30MAORI-CLIMATE NNN MON 9/30/24 PKG: 1:51 Rhonda
McBride/KNBA
New Zealand may be on the other side of the globe from Alaska, but their
Indigenous peoples have a lot in common.
Dr. Iki Heke (Ee-kee Hick-kay) says both have a long history of “talking and
listening” to the land, knowledge that can help the world adapt to climate
change.
AS KNBA’S Rhonda McBride tells us, this was Heke’s (Hick-kay’s) message,
when he was in Alaska recently for a national tribal and Ingigenous
conference on climate.
PKG: 1:51
OUT: STANDARD
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Dr. Iki Heke (hick-kay) has a face you won’t forget, covered with traditional
Maori tattoos. He’s the picture of a mountaineer, who commands the stage
as he stands firmly with an axe in hand, as if to defend his culture’s ancient
tradition of talking to the land.
Dr. Ihi Heke: “When I talk to a group like this today, in their blood
they remember this.” (4 sec).
Dr. Heke was raised in mountains near Queensland, on the southern part of
New Zealand. Today, he takes students and visitors on hikes to teach them
how to talk to the mountains.
Dr.Ihi Heke: “And the mountain asks them questions. Who are you?
Where have you been? What are you doing on me?” (6 sec)
Heke takes them almost to the top of the mountain, and then stops 100 feet
from the summit.
Dr. Ihi Heke: “I say you don’t need to go to the top.
He says the object is not to conquer the mountain but to communicate with
it.
Dr. Ihi Heke: This fellow is going to be here when you’re gone. You
can make it to 80 but this man’s going to carry on. And it’s arrogant
for you to think that you conquered a mountain.” (18 sec)

Heke says when he hunts, hikes or snowboards on mountains, it’s as if he’s
in conversation with some old friends.
Dr. Ihi Heke: And when I say that, it’s because, when I go into that
mountain, they’ve usually worked me over. You know, I come out of
there ruined. But after a day or so in recovery, I think it was the
mountain that caused that. I thank them for it because they’ve given
me opportunities to grow.”
Whether they lived near mountains or along the ocean, Heke believes all
Indigenous peoples once knew how to talk with the land, because it’s how
they survived.
Heke says these conversations taught Indigenous people to always put the
land first, but after contact with Western culture, that changed.
Dr. Iki Heke: “We’ve got a saying at home, Toitū te whenua. Land is
forever. People are temporary. We come through and we leave, but
you want to make sure you’re going to leave it in a state that all your
kids are going to be able to survive, and their kids will survive. We
have to move back into a way of knowing our water and our land that
can sustain it. We all used to practice this as Indigenous people.”
Dr. Heke teaches courses at universities all over the world, based on what
he calls Attua Matua. Attua means Maori environmental knowledge and
Mattua means connection to the environment. Heke says Indigenous people
need to walk backwards to the future to regain their ancestral knowledge,
and then share it everywhere.
In Anchorage, I’m Rhonda McBride.

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**NNN Script:** Rez Ball Indigenous Clothing Designer

By Clark Adomaitis

10/02/24

2 min edit

**HOST INTRO:** A new film streaming on Netflix follows the Chuska **[CHUSS-kuh]** Warriors, a high school basketball team from a town in New Mexico on the Navajo Nation. Clark Adomaitis **(ADDA-MY-diss)** spoke with the Shiprock based designer who designed the Chuska Warriors’ basketball uniforms that are featured prominently in the movie.

**AMBI:** *audio from Rez Ball “... the Chuska Warriors, ranked number two in the preseason poll. And I'm saying this is our year…*

**CLARK:** *Rez Ball* follows the high school basketball players as they deal with issues that disproportionately affect Indigenous communities, including suicide and alcoholism.

SpringHill Company, Lebron James’ film production venture, produced the film. But the film’s wardrobe didn’t feature Nike-exclusive clothing despite the basketball legend’s life time deal with the company. Instead, the players don uniforms designed by Shiprock, New Mexico resident Roddell Denetso.

**RODDELL DENETSO:** I'm just this little Rez kid with, with a shop that I ran out of by my house from Shiprock.

**CLARK:** Denetso runs a one-person business, Black Streak Apparel, designing Indigenous-themed sports garments for youth teams all over Indian Country. He often designs teams’ jerseys based on their tribal imagery. Denetso designed Chuska Warriors’ home and away uniforms, a turquoise championship colorway, shooting shirts, team bags, travel gear, full zip jackets and pants, the cheerleaders’ uniforms, and other apparel seen throughout the movie.

**RODDELL DENETSO:** what if I do pinstripe but with spears?, in return, it goes with the team name, which is the Warriors. then the colors, you know, turquoise, one of our sacred colors.

**CLARK:** Denetso got to watch his jerseys in action on set. As a resident of Shiprock, New Mexico, he felt emotional watching the filming in and around the community.

