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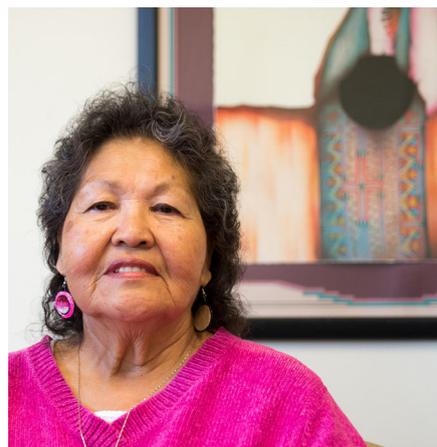


**HINU Track & Field Athletes
Bring Home Some Gold
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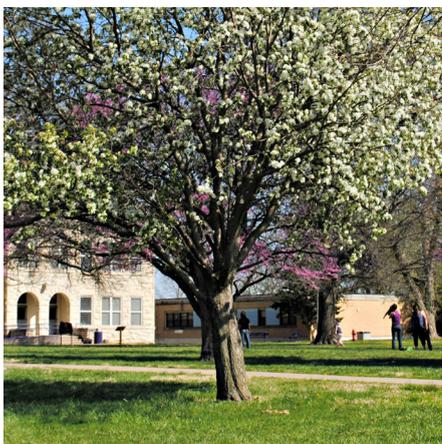
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"Haskell students, faculty, and staff recently celebrated Haskell Pride Day by cleaning up things around campus and serving a great outdoor meal at Curtis Hall."



Kelsey Fixico 2014 Grand Marshall ..Page 5

"Residents at Winona Hall have been accustomed to seeing the smiling face of Miss Kelsey behind the College Resident Assistant (CRA) desk until she retired last semester."



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**Traditionally, we include a list of graduates in our final issue, but the Registrar's Office did not respond to several requests by the deadline.*

Things Not So Cheerful

Tsanavi Spoonhunter

The future of the Haskell Cheer and Dance team is up in the air with current members discouraged by the team coach. The Haskell Cheer and Dance team is led by volunteer alumni Brittany Hall. She took the vacant coaching position at Haskell in the fall of 2013. Hall works for the Little Nations daycare center here on campus and she is also working towards her graduate degree. Unfortunately, the road has not been a smooth ride; they have hit many bumps along the way.

One such issue has been the welfare of the participants. “We are concerned about our safety,” Haskell *cheerleader 1* says. (Note: all cheer and dance team members wished to remain anonymous) *Cheerleader 2* adds, “We’ve had three accidents since she’s started, one was pretty bad but the coach didn’t address it. We don’t know if there is a certain procedure to follow because we don’t feel like she’s dealt with them properly.” Haskell Athletic Director Judith Gipp assures that each volunteer has the basic knowledge of first aid. She says, “although we don’t require a certification card, each volunteer knows how to assist minor injuries and in major injuries, they know

to call 911 or our local emergency number.” Regarding Coach Hall’s knowledge J. Gipp comments, “since she works at Little Nations I would imagine she has first aid training.”

Another issue has been about equipment. Haskell *cheerleader 1* says, “we want to be treated like a part of the athletics department, with newer sportswear and equipment.” Haskell *cheerleader 2* says, “We wish that we can be a competitive sport, it would be nice to raise money so we can support our coach in training to improve her skills and our skills.” J. Gipp explains, “The cheer and dance programs are sideline activities, not competitive sports. Cheerleading is not in the budget and they are not eligible. Because of this, the Haskell Letterman’s club (a.k.a. Haskell H club), helps support them.” J. Gipp adds that, “we don’t declare eligibility on Cheer and Dance given their club status. As a club, if they are sanctioned within the University they can participate in fundraising activities under the guidelines of student senate.”

But this is something that doesn't look favorable for the team. J. Gipp comments that in order to send the coach for training there are ob-

stacles: “our institution is currently under travel guidelines and restrictions, and all travel requests must be deemed ‘mission critical’. Up to this point, recruitment and professional development in the form of coaching clinics has not been approved as ‘mission critical’.” She adds, “If the coach personally chooses to go on their own, they won’t be able to represent this University.”

Cheerleaders have heard past comments like, “I can’t wait to laugh at the cheer and dance team.” With tryouts right around the corner, comments like these are hard to hear from your peers and Cheerleader 1 says, “We want to do more, we have the potential but our leadership is lacking.” Cheerleader 2 adds, “Many people on campus want to participate but they don’t want to cheer under the current coach.”

J. Gipp addresses that in the future there is a possibility for advancement. “Three individuals from KU have requested to volunteer with our Cheer and Dance program. One of the individuals is a member of the KU Cheer team and will help our cheer program. Two of the individuals are members of the KU Dance team and will volunteer to mentor

our dance members.” They will also have to go through the background checks, like all other volunteers.

The dancers and cheerleaders are worried about the future of the team. Because of several incidents that have happened throughout the past two semesters many team members are second-guessing their decisions. One dancer explains, “The Fashion Show was mandatory and we had to be there for five hours. It’s hard to juggle our academics and our coach isn’t very lenient.”

Addressing the issue of coach and athlete relationships, J. Gipp is asked if there is any type of conflict resolution models. “We currently do not have a conflict resolution model in place. If a dispute arises I trust the coach will address the situation to the best of their ability. If the situation does not improve I am not opposed to mediation from an unbiased, outside mentor.”

Coach Hall declined to comment on this article. For now tryouts are currently on hold. Hall was reached prior to publication for another comment opportunity but refused again. For full disclosure, Tsanavi Spoonhunter is a past Haskell cheerleader.

Movie Night at Winona a Success

Ryan Coody

After a little delay due to an ironic problem of too much sunlight, movie night got underway between Winona and Pocahontas Halls Friday night. Showing *Star Trek: Into Darkness*, students gathered around the portable screen and passed around a can of bug spray before the sun set.

Organized by members of the Winona Dorm Council, the movie night was a free event geared towards providing students an alternative form of entertainment for the evening. The Dorm Council’s vice president, Justin Bauswell, expressed his appreciation for those that helped and attended the event.

“The track meet was going on so more people were at that or at Gatherings,” but Bauswell still felt the event was a success. The council also brought some basic concession items to sale for fundraising, but the low numbers kept sales down. “Financially it didn’t bring in much money,” commented Bauswell.

In the end, Bauswell stated, “It was a beautiful night for it, good weather, surrounded by good people, watching a good movie,” and that was the goal, after all.



