

INSIDE

Native special constables profiled — Pg. 12 to 14

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Quote of the week:

"I was unloading my arrows a little too fast for the Machine Gun."
— Danny Stonewalker, after winning the Canadian light-heavyweight boxing title over Dave 'Machine Gun' Fiddler.

February 2, 1989

North America's No. 1 Native Weekly Newspaper

Volume 7 No. 48

Whooping cough epidemic hits 250 in Hobbema

School, facilities close

By Josie Auger
Windspeaker Staff Writer

HOBHEMA, ALTA.

The Samson Band has closed its schools because of a whooping cough epidemic that has hit 250 Hobbema residents.

One day care, a kindergarten facility and a private school have closed in order for parents to have their children immunized and treated, said Samson Band Councillor Larron Northwest last week.

On Jan. 18 the Hobbema Health Centre staff had 100 children diagnosed with whooping cough.

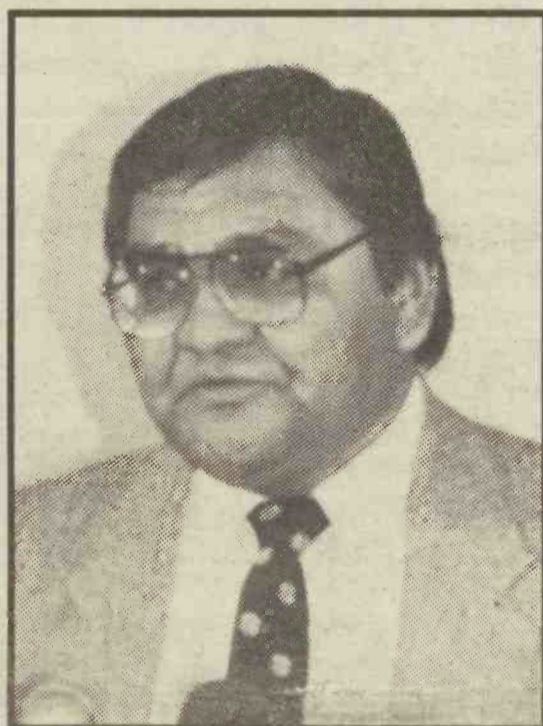
When Samson Chief Victor Buffalo found out about the epidemic proportions, a public health meeting was held to inform the band members.

On Jan. 30 the caseload at the health centre had soared to 250.

Over half of the whooping cough patients are under 10 years of age, said Dr. Richard Mustoe, a federal medical services branch official.

Had parents maintained proper immunization schedules, the number of cases wouldn't be as high, he said.

But immunization is unpopular with parents because it has to be done regularly and it causes swelling and pain for the children, he explained.



Samson Chief Victor Buffalo

It's spreading fast and the numbers will increase before it tapers off, said Mustoe.

Last week Chief Buffalo decided to close the day care, kindergarten and private school for the parents to get their children immunized and treated.

The schools and day care will reopen next week, said Northwest.

But closing the schools may not be the wisest move, said Mustoe.

"We have been suggesting to the principals to keep the schools open. If you close the school, then the children will pass it on throughout the rest of the community. If the schools were to remain open, the teachers and staff could identify cases and inform parents to have kids treated," said Dr. Mustoe.

Whooping cough symptoms are similar to the flu. They include a runny nose, a nagging cough, white mucus in the back of the throat and shortness of breath. Anyone with these symptoms is advised to see their doctor.

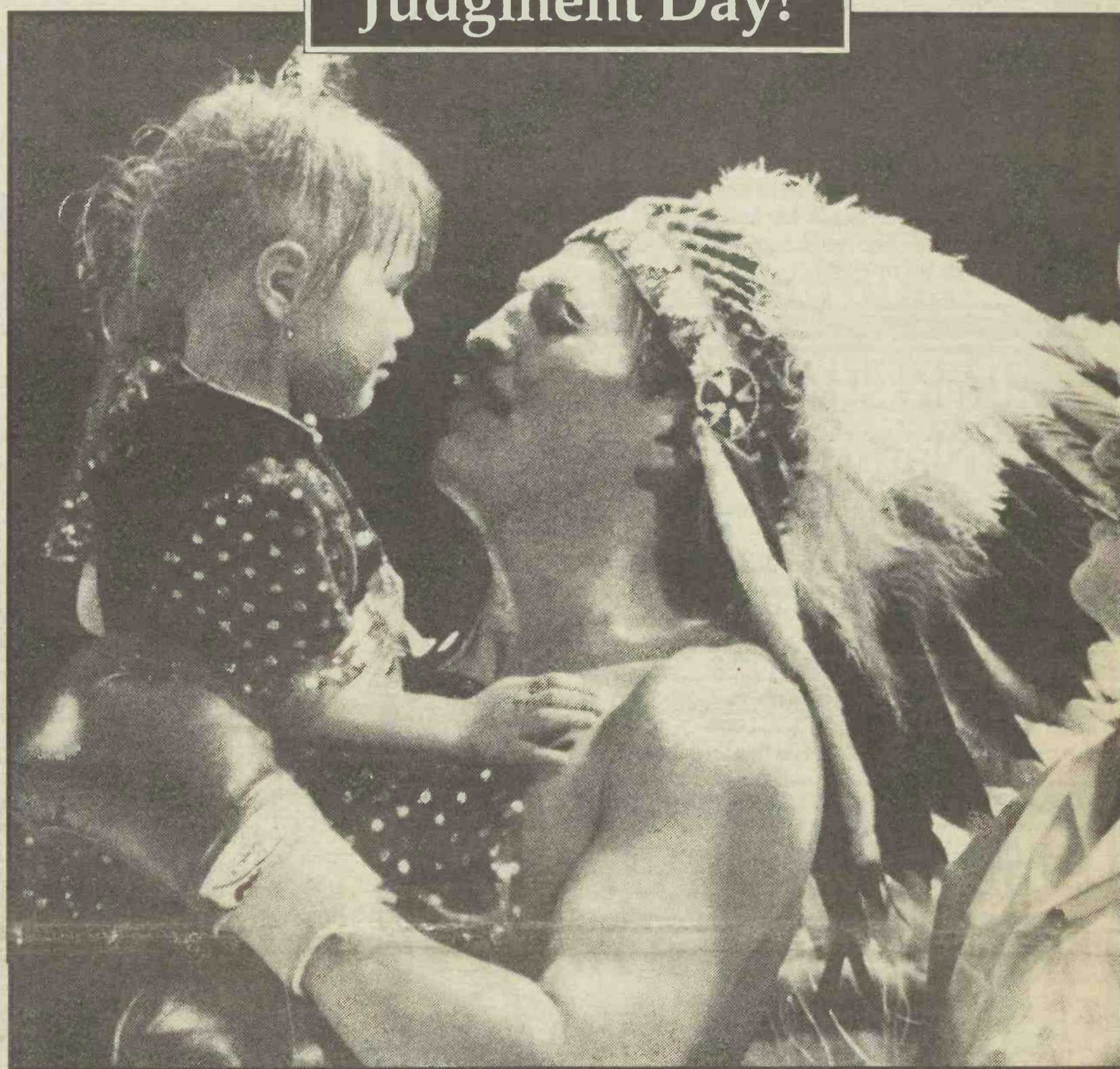
The virus has been spreading throughout the rest of the province, but Native communities seem to be hardest hit.

