

## GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY - SACATON, ARIZONA

## Mul-Chu-Tha 1988

APRIL 15, 16 AND 17, 1988

## 26th Mul-Chu-Tha is April 15, 16, 17 at Sacaton

The 26th Mul-Chu-Tha, which will be held April 15, 16 and 17 at Sacaton, will feature a variety of activities, including a rodeo, parade, pow wow, fast-pitch softball tournament, Miss Gila River pageant, 10-K run and entertainment.

The theme of this year's Mul-Chu-Tha is "Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders," an entry by elementary school student Patrick Rhodes in a theme contest.

**Miss Gila River Pageant**

This year's pageant will be held April 15 at the fair grounds Amphitheater beginning at 6 p.m.

Six contestants will be competing for the title now held by Arlene F. Howard.

They are Kristina Morago, 20, Sacaton; Carlene Myers, 24, Sacaton; Emaline E. Rhoades, 22, District 4; Marla J. Jackson, 19, Sacaton; Halena Jose, 18, District 2; and Deborah Peters, 20, Santa Cruz.

A coronation dance starting immediately following the pageant will be held in the Exhibit Building. Music will be by Virgil Jose & Friends. Admission is \$3, those 8 and under are free.

**10K/2 Mile Fun Run**

The first event of Saturday April 16 will be a 10K run and a two-mile fun run starting at 7 a.m. at the Gila River Career Center.

Runners, joggers, walkers of all ages may enter the fun run. All official entrants will receive a race T-shirt. Entry fee at the race is \$10.

Awards will go to the top three male and female finishers in each of the age groups.

**Jackpot Co-Ed Fast Pitch Softball Tournament**

Sixteen teams representing several Indian tribes will compete in the double elimination jackpot tournament.

Games will start both Saturday and Sunday at 7 a.m. on four fields. Field No. 1 is located on the fair grounds, Fields 2 and 3 are at Sacaton Middle School, and Field 4 is located on Seed Farm Road.

First place prize is \$500 plus a team trophy and T-shirts. Second place gets \$300 and a team trophy, and third place gets \$250 and a team trophy.

**Parade**

This year's parade will begin Saturday at 10 a.m. at Church Street behind the BIA plant management building. Parade entries will start lining up at 7 a.m.

Entry categories include floats, horseback riders, Indian entertainers, Indian dance groups, Indian clown



**FLAG WEVERS**—Mul-Chu-Tha Commission vice president Jay Pedro, left, along with Patrick Rhodes, stretch a banner that carries the theme for this year's 26th annual fair and rodeo at Sacaton. Rhodes, a student at Chandler's Hartford

Elementary School entered the slogan in this year's theme contest. He not only got recognition for his entry, but he also won \$50. Rhodes is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Rhodes, who is Gila River lieutenant governor.

groups, color guards, marching bands, military organizations and queen/princess entries.

The parade route will move down Church Street, turn right on Pima Road, swing left on Sacaton Road to Agency Road where it will turn left to end in front of the BIA administration buildings.

**Rodeo**

Rodeo performances both Saturday and Sunday will begin at 1 p.m. in the rodeo arena.

Events will include barrel racing, steer wrestling, bull riding, saddle bronc riding, bareback bronc riding, team steer roping and calf roping.

This year's rodeo is being organized and produced by Brenda Robertson and former world champion bull rider Charlie Sampson from Casa Grande. The stock contractor for the rodeo is Diamond S Brothers.

Admission to each performance of the rodeo is \$5 general admission, \$2 for those 7 to 17 years old, and free for children 6 and under.

Walk-in entries will be taken April 14 and 15 from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the Gila River Tribal Building in Sacaton.

**Pow Wow**

The pow wow will be at Sacaton Middle School, starting Saturday with Gourd Dancing from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The grand entry will be at 7 p.m., and will be followed with competition dancing for girls, boys, women and men. Sunday the grand entry will be at 1 p.m.

The Southern host drum will be Elton Yellowfish, the Northern host drum will be Harrison Kly.

The headman dancer will be Tony Ringlero, the headwoman dancer is Penney Sue Sixkiller. Master of ceremonies will be Nelson Fernandez.

There will be no charge for admission, however, donations are appreciated.

**Amphitheater**

There will be entertainment in the Amphitheater Saturday and Sunday beginning at 1 p.m.

On Saturday the festivities will begin with the introduction of Miss Gila River 1988 at 1 p.m.

Saturday's and Sunday's entertainment will include the Mathachinas, Salt River Basket Dancers, Salt River Quail Dancers, Anagem Youth Group Dancers, Danny Lopez Dance Group, the

Tohono O'odham Harvest Dancers, and Emmett White's Blue Star Singers and Dancers.

