

Chief's Address To The Nation

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upon the positive relationships between the governor's office, state agencies and Oklahoma's tribal governments."

Hensley received a bachelor's degree in education from Oklahoma State University and a master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of Tulsa.

National News

Gaming: 2011 Indian Gaming Revenues Increased 3%

Washington, DC July 17, 2012 —Today the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC or Commission) Chairwoman Tracie Stevens released data showing revenues generated by the Indian gaming industry in 2011 totaled \$27.2 billion.

The 2011 Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR) is calculated on the 421 independently audited financial statements submitted by 237 gaming tribes. The 2011 GGR of \$27.2 billion represents a 3% growth in revenue as compared to 2010 reported GGR of \$26.5 billion. Overall Indian gaming revenues stabilized over the past two years and the GGR growth in 2011 marked the first increase for the industry since 2008.

The Indian gaming community primarily consists of tribes generating much needed revenue each year through small and moderate gaming operations. In 2011, 56% of Indian gaming operations reported gaming revenue less than \$25 million. 138

of these operations generated gaming revenue less than \$10 million.

The overall GGR growth in 2011 is attributable to 65% of the operations which reported an increase in gaming revenues. Of these operations, approximately 65% showed moderate growth of less than 10%.

For 2011, all seven regions experienced growth and the largest growth in GGR occurred within the Oklahoma City region, which includes 51 gaming operations in western Oklahoma and Texas; and the Tulsa Region, which includes 64 gaming operations in Kansas and eastern Oklahoma.

Revenue calculations are based on the independent audit reports NIGC receives annually from tribes conducting gaming operations in accordance with IGRA. The 2011 GGR information was compiled from Indian gaming operations audited financial statements received by the NIGC through June 20, 2012. Gaming revenues represent the net win from gaming activities which is the difference between gaming receipts and payouts.

It is an honor and privilege to serve as the Principal Chief and hopefully the information within my articles will keep you informed of what is happening in your tribal government and in Indian Country at large.

Sincerely, George Thurman, Chief

Senior Man and Woman

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Ramona, Georgia, Georgette, Jerlyn Sanache and Edward, Billy and Jubal, Angela, Josie, Gena and Kristie Walker.

My second home is Tama, Iowa where I have as many kinfolks there as here.

My life included Uncles, Duard Scott, Frank Scott, Charles Smith, James "Jimmie" Roubidoux and George Nullake. My Aunts were Pearl Carter, Helen Bass, Mary Barker Davenport, Mary Smith Frye, Mamie Crosby and Margaret Brown. All these relative are gone, but their children are still very connected to me.

It is a great honor to be this year's Senior Woman. I was a Senior in 1962, now I'm a Senior again only of 2012. Life has been good to me. The many people that I meet add more joy to my existence. I grateful to be of service to my Nation. I think it's good practice to keep smiling. It's an exercise for the face.

James Leon Walker aka "Bones" parents were the late Willard "Margrove" Walker and Henryetta Bentley Walker, they had 12 children: Leroy, Henry, Leonard, Benny, James, Willard Jr., Mary, Marlin, Forrest, Lela, Catherine and one stillborn. James was born on December 13, 1941 and is an enrolled member of the Sac and Fox Tribe, he belongs to the Tree Clan. He attended Acme Elementary in Shawnee OK and Dale High School. While enlisted in the U.S. Army he spent most of his time in Germany. He also served in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. Bones is a Certified Ordained Minister.

At home during school years he was the family cook, he baked cakes, cookies, made cowboy bread, corn bread, dutch oven bread, biscuits and frybread. When not cooking he spent time at Elk's Country Club caddying for various golfers or hunting for lost golf balls in the water. He also shot pool and played dominos for extra money to buy groceries.

He made his sisters and brothers learn how to walk with stilts and also taught them learn how to climb trees. He fixed bicycles for them to ride the country roads. He helped with their homework. Math and English came easy for him and he taught us a lot.

He had us play basketball and shoot all positions so we could qualify for high top tennis shoes. We had to play softball and hit golf balls for practice. We had to shoot marbles and play jacks for rhythm. He taught us to whistle and play the harmonica. He prepared us to learn how to care for ourselves, live alone and get along.

Bones is known to get the job done and always shares what he has. He isn't afraid to get out there with his straw hat and stick (to hold the pedal down on the riding lawn mower) to make the yard look nice, or cook beans and clean house. He is a praying man and will offer/give his assistance anytime. He is a jack of all trades and a shady tree mechanic. Bones has survived Hospice twice.

Thank you to all that voted him to be Sac and Fox Senior Man of the Year 2012.



2012 PowWow Committee: (Left to Right) Laveta Ashley, Robert Williamson, Graham Primeaux, Georgia Noble, Russell Saunders, Shanarae Boyd, Tammie Fields Cheryl McClellan, Carrie Spang, Mason Williamson, Letha Carter and Jamie Noble. Thank You for everyone's support for a successful 49th Annual PowWow. We are looking forward to our 50th! Robert Williamson chair.

The Olympic Legacy of Jim Thorpe

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Thorpe has often been named as the "World's Greatest Athlete" and has been inducted into ten Halls of Fame: 1951—College Football Hall of Fame (charter); 1958 – National Indian Hall of Fame; 1961 – Pennsylvania Hall of Fame; 1963 – Professional Football Hall of Fame (charter); 1972 – American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame (charter); 1975 – National Track and Field Hall of Fame; 1983 – United States Olympic Hall of Fame (charter); 1986 – Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame (charter); Helms Professional Football Hall of Fame; and 2008 – American Football Kicking Hall of Fame (charter).

A bust of Jim Thorpe also stands in the National Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. He was the first president of the American Professional Football Association, established in 1920 and later to become the National Football League. The Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame is also housed in the Jim Thorpe Association Museum in Oklahoma City, and the Jim Thorpe Award is annually bestowed on the year's best defensive back in college football.

Besides football, Thorpe also played baseball and basketball.

Currently his legacy is acknowledged by Teresa Cody of "Uncommon Threads", located in downtown Shawnee, Fred Turner of Red Oak Energy, whose window will house the exhibit, and Tom Terry, who served as the Greater Shawnee Area Chamber of Commerce Beautification Committee chairman. They are assisted by the Sac and Fox Nation and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Oklahoma Baptist University offers a similar exhibit spotlighting OBU students who are also Olympians.

"It's been 100 years," said Cody concerning how the idea came about.

Turner, who rents the property, has an interest in Jim Thorpe, taking what he described as the "Jim Thorpe tour" consisting of the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton Ohio, the site of Carlisle Indian School (now a military training site inaccessible to the public), and the burial site of Jim Thorpe, the latter two in Pennsylvania.

"It needs to be done," said Turner of the exhibit. "Now is the time to do it."

"Thank you for your patience and support while organizational changes are being implemented in the Nation's Finance Department. These changes will result in the accurate and timely processing of financial transactions and records. As a former employee of the Finance Department for over 20 years and as your Treasurer, I believe the Sac and Fox Nation's members deserve the highest level of integrity, accuracy and efficiency".

Carla J. Reed
Treasurer

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