

SD Prisoner Support Group

Nov 2003

For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me water, I was a stranger and you invited me into your homes; naked and you clothed me; **sick and in prison and you visited me.** Matt 25:35 paraphrase



*Wishing you
Joy and
Happiness
not only
during the
holidays but
every day*

--

{Please remember to send your loved ones a letter, a card, pictures, money is always needed. Send them your prayers and encouragement. Prison is a hard place to be. Let them know that they are not forgotten and that someone loves them}

SDPSG

How a prison dream becomes a reality, the Kimberly Rose Means Scholarship

I was asked to share something that I had done in my lifetime that had helped my people. I immediately thought of this young man who said he was very happy to meet me back in 1993. I was being held in the Pine Ridge Tribal Jail where I was fighting extradition against the State of South Dakota. This young man was a Tribal Police officer and as we shook hands I wondered about what he wanted to say to me. He told me that he was very happy to get the chance to meet me because I was one of the three people that made a difference in his life. It was because of a scholarship that I had the honor of being a part of. This scholarship inspired this young man to go forward with his education and later become a tribal police officer.

The scholarship that this young man became a recipient of was the Kimberly Rose Means Scholarship. I would like to explain a little bit about how the

scholarship came about. In 1986 Paul Gregg, Vernon Moves Camp, and I were walking in the West yard here in the Sioux Falls prison talking and remembering a 9 year old Native American girl. Her name was Kimberly Rose Means who had been on a Freedom Run from Porcupine, SD to the penitentiary in Sioux Falls, SD. The freedom was for her people who were incarcerated here at the state penitentiary. She was tragically killed by a white man who was driving drunk that day. Nothing was done to this white man (no prison) he basically was unpunished for his terrible crime. We were talking about how we wished we could've changed things and made something good come out of the situation. We were thinking that if she were still with us, she would be graduating the following year in 1987 at Little Wound High School. I don't recall which one of us came up with the idea of a scholarship but we all decided that if we could put our idea into a reality that it would be nice to have one of her classmates be the first recipient of the new scholarship.

After one year of working and getting a lot of support from people in our Native American communities, our dream became a reality and the Kimberly Rose Means Scholarship was founded. In the summer of 1987 there was a Kimberly Rose Means memorial Wacipi set in place by the Native

American Council of Tribes for the purpose of giving the scholarship. I had the honor of being a part of the group behind the SD Prison walls along with Paul Gregg and Vernon Moves Camp, who all made the very first choice on who would receive the very first scholarship. It was a great day! The Means family was there, and I believe it was the largest Wacipi ever held at the SDSP.

Kimberly lost her life running for our freedom and we all felt very sad. We just wanted her memory to be something more than a senseless tragedy and we also wanted to help our young Native people throughout the community. The Kimberly Rose Means Scholarship has been awarded for the past 16 years and is now a life time scholarship in which the Native American Council of Tribes continues to determine the recipients. A local foundation in Sioux Falls, SD is currently handling the funds for the scholarship.
Mitakuye-Oyasin
Phillip Yellow Bird Steele Sr.
Jameson Annex Prison
Sioux Falls, SD

LAKOTA LANGUAGE CLASSES BEGIN

Mattie High Pipe will begin the Lakota Language class at SDSP & Jameson on December 8th,2003.

NACT'S NEWEST HONORARY MEMBERS

Founder of the American Indian Movement; Clyde Bellecourt, Belinda Joe, Stephanie Autumn

Words Of Wisdom.

"Each man is good in the eyes of the Great Spirit. It is not necessary

for eagles to be crows."
.....Chief Sitting Bull.

"Schedule of activities for 2004 SD State Pen.

(Please note that the events for Jameson and the Hill are scheduled on the same weekend for the convenience of guests coming from a distance. Guests will be able to attend events at both locations by specifying this on their security clearance forms.)

Security forms must be turned in two weeks before the events to allow enough time to process them.