Forces Join for Haskell Pride Day

Raquel Butler

Haskell students, faculty, and staff recently celebrated Haskell Pride Day by cleaning up things around campus and serving a great outdoor meal at Curtis Hall.

“There is a challenge between all of the buildings to see who can make their building look the best” mentioned Angelina Adams “the main goal is to help the campus look great for graduation.”

Many students helped out with some of the buildings landscaping.

“I came out here because Marisa told me I could come out here and help plant stuff at Stidham.” stated Andrea Bowekaty. Another student Jessica Meyer said, “This is the first year I have ever seen this done, but I am glad we’re doing it, it’ll make the school look nicer. Plus, I really love gardening so I’m having fun”

Sandy Harris said, “I’m glad that we are doing this because I think it will make the campus look a lot better. It will add some color to the

place”

Not only were students pleased to see some improvement done on campus, they were also impressed with the lunch served at Curtis Hall. Josiah Kurley said, “I liked the changed we had at Curtis, eating outside was nice and I think it should happen more often.”

Haskell Pride Day was a successful day with beautiful weather.



Photos by Raquel Butler

Editorial: Time's Up

Ryan Coody

This past year has been full of amazing experiences for me. My time with the newspaper is coming to a close, but the impact that the Haskell community has had on me will remain forever.

Graduation is a bittersweet event. On one hand, I’m finally reaching my four-year, and life-long goal, but on the other I have to leave behind all the wonderful friends I have made.

I also feel like I am leaving a lot of work unfinished. The newspaper has seen some amazing developments this year. Our online following has increased over 45% compared to Spring ‘13. Our content has tripled and quadrupled in some cases, from 4-page papers to 12- and 16-page papers routinely. Our staff has grown tremendously, and I am proud of those that help contribute to the paper.

Newspapers serve a specific role besides informing people about relevant news. They also serve as a ‘watchdog’ holding those in power accountable. The constitutional protections afforded the press are there for a reason, and it is a responsibility I take seriously.

When I have written articles deemed “negative” towards Haskell by some people, my goal isn’t to tarnish the image of the school, but to bring those issues to light so that they can be corrected. By calling attention to these problems, we can own them and move forward to fix them.

I urge students to continue asking questions and seeking answers. It’s been my experience that people are generally proud of the work they do, and are happy to share the details of it with you to enlighten you about the process they go through. A little empathy from both teams here, administration and students, will help each other appreciate and respect what each other deals with, so I urge everyone to be more open, more transparent, and more understanding.

As much as I want to stay and continue with the paper and to serve the students, my time is up and I must move on to other things. I wish next year’s staff the best of luck, and as always, Onward Haskell!

Freshman Alista Thorne Crowned 2014-15 Miss Haskell

Ryan Coody

With each passing year, people come and go as fast as the temperature in Kansas. The end of the year means a change in many things - the weather, the mood of students, and a new Miss Haskell. The position is tougher than it looks. Miss Haskell is responsible for representing the school and the students at a wide variety of events, everything from athletic events and powwows to greeting incoming dignitaries and giving speeches at nearly every event on campus. She also maintains a seat on the executive board of the Student Senate and oversees the Royalty committee.

Over the past few weeks, candidates have been campaigning for votes in this year's elections and competing in the annual Miss Haskell pageant, where they show off traditional skills and knowledge as well as modern talents.

The votes are in, and next year's Miss Haskell is second-semester freshman Alista Thorne, of the San Carlos Apache tribe. During her campaign, she shared that she "stands for those Natives that don't look like the stereotypical Indian because even as a full blood Apache, I have experienced discrimination and I just want this whole light skin, dark skin controversy to be a non-issue for Haskell." The Haskell Student Senate has recently begun pushing for equality on campus after reports of bullying were received.

2013 Miss Haskell Maria Caddo told *The Indian Leader* a few weeks ago that not running for Miss Haskell wasn't an option for her, and that "it was always one of my goals I had set for myself in high school." She also shared some advice for the next Miss Haskell: "Always remember that holding this title will be a very unique role in your life, and to always be humble in everything that you do. Help those in need and also ask for help in times of need, and be focused on the goals you have in life and especially your education because it is important. And to represent Haskell as much as you can and have fun."

Next year's Miss Haskell shares many of the same sentiments and goals. Raised very traditionally, Alista says she is "here for the students." She said that while she has held several ti-

les in the past, this one is different. "I understand how much this title entails, and I plan to represent well and with humility knowing I represent over 200 tribes. Many title names are longer, but 'Miss Haskell' carries so much history in just two words."

A resident of San Carlos, Arizona, Alista graduated in 2010 and earned her CNA certification in 2012. She spent some time working as a nursing assistant, during which time she began to appreciate the impact the children had on her life. "These kids that won't be able to have average lives won't get to enjoy the things most kids do, and most average kids will never understand what these other kids are going through." Shortly afterwards, she worked as a nurse in a hospice, an area she knows not many people want. "I felt if I could give that person a reason to smile one more time, at least I would know they were happy before they took that journey."

No stranger to pageant life, Alista relies on her family to support her and get her through these challenges. "At every pageant I have been in, my family is there watching me, watching everything I do," Alista said, pointing out that her family gives her the feedback to do better in future pageants and encourages her when she is down. "This pageant was a very different experience. It was a bigger journey than I ever thought - it was the hardest walk I have ever done." After one of the events, Alista said she was upset because she didn't feel she did the best she could, and it didn't help that her family wasn't in the crowd like usual. She said she called home before the next section began, and her family encouraged her to stay strong. She then asked herself, "Why am I so nervous? This is my Haskell family." She relied on her natural talent to speak in public, something she says she learned from her grandfather Hyde Phillips.

Alista takes her role at Haskell seriously, and recalls her family telling her to "always have your crown on, even when you don't have your crown on." Now, she is looking forward to serving the Haskell community and meeting everyone she can.



2014 Miss Haskell Alista Thorne. Below, Alista delivers a campaign speech from the gazebo. Photos by Ryan Coody



Kepsey Fixico Named Grand Marshall of 2014 Spring Commencement

Lori Hasselman

Residents at Winona Hall have been accustomed to seeing the smiling face of Miss Kepsey behind the College Resident Assistant (CRA) desk until last semester. Retiring in December, Kepsey Fixico first received the call to work for Haskell housing in May 1989. Twenty-five years later, Miss Kepsey will answer a different kind of call as Grand Marshall of the commencement procession for the graduating class of 2014.