Wabasca, Atikameg and Driftpile have also fought the whooping cough epidemic. Immunization is the best prevention but antibiotics are available for treatment, said Mustoe.

Alberta had about 650 cases of whooping cough in 1989, up from 149 in 1988. In 1984, there were only 33 reported cases.

Whooping cough is regarded as a dangerous illness, particularly in babies who have not been immunized. It can cause brain damage and may be fatal.

Judgment Day!



Three-year-old Poppy Stonewalker gets a hug from her dad, Danny, after Stonewalker defeated Dave 'Machine Gun' Fiddler to become the Canadian light-heavyweight champ on Jan. 29.

Stonewalker punches way to title

Crowned Canadian light-heavyweight champ

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

RED DEER, ALTA.

Hobbema boxer Danny Stonewalker punched his way to the top, grabbing the Canadian light-heavyweight title Jan. 29.

The 28-year-old Metis won a unanimous decision over Dave 'Machine Gun' Fiddler of Edmonton for the vacant title before 1,600 spectators at Red Deer's Westerner Exposition Altaplex.

Three judges awarded Stonewalker a unanimous decision in the 12-round bout, one of five on a card deemed 'Judgment Day.'

"I was unloading my arrows a little too fast for the Machine Gun," boasted a stiff and sore Stonewalker, who now has a record of 15-4-1.

"I pretty well had him figured out. He was no threat, really. I controlled the fight."

But cuts above each eye proved otherwise. A head butt in the second round opened up old scar tissue and a "legitimate punch" in the third opened up the second wound, according to Ray Rutter, Stonewalker's chief second and cut man.

Stonewalker denied being staggered, but admitted to being "disoriented" from a left hook to the eardrum.

"The cuts weren't a big factor in the fight at all," he said.

But Rutter viewed them differently.

"When you're cut that badly you have to be very careful," he said.

The cuts made Stonewalker a defensive fighter. He stayed on the outside protecting his cuts later in the fight when he normally would have countered Fiddler's low approaches and wide "haymakers" with an uppercut, Rutter explained.

"Had it not been for those cuts he would have dropped Fiddler in six or seven rounds," predicted Rutter.

Even then, Stonewalker punished Fiddler, knocking

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National Digest

Royal commission vindicates Donald Marshall, condemns justice system

HALIFAX — The royal commission into the wrongful murder conviction of MicMac Indian Donald Marshall has blasted police, lawyers and bureaucrats in Nova Scotia for their role in his unjust imprisonment. "The criminal justice system failed Donald Marshall Jr. at virtually every turn from his arrest and wrongful conviction for murder in 1971 up to and even beyond his acquittal by the Court of Appeal in 1983," the commission said. It has concluded the justice system in Nova Scotia is riddled with racism, ineptitude and unfairness. Marshall, the son of the grand chief of the Micmacs, spent 11 years in prison for the stabbing murder of his black friend, Sandy Seale. He was released in 1982 after RCMP reviewed the case. The real killer, Roy Ebsary, died after spending one year in jail in 1986.

Ontario study finds eight of 10 Native women abused

TORONTO — Eight out of every 10 aboriginal women in Ontario have been battered, threatened or sexually abused by a family member, according to a recent study. That's eight times the Canadian average. Husbands were cited as the abuser by 84 per cent of victims. Almost all of the victims — 82 per cent — want charges laid. The Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA) study also found four of every 10 aboriginal children are "highly victimized." Association members were "devastated" by their findings. The ONWA wants between \$750,000 and \$1 million from the province to establish three healing lodges.

Native infant death rate two times higher than national average

OTTAWA — Twice as many Native infants die as non-Native babies, according to a report by the Canadian Institute of Child Health. The mortality rate is also twice as high in poor families as in rich ones. Death rates from injuries are four times higher among status Indian children at all ages than the national average. The report prompted the Assembly of First Nations to challenge the federal government to take steps to address the "utterly shameful" situation of aboriginal child health in Canada. Manitoba Regional Chief Ovide Mercredi said Ottawa's decision last year to scrap plans for a five-year, \$60 million Indian Child Care Fund was "irresponsible and unforgivable."

'Open season' on Indians

WINNIPEG — Charges will likely be laid if police find out who's responsible for a poster calling for an open season on Indians, says Manitoba Justice Minister Jim McCrae. New Democrat Elijah Harper, an Indian MLA, brought the matter to the attention of the house. "In place of big game animals, there will be open season on Indians," said Harper, reading from the poster. Thompson RCMP are investigating.