On Saturday there will be a reggae music concert from 7 p.m. to midnight featuring the Sons of Captivity.

Admission to the Amphitheater for the entertainment is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children 12 and under.

Joseph Enos and Marvin Pablo will serve as emcees for the activities.

**Ramada Circle**

Entertainment Saturday in Ramada Circle amid the food booths will begin at 10 a.m. with rock bands that include Milton Nelson, and the Red Express.

At noon will be a welcome address by Gila River Lt. Gov. William Rhodes. At 12:30 p.m., Arizona's official balladeer, Dolan Ellis, will perform.

And at 1 p.m. a battle of the chicken scratch bands will begin. Scheduled bands include Cisco, Blood Brothers and the Tohono O'odham Braves.

On Sunday, entertainment will include adult spiritual singing groups and young spiritual singing groups.

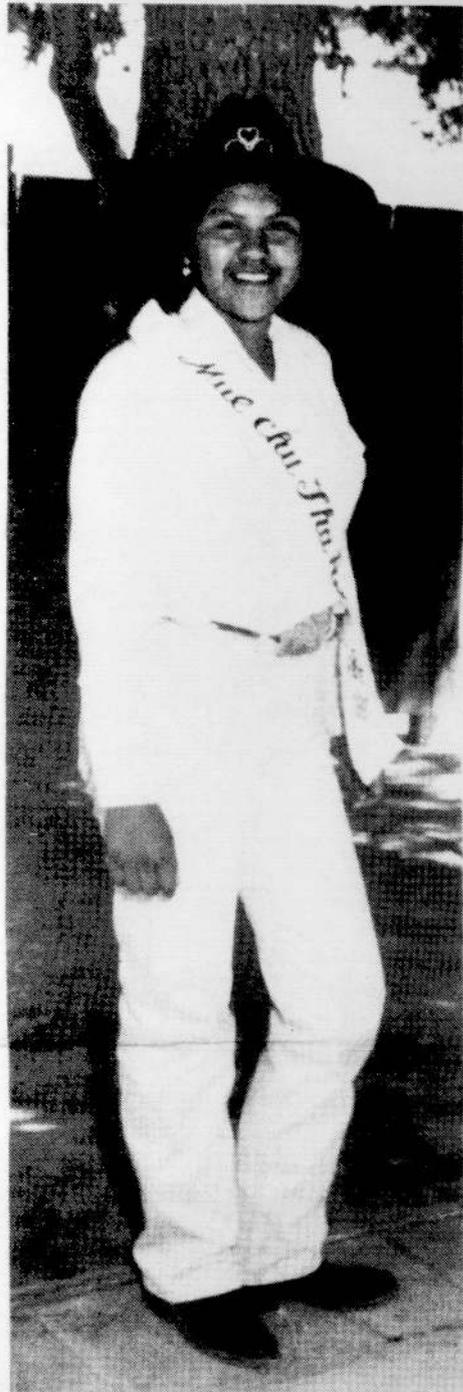
**Carnival**

There will be a carnival midway featuring rides and games that will be open from morning into the night.

## Saddling and unsaddling a horse comes easy for Miss Mul-Chu-Tha

One of the things you have to do in the competition for Miss Mul-Chu-Tha is to unsaddle and saddle your horse in five minutes.

For 15-year-old Michelle Jackson, that's usually not a tough task, except with the horse she was trying to unsaddle and saddle.



Michelle Jackson

Her horse, as she says, "Was very shy, so it was harder to do. Some of the horses were a little shy."

Michelle, daughter of Charlene and Aaron James, is an eighth grader at Sacaton Middle School.

She's been riding horses since she was six or seven years old, so this competition was nothing new to her. She also was a contestant for in last year's Miss Mul-Chu-Tha contest.

As far as the contest for Miss Mul-Chu-Tha, she said putting her horse through its paces wasn't too difficult.

"It wasn't really hard. You just had to memorize the patterns," she said.

Though she doesn't have her own horse yet, Michelle said she usually rides a friend's, Jimmy Walker's of Sacaton.

Besides riding horses, her other interests include playing softball, and she is the boys' baseball team manager.

She also is a member of the Junior National Honor Society, and is serving as the vice president of the student council.

## Another stepping stone in her life

The greatest honor which can come to a person is to be selected by her people to represent them.

Representing you—the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Tribes—has been truly a great honor for me. I am grateful for the high measure of understanding and support which has been given me.

The title of Miss Gila River is not only a compliment of the past, but a reflection upon the future.

Being Miss Gila River was just another stepping stone to face the challenges in life.