Fixico made her first trip to Haskell campus with her niece, Tina Fixico in 1983. "It was spring and the campus was beautiful. They let us spend the night in Minoka back then and I saw a lady working there and I thought it looked like a neat job. So, I asked her how to get hired," said Kepsey. The woman gave her a brochure that detailed the job and the application process.

Kepsey didn't have any experience as a CRA but was an experienced homemaker, mother, and grandmother. She filled out the application.

Three years after her Haskell visit, Kepsey found herself at the end of her marriage and enrolled at Eastern State College in Oklahoma. After receiving a degree in Human Resource Counseling and Gerontology in May, 1989, Miss Kepsey had forgotten



1992 Haskell Yearbook Photo

about the application she had filled out for CRA at Haskell.

"I had just had surgery in June when I got a call from Benny Smith at Haskell. He asked me if I was still interested in the job. I said, 'sure!' Then he asked me to

report to work August 28th," said Kepsey. "And that's how I came to Lawrence."

Fixico had family members go to school at Haskell but she didn't know anyone in Lawrence. "It seemed like a foreign country. I never thought I would work out of the state (of Oklahoma) but it didn't happen that way," said Kepsey.

Winona Hall was a women's freshman dorm and was Kepsey's first dorm assignment. She has worked at all dorms except Blalock and eventually came back to Winona.

"I really enjoyed the students, especially the freshman. It made me feel needed. I came up here with a broken heart, divorced, and I felt like a failure. In my era, marriage was all there was. You had better be engaged or married after high school. We didn't even think about careers back then. These students come from all over and had all kinds of different needs, so being here with the students

helped me at a time when I needed it," said Kepsey.

Working with the freshman girls was rewarding and was also a big job. Kepsey recalls a time when two CRAs worked the dorms per shift. "That's probably the biggest change I've seen

over the years; the smaller staff. There's a lot to be done with freshman introducing them to the college life and trying to be there for all of them and meet every need," said Kepsey.

She also notes another change she has noticed over the years.



Photo by Ryan Coody

"We don't have as much violence now as we did in the past. There used to be problems between students from different tribes but you don't see that anymore. It seems like students had more of a chip on their shoulder. They aren't as angry as they were back then. Students didn't know how to funnel it so they went tribe against tribe back then," said Kepsey. "But some of those kids that were the most hard headed went on to great careers. It just makes me so glad."

When asked what she thinks the future holds for Haskell she said, "If we don't take care of it—the buildings, money management—we may not be able to continue being a college, which is needful. But, I hope that never happens. If I ever win the lottery, the first thing I am going to do is

an endowment for Haskell."

Kepsey says now that she is retired, she will miss the students. She plans to move to Oklahoma and will be leaving after the commencement pow wow. She would like to volunteer and continue the craft she learned while at Haskell; making star quilts.

"Haskell was good to me. It gave me a place when I thought I had no place. When I was in Oklahoma, I was mamma, grandma, auntie. When I came here, I became Kepsey. Haskell gave me myself," said Kepsey. "They say every stranger you meet is a potential friend and these kids, well they are adults, have touched my life. They have really touched my life. In ways they don't even realize."

Onward Haskell Graduates! *Ashley Ignacio*

With graduation just around the corner, our upcoming Bachelor alumni's have plenty to be thankful for and are eager to begin their next chapter in life.

I had the pleasure of documenting this exciting time for eight seniors who have all walked different paths in life but can all agree on Haskell's major impact on their career goals and overall sense of indigenous self-worth.

These graduates have experienced multiple trials and errors during their journey towards a higher education. But they all have made Haskell their home away from home and all of them plan on giving back to the university, whether it is through contributions or coming back and becoming a professor, just as long as they are helping Indian Country, they will be satisfied.

Phillip Stand of California and enrolled member of the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska will be graduating with a Business Administration degree. He is currently applying to graduate school for a master's in business with the hopes of getting accepted into either Stanford University or Purdue University, "it would be amazing to go to either school but we will see what happens" says Stand.



Stand who has deep family roots with Haskell, his grandparents actually met on campus and considers his dad to be a Haskell Rascal, says that, "Haskell is the best thing that has ever happened to me and it has completely changed my life for the better. I've never been offered so many great opportunities and eventually I want to give back to this university by becoming a teacher on campus one day."

Phil has been treasurer of the fraternity, Phi Sigma Nu, student senate representative for the Haskell's Letterman Club, an American Indian Business Leaders Club participant, and an athlete for Haskell's Track and Field team.

"On my drive out here from California, I told myself that this is where you will change and make a difference for yourself and I did it. I used my energy in positive things like sports and I believe that if you surround yourself with positive people within a positive atmosphere, then your life can really change."

Stand would like to give a special thanks to Dr. Bliven who showed faith in

him and pushed him to his limits, NaNa Brewer who has been one of his best life mentors and who he can talk to about any situation, Coach Gipp who inspired him to join athletics, their Athletic Director, Miss Gipp who Stand says, "she is very inspirational, she is dedicated, and she will stick to what she believes in" and lastly his short friendship with Melinda Adams who has been helping him with the transition from Haskell to graduate school, especially with the recruitment process from Purdue.

Ultimately, Phil wants to empower young native children while working in American business corporations and trying to integrate their ideas with tribal business perspectives because "each can learn from one another and benefit off each other." But he would also love to come back and "give back to the university that changed my life" by becoming a professor here so he can "empower more native kids who were just like me sitting in that desk" explains Stand.

Stand will miss being able to walk around campus and seeing all the history every single day. Plus, being able to "see culture and tradition everywhere you go on campus, I just love the atmosphere here and it will be missed" shares Stand.

He jokes, "I'm even going to miss Curtis! The thing I love about Curtis is being able to hang out with people and to see everyone because I enjoy building relationships with others and just meeting new people. I'm going to miss absolutely everything about Haskell."

Phil's advice to the freshmen is, "Stay focused! Don't get caught up in image. When you are here, enjoy it, experience everything you can. Always take care of business first because there is always time for parties. Parties are always going to be there but your college career is not. So when you are in class, be in class, when you are in the library, do your homework, and when you are out, have fun with your friends. Don't let your social life effect your education because your education comes first."

Stand says, "I will forever be thankful to everybody that I've encountered here, whether it was good or bad, thank you. Shout out to all those professors who truly care about their students and push you towards success. To all my friends, teammates, and to all the students for the social life, thank you. It has been a short ride and I wish I could stay here forever but it has been a nice journey."