Racist complaint prompts harassment

REGINA — A Native woman, who received an obscene phone call and had her house pelted with eggs, said the incidents are linked to her discrimination complaint against a Canada Safeway. Danielle Woodward, 30, said she and two other students were asked by a store employee at the checkout how they intended to pay for \$800 worth of groceries. She said she had enough money to pay the bill but was told to leave the store.

Book teaches Ojibwa to young

WINNIPEG — A pocket-sized book called Anishinaabemodaa, meaning Let's Speak Ojibwa, is being created to teach the language to the younger generation of Natives in Manitoba. Myrtle Thomas, one of the creators, was one of the few Natives to attend a Manitoba residential school during the Second World War. Thomas, who retained her language, can remember fellow students being strapped for speaking Ojibwa.

Provincial News

Paralysed man intends to launch \$2 million lawsuit against RCMP

RCMP complete investigation into arrest

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

CALGARY

A lawyer for paralysed Rodney Pelletier intends to file a multi-million dollar lawsuit against the RCMP.

The claim will be for at least \$2 million, "because of the seriousness of his injury, potential loss of future income and costs for future care," said lawyer Brian Devlin in a telephone interview from Calgary.

Pelletier, 21, a Treaty Indian from Eden Valley Reserve, is in the intensive care unit at Calgary's Foothills Hospital paralysed from the neck down following an arrest at his reserve, 64 km. southwest of Calgary.

He was apprehended by Turner Valley RCMP Jan. 16 at his home following a domestic dispute. Family members accuse police of beating him after his arrest.

Supt. Brian Davison, commanding officer of the Calgary RCMP detachment, said his office has completed a criminal investigation into the incident and has forwarded a report and recommendations to divisional headquarters in Edmonton.

It will then be submitted to the provincial Crown attorney who must decide whether criminal charges should be laid before the report can be released,

he said.

John Szumlas, executive assistant to Solicitor General Dick Fowler, said the minister was in no position to offer a detailed comment until the RCMP report was received.

But "it's a matter we don't treat lightly," he said.

Devlin said the claim will be filed shortly but he declined to specify who will be named in the suit other than the RCMP.

He said he was instructed by

"I'm sure nobody in their right mind would go out and intentionally paralyse a person." — Percy Potts

Pelletier to file a claim after a two-hour interview with investigating officer Sgt. Hugh Davis at which he was present.

A speech therapist skilled in lip reading had to help them understand what Pelletier was saying because he can only move his lips.

"He's unable to vocalize because of the tracheotomy tube in his throat."

Devlin refused to say what Pelletier told him about the events surrounding his arrest and incarceration because of the criminal investigation and pending lawsuit.

A recent report in The Cal-

gary Herald, quoting a family member, said Pelletier seemed to be losing the will to live.

But Devlin said he didn't get that impression. "He seemed quite strong and wanted to fight on."

Percy Potts, Treaty 6 vice-president with the Indian Association of Alberta said his "heart certainly goes out to both parties — the members (of the police force) and the (Pelletier) family."

Potts said he's confident Pelletier's paralysis was an accident.

"I'm sure nobody in their right mind would go out and intentionally paralyse a person". But he accused police of behaving with a "Rambo mentality."

Potts said he's counting on recommendations to come forward from the recently announced probe on Native justice in Alberta to head off similar episodes in the future.

Sheila Pelletier, a teacher at Plains Indian Cultural Survival School in Calgary where Rodney was a student for two to three years, described him as a "very, very likable person."

"Everybody feels really bad for him," said Pelletier, a distant relative.

Mr. Justice Robert Cawsey, who chairs the task force on the criminal justice system, declined comment on the Pelletier incident.

Consultants urge young Native people look into health careers

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Natives have to start seeing health careers as valuable and attainable professions, according to health consultants.

"It is heartbreaking as a Native individual how few Indians think a health career is within their grasp," said Diane Moir, a consultant with the Alberta Indian Health Care Commission.

She's currently working on a project for the commission to identify career needs in Native communities throughout the province.

A project worker has been criss-crossing the province interviewing between 10 to 15 key people in the communities like nurses, elders and community health representatives (CHRs) to gather information.

Recommendations are expected to be presented to the commission this month.

Moir was one of a number of speakers at a recent Treaty 6 health conference held in Edmonton to encourage Indians to look towards health professions as a career.

A member of the Waskaganish Band from Quebec, Moir has lived in Alberta since 1973.

The swelling youth popula-

tion should concern leaders, she said.

It's "frightening" to see, for instance, that 600 people in a community of just 2,000 are under 15 years-old.

"If they're not taught what their potential is, they're going to be angry, unemployed rebels," predicted Moir.

Young people, who are thinking of health careers, need to know that math and science are essential subjects to have, she said.

Elders, chiefs and parents have to encourage youth to go into health careers, and those careers have to be valued, said Moir.

"My challenge to you is make sure that sometime in the next 24 hours you look at a child you have influence over and challenge them to look beyond what is easily acceptable and to reach for a dream," said Moir.

"If these children do not have access to appropriate, challenging, highly-skilled education and leadership that can look and plan and which has the latitude to take futuristic approaches to government and economic development, then there's this huge bubble of kids on our doorstep who are undereducated without jobs. What are we going to do?" she said.

Gaye Hanson of the medical services branch with Health and Welfare Canada also stressed

the importance of students taking sciences like biology and chemistry.

"In health careers, there are no shortcuts. The sciences are a must," she said.

Hanson criticized some school administrators for steering students away from the sciences.

She said a full-time person will be hired in the Treaty 7 area to go into schools to promote health careers. She said she'd like to see a similar initiative in the Treaty 6 and 8 areas.

Native dentist Deb Crowfoot said determination and goal-setting will help anybody reach their goals. No one should settle for second best, he said.

"Our place is not to peck in the dirt but to soar in the sky," he said.

Hanson said role models like Crowfoot have a significant impact in encouraging young people to follow their lead.

Leo Sasakamoose, Treaty 6 zone director with medical services branch, said the Indian community needs pharmacists, physiotherapists, X-ray technicians, mental health workers and occupational therapists.

Young people have to be inspired while at school to get into health careers, he said.