Jan.22, 23- 04 Spiritual Conference NACT- Hill
Jan.24, 04 Wacipi - LDN Jameson

Mar. 11, 12 - 04 Spiritual Conference LDN- Jameson
Mar. 13, 04 Wacipi NACT- HILL

Apr. 22, 23 -04 Spiritual Conference NACT- Hill
Apr.24, 04 Wacipi- LDN Jameson

Jun.17, 18 -04 Spiritual Conference LDN -Jameson
Jun. 19-04 Wacipi – NACT - Hill

Jul. 22, 23 -04 Spiritual Conference NACT - Hill
Jul.24-04 Wacipi- LDN- Jameson

Sep. 23, 24 -04 Spiritual Conference LDN - Jameson
Sep.25-04 Wacipi – NACT- Hill

Oct. 21, 22- 04 Spiritual Conference NACT - Hill
Oct. 23-04 Wacipi-LDN-Jameson

Dec.9, 10 -04 Spiritual Conference LDN - Jameson
Dec.11- 04 Wacipi NACT - Hill

For more information and to get the "access approval forms" contact: Jennifer Wagner, Cultural Activities Coordinator at PO Box 5911, Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5911 or call (605) 367-5010 fax (605) 367-5038 email: Jennifer wagner@state.sd.us

SPORTS



NATIVE AMERICAN DAY TOURNAMENT

From the SDSP "on the Hill" info sent in by "championship dancer" Theodore New.

EAST HALL 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TEAM PLAYERS

1st Place: T New, J. Jones & T. Redwing
2nd Place: R. Traversie, C. Jones & M. Crow Ghost
3rd Place: T. Standing Bear, L. Red Horse & L. Black Bear

WEST/FEDERAL 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TEAM PLAYERS

1st Place: N. Briteramos, D. Wilson & J. Allen
2nd Place: V. Trueblood, N. Hero & J. Decoteau
3rd Place: C. Randall, M. Quick Bear & E. Morris

EAST HALL PINOCHLE TEAM PLAYERS

1st Place: D. Cole & W. Davey
2nd Place: A. Long Soldier & T. Coulson
3rd Place: D. Llewellyn & R. Verner

WEST/FEDERAL PINOCHLE TEAM PLAYERS

1st Place: R. Hannon & J. Johns
2nd Place: J. Curtis & J. Shaw
3rd Place: T. Pellegrino &

M. Thomas

EAST HALL SPADES TEAM

PLAYERS

1ST Place: T. Verner & T. Olvera

2nd Place: M. Miller &
D. Mc Ghee

3rd Place: D. Moe & J. Meyer

WEST/ FEDERAL SPADES TEAM

PLAYERS

1ST Place: E. Meeks & C. Coffey

2nd Place: T. Pellegrino &
R. Raymond

3rd Place: B. Price & W. Stanton

EAST HALL HORSE SHOES TEAM

PLAYERS

1ST Place: R. Dillon & L. Jacobs

2nd Place: H. Running Bird &
T. Olvera

3rd Place: R. Avila &
L. Pinela-Talks

WEST/ FEDERAL HORSE SHOES

TEAM PLAYERS

1ST Place: K. Bear Stops &
A. Medicine Blanket

2nd Place: D. Hoover & D. Wren

3rd Place: L. Blue Thunder &
H. Withorne

My name is Mattie High Pipe. I am the official Rosebud Sioux Tribal Liaison for Sicangu inmates in the State/Federal systems. I am also a volunteer Liaison for Native Inmates of other Nations who are also incarcerated in the State/Federal systems. If I could find a way to make this official in writing, I will do it also.

I will be teaching the Lakota Language in two prisons here in South Dakota, starting in December. I also believe in the preservation of our Lakota Language and culture, and will do my part to help keep it alive. After I complete what I am doing, I will be reaching out to other

places as well with my teaching. I am also working on doing correspondence courses on my own, to help out the ones in the prison systems.

My heart is for the Oyate, the People, who are living inside the Iron Walls. For those who messed up because of alcohol or drug abuse. For those who grew up in poverty, in dysfunctional homes, who are from broken or abusive homes, for those who were in abusive relationships, for those who had injustices done to them, for those who didn't have a chance in life, for those who feel like they are a Native without a Nation, to those who are forgotten, the invisible ones. RECLAIM honor and the spirit, the pride of our ancestors, the great men and women of long ago, the people of those who stood with indomitable strength and courage in the face of tremendous upheavals and sorrow. Look around you, and inside of you. Down through the centuries, throughout time, it has been proven that our Native Spirit has never been quenched.

