

In 1924, there were three principal towns in Osage County: Pawhuska, the county seat, Hominy and Fairfax. The rivalry between Hominy and Fairfax in all team sports was intense and because of this, an upcoming football game, community and Osage pride was at stake.

In his book, "John Levi of Haskell" ~~xx~~ Frank McDonald tells how the Haskell-Hominy relationship began.

"John Levi was playing his fourth and final game against Xavier. If my memory serves me right this was the year they dedicated their new stadium. The crowd was the largest ever to see a football game in Cincinnati. Between halves the Mayor of the city presented John Levi a beautiful gold watch. It was appropriately inscribed as follows --

"To John Levi the great All-American fullback of Haskell and finest Sportsman ever to play on Corcoran field."

"John received a tumultuous standing ovation which he acknowledged with appreciation. The game was a success in every way. Haskell won easily and our share of the gate receipts was sizable.

"After the game, John Levi was offered a thousand dollars to play with a Cincinnati profession team against another independent team led by Red Grange. John turned them down and explained we had a scheduled a post-season contest in Muskogee. He wanted to play the last game with his team mates in front of his people in Oklahoma. His people were of course the Indians in Oklahoma who would be in attendance.

"During the week I spent at Muskogee promoting the game, ~~xxx~~ a committee of Osage Indians from Hominy, Oklahoma came to see me. They advised me that a football game was to be played between the Hominy ~~Sixers~~ ^{Indians} and the Fairfax Town Team. Fred Lookout, Jr., Ross Maker, and several other full bloods were in the group. Lookout, son of the chief, was spokesman. He wanted Levi to play for Hominy, I said it was up to John. There were also three others on the team who were completing their eligibility.

"When it was all said and done, the Osage men invited the entire team

to come to Hominy as their guests. Since we wished to get sizable donations ~~for the~~ from the Osages for Haskell's new stadium, we went as guests. Everyone and all equipment ~~was~~ as transported to Hominy.

"Once in Hominy and after a big feast, Lookout spoke to us. "You've got to help us. ~~xxxxxxx~~ The squaw men at Fairfax have brought in the Kansas City Cowboys Professional Team and we fullbloods have many thousands of dollars bet on this game."

If the word of the game ~~every~~ got out, the Haskell players would lose their ~~xx~~ amateur standing and future eligibility to play college football. But the game went on; the Cowboys vs. the Indians. The game was played on a marked off hillside in Fairfax. The team going downhill had the advantage. Late in the game and late in the day, Hominy made its final drive down the hill toward the Fairfax goal. The sun was just dropping behind the hill when John Levi burst out of the sunset and scored the winning touchdown.

John Abbott, Osage spokesman by virtue of a certain ability to speak English, pound on his chest and proclaimed in a loud voice:

"We Osages might proud."

At the moment nobody bothered about the fact that Levi was Arapaho.

After the game, the Osages contributed more than \$40,000 toward the new Haskell stadium.

This game played in the Osage Hills had to be one of the best kept secrets of all time. The future of the team members and the coaches would be bleak if word ~~leaked~~ if word got out. When this was explained to Lookout and the others, they immediately lined up some scouts to police the crowd and report anyone who was taking notes. They found one newspaper reporter but the committee conferred with him and assured the Haskell people that he had been handled "Osage Style."