Sierra Two Bulls from the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota will be receiving an Indigenous and American

Indian Studies degree with an emphasis in Social Welfare. She plans on attending University of Kansas in the School of Social Welfare to pursue a Master's degree in Social Work.

Two Bulls transferred to Haskell in the spring of 2012 from United Tribes Technical College where she is a proud alumna. She chose Haskell for several reasons, "I was not ready to be in a mainstream university because I wanted to continue to practice my traditional Lakota way of life comfortably and I knew Haskell would let me take advantage of that opportunity. Plus, Haskell's degree program was more specific to my career interests and of course it would be less stress, financially."

"Haskell has definitely impacted my life because I have made a lot of friendships here and it has opened many doors of opportunities that I thought was impossible, like the chance to travel to Washington, D.C. twice for the Washington Internship for Native Students Program and becoming a volunteer advocate for domestic violence which is where I finally discovered my passion for social justice and policies. Now, I am more confident to pursue my ultimate goals and dreams in life" shares Two Bulls.

Sierra will miss the daily interactions with others because out of the three colleges she has attended, "Haskell was the best place that I can learn a lot from someone just by having good conversations with and I believe that everyone I cross paths with here are my daily inspirations. You can learn a lot from people!"

Her advice for our underclassmen is to simply prioritize! She adds, "Study hard and ask questions but also take advantage of opportunities that take you out of your comfort zones. You may never know where exploration will take you. And remember, college is what you make of it!"

Two Bulls would like to give a special thanks to: "All my friends, the Counseling Center, the LINK Crew, the TRiO-SSS program, administration, faculty, staff, students, and to all my professors as well as the Willow Domestic Violence Center!"

Ronald Rousseau was born and raised on the Cheyenne River Sioux Indian Reservation in Ridgeview, South Dakota. He will be graduating with a

Business Administration degree and has been accepted into law school at the University of Idaho.

"I want to study American Indian law to help remediate these tribal sovereignty issues because my heart is in Indian Country and change in Indian law starts with us" says Rousseau.

Rousseau is an active soldier for the Kansas National Guard and came to Haskell two years ago with one goal in mind: to play basketball and get a bachelor's degree in order to get a high paying job. But over the last year, Rousseau realized that he needed to do more if he wanted to achieve his personal goal of improving Indian Country.

"Haskell turned me into this leader and I've been inspired by so many influential instructors here, like Stuckey, Musgrove, Myer, Wildcat, just to name a few, and they all influenced me to do more and become a better leader because they are good leaders themselves" says Rousseau.

Rousseau was a transfer student from United Tribes Technical College, where he received an associate's degree in the criminal justice program. He has been involved with Haskell's American Indian Business Leaders club, men's basketball, and the fraternity, Phi Sigma Nu.

He shares, "Haskell has impacted my life in many ways and I have to give credit to United Tribes as well because both schools showed me that it is okay to be native and to be proud of it! This type of strong native support is something that I'm looking forward to in grad school because just me being successful is not going to be good enough, I need my people with me."

Rousseau says that he doesn't feel like he needs to miss Haskell because he is not leaving, "my heart will always be here and I will come visit every chance I get."

His advice to our underclassmen is, "to do well in class and be active on campus, and pursue a higher education after Haskell."

Ron would like to give a shout out to all of Haskell's faculty and staff for their support and guidance.

"I'm empowered as hell! I love this place!" exclaims Rousseau.

Andrea Lynch from the Navajo Nation of Arizona will be graduating with a



Business Administration degree and her next objective is to pursue a nursing degree because she enjoys the satisfaction of helping people, especially back on her reservation. Lynch wants to incorporate her business knowledge with her passion of becoming a certified nurse by working with head corporation leaders and making improvements where it is needed. Eventually, she wants to expand her horizons even more by becoming a “traveling nurse” where she will be able to travel to different cities and countries.



She credits retired Haskell professor, Dr. Bliven, for making her wanting to stay after she graduated with her associate’s degree. “He gave me some ideas about what I could do with a Business degree and since Haskell is very affordable, I didn’t mind staying longer. Plus, having those one on one conversations with him, made me think about the kind of person I was and the kind of person that I have the potential to be” explains Lynch.

With a smile, Lynch jokes, “I’m going to miss this crazy Kansas weather!”

“But overall, Haskell has been a really good experience and it is a good feeling knowing that I will be going home, representing Haskell to the fullest and proving everyone wrong about Haskell just being a party school. Haskell is what you make of it and it is kind of scary leaving but I think I will be okay!” shares Lynch.

Her advice to the freshmen is to, “Join as many clubs as you can and just be out there! Be the kind of person that goes to every game or social event because college is fun and it goes by too quick!” Lynch’s extracurricular activities include: American Indian Business Leaders, Dine Club, Intertribal Club, and working part-time as a home care nurse.

Andrea would like to thank her friends who pushed her to try harder and to all her instructors especially within the Business department, “I appreciate all of you!”

Maria Boyd of the Menominee Nation of Wisconsin will be graduating with a Business Administration degree with an emphasis in management and science. Her next adventure will start this summer doing



an environmental research internship in Hawaii and then preparing for the GRE (Graduate Record Examination) in early August. If all goes well, she will be receiving a full-ride scholarship from Purdue University studying evolutionary ecology and researching the genetics of wild rice which directly relates to her tribe because they are considered the “wild rice people”.

Boyd says, “I got lucky that Purdue wanted to recruit me. Plus, having Melinda Adams who is a Purdue alumni to help me network and basically promote me to the recruiter was beneficial!” She also gives credit to Dr. Bliven who was “just an excellent teacher” and to fellow Haskell student Simona Charles for being her voice of reasoning.

“Haskell was like a second chance of life for me. I came here 9 months into my sobriety and I was determined to prove everyone wrong about the stereotypes of Menominee’s being heavy drinkers and become a 4.0 student” shares Boyd who has been involved in the American Indian Business Leaders club and organized the annual Empowerment Summit for the past few semesters.

“Haskell is what you make it. Bottom line is that you get what you put into it. You have to work hard and make sacrifices. Set short term goals and just go for it! I’m not where I want to be but I’m further than I was before. And if you put your all into it, you will walk away a better person” explains Boyd.

Keith Buster who is Mississippi Choctaw of Oklahoma will be receiving a Business Administration degree and is currently on the market for a potential job opportunity. He is considering graduate school but wants to see where his well-earned degree will take him first. Buster wants to continue to be involved with Indian Country, so he applied with his tribe along with the Potawatomi Nation. Ultimately, he hopes to see himself in management and maybe running his own business. “We’ll see what happens” says Keith.