Mitakuye Oyasin
Mattie High Pipe
PO Box 286
Parmelee, SD 57566
mhighpipe@yahoo.com

CONGRATULATIONS



I was invited to a wedding at Jameson in September 03. Philip Steele and Kathleen Pilachowski got married. They had a civil ceremony followed by a traditional ceremonial wedding with John Around Him officiating. Ron Volesky was the

best man. Also married that day was Leslie Yellow Bird Steele and Veronica Renville. We want to congratulate them and wish them the best.
Marletta

**Tribal Office Information
10-5-03**

Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
187 Oyate Circle
Lower Brule SD 57548
605-473-5561 phone
605-473-5554 fax

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
PO Box 590
Eagle Butte SD 57625
605-964-4155 phone
605-964-4151 fax

Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
PO Box 658
Ft. Thompson SD 57339
605-245-2221 phone
605-245-2470 fax

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
PO Box 283
Flandreau SD 57028
605-997-3891 phone
605-997-3878 fax

Oglala Sioux Tribe
PO Box H
Pine Ridge SD 57770
605-867-6074 phone
605-867-6075 fax

Rosebud Sioux Tribe
PO Box D
Rosebud SD 57570
605-747-2381 phone
605-747-2905 fax

Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe
PO Box 590
Agency Village SD 57262
605-698-3911 phone
605-698-7907 fax

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
PO Box D
Fort Yates ND 58538
701-854-7201 phone
701-854-7299 fax

Yankton Sioux Tribe
PO Box 248
Marty, SD 57361
605-384-3641 phone
605-384-5687 fax

LETTER OF SUPPORT NEEDED

Dear Friends and Family,
The inmates at the SD State
Prison want to thank you for your
prayers and support. Right now
we are asking everyone to write a
form letter of support for lifers
and long timers to get a Parole
Date after completing 15-17 years
in prison, that a special board
might review the inmate and see if
the inmate has made some serious
changes and if so then recommend
him to the parole board if they
feel he is ready.

We have a man that will be
willing to make copies of your
letter and mail them out to all the
legislators to introduce a bill to
pass a new law for this issue, so at
the end of this letter there will be
a name and address that you can
send your form letter to or call if
you have any questions
concerning any of this. Thank
you for your time on this and any
support that you will give. Please
send letters of support to:

Pastor David Lee,
2108 W. 16th St.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Phone # (605) 339-2038

Unchained Dream



Thoughts have been confused,
wandering back across the years.
Like a spirit seeking freedom
from an unseen bondage!...

Heart drifting through time,
testing the journeying others, who
seem to be on the same quest.

Finding a comforting emotion
with another but to discover it just
another shattered dream!....

Then you continue what seems a
lonely journey, never realizing
that right before you is another
drifting heart also seeking
freedom from an uncertain
bondage!...

Now you wonder, is this my
destiny, to be united yet far apart.
Is this comforting emotion called
“**L**ove” strange enough to endure
through time. Or will you wander
in hopes for that one true dream!

Leon Larvie
Oglala Sicangu Lakota 03

THE TEST



They got a history on the
Reservation,
For drinking whiskey with no
hesitation,
And getting smashed at the bar,
Later on they crash their car,
Even with handcuffs on their
wrists,
they still resist,
wake up in the morning,
laying in their own vomit an pi**,
whoever said ignorance is bliss,
wasn't talking about this,
this is straight up insanity,
alcoholic family,
Uncle and Auntie,
chuggin some brandy, or
thunderbird,
the most common number heard,
is nine eleven,

another angel cryin in heaven,
because alcohol affected another
life,
another man separated from his
wife,
another family broken,
“I love you” are words that are
never spoken,
But you will hear, is the bar still
open?
Drunk tank here I come,
Give me your piggy bank son,
I am about to have some fun,
All them sober people are dumb,
If I vomit I'll kill the odor with
some gum,
A small price to pay,
If you wanna fade away,
I'll deal with life some other day,
For now I don't wanna think,
I just wanna drink,
Later on there'll be tequila and
pizza in the sink,
If you're hungry,
I spent the last of the money,
On a chunlee,
An like the energizer bunny,
I am gonna drink for days,
Smoking J's,
Filling ashtrays,
I am on my way,
To filling the Indian cliché,
Of a drunk Indian,
The only way they'll stop me from
drinking,
is by putting me in prison
Maybe then I'll return to the
Indian tradition,
maybe then I'll become a
Christian,
maybe then I'll finally listen,
and make the right decision,
maybe then I won't wanna party,
like Cris Farley,
or get high like Bob Marley,
only when I'm free like a Harley,
will I see if I'm really sorry,
or if I'll attack the alcohol like the
Army,
for now I can say an do the right
things,
but that don't mean a thing,

the true test is when I'm standing
a few yards
from the liquor King, ding, ding...