Provincial News

Northern Indian chiefs urge panel to treat diseased bison

By Jeff Morrow
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

A government plan to kill diseased bison in northern Alberta is being slapped down by local Indian chiefs who are demanding the animals be medically treated instead.

They charge that Agriculture Canada is bending to pressure by ranchers who fear their cattle will be infected by tuberculosis if the 4,400 free-roaming bison in Wood Buffalo National Park aren't destroyed.

Even though public hearings into the government proposal to slaughter the buffalo drew to a close in Edmonton Jan. 26, Little Red River Band Chief Johnsen Sewepagaham believes the battle to save the bison is just heating up.

"As far as we're concerned it's a man-made problem. So man should correct the problem. Right now we're saying they should be left alone. But if we had a choice, it is that they should be treated," he said.

Sewepagaham, who represents 25 Native communities in northern Alberta and the N.W.T., told the five-member review committee and their panel of technicians that bands near the world historic park want to conduct their own tests. But they want to do it their way.

He asked for a six-month extension to the public hearings and \$784,000 in intervenor funding so the Native coalition can hire its own scientists to conduct studies into possible solutions.

"As Native people, we've always said, 'let nature take its course.' It's very clear to us they (federal government) are not allowing that (to happen)," he said.

The Federal Environment Review Office (FERO) was set up in response to an 18-month-long study that determined a large number of bison in the park contracted tuberculosis and brucellosis.

It has been gathering public input into how the diseased animals can be contained or if they should be destroyed.

Sewepagaham said northern Alberta cattlemen in the Fort Vermilion area are now pressuring the federal government to keep the diseased bison from infecting their livestock.



Windspeaker file photo

The fate of diseased bison in Wood Buffalo National Park is the subject of debate between scientists and Native people.

"It's very clear. That's our position," he said.

There are more than 25,000 healthy bison roaming the Mackenzie Delta area in the northernmost region of the 45,000 square kilometre park.

Agriculture Canada has recommended that the diseased bison be killed so purebred bison don't become infected.

Boyer River Band Chief Harvey Bulldog isn't convinced the federal government is concerned with the preservation of the bison or the well-being of wildlife and humans.

He believes the federal government is trying to correct a problem it started when it introduced the infected animals to the area in the 1920s.

Bulldog said Ottawa is only now acting because cattlemen are losing too many of their animals.

Gordon Mitchell, assistant manager of operations for the Alberta Cattle Commission, said his organization supports the slaughter of the diseased bison but he insisted the government is not being pressured to kill the

herds.

"The whole process has not been brought up by cattlemen so much as Agriculture Canada over the last number of years," he said.

Mitchell said more than 800,000 diseased head of cattle have been killed since the bison were introduced to the area.

From 1925 to 1928, more than 6,000 diseased plains bison were taken from Wainwright in east-central Alberta and placed in the newly-created park. They have since formed a crossbred animal, which officials believe could destroy the remaining herds.

Agriculture Canada veterinarian Reg Coupland said it's his department's legal and medical responsibility to "eradicate" the infected buffalo to protect wildlife and humans in the area.

The review committee is expected to make its decision in May.

FERO spokesman Colin Lachance said the panel is taking Sewepagaham's request for more time and money to study the problem "very seriously."

Apology, correction

In a story published in the Jan. 26 edition of Windspeaker in the Rocky Mountain House/Red Deer Profile, a headline which said 'Racism keeps students away from school, says worker' inaccurately reflected the views of community liaison worker Beatrice Carpentier.

Similar statements attributed to Carpentier in the story were inaccurate and misleading and not her statements.

Windspeaker sincerely regrets the error and wishes to apologize to Miss Carpentier and others in the Rocky Mountain school division for the error.

Stonewalker punches way to title

From front page

him down twice in Round 6 with a left-right combination and some hard punches to the body.

Recovering in Wetaskiwin from the 12-round bout, Stonewalker is reflecting on his future.

Winning the title is the "biggest thing of my career so far," Stonewalker said.

"It was finally my time and nobody could take it away."

But there are bigger events on the way.

Upcoming bouts may see him defending his title against top Canadian contenders Roddy McDonald from Toronto or Jimmy Gradson.

He's also looking at possible title shots in the World Boxing Organization (WBO) and the

World Boxing Associations (WBA).

"There are a lot of fighters that have been in the (WBA and WBO) top 10 for the last 10 years. They're ready to go," Stonewalker declared.

"They're not really big punchers. That division is wide open for me right now."

It will probably be "early summer" before Stonewalker can fight, Rutter said. There is a mandatory 45-day layoff for his cuts to heal and then another 90-day wait before he can fight again.

Stonewalker grew up in Fort McMurray and began boxing when he was 10 years-old, getting instruction from his uncle, Mike Woodward who was a Ca-

nadian Forces heavyweight champion for eight years.

Stonewalker's first professional fight saw him knockout Minnesota's James Mitchell in Round 2 on April 22, 1985.

From there it has been all uphill, until now.

In an undercard fight, O'Chiese Indian Stan Cunningham lost by a point to southpaw Ray Collins of Detroit.

Cunningham's record now reads 8-2-1 while Collins' record has been boosted to five wins in the welterweight (136-147 lbs) category.

The fight was stopped in the fifth round when Cunningham developed a case of bronchitis which has plagued him in the past.

Provincial briefs

Feds threaten to withdraw Lubicon offer

EDMONTON — Ottawa has threatened to withdraw its last offer of \$45 million to the Lubicon Indian Band if it isn't soon accepted. And government spokesman Ken Colby said oil companies, who have shut down their operations near Little Buffalo, should feel free to resume their activities. "No government can respond to political embarrassment or threats of lawlessness by meeting demands that have no real merit," he said. Operations were shut down by the companies in November after the band threatened to dismantle them. Band adviser Fred Lennarson said Indian Affairs is provoking a fight. Meanwhile, nearby Woodland Cree band members are pondering an offer of land and cash made by Ottawa after three days of talks.