Buster shares, “I didn’t grow up traditional and Haskell has impacted me that most by just being able to get back to my roots, but not in the sense that I’ve immersed myself into my own culture. Instead, I’ve been exposed to other Natives and their personalities on a daily basis which is something I hadn’t experienced in a very long time. It is a beautiful experience. I will truly miss it”.

He would like to thank his wife and kids who have inspired him to become a better person. Plus a huge thanks to all the professors in the business program, “Stuckey, Musgrove, Blevin, and Horne”. Also a special shout out to “Lou Hara, who I wouldn’t have ever made it without her guidance throughout this whole process and my mom for her continuous support.”

Buster’s advice to the underclassmen is, “Do not waste the opportunity that Haskell has to offer. If I can do it, trust me when I say anyone else can too. Have patience and hang out with successful people. It has a tendency to rub off on you!”

Leander Loretto from the Jemez Pueblo of New Mexico will be graduating with an Indigenous and American Indian Studies degree with an emphasis in social welfare. He plans on working with his tribe to establish a high school program that focuses on empowering the male youth to pursue a post-secondary educational degree. Loretto concentrated on social welfare because he would like to be a counselor or a mentor to help promote higher education and prevent further substance abuse on his reservation.

Loretto admits, “Haskell in the only place that I applied to, so it was either here or go work in construction with my Dad” and he is truly grateful that Haskell accepted his application because, “This place has given me a better understanding about off reservation life and has given me more discipline and has actually made me consider graduate school in the next year or two” explains Loretto.

His list of extracurricular activities over the years include: United Pueblo Club, Baseball Club, Student Basketball Coach, and work studies with Facilities Department, Curtis Hall and the Student Activities Department.

Loretto says, “I made the best of it here and I’m satisfied with it” and his word of advice to our underclassmen is to, “Make the best of Haskell! Find the people that believe in you and don’t be afraid to go out and seek help because it is here but don’t expect them to hold your hand. You have to go after you own ambitions!”

His special thanks goes out to the whole university in general and of course to his family for their support. To his close friends, especially residential

advisor, Cheryl Gillespie who has been like another mom and just everyone that has helped him make it this far!

Ryan Coody from Arkansas and an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma will be graduating with a Business Administration degree. He is currently still contemplating on whether to go on to graduate school or to enter into the work force. Coody says, “I’m just waiting to see what sticks, because my time with the newspaper has actually got me thinking about journalism as another possible career option, so wherever life takes me, I will go!”



Coody came to Haskell as a fresh start and liked the little financial burden it involved. He shares, “Haskell gave me a chance to get in touch with my heritage that I didn’t get to grow up with and overall it was exactly what I was looking for in multiple ways, like the various clubs and organizations on campus.”

Over the years, Ryan has been involved in the American Indian Business Leaders club, Friends in Need Club, Tennis Club, and the Off Campus Club. He is currently the editor of the school newspaper, The Indian Leader, and is a co-founder of the only fraternity on campus, Phi Sigma Nu.

“Haskell was a complete turning point. It gave me the opportunity to make changes and focus on myself in order to figure out what I really want to do in life. Plus, I will be the first in my family to graduate from college and I hope my accomplishment will motivate my sister to finish her current college experience as well”

The wise words from retired Haskell professor, Dr. Bliven, will continue to have an impact on Coody. “He always said that it is important to have the mind set of serving people and not to be self-serving because it is all about helping others first, and this is something I try to live by every day” shares Coody.

Ryan’s advice to the freshmen is to get involved outside of the classroom. “Try to pick out a new club every semester because it is a good way to learn a lot about various people and cultures.”

He would like to thank the whole Haskell community for all their support and encouragement.

The Haskell Spring 2014 Graduation Ceremony will be on Friday May 9th at 10:00 a.m. It is scheduled to take place outside at the Haskell Memorial Stadium but could be relocated to Coffin Complex depending on the weather.

Everyone is welcomed to attend.

All photos courtesy of their respective subjects.

HINU Student-Athlete Heading to NAIA Outdoor Track and Field National Championship

Ryan Coody

There is no doubt that every now and then, a student passes through the Haskell community on his or her way through life and leaves behind lasting evidence of their existence. Their selfless actions and positive attitude towards any and all situations make them stand out, and they shine like a lighthouse on the dark shore, leading those around them to safety and providing guidance for those on their own journeys.

Philip Stand, a senior business student at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, and member of the Sac and Fox Nation, is one of those people. During his time at Haskell, he has become an inspiration to those around him, and has drawn inspiration from the Haskell community himself.

When Phil arrived at Haskell, he had no plans to get involved in the athletic program. Having played sports in high school, he aimed to focus on his academics when he came to college. However, Track and Field Coach Al Gipp soon talked him into throwing the discus and javelin. According to Phil, he was “very, very bad at javelin” and switched to shotput, where he found more success.

Never a Track and Field athlete before, Phil had some trouble adjusting to the ideas of the sport: “I had a really hard time grasping Track and Field - the difference between Track and Field and other sports is that it isn’t a game. With other sports, you can make up for a missed catch or tackle, but Track and Field is simply perfection. If you mess up, you’re done.”

For Phil, Track and Field is the only way to go, and he has succeeded in this sport because of the competitive environment that it provides. “I guess in a way I’m kind of a perfectionist,” Phil said with a quick smile and a short chuckle. “I’m tested



Haskell Track and Field Coach Al Gipp (l) awarding the first place medal to Phil for the discus throw, the event in which Phil qualified for the national championship. Photo by Ryan Coody.

physically and mentally every single day. Everyone is trying to beat themselves and pushing towards their goals, trying to be better than they were last week. That’s the environment that I want to be in.”

In a world where you are numerically compared not only to your opponents, but to your teammates and yourself, it can be understandably difficult to get back up after a failure. The newer members of the Haskell Track and Field team certainly have it the hardest and with the largest learning curve, making those first few years very tough. Phil sees new athletes get discouraged and tries to uplift them. When his new team members remark on his throwing distance and ability, he reminds them of one thing: “I was exactly like them two years ago.”

Now, as a senior on the team, other athletes look up to Phil, a role that he takes very seriously. “I really love to empower and motivate my team. Being a senior, I try to lead by example, not only athletically but academically as well. Without academics, none of us would be here playing sports. I tell them all, ‘Look, I’m a business major, but if you need

help with anything come talk to me.’ Grades should be the last reason for not competing.”

