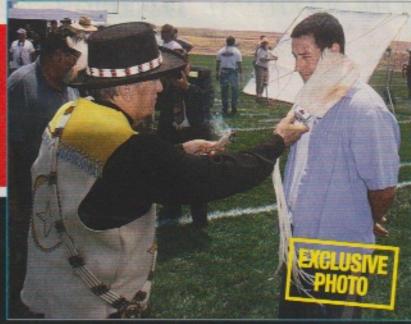
All The DUZZ

First with all the news, all the details

MEDICINE MAN BLESSES SANDLER'S NEW FLICK!

He also chased away evil spirits where 'Longest Yard' is being filmed



SOLEMN CEREMONY: Mescalero Apache shaman Paul Ortega uses eagle feathers and burning sage during the ritual with Adam Sandler.

DAM SANDLER'S upcoming movie is bound to be a huge hit — a Native-American dicine man blessed the entire duction.

s an exclusive ENQUIRER
to shows, Paul Ortega — the
neipal medicine man of the
scalero Apaches — gave an
icial blessing to the 37-yearstar on the site of the
s-vacant New Mexico penitengrounds where "The
ngest Yard" is being shot.

The spiritual healer not only blessed Sandler, the rest of the cast and the crew, he also chased away any evil spirits.

NO JOKE

"It was a very solemn ceremony," a set source told The ENQUIRER.

"First there was a prayer to bless the ground, because over the years there was a huge amount of suffering on the land due to riots and violent deaths in and around the prison."

Ortega held eagle feathers in his right hand and a burning bundle of sage in his left. As he blessed the field, he spoke of the sacred past of the New Mexico land.

OTHERS, TOO

"Adam was respectful of Ortega — I've never seen him more somber. He's usually joking around all the time, but he was deadly serious during the prayer," disclosed the set source.

"After Ortega was finished blessing Adam, many of the other actors lined up to get blessed."

"The Longest Yard" tells the story of prison inmates who form a football team to challenge the prison guards. Due out next year, it also stars Steve Austin, Brian Bosworth, James Cromwell, Chris Rock, Nelly, and Burt Reynolds — who starred in the original 1974 version.

- ROBIN MIZRAHI