Treaty Indian must seek permission to hunt

EDMONTON — Court of Queen's Bench Justice H.S. Prowse has ruled that Treaty Indian George Alexson of Eden Valley Reserve should have asked a rancher's permission before shooting two elk on leased grazing land. But Indian Association of Alberta president Roy Louis said courts can't take away the treaty right of Indians to hunt on public lands. On Jan. 19, Prowse overturned a Provincial Court ruling which said permission was not required. Prowse's decision is likely to be appealed.

Peigans make local salesman honorary chief

EDMONTON — Bob Brown, a retired Edmonton salesman, is being made an honorary Indian chief by the Peigan Indian Nation. He will be honored in a ceremony Feb. 9 for his volunteer work over the last eight years in helping the southern Alberta band market traditional beaded moccasins. "I think it's quite an honor," said Brown. "They don't hand them out for box tops." His marketing knowledge has given the Peigans a firm foothold in the Canadian marketplace. The \$45 handmade moccasins are available on the reserve and at many shops across the country. Brown will be given a headdress and a new name selected by a family on the reserve. When he first arrived on the reserve to share his advice, he was thrown out. The band was making thousands of pairs of moccasins and selling very few. Brown estimates 1988 sales at about \$800,000.

Blackfoots open complex

BLACKFOOT RESERVE, ALTA. — The Blackfoot Indian Band has turned the sod on a \$4-million, 50,000 sq. ft. retail and office complex, which will border the reserve and the town of Gleichen. The band hopes the mall will create jobs and keep spending on the reserve. The project, scheduled for completion this summer, is expected to create more than 35 jobs for local members.

Hearings on OSLO project

EDMONTON — Alberta and the federal government will hold joint public hearings on the environmental impact of the proposed OSLO oilsands project in northern Alberta. The OSLO project, scheduled to begin production in 1997 near Fort McMurray, is designed to exploit northern Alberta's vast reserves of tar sands oil. The review will look at the project's impact on Native people and transboundary air and water quality.

It pays to advertise in

**Wind
speaker**

Provincial News

Goodfish band launches major business expansion

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WHITEFISH LAKE RESERVE,
ALTA.

A Cree band will soon be doing business with an American oil company dry-cleaning, mending and manufacturing coveralls for oil workers.

On Feb. 15 in Edmonton, the Exxon Corporation from Houston, Texas will sign a new contract with the Whitefish Lake Band from northeastern Alberta.

As well, two Alberta oil companies — Suncor Inc. and Syncrude Canada Ltd. — will sign five-year extensions of current dry-cleaning and mending contracts.

The contracts are the result of a recently-completed expansion worth nearly \$2 million in the Goodfish Garment and Sewing Company.

The company, which is run by the band, currently employs 20 per cent of the 600 of 1,200 reserve residents eligible to work, according to Band Chief Ernest Houle.

With a larger building and dry-cleaning operation, it will employ 200 people around the clock.

The band borrowed \$170,000 from the Alberta Indian Investment Corporation and pumped \$700,000 of its own into the expansion, adding a sewing factory and expanding the building where the dry-cleaning operations were housed.

The company began in 1981 as an experimental business project

Band capitalizes on U.S., international markets



John Holman, Windspeaker

Doreen Jackson and Ned Seenum cut the ribbon at the official opening of the new band hall.

between the band and Syncrude Canada Ltd. to supply the oil company with shirts, according to Houle.

The band eventually agreed to a contract for mending and dry-cleaning the coveralls of Syncrude oil workers and entered into a similar contract with Suncor Inc.

Currently there is a \$100 million Canadian market in safety clothing and coveralls. In three years the band hopes to corner 12 per cent of that market, a substantial increase from their current one per cent of the market.

The band hopes to eventually employ 200 people 24 hours-a-day at its new sewing factory,

declared Houle.

Canadian exporters have not yet really capitalized on the "massive U.S. procurement market", declared Steven Hill, a representative of the Exxon Corp. from Houston, Texas.

Hill encouraged the band take advantage of this with his company.

"Since your materials are purchased from the U.S., we think that your textiles can enter the U.S. at zero per cent tariffs," he claimed.

Texas companies spent \$10 million in 1989 on coveralls. There is also a \$28 million market for general military coveralls in south Texas, Hill maintained.

The band unveiled the Goodfish Garment and Sewing Company factory on Jan. 25, along with a newly incorporated vehicle service, health centre and a completed community hall and library.

"When we were elected to office two years ago, priority was economic development, education, employment and training. Those were the three issues we keyed in on," Houle said.

He said the priority of the band council is to build the reserve's economy. Houle believes, in the past, too many Alberta bands ignored economic development while they fought for a land base and a share of resources appropriated from disputed lands.

As the political furors raged, no solutions were found for high unemployment rates or poor economies on reserves.

The Whitefish band initiative began when they encouraged a younger generation of Native people on the reserve to attend university or college to obtain the necessary experience that would be useful in the band's drive for economic self-sufficiency.

Now there are 17 post-secondary graduates, Houle said proudly, and 82 residents currently enrolled in post-secondary institutes.

The band will employ these graduates as consultants in future business decisions and to

help promote the band in international and provincial business arenas.

"That's our economic base — education," he declared.

The potential work force and the band's aggressive business sense has proved attractive to those outside of the oil business.

Aside from dry-cleaning contracts, the council has also been negotiating a tea-packing contract with a company in Kenya in north Africa that could create an additional 50 new jobs.

Kenyan tea will eventually be imported to Goodfish to be packed, said Houle.

The band is also proposing to export logs to Japan for building houses.

Indian Association of Alberta president Roy Louis congratulated Houle and the council on its initiatives at a ceremony Jan. 25.

"You (Chief Houle) have shown a lot of Native politicians, who think they are leaders, that the world is not flat. Our people won't fall off if they take on the awesome challenges of the world off the reserve," said Louis at a dinner reception following the tours.

"We (Indian people) can excel and flourish. That's the name of the game for the next decade," he declared.

"We are the aboriginal people in this country. We are survivors. We aren't going anywhere except forward."