Part of being a leader means establishing boundaries and holding teammates accountable, something no one enjoys. “You can’t be afraid of being the bad guy,” Phil shares. “If people don’t go to the meets because they didn’t turn in grade checks or because they choose to go home instead” he calls them out. “I mean,



Phil (c) laughs as he and the other shotput throwers compete in the traditional “Big Man” race with a slight twist. They agreed beforehand, unbeknownst to coaches and spectators, that they would walk the race together so that everyone could win. Photo by Ryan Coody.

that’s like writing a 20 page paper, and never turning it in.”

Phil credits Coach Gipp and the team for giving him the opportunity to develop his leadership skills. “Coach Gipp is the only coach we have, and he’s in charge of everything - sprinters, jumpers, throwers, everything. He has to coach everyone so that leaves us within each event to help coach and support each other when he can’t be there.”

Equipment wasn’t always available either, but the team never let that slow them down. “We didn’t even own a hammer the first year,” Phil commented through a smile. “We’ve designed complete programs just off of YouTube videos. We just don’t have what other universities have, so we have to be creative. Sure, we could say ‘Oh, we don’t have anything, we suck’ but instead we ask ‘How can we make this happen? Who can I watch and learn from?’ If we don’t step up and contribute to that process,” Phil drifted off in thought. “Well, there is no choice. We have to.”

Phil’s older brother and fellow Track and Field teammate, Ian Stand, says that Phil came to the team “in a time where the team was doing really



Phil pats his fellow teammate on the back after watching his race. Photo by Ryan Coody

and Phil definitely fills that role.”

Ian added, “If anyone on the team needs to talk, he’d be there for them. Right now he’s dealing with finals, applying for graduate schools, and he still makes time to help others. He practices twice a day right now, and manages classes, all while throwing record distances.”

The Stands’ disagree on one point though, and that is the credit for motivating the team. Phil shared a story about fellow teammate Sam Byers and a conversation they had. “One day, I was just having a bad day,” Phil said. “I was dragging my feet, I didn’t

want to do anything. Sam stops me and says, ‘Phil,

you’re a senior - you can’t have bad days.’ And I realized he was right, and that these guys are depending on me. My bad energy would reflect on these guys.” On the flipside, Ian gives credit to Phil for a similar situation. “There are days when we don’t want to do anything, and Phil’s the one to step up and get that fire going. He’s there to be a leader, and he can turn it around on those days so that we make a good day out of a practice that would’ve been wasted.”

People examine individuals that stand out, such as Phil, to determine what drives them. For Ian, Phil’s mo-



Phil (c) volunteered his time during the javelin events on Friday to help return the javelins after throwers competed. Photo by Ryan Coody.

well, but might’ve failed without the type of relationship and family atmosphere that Phil and I have helped put into place.” He added that Track and Field is a unique sport because athletes train as a team and compete as a team, but also compete individually. “To be a leader in this sport, you have to be passionate about the sport and care about winning, but be humble enough to work with your teammates and not let them fail. You have to help each other to grow while still being competitive, but if you don’t encourage your teammates, who will you practice with? We learn to appreciate each other. You need each other,

and Phil definitely fills that role.” Phil is Ian’s younger brother, Ian said, for next year “I want to do just as good a job [as Phil], to be just as selfless in my senior year as he has been. It’s amazing that he focuses as much, or more, on his team as he does on himself.”

Phil is Ian’s younger brother, Ian said, for next year “I want to do just as good a job [as Phil], to be just as selfless in my senior year as he has been. It’s amazing that he focuses as much, or more, on his team as he does on himself.”

What does next year have in store for Phil? He’s got his eye on graduate school at the moment, but whatever he does he will give

it all he’s got since much of the training he does for Track and Field works equally well for life: “The best time for improvement is dur-

ing the off season, because that’s

when everyone else is

sleeping and taking time off.

I’ll work through the offseason and come back stronger,”

Phil said. “I wish I could stay another

year. I could drop a class and come back for another

year, but I’ve got other goals to move

on to. To me, Track and Field isn’t everything, but it helped me become the man I am today.”

Phil encourages all native athletes to work hard and stay focused, not just for themselves, but for their people. “Native Americans have descended from some of the strongest warriors and leaders that have ever walked this land, and we need to continue that.”

The NAIA National Championship for Outdoor Track and Field is taking place May 22-24 in Gulf Shores, Alabama. Phil will be competing with some of the best athletes from across the country, but with his friends and teammates supporting him, his tough work ethic and determination, and with his positive attitude towards life, Phil is already the victor.

Phil might be moving on from Haskell, but he is leaving lasting impressions that will shape the team for years to come. Even though

In addition to internal motivation, the

Track and Field team has been a strong motivating factor in Phil’s life. Before joining, Phil said that he

“wasn’t part of a group with goals in a long time.

The people I hung out with didn’t have goals, I didn’t have goals. To join a group of people that just plain don’t give up was a

breath of fresh air.” Phil shared another story of the team’s level of support and encouragement for each other: “Thomas Zunie was running a 5000 meter race, and it just started pouring rain. The other teams went for shelter away from the track, but our team ran up and down the side to cheer him on. We were all soaked. I knew I was in the right place when that happened.”

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Giving it all he’s got, Phil launches his shot across the shotput area. Photo by Ryan Coody.

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Students Gather to Watch Lunar Eclipse

Ryan Coody

Creeping out of the normally quiet buildings like zombies seeking a midnight snack, students began amassing in front of Winona Hall in order to view the overhyped “blood moon” one night last week.

Not the normal set of stargazers or moonwatchers, the students were summoned outside by the speculation that the lunar eclipse would turn the moon red for a short amount of time. The red color is caused by reflections of light, according to Haskell student Robert Castellanos. “The earth’s atmosphere acts as a filter causing the other colors visible in white light to become scattered or reflected off the surface of our planet,” Castellanos said.

According to Castellanos, these eclipses are actually not rare, occurring an average of twice a year. He feels that people just don’t pay as

much attention to these events as they used to simply because people are distracted by other things. “We hardly look up anymore. Astronomical phenomenon set into tradition by our mystified ancestors so many centuries ago just doesn’t seem that important to us as our immediate attention goes towards looking down.”