This experience will always be in my heart. A million words cannot express the true feelings I have now. I will be forever grateful to the Hohokam, my ancestors—they taught me so much. I'm proud to be Pima.

Thanks to all the people who gave me support during my reign.

Tribal council members, the governor, lieutenant governor, family, friends, all the elderly, my committee, and an extra special thanks to my mom, Barbara.

Without you I would never have made it. I love you Mom.

This is not goodbye, it is just the

beginning!

by Arlene F. Howard  
Miss Gila River 1987-88



Arlene Howard



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# Here's your guide to the 26th annual Gila River Mul-Chu-Tha at Sacaton

## FRIDAY — APRIL, 15, 1988

6 PM—MISS GILA RIVER PAGEANT. Six young women from the Gila River Indian Community will vie for the title of Miss Gila River 1988. The current titleholder is Arlene F. Howard. The pageant will start at 6 p.m. in the fair grounds Amphitheater. Immediately following the pageant there will be a coronation dance in the Exhibition Hall. Music will be by Virgil Jose & Friends. Admission is \$3, 8 years and under free.

## SATURDAY — APRIL 16, 1988

7 AM—10K RUN/2 MILE FUN RUN. Both the 10K run and 2-mile fun run will start at the Gila River Career Center at 7 a.m. Entry fee at the race is \$10. Awards go to the top three male and female finishers in each age category.

7 AM—JACKPOT CO-ED FAST PITCH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT. Games in the double elimination jackpot tournament will start at 7 a.m. on four fields. Field one is at the fair grounds, fields two and three are at Sacaton Middle School, and field four is on Seed Farm Road. Sixteen teams representing several tribes are scheduled to compete.

10 AM—PARADE. Floats, horseback riders, Indian dancers and entertainers, color guards and marching bands, queens and princesses will be part of the parade. The parade starts at 10 a.m. on Church Street, turns right onto Pima Road, swings left onto Sacaton Road, follows that road to Agency Road, turns left to end at the BIA administration buildings.

10 AM—ENTERTAINMENT IN RAMADA CIRCLE. Rock bands will offer free entertainment beginning at 10 a.m. They include Milton Nelson, and the Red Express. At 12:30 p.m. Dolan Ellis, Arizona's official balladeer, will perform. And at 1 p.m. there will be a battle of chicken scratch bands, including Cisco, Blood Brothers and the Tohono O'odham Braves.

1 PM—RODEO. The rodeo, featuring a jackpot format, will start at 1 p.m. in the arena. Events will be barrel racing, steer wrestling, bull riding, saddle and bareback bronc riding, team steer roping and calf roping. General admission is \$5, \$2 for those 7 to 17 years old, and free for children 6 and under.

1 PM—AMPHITHEATER ENTERTAINMENT. Entertainment in the Amphitheater will feature the Mathachinas, Salt River Basket Dancers, Salt River Quail Dancers, Anegam Youth Dancers, Danny Lopez Dance Group, the Tohono O'odham Harvest Dancers and the Blue Star Singers and Dancers. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children 12 and under.

4 PM—POW WOW. Gourd dancing from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. will open the pow wow at Sacaton Middle School. The grand entry will be at 7 p.m. followed by competition dancing. Elton Yellowfish will be the Southern host drum, Harrison Kly will be Northern host drum. Headman dancer is Tony Ringlero, headwoman dancer is Penney Sue Sixkiller. Admission is free, donations however, are appreciated.

7 PM—REGGEE CONCERT. A concert featuring the Sons of Captivity will begin at 7 p.m. in the Amphitheater. Admission will be charged.

## SUNDAY — APRIL 17, 1988

7 AM—JACKPOT CO-ED FAST PITCH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT. Games in the double elimination tournament that started yesterday will continue to the championship. The field of sixteen teams representing several Indian tribes will be pared down to the championship round. Games will be at the four fields in Sacaton.

10 AM—ENTERTAINMENT IN RAMADA CIRCLE. Sunday morning's entertainment will include adult spiritual singing groups and youth spiritual singing groups.

1 PM—RODEO. The second performance of the rodeo will start at 1 p.m. in the rodeo arena. See Saturday's schedule for the list of rodeo events. General admission is \$5, \$2 for those 7 to 17 years old, and free for children 6 and under.

1 PM—POW WOW. The pow wow will continue at Sacaton Middle School. Grand entry for today's competition is at 1 p.m. Competition dancing follows.

1 PM—AMPHITHEATER ENTERTAINMENT. Indian dance groups will again be featured entertainment in the Amphitheater. Admission, adults \$4, children 12 and under, \$2.

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