Come out and Enjoy the Goodfish Lake Winter Carnival Fun Daze



February 16, 17, 18, 1990

FRIDAY

No-Hits Hockey Tournament

(Sat & Sun 9:00 a.m.)

Fri at 6 p.m.

Prize Money subject to change upon entries received.

First 12 teams accepted

\$300.00 entry fee.

Contact Ron Whitford at 636-2872

leave a message or Ned Seenum

636-2807 res., bus. 636-3622

Co-Ed Volley Tournament

starting at 4 p.m.

6 Teams

Entry fee of \$25.00/team

Contact Shanda Seenum

at 636-2807 res. 636-3622 ext. 23

SATURDAY

No-Hits Hockey Tournament

continues

Ice Fishing Derby

9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Registration

Register at the Arena

Weighing in at 4 p.m.

Fee of \$5.00 per category.

Contact Pat Hunter at 636-3622 ext. 31

or Dorothy Seenum at 636-3987

Talent Show

starting at 1 p.m.

Categories: Senior Vocals - Male & Female; Junior

Vocals - Male & Female; Jigging - Junior & Senior;

Duet Vocals; Fiddle Contest;

Junior Air Guitar - Co-ed

Contact Grace Houle at 636-3622 ext. 23

Dance

Saturday February 17 at 9:00 p.m.

at the Cultural Centre

Music by "C-Breeze"

SUNDAY

No-Hits Hockey Tournament

continues at 9 a.m.

Free Pancake Breakfast

from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Cross-Country Skiing

Begins at 12 p.m.

Ski Rentals: \$ 5.00 - 1/2 hour

Contact Doreen Jackson at 636-21-02

or Peggy Broderick at 636-3987

Pie Eating Contest

Begins at 12 p.m. at the school gym

Contact Charlotte Whitford at 636-3638

Kids Leg Wrestling

begins at 12 p.m.

Register at the Pakan Gym

Three Weight Categories

Contact Mabel, Shannon or Chris

Bingo

Start at 7:00 p.m.

Not Responsible for any accidents, injuries, or thefts during or after the Winter Fun Daze.

Provincial News

New hunting law criticized

By Jeff Morrow
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Like most Native entrepreneurs, Ken Steinhauer had a vision of stepping into the world of free enterprise on par with his non-Native counterparts.

Only he wanted to do it by hiking through the wilderness the same way his forefathers had done for hundreds of years.

But now his dream of operating a Native guide service is slowly fading because of a recent government regulation to cut back on the number of animals killed by non-resident Albertans.

Outfitters are now required to pay for tags before offering their services to a potential client.

"That will put the small operator right out of business. In many cases it already has," he lamented.

Steinhauer, 44, fears the fees are going to cause problems for many Native people in northern Alberta who depend on the influx of out-of-province hunters willing to pay for a guide.

He said outfitters who do their own guiding or who contract out to other guides, won't be able to afford to pay the fees up front.

When he first went into the guiding business 10 years ago, he

wanted to someday operate a larger service with an all-Native team of contracted guides complete with their own campsites and cabins.

Now, he says, "they're being regulated right out of business."

The Forestry, Lands and Wildlife department requirement went in to effect just after Christmas last year.

Steinhauer, a Native from Saddle Lake, said the decision was so sudden that many of the operators never had the money saved to make their bids for the season and had to give in to the larger services.

Under the new regulations, big game hunting permits are limited for non-residents and are first purchased through a bid system by outfitters who in turn sell them to potential out-of-province clients needing a guiding service.

The fees could range from \$75 for antelope to \$150 for moose.

The hunters used to pay only for the game they killed. Now it's up to the outfitter/guides to make sure the fees are paid before they take on a client.

According to Steinhauer, the new hunting laws will wipe out the smaller outfitters who depend on the non-resident business.

"It's just another example of the government controlling our

wilderness," he said.

Gord Burton, president of the Professional Outfitters Association of Alberta (POAA), said he has "extreme dissatisfaction" with the government plan but wouldn't comment on his objections for fear of repercussions from the provincial government.

The FOAA was set up by the wildlife department more than a year ago to act as a voice for the 350 licensed outfitters in Alberta.

Veteran outfitter Bernie Carlson who guides near Wabasca, Alberta, said he can accept the government's intentions to preserve Alberta wildlife but he questions the way they're doing it.

He said the plan was "sprung" on the outfitters who didn't have time to respond.

"Nobody has that kind of upfront money. I do think the government has the idea that there are too many outfitters in Alberta and not enough resources," he said.

Bob Stevenson, head of the commercial wildlife branch, said the idea to implement a bidding system is nothing new and it isn't being done to deprive any small operation of business.

Just like any business venture, he says, "it's user pay. There's no discrimination. It's been in the planning for 20 years."

Alcohol abuse contributed to inquiry, say members

LETHBRIDGE, ALTA.

Alcohol problems on the Blood Reserve have been tackled head on in recent testimony at the \$2-million Rolf inquiry which is investigating strained relations between the band and police.

Blood Band lawyer Eugene Creighton says the inquiry likely would not have been called if it wasn't for the extensive alcohol abuse on the reserve and he gave it credit for increasing awareness about the problem.

Band Chief Roy Fox also took the stand to talk about his own battle with alcohol, a subject he said he doesn't often talk about in public.

One youth leader said the problem is largely the result of young people having nothing else to do.

"There are no other programs on the reserve other

than just going to the bars and drinking," said Sandra Eagle Child, a 22-year-old University of Lethbridge student.

She also testified young Blood Indians will only begin to co-operate with RCMP when police treat them as equals rather than as drunks.

She said RCMP racism, such as an incident last summer in which a Native woman was publicly ridiculed by several officers while being arrested, have soured young people's perception of police.

Meanwhile, band member Jeff Healy who coaches minor hockey in nearby Cardston, said he tries to make his players see they don't need alcohol.

Several players are beginning to be scouted by major junior hockey teams because of their success, he said.

