

**STATE AND LOCAL**

**Plains Indians are subject of exhibit**

By **JIM HINEY**  
Reporter

The Arts Council of Brazos Valley is sponsoring a photographic exhibit of objects crafted between 1840 and 1885 by the nomadic Indians of the Great Plains.

The exhibit, titled "Circles of the World," is composed of 20 panels. Each panel contains close-up photographs of the Indian artifacts and are arranged to illustrate the four circles that constituted an Indian's life cycle — the circles of family and home, the tribe, humanity and the unknown.

The exhibit was put together by the Texas Humanities Resource Center of the University of Texas at Arlington Library, in association with the Denver Museum of Art and the New Orleans Museum of Art.

Bonnie Yarbrough, executive director of the arts council, says the exhibit goes a long way toward dispelling some of the stereotypes many people have about the Plains Indians.

She says the stereotype of roaming savages was created by white men who conquered the Indians during the 19th century, and has been perpetuated by 20th century movie makers.

Some tribes represented in the exhibit, such as the Comanche, Wichita, Waco and Tonkawa tribes, inhabited Texas during the mid to late 1800s.

The actual collection of artifacts was started by the Denver Museum of Art during the early 1900s. Fra White, administrative assistant of the Arts Council of Brazos Valley, says the Denver museum decided not to let art work of native Americans go along with the people, so museum officials started a drive to collect and preserve Indian art.

The photographic exhibit is being circulated through a grant by the Texas Humanities Resource Center and will be shown through May 21 at the Brazos Center. Group tours are available.

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