The more interesting part of this eclipse is that it is one of four complete eclipses in a row, called a lunar tetrad. According to space.com, the last tetrad was in 2003-2004 and will only happen 7 more times in this century, but notes

that “while a tetrad of total lunar eclipses is somewhat rare, it is not extraordinarily so.”

If you missed this event, you can

catch the next three parts of the lunar tetrad on the nights of October 8 in 2014, and on April 4 and September 28 in 2015.



Haskell student Robert Castellanos tunes his telescope in to view the lunar eclipse. Photo by Ryan Coody

Campus Talk: Why Fight?

Raquel Butler

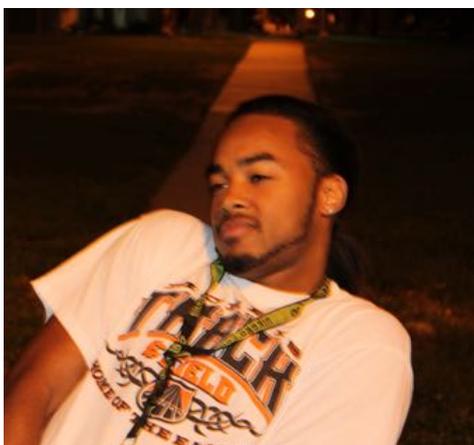
We asked random students on campus why fights and disagreements occur after going out for a night on the town.



“People lose all their insecurities when they are drunk, and they feel like they are invincible.” - Stallion Collins



“People from Haskell fight so much because their personalities come out when they drink and they don’t like people here. Our school is so small that we all go out to the same hang out spot and since we all know everyone, the alcohol can cause fights to start” - Timothy Ware



“It depends on the personalities that people have, sometimes the drinks can just get to people and let that side of themselves go.” - Guthre Dean



“They call it ‘liquid courage’ and people feel like they can confront the people they want to settle something with.” - Marcus McVay

Giving Haskell Students a Voice for Equality

Tsanavi Spoonhunter

Many students have gazed upon flyers while walking around campus touting an anti-bullying movement. Student Senate has lead the charge to change bullying within the student body, especially blood-quantum bullying. The Senate has also taken on the mission to strengthen student and faculty relations.

Staci Kaye currently serves as the President of Student Senate and she explains how this became a topic of discussion.

“The students bring issues to the senate office. They report different incidents that take place, so we began the two part forum. The first, student to student and the second, student to faculty.”

A forum is carried out by Senate to enlighten the members of certain issues that happen around Campus. As Kaye puts it, “because in the open discussions we can bring more awareness.” Kaye encourages the student body to become more aware and vocal because “You learn a lot, you learn of different situations and how to approach them.”

Christina Haswood gives is the student senate sophomore represen-

tative here at Haskell Indian Nations University. She is organizing the bullying meetings because, “We want to spread awareness. It’s like the elephant in the room, it’s a big problem, but many people don’t confront the problem.”

To address this issue Ms. Haswood explains “we need to become more aware of what we say to people. At the meetings Brenda Shildt from counseling briefly explained the process of bullying and when it comes to faculty bullying, she can explain further details. We hope that student senate will carry this on because it is a big issue, at Haskell and globally.”

The Student Senate presented this to the Faculty Senate meeting held on April 17, 2014. During this meeting most of what was discussed was the student and faculty relationships. When this was brought up, they found that no policy is written about the procedure to follow when addressing this issue.

During the two part forums, student senate representatives addressed the issue of having grades posted on

blackboard, so that they can see their progress. They also expressed how they would like all their homework returned in a timely manner, so they can have a better understanding on what they need to work on.

Students here on campus have a right to address any issues about bullying, whether it be student to student, or student to faculty. Students are encouraged to take their issues to Student Senate and fill out reports on any type of bullying they experience.

They are also invited to attend future meetings for a more united student body. Lastly, if you follow student senate on Twitter you can be more aware of what’s happening around campus and voice different issues or concerns you may have.



Review - Captain America: The Winter Soldier

Faith Tallchief-Underwood

Marvel has once again expanded their universe by releasing *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*, which aims to fill viewers in on what happened to Steve Rogers after the *Avengers* film. In this film, Steve is trying to fit into this modern world, because he literally is a man lost in time. Steve goes through this modern world by doing what knows best . . . being a soldier. Steve once again must be the captain as he tries to catch the infamous Winter Soldier. Whom most believe doesn’t even exist, but can the Captain catch him, and if he can, will he like what he finds?

What I really enjoyed about this film was the plot twists, and how the Captain has to figure out what is the truth, and what is a lie. Moreover it’s intriguing how the both this film and

its predecessor film *The First Avenger: Captain America* merges together as the tragedies of the past come back to haunt. Another twist that I enjoyed was who the actual Winter Soldier was; his identity is a major plot twist.

Furthermore the action scenes were good, and the viewers get to see more of Black Widow, and a little of Director Nick Fury in these fight sequences. What I thought was interesting about this film was the emotion that the actors Chris Evans and Scarlett Johansson displayed because this film had good comedic moments and then really heart wrenching moments as well.

Captain America the Winter Soldier directors the Russo brothers did a good job shooting the film with viewpoints that didn’t involve too many close –up nor did it overuse

vantage points either. Plus the music for this film I thought went good for the film, and the costume choices were adequate for this film.

However there were parts a few flaws like every other film, because as a viewer watching the film you don’t realize these slow scenes are necessary for the overall plot until the end. I also had issue with S.H.I.E.L.D. it just seems that until the end of this film, that there like sheep following a herd, and not really asking the tough questions

Moreover I enjoyed the film because of a good plot, and writing material with great action sequences that kept the viewer in their seat, and guessing at the same time. However there were few slow parts as a viewer watching the film and not knowing the ending. But as I stated before

there were needed for the overall plot. Overall I’m giving Captain America the Winter Solider an eight out of ten score.



A Strong Finish for the Haskell Golf Team

Raquel Butler



Haskell golf may not be the biggest sport on campus but the team is continually growing. “When I first started, in the spring of 2010, we had 4 guys plus me, so a total of 5. It was kind of a struggle; this is a rebuilding program right now. Now total, we have about 9 players and about 7 of them are eligible. The rest of them are just waiting on grade checks and NAIA clearance.” said student coach Derek Frick

This season just started and has been look pretty good. Trevor Pueblo says “The Spring season is the season that actually counts and we started March 10th and it ends the weekend of April 26th with conference.”

Frick says this season will end well, “This season we kind of got off to a rough start but we did better

than we normally do, so I feel like if the guys get in the time to practice then we will do even better the rest of the season. I think we may be able to send the team or an individual to nationals.”