by Joseph J. Roubideaux 38826
MDSP, Springfield SD
Sent in 10-1-03

A Mother's Love



W. Quijas 4/03

She would run thru the ashes of
hell..... to help you escape...
in your most dire time of need she
would.....somehow know...
if you're the strongest of the
brood..... she would support you
if you were the weakest, she
would strengthen you
if you want to climb, she would be
your first step
if you wanted to excel she would
be your tutor
if your were a star she would be
your biggest fan
if you scraped your knee her kiss
would make it well
if you had children she would love
them as much
God wanted his Son here, so he
placed him.....in a Mother
She nurtured and nursed him till
he set us free
She followed, listened, and wept
as he hung on a cross
Even in passing, her love is ever
present..... in our memory
In life's most memorable times
we'll wish that she was here
But God... needed her again

IN THE SILENCE

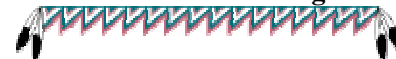


By Blaine Brings Plenty SDSP
In the silence I heard my beloved-
---speak in a voice that made my
soul move, her voice revealed to
me the unity of our souls. I fell
asleep thinking of my beloved, I

slept but my heart was awake
looking for my beloved, she is the
companion of my soul, I could
sense her presence so near me, I
called out to my beloved and she
burst from the heart of my dream
like a fragrant flower, I reached
out to touch her and my lips were
purified with sacred fire that only
spoke of love, this sacred fire
consumed my body and melted
my emotions and desires, I have
felt my beloved brush my soul
with her fingertips, I saw her
bright eyes, and heard the song in
her gentle voice, I have felt her
hands unlocking these chains that
bound my soul in this darkness,
My beloved understands my soul,
she is the one that opened her
heart to me when the day grew
dark, my beloved guards my soul
and my dreams, beloved of my
soul, the silence is the path
between our souls, the silence
recites the love of our two hearts
to our two hearts. There is one
celestial spirit in our two bodies,
the wings of love shelter our
bodies, My beloved is like a
beautiful bird that I feed with the
grains of my heart, and she drank
from the light of my eyes and my
soul her nest, she is the woman
whom my heart loves and at and
into her heart I poured my
affections, she is the one that my
soul is devoted to, she is the
woman to whom I am an
affectionate friend, a faithful
companion and a loyal soldier, my
beloved is the love that dwells in
the paradise of my love and
affection. I prayed and bowed
before heaven in the silence of
the night, I could feel a spiritual
affection in the depths of my
heart that draws me ever so near
to the woman whom heaven had
chosen as my companion. My
beloved from a single spark from
God's hand our love arose from
the heavens: My beloved, here is

my hand, take it in your soft
hand, and here is my body,
embrace it with your lovely arms,
and here is my mouth, kiss it with
sacred fire from the heavens, kiss
me my beloved with a long deep
silent kiss: in the silence.

Poems from the cage



By Henri C. Brother- CACI

In a Poets Light

All provoked in a poets light,
is the past a bit simple in
hindsight...
though in the moment of action,
thought or deed,
the life is the mystery to proceed,
as the final line in a poets light.....

Touching the Day

Reaching out touching the day
from a morning cold and gray,
Then too the sun appears as I
greet the ocean near.
The waters life wakes me within,
My paddle then begins.
I strive to seize the peeling surf,
And touch the day for all it's
worth.....

The Call to Character

Through the winds you come
now,
Wiser from the changes
somehow...
And yet a true test will begin
As chance bestows power in your
hands....
Now your character is called to be
seen,
Do you question your delivery?

Light

You forced the game
You made the rules
You changed the rules as you lose
Hiding behind your pawn you
made yes mean no
And stop mean go

You are only a master of your games yet
Exposed by your flames,
Still truth rules time
And you were just a fine.