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Contact: Lorraine Buchanan
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Viewpoint

Paddle vote still hasn't settled accord disagreements

The Federation of Metis Settlements and the provincial government may think they have won the latest round in the war of wills between itself and Paddle Prairie dissidents in their disagreement over the Alberta Settlements Accord.

Fifty-seven per cent of Paddle Prairie residents have rejected leaving the federation to negotiate a separate deal with the government in a Jan. 18 referendum.

But the issues which sparked this controversy have yet to be decided. When the accord was signed last summer and supported by 78 per cent of residents in the eight different Metis settlements in Alberta, the agreement supposedly settled a long-standing dispute between the federation — which represents eight Metis settlements — and the provincial government over Metis land rights and resources.

Despite that overwhelming support for the deal, however, six months later, there appears to be a core group of people who want the agreement changed.

The referendum in Paddle Prairie, where 118 of 208 residents voted to rescind a Paddle Prairie council decision to pull out of the federation, doesn't appear to have settled very much. 86 residents were opposed to continuing the agreement as it presently is written.

Originally, three of five members on the council voted to pull Paddle Prairie out of the federation over their belief that the federation council and the provincial government was ignoring its concerns over land entitlement, policy-making powers of individual settlements, and access to resource revenue.

The group wanted amendments made to Bills 64 and 65 that allows municipal self-government on the settlements. Neither the government nor the federation would budge.

The decision to pull out infuriated the two remaining Paddle Prairie councillors — Mervin Bellerose and Joe Cardinal — who refused to go along with the decision, and eventually forced last week's referendum on the issue.

Federation president Randy Hardy said during the controversy that it was time once again to go back to the people because the Paddle Prairie council had failed to consult the constituents they represented.

Well, the vote in Paddle is over and the people have been heard. But the 41 per cent who voted for a pullout and against the deal is a far cry from the 22 per cent of Alberta Metis who voted against the deal last June.

The discrepancy in opposition to the federation from the largest Metis settlement (who also have the largest land base) may be explained by the narrow parameters of the Jan. 18 referendum and the emotionalism riding with it.

Paddle Prairie residents were asked whether they wanted to leave the federation or not. But it's surprising that 41 per cent of residents said yes when the federation has touted the fact 78 per cent of all settlement residents are fully in favor of the accord.

It begs the question of whether the federation has considerable more support in the remaining seven settlements or whether public sentiment on the deal is shifting away from that 78 per cent vote recorded last June.

The latest vote, at least for Paddle Prairie residents, seems to more accurately reflect the community's strong concerns about the accord in the wake of last June's overwhelming endorsement.

Judging by the comments of Bellerose who was against a pullout, the provincial government and the Federation of Metis Settlements council will now have to address the issues that forced the referendum in the first place.

Bellerose says he wants to ensure there are concessions given to the 41 per cent of Paddle Prairie residents who voted for the pullout.

He says he will attempt to get the federation and the government to agree to allow individual settlements control over their land. Under the current agreement, the settlement council decides who gets what land for what purposes and a Metis Appeals Tribunal handles appeals of council decisions.

Lack of control by individual settlements over land was one of the main issues which forced the pullout in the first place.

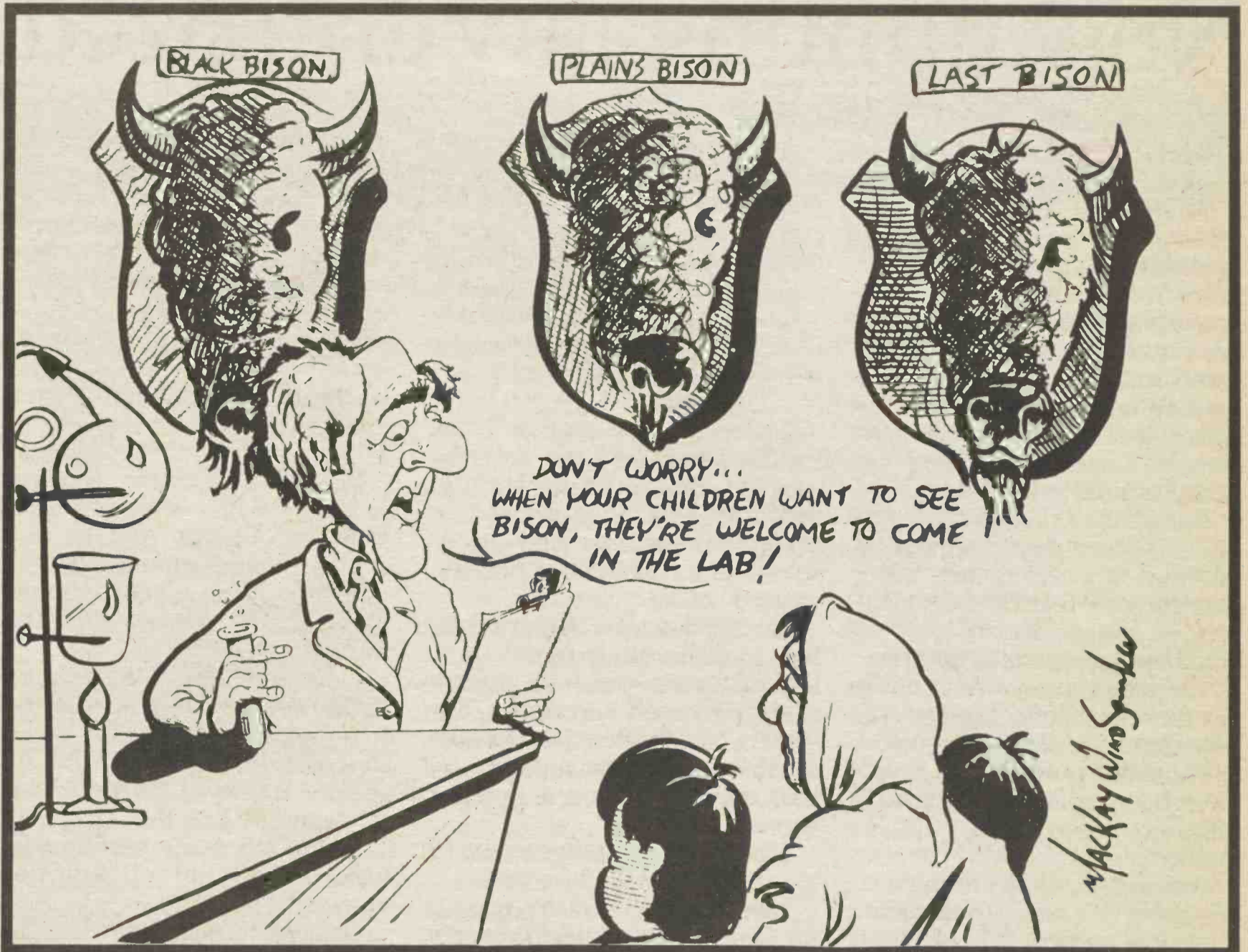
The government says it will agree to the concessions if the federation approves.