Pueblo adds “We’ve got a good team this year; we have a chance to compete. We can at least go top three to conference as long as we put our mind to it and go after it.” The team recently placed 2nd at the Baker Invitational, the highest placing ever for Haskell.

The team is lead by Coach Gary Tanner and student coach Derek Frick. Frick says, “Coach Tanner is a good guy and he’s very knowledgeable in the mental part of the game. I help teach the physical aspect of the game, but coach is very good at

keeping the guys calm and collected and makes sure they have what they need.”

As the team continues to grow, they form a special kind of team. Frick mentions, “It’s a good group of guys; they’re all buddy buddy and get along great. Were definitely the most unique team out there.”

Pueblo agreed by stating, “The thing I like about it is were a good group of guys, we all come out here and have a good time together. That’s the main thing, that we come out and have a good time together.”

We wish the guys good luck on the rest of the season.



Photos by Raquel Butler.

Haskell Hosts MCAC Track & Field Championship

Ryan Coody

The Haskell Track and Field team hosted the annual MCAC Track and Field Championship this past weekend for events such as the javelin throw, the discus throw, the shotput, and the races and relays.

The weather was perfect on day 1, when javelin and the women's 3000 meter race took place. A senior on York College's team was set to graduate on Saturday, so the 3000m race was moved up to accommodate her, something every athlete and coach seemed to understand and appreciate. The weather on day 2, for the shotput, discus, and remaining races, was more gloomy and cloudy, but the rain held off and it gave everyone a break from the heat.

Haskell had four student-athletes place in the events. Haskell Athletics Facebook page shared this information: "Phil Stand in the Discus (48.59M), Tiar'e Little Head in the 800M (2:29.14), Talisa Budder in the 1500M (5:20.37), and Herb Beyale, III in the 1500M (4:22.62) and 5000M (17:15.85)."

The Facebook page also had a post from Coach Al Gipp: "Yesterday Haskell hosted our conference meet in Lawrence. We had great



technical support to host the meet from our officials - Laveta Gardner, Connie Brand, John Brandt, Steve Heffernan, and Manny King. Special thanks to South Middle School and administrators for the use of their fa-

cility. We also want to express thanks to the support from Haskell students and student-athletes from Volleyball and Softball and H-Club - who came out and assisted with the meet. Thank you all."

Pictured Left to Right: Philip Stand, Tiar'e Little Head, Talisa Budder, Herb Beyale III, and Coach Al Gipp. Photos by Ryan Coody



Stories N' Motion Presents

10th Annual American Indian Film Festival

Friday, May 2nd

Guest Speaker

Sterlin Harjo

7p.m.



Saturday, May 3rd

Mato Paha 2 p.m.

Indigenous Resistance 3:15

Protect Our Future 4:10

Native Oklahoma 5:00

2 Year Promise 6:00

Off the Rez 7:20

Location:

The Haskell Auditorium



Student Poetry

The 200 MPH Unicorn By Steven Whitfield

*As I board the train
French blasts through the speakers,
"S'il vous plaît prenez votre siege."
(Please take your seat.)*

*I take my seat
next to an English woman.
I notice she is wearing a bright
red hat even before I know
I am to be seated next to her.
She is English in every stereotype.
I never really knew what that meant
just knew that she fit the bill.
So proper.*

*As I take off my jacket
she glances at my tattoo.
The train begins at 200 MPH
toward London. She glances again,
"What's that?"*

*I show her the lizard
on my arm. The Southwest
designs done by a Pueblo man.
The sharp angles
influenced by the land.
The red,
the yellow,
the black.
I am Laguna Pueblo
I am from the lizard clan
I am Native American.*

*She twists her face with confusion.
A face I'm all too familiar with.
I'm American Indian*

*I reference Apache Pizza, similar to Pizza
Hut,
but an Indian warrior as their logo.
This rings a bell
but not loud enough.
She still doesn't realize
what I am.
A real people
A real culture
A real history
Forged in generations
Amongst the tan rigid mountains,
The distinct air of the Southwest
Dry yet exotic.*

*In this moment
I feel as though
our people are unicorns here.
A myth
A people of legend
and not of reality.
A people forgotten by those
who exploited us for centuries.*

*I ask her if she has ever seen
a unicorn going 200 MPH.
She looks at me like I am crazy.
I just laugh.*

Through Button Eyes By Krystle Barnett

*I was once a proud, strong guardian
who protected her from innumerable evils
sadistic spiders on the ceiling
carnivorous monsters in the closet
vengeful lost souls outside the window*

*I reside now, on a shelf, a relic:
humble, while gathering dust
Always watching
Always defending
Love forever unwavering*

Eyes of Eckleburg By Krystle Barnett

*Licentious and impetuous souls
blissfully indulge
in the best their pennies can buy.*

*Raucous galas
metamorphoses into hazy recollections
of shadows in dark rooms.*

*Dauntless strutting
converts to pusillanimous shuffling
as Thanatos collects his dues.*

Ecclesiastes By Krystle Barnett

*I deny my eyes nothing
refuse my heart no pleasure
I seek beauty and fame
but only discover entropy
I work for days
but blessings never come
I am discovering earth holds nothing new
that streams never fill the vast sea
that the senses are never satisfied
that humanity's heroes are forgotten
that life is evanescent
that luminaries die
Futility*



Hidden Beauty Hallie Long

Beauty is everywhere even if you cannot see it. On April 18-19, I had the chance to walk around campus and just experience the beauty. I had nothing to do and nowhere to go, so why not explore? Not many people know that there is beauty everywhere on campus. I took pictures of the amazing scenery. I got the chance to walk around campus in front of Stidham Union on Friday and take pictures of students, scenery and more.

On Saturday, I walked around the Cross Country Trail and the Wetlands. Taking many pictures on my journey. Little did I know I would have a beautiful experience and get plenty of pictures.

If you ever just need to find yourself or see something beautiful, you should definitely either walk around the Cross Country Trail, visit the Wetlands or do both. Just seeing the wildlife and the plants changing was amazing enough. The weather was perfect. It seemed unlike anything I had ever experienced.

Thank You!

As another year comes to a close, the staff of The Indian Leader would like to thank the readers for your continued support. This year has seen many changes in the paper, and you have stuck with us as we continue to learn, adapt, and develop the paper to meet the changing needs of the Haskell community.

See you in the Fall!
-The Indian Leader Staff



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into digital format over time.

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