CORRECTIONS UPDATE

*Recent policy changes:
Implemented funeral furloughs on reservations
Established tribal liaison with six tribes
*Cultural Activities:
Lakota language class added to educational electives at SDSP; already in place at DSP
P.I.P.E.S. class added (Red Road to Recovery) at SDSP: already in place at DSP (Circle) and SDWP
Extended Pow Wow Times from 4-10 hours at SDSP and DSP
Increased amount of drum practices
Increased amount of dancers practices
*Increased number of allowable hair ties
Request Special Sweat/Pipe Ceremony for ill family member
Native American Spiritual Conferences on Quarterly basis at SDSP
Additional sweats at Jameson/SDSP

*Conducted Comprehensive Substance Abuse Program at SDSP 11/7/03
Special sweats for Native American Day
Allow sweats with medicine men on day of Pow Wow
Allow pipe keepers/Lakota Council of Tribes to contact tribal representatives via telephone to help plan Pow Wow.

*DOC Cultural Awareness Committee
Diversity of DOC Workforce Staff Training
Cultural Activities
Culturally Specific Treatment

*Juvenile Corrections
Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJCPA) compliance requires we identify and address disproportionate minority confinement
"Going Home" Juvenile Re-Entry Initiative targets youth in Sioux Falls, Rapid City, Sisseton areas.

*Weekly Activities
Activity, Facility ,Hrs Per Week

NA Church/ Bible Study
SDSP/Jameson – 2 hrs
DSP – 1 hr
SDWP -1 ½ hrs

Regular Sweats
SDSP/Jameson -12 ¾ hrs
DSP- 8 hrs
SDWP - 1 ½ hrs

Tobacco Ties
SDSP/Jameson 3 1/4 hrs
DSP 2 ¼ hrs
SDWP -1hr

Drum Practice
SDSP/Jameson -3 ½ hrs
DSP 1 ¼ hrs
SDWP 1 hr

Pipe Ceremony
SDSP/Jameson – 6 hrs
DSP – 1hr
SDWP – 1hr

*Allowable Property Items

In cell; Medicine Bag, Drum Stick, Ceremonial Drums, Tobacco Tie squares, Sacred Pipe and Bag, Eagle Feathers, Herbs

In NA Church/Sweat Lodge:
Gourd, Small Drum, Abalone Shell, Herbs,
Books/Tapes/Videos, Tobacco Tie Squares, Eagle Bone Whistle, Dance Regalia, Bucket/Dipper, Woolen Blankets, Various Flags.

SENTENCING COMMITTEE

Inpatient vs. outpatient alcohol treatment
Bennett County community corrections
Judge Tice's opinion on change
Use of day reporting centers
Waiting list for inpatient treatment beds
UJS intensive probation program
Criminal code review

INCARCERATION COMMITTEE

Prison Industries
Community Service Program
Discussion on the COPE Program
Positive Inmate programs
Therapeutic Model-pilot program
Sex Offender Treatment Program
Providing education certification

PAROLE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Employment Opportunities
Housing Resources
Treatment Resources
Reinstatement of Good Time
-to reduce prison time
-to reduce the length of parole
Next committee meeting is Dec. 5th
-Department of Labor, Job Service, Prison Industries
-Association of General Contractors, SD Housing
-Development Association

Initial meeting conducted July 28-29
Second meeting conducted Sep 18-19
Third meeting scheduled for Dec. 10-11
not expected to be a "quick fix"

DOC staff is providing the required administrative support to the group
There has been excellent participation to date

**This picture was given to me
from all the inmates at the
SDSP at the Wacipi 12-6-03**
Anonymous artist

*To those Behind the Walls and to the families,
The Holidays are here and we would like to wish you
Peace, Contentment and Happiness. We wish you a happy
heart, good health & good habits. We wish you some quiet
times... some silly times... some fun times... some times to
unwind... some times to help, some times to cry, some times
to dream, some times to pray. We wish you compassion and
understanding towards others and yourself. We wish you
comfort when you feel alone, stressed, or defeated. We wish
for Peace that passes all understanding, Joy from His Holy
Spirit and most of all we wish you Love from above.
From all of us in the SD Prisoner Support Group*