I'm still Indian and I have a difference and I behave a lot of times because of you. What about the ball games, Martin? I know we used to play a lot of ball, I mean, the Choctaws did back here, and sports, and so-forth.)

Martin: Okay. I think the ball game or any other traditional activities of the Choctaws started decreasing soon as contact was made with the white man. Especially around 1830, when the bulk of the people, the Choctaw people moved out. Of course, the intent of this whole thing was to destroy Choctaw culture, the Choctaw ways, called it uncivilized type of thing. But I don't know if we've really improved by changing our religion or becoming a member of the so-called civilized society or not. I'm raising those questions within myself. Governmently the Choctaws had their own religion, the Choctaws had their own social activities, such as laws to control these things: marriages, legal redress, courts, this type of thing was comparable if not better than modern day governments. But, definitely the Choctaws had their own government, way to govern themselves, so all of this has been decreasing. The only thing we're able to hang on to now is to a few social dances, some arts and crafts, stick ball games and the language.

(Is there anything else we're really maintaining, Frank?)

No! Not as a traditional way, but what we're trying to do here is to revive. We're trying to reverse the idea of being--well, we don't want to lose everything what little bit we have left. We're going to maintain it and we're probably going to rebuild on it, because these are the good things that we should have.