much that drool wou! escape from the sides of his mouth. He was oblivious to it and kept the game going. I admired his new outfit, thinking it would keep him warm from the chilly late September air that creeps in at night. It was baby blue, just bought yesterday from the Haskell University campus store, and it fit perfectly. I laughed to myself and said, "I'm surprised this fits you. You know it's for an 18-month-old right?" As I joked with him and smiled, he turned his head to-

ward the sound of my voice, taking a break from trying to fit his toes into his mouth and have his bedtime snack at the same time. I switched sides so he could breastfeed on both sides and to ensure that he slept through the night without waking up in a couple of hours. I recalled the argument my husband and I had that morning because I chose to stay home instead of going to school.

"You're being very irresponsible. You need to be putting more effort into your schoolwork," he'd said, not looking me in the eye and turning his head away from me, letting me know he didn't approve. But I didn't care. I had gotten up early because I could hear Osceola already awake despite the darkness outside, making baby sounds crying on a conversation with himself. Osceola's crib was conveniently positioned next to our bed, on my husband's right side, so he could hear him wake up for a middle of the night feeding without having to get out of bed. I slept hard and rarely woke up early enough to spend a peaceful morning with them before rushing to school.

That morning I woke up to see Osceola bouncing up and down, letting me know that he was excited to get my attention. After a game of peek-a-boo, I sat him at the end of the bathtub to splash while I finished my shower at the other end. Once we were dried off and dressed, we sat at the corner of the couch with nothing turned on except the lamp

Osceola

on the table beside us as I breastfed him his morning snack. He wasn't wearing any clothes except a diaper, high-lighting how big he was for only being 7-months-old. The next two hours, I sat mesmerized watching him play by himself. Osceola loved chewing on his toys, his first teeth were about to come in. He was content for awhile and then he was ready to challenge himself. He turtle crawled toward the bookshelf with his hands pointing inward, his upper body weight bending his elbows. He had perfected this after two months of using his arms to drag the rest of his body around before he knew how to coordinate his chubby legs. It was his large size that enabled him to challenge himself, but his balance didn't catch up with his size and this led him to be pretty clumsy. It worried me because he wouldn't cry when he hurt himself. He would just grunt and try it again until he got it right. Grabbing my camera and taking pictures, I wanted to remember everything about his infancy. It was hard to get him to sit still because he was easily distracted.

The rest of the morning, I sat reading through my assignments while Osceola chased the cat around, laughing whenever the cat would jump up onto the shelf to get away from him. My husband, Chris, woke up and passed us in the hallway on our way to take a late afternoon nap. Exhausted from his new ability to stand without support,

Osceola fell asleep right away. I lay beside him rubbing his belly until I drifted off to sleep, one arm securing his body next to mine. I woke up once more feeling him wiggling around playing with his feet, but went back to sleep with him still beside me. I was disrupted when Chris whispered, "He's asleep. Let me put him to bed." He scooped Osceola into his arms rocking and whispering, "You are my sunshine, my only sunshine. You make me happy, when skies are gray. You never know, dear, how much I love you. Please don't take my sunshine away." My eyes tearing up, I watched and listened while Chris sang to our son.

My memory struggles to hold onto every detail of those moments in time before remembering that Osceola passed away that night from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. I was beyond devastated. The sorrow consumed my life for months; the knot in my stomach that clenched with sadness brought me to my knees, sobbing every time I thought about him.

Now, one year and four months later, I have a better understanding of life and death. I am finally able to appreciate Osceola's short-lived life. My heart still drops to my stomach whenever I think about him, a unique puzzle piece leaving a hole that no shape can ever fill. But like a climber up a mountain, I know the journey will never get easier, I just get stronger.

Protect Yourself by Protecting Your Hair



by Joshua Woospitti
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If you ever walk across the Haskell campus, do you ever see piles of hair lying on the ground? There are many examples of the naive nature of the modern culture. It is evident that this lack of traditional knowledge has left some American Indians at Haskell Indian Nations University. Not all students here at Haskell come from families or communities that are active in sharing their traditional knowledge. At the same time, not using common sense will ultimately put them in a position that is considered harmful.

American Indians have traditions, stories, and tribal specific knowledge. This knowledge is what helps cultivate them into the person they will become. When an individual reflects on how they were brought up does the person reflect on what they were told about hair?

When you walk in the bathrooms within some of the dorms on campus,

you will see what the entitled article is referencing. Clumps of hair sporadically decorate the tiles as students walk on the covered floor. Eventually, students were forced to address the mess by putting up a sign that says to "pick up your hair." The reason for the sign is because some individual(s) use clippers to trim their hair and left it lying on the floor.

As American Indians are known for long, braided hair it is strange to see how people can simply cast away a part of themselves to be left isolated on the ground. Hair, in general, to American Indians is very private, sacred and cared for in their own way. Even students with short hair, they too only confide in people they trust to touch their hair. A barber, a brother, aunt, boyfriend or girlfriend are people trusted to touch one's hair and manipulate it in a way that is appealing. There are traditions about only trimming hair if someone dies. Someone honors them by cutting off a piece of them self, braiding it and giving it to them to take on their journey home. Other variations talk about hair being a part of one's spiritual self and should be cut, then thrown

into a river. The river symbolizes a way to cleanse yourself from it, in case someone picks it up and tries to use your hair in a bad way. After talking with some of the dorm staff, they referenced that hair needs to be carefully watched. If you are outside make sure you do not drop it on the ground. A bad person can use their traditional medicine to harm you. Also, you would not want a bird to put it in their nest because it will create mental problems for you in the future.

After interviewing various Native peoples on the Haskell Indian Nations University campus, hair is a very special thing. Hair should not be discarded in a way that could lead to harmful reactions. Also it is a part of your identity. With that identity, if you choose to maintain your hair short, understand that this article is an explanation of why you should not just simply cast a piece of yourself on the ground.

(Information has been summarized and sources wish to remain anonymous out of respect to specific traditional tribal stories.)

Haskell to Hold Stomp Dance

by Joshua Woospitti
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The Alabama-Coushatta, Creek, Euchee, Seminole (ACCES) club will be hosting a Stomp Dance at Haskell Indian Nations University. The ACCES club has a reputation that gives students a chance to make lasting friendships and gives the tribes within the ACCES organization a sense of family.

The ACCES club executive board is preparing for a Stomp Dance and Stickball game on March 6, 2010. The Stickball game will be held at the stickball field next to the powwow grounds at mid-afternoon. The meal will be served at 4pm and the Stomp Dance will begin at 6pm.

James Jones, the sponsor for the ACCES club stated that they hoped to have the Stomp Dance at Coffin Sports Complex. The club was denied the use of the complex, but still plan to have the Stomp Dance. "People will dance wherever, it's not for show-it's just our tradition" says Jones. Jones goes on to say that "we want to share the culture with the students." Cer Scott, the President of the ACCES club is doing what he can to get the event going.

The Master of Ceremonies for the event is Kevin "Oba" Mac. All students, faculty, staff and Haskell community is welcome to attend the event.