

## Stuart Enjoys Years of Cheerleading

by Tiffany Dawn Stuart

Starting out in the pep club section learning cheers is where I began my cheerleading career. I have been on freshmen, JV, and varsity squads at Sumner Academy of Arts and Science in Kansas City, Kan.

I enjoyed cheer-ing and especially stunting. Being at morning practices to coordinate cheers and incorporate stunts I believe shows how demanding this sport is. Varsity squad is a year-round sport, cheering for football, volleyball, soccer, basketball, and wrestling.

To be at my game a half-hour before it starts, in a clean uniform, and have food in my stomach was not possible without help from my family. I would like to thank my mom and

dad, Marlene and Thomas Stuart, for supporting me by coming to my games, pep assembly, and helping me financially. It meant the world to me that you tried not to miss one game and really wanted to come.

Next I would like to thank Sally Hibdon and Aunt Val Hibdon for sewing my skirt. It actually looked like a skirt after you were done – thanks. I also would like to thank the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians for paying \$50 of my cheerleading fees.

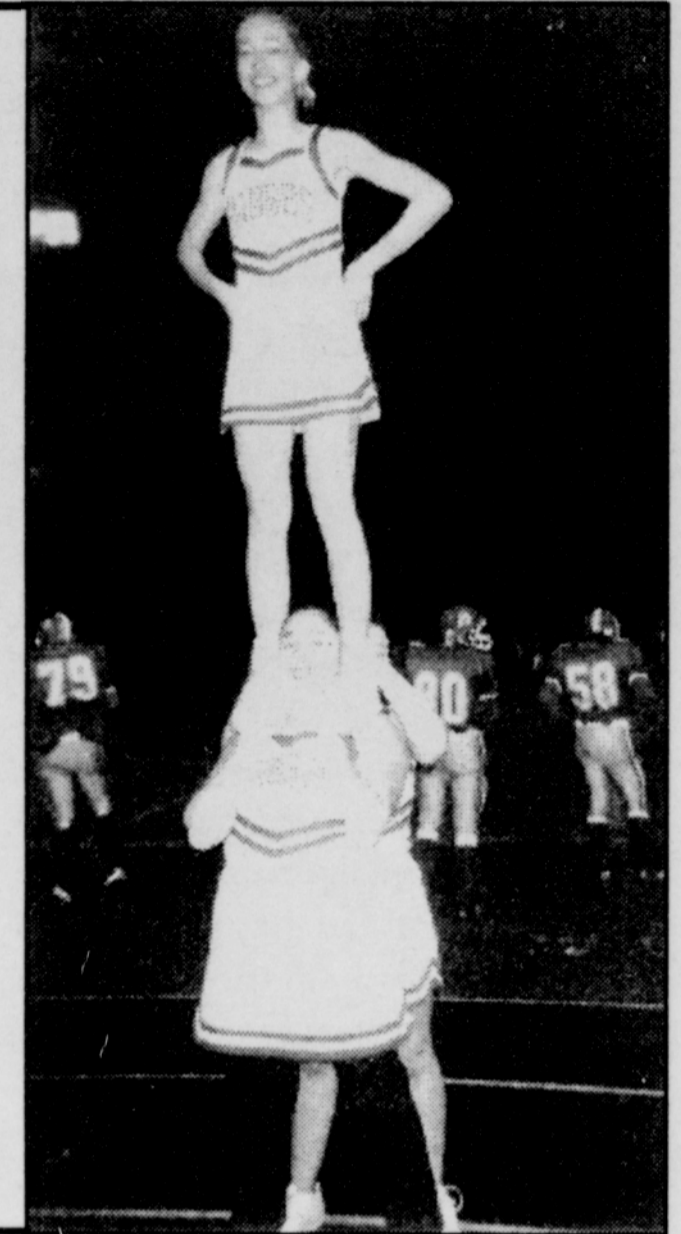
I plan to continue my cheerleading career at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan. I have learned many things and will always remember cheerleading this year.

May God bless you all tenfold.



Above: Tiffany in her uniform during basketball season.

Right: Tiffany holds up Kelly in a single base during football season.



## “Walks-Too-Slow”

by Clifford Case, Jr.

Grandfather, it is I “SpiritFeather.” I am tired of being tired, Grandfather. I am asking once more for your help and guidance to a stronger life to lead.

SpiritFeather, your life is at its strongest. Only you can make this weakness go away from your heart.

How, Grandfather, how?

SpiritFeather, you remind me of a warrior like yourself and to this day, this man has never gotten any older or younger because of the way he lives now. I will tell it to you through his own eyes.

His name is “Walks-too-slow.” He is known throughout his people because of his ways of life, which weren’t too good for his mother and father were always telling him what to do, where to go, how to do things. But it seemed that the words of command would go through one ear, out the other.

He was then sent to the Medicine Man because of his ways of not listening. The Medicine Man couldn’t help him either, so he was sent to the Chief. The Chief then sent him away for two moons.

When he came back after the first moon, Walks-too-slow was all alone,

for his people had left him. Just then the Medicine Man came walking toward him and told Walks-too-slow that he must learn and know the ways of life to get back to his people. He then began to weep, for he was cold and hungry.

Come morning, Walks-too-slow began to pray to Grandfather and the Great Spirit, asking for guidance and strength to go on. There were no signs or sounds of anyone or anything, so he began to walk and as he was walking, he found an eagle feather. He held it up to the skies, thanking Grandfather for this great gift.

He began to weep again, for he was still hungry. He then sat down, feeling weak because of his hunger, and fell asleep. He was then awakened by laughter and when he stood up, he saw no one but still heard the laughter from all around him. He thought he caught the crazy spirit from being hungry, but as he looked again he saw that all the animals of the forest were looking, pointing, and still laughing at him.

Walks-too-slow screamed at the animals to be quiet. Some did, others

didn’t. They just kept on laughing at him. Walks-too-slow began to weep for his people and asked for forgiveness from Grandfather and the Great Spirit from above.

He cried himself to sleep once more and in his sleep he began to dream, for what he saw was his people and mother and father showing him the ways of life and was told that if he doesn’t learn the ways of life, that life would come to an end.

Again he was awakened, not from laughter but from a big six-point buck standing next to him. Walks-too-slow stood up and the buck began to walk away, but made sure Walks-too-slow was following. As he was following the buck, the buck was leading him toward some berries to feed upon. He then remembered his mother picking the berries and digging for roots, for not all berries and roots were to be eaten. He then remembered his father showing him what stones to use to make a fire and what vines to use as rope, for life was coming to him.

The more he followed the buck, the more ways of life were coming back to

him. The buck then spoke to Walks-too-slow and said when time comes, I will give my life up for you to feed upon and life will be restored back in your heart.

Walks-too-slow knew that the second moon was coming to an end, but his people were nowhere to be seen or heard. When morning came, he followed the buck to the top of the mountains. The buck then fell to the ground. As he looked over the buck, he saw his people with his mother and father and Chief running to greet him.

The Chief then spoke up and said, I don’t know how you made it back, for you are not the first I sent away because of your ways of life. I see you have done good, for this deer will feed many. Tell me how did you survive?

I cannot say how, but it was my memory that kept me alive and knowing what I can do and what I can’t do. It is good to be home. And Walks-too-slow became one of the best providers for his people to this day. A-Ho

Thank you, Grandfather, for this story and lesson, for I will not forget my ways of life to stay alive.

SpiritFeather