**RODDELL DENETSO:** I was able to be on set when they shot at Shiprock high, I went over and and I think my coming to reality moment was they were unloading stuff to go on set, and they had a cart, and that cart, you know said Black Streak Apparel. It had, like, the stuff I had done, that, the jerseys I made, and they were pushing that in.

**CLARK:** Roddell Denetso says he hopes to inspire young people to show pride in their culture. And he hopes to reach more customers for his custom-made garments because of his work being shown to a large audience via Netflix.

**AMBI:** *audio from Rez Ball : “1, 2, 3, Warriors!”*

**CLARK:** For KSUT and KSJD, I’m Clark Adomaitis.

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**Script: REZ-olution Concert 2024**

By Clark Adomaitis

09/17/24

2 MIN

**HOST INTRO:** The Southern Ute Fair marked its 102nd anniversary in Ignacio recently, with a blend of old and new traditions, including a heavy metal concert featuring an all Indigenous lineup. As Clark Adomaitis  **(ADDA-MY-diss)** reports, this type of music, holds a special place in tribal communities.

*AMBI of heavy metal music*

**CLARK:** This was the 14th year that the Annual Native Rez-olution Youth concert took place at the Southern Ute Fair. At this concert, people in black tee shirts and black leather boots moshed around to an all-indigenous lineup with seven heavy metal and rock bands. *(NATSOT)* The alcohol and drug-free event has a unique lineup of bands every year. Loren Anthony, a Navajo actor and motivational speaker, is playing bass with Hellthrone tonight.

**LOREN ANTHONY:** the scene has still shown nothing but love, nothing but community, nothing but unity, all the things that the world outside of our own sees as dark, depressive, gloomy and filled with all these other things that might be tied to it in a negative way. But this type of event promotes not drinking, where people can come and feel safe and have a place to be. Metal music in general, has always been aggressive, has a lot of aggression and has a lot of true meaning to its words.

**CLARK:** Heavy metal is more than just music. It gives people an outlet to express frustrations and societal challenges faced by many Indigenous communities. In fact, a specific subgenre of Heavy Metal has developed in Native American Communities—Rez Metal. Ernest Capono is the guitarist for Hellthrone.

**ERNEST CAPONO:** We come here and we promote love and peace and you know, and it's weird to hear that from, like, from all these metal bands, but, you know, there's a lot of people that are don't feel like they belong. There's a lot of pain. There's a lot of things that a lot of lot of struggles that people go through, and when people are struggling, they need to feel like they are heard and they're and they belong. // when you come to something like this, and you see the moshing, and you see all the pain and the anger and loud and all that, it's we're allowing the misfits to fit, and we're allowing the anger to come in, and we're allowing everybody to leave here with a smile

**CLARK:** Secret Earth, a band that hails from the San Felipe Pueblo, mixes hip hop with heavy metal. Lead singer Patrick Velasquez **[Velas-KEZ]** feels right at home performing their experimental music at the tribal fair.

**PATRICK VELASQUEZ:** We come from tribal fairs and feast days. So everybody being here is kind of what we're used to, people gathering, and it's really a humbling, good feeling, and it's really like a driving force to us to be around our own kind. //being up there and seeing everybody from different tries made me want to scream harder,

**CLARK:** Dylan Eustace, the guitarist for Secret Earth, agrees with Velasquez **[Velas-KEZ]**.

**DYLAN EUSTACE:** I usually get nervous and stuff. But like, playing shows and playing out here, playing for like, my brothers and sisters, like, I don't feel nervous. I feel good.

*AMBI of heavy metal music up*

**CLARK:** The Rez-olution concert takes place every year in September at the Southern I’m Clark Adomaitis.

*NATSOT up*

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Lede: The area football team Colorado Spartans announced plans to play in Denver for the 20-25 season. The team’s owner, Tony Thompson, is half-Yankton Sioux and half Black, wants to leave a lasting legacy on and off the gridiron.

Colorado Public Radio’s Tony Gorman has more…

Thompson’s decision to relocate the team from Loveland, Colorado to the Denver Coliseum wasn’t motivated by money….but, by community outreach. The former South Dakota State football player and business owner wanted to offer affordable advertising opportunities to small business owners.

Legacy also drives Thompson, who grew up on a reservation in South Dakota. He flies the Yankton Sioux Tribal flag at games to honor his family back home…

**Thompson: 0:12: My grandma, my ancestors, all that, that's, that's home for me. So I give love back to them because not a lot of people make it out of the res, and so I don't know. I not say I'm inspiration, but I hope that they could see that, hey, we could do something.**

Thompson is offering affordable family ticket packages for the upcoming season. He says the team also plans to be involved with youth sports once it moves to Denver.

For National Native News, I’m Tony Gorman in Denver.