However, neither the government nor the federation has yet to hear from the Paddle Prairie council as a whole since the five councillors haven't talked to each other since their split on the issue.

Meanwhile, a Paddle Prairie resident wants the Jan. 18 referendum declared illegal because it was improperly called.

And round and round we go.

Editorial Page



Opinion

Tunnel vision hurts backers of flawed Meech Lake accord

While Canada's First Nations are left in the wings, the courtship of Quebec continues.

Politicians are panicking at the prospect the Meech Lake Accord won't be ratified by the June 23 deadline.

They suffer from incurable tunnel vision and are refusing to accept the accord is fatally flawed and should be trashed.

The Meech Lake accord would recognize Quebec as a distinct society, paving the way for Quebec to sign the 1982 Constitution Act.

"In all my years in politics, I have never been so concerned about the future of my country," solemnly declared former Progressive Conservative leader Robert Stanfield.

We're warned Canada is perched on the brink of a constitutional crisis.

Ordinary Canadians aren't nearly as concerned. Only seven per cent of those polled for a recent Maclean's/Decima survey identified Meech Lake or national unity as the most important issue facing the country.

The reason is obvious; they live in the real world and not in an ivory tower in Ottawa.

A tiresome central Canadian issue continues to get played out in central Canada while the concerns of Natives, women and the territories, who are forgotten in the Meech Lake Accord, go unaddressed.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and provincial premiers representing the Second and Third Nations (the English and French respectively) bend over backwards to get Meech approved, but callously ignore the real and day-to-day concerns of First Nations.

Mulroney and the premiers supporting Meech have two sets of standards, rightly observes Georges Erasmus, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations. They have one set for themselves and another for aboriginal people.

Mulroney's position is "ex-



SECOND WIND...

With Dana Wagg

remely racist," he declares.

In Drum Beat, a recently-released book dealing with the major battles by Indians in the 1980s for justice, Erasmus deals at length with the flawed Meech Lake agreement and the flawed process which led to it.

"Quebec could be recognized as a distinct society, but not, apparently, the First Nations who were here long before any Quebecers or any Europeans set foot on the continent. We, too, have our own languages, our own cultures, our own ways of life. How, one might ask, could we be more distinct than we are?" writes Erasmus.

He traces the many confrontations in Indian country since early 1987 to the drafting of the accord.

Canada's First Nations became frustrated Ottawa was prepared to make major concessions to Quebec and the other provinces to reach an agreement, but wasn't willing to make the same kind of concessions to Natives.

"Our people have been relegated to the lowest rung on the ladder of Canadian society, suffer the worst conditions of life, the lowest incomes, the poorest education and health and can envision only the most depressing futures for our children," says Erasmus.

Meantime, provincial and federal politicians go their merry way believing they can have meaningful constitutional change without the involvement of First Nations.

Those First Nations were given a "contemptuous brush-off," by Mulroney and the premiers who completely shut out and ignored Natives in the Meech Lake Accord, says Erasmus.

Mulroney hypocritically committed to enlarge the role of Quebec within Confederation while telling First Nations to take a number and to get in line, according to Erasmus.

Erasmus is pinning his hopes for changes to the accord on the premiers opposed to Meech.

"We have no doubt about our continued survival, far into the future. We have always been here. We are not going anywhere. And the Canadian political system eventually will have to treat us as a permanent, and important part, of this country," says Erasmus.

When Meech fails, let's hope Mulroney gets the message. There are other issues of national importance, like aboriginal rights, which have to be dealt with.

Sadly, the perceived constitutional crisis is likely to have the reverse effect — more attention will be paid to Quebec and whether it'll take its marbles and go home.

Shame.

Second Wind is a column open to staff members of the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta. It runs on a monthly basis in Windspeaker. Viewpoints in the column do not reflect the point of view of AMMSA.

Letters to the Editor

Peltier imprisonment an 'embarrassment' to humanity

Supporters renew appeals for jailed activist

"The longest and darkest hour of night is the one just before the new day which brings change. Now is the time of hope. Now is the time to rise up. Now we must take into our hands the power of self-determination to demand justice and freedom for our brother Leonard Peltier and freedom for all people."

Dear editor:

This Feb. 6, 1990, Leonard Peltier — American Indian Movement leader, father and defender of his people — will complete 14 years in prison.

His imprisonment is an embarrassment to all humanity.

As the world community responds with renewed appeals for justice, Canada can now set the example by correcting the injustice of Leonard Peltier's false extradition from Canada to the U.S. in 1976.

The Leonard Peltier Defense Committee (Canada) will soon present Doug Lewis, Canada's minister of justice, with a demand to seek Peltier's return to Canada

on the basis that all evidence was fabricated by the FBI and U.S. government at the Vancouver extradition hearing.

This upcoming meeting follows the decision on June 22, 1989 by the Supreme Court of Canada dismissing our (the Leonard Peltier Defence Committee) request for an appeal of the extradition.

While the court gave no reason for the decision and did not have to, a positive outcome occurred.

Lawyers representing the U.S. government did not deny that fraud took place. The Supreme Court of Canada then inquired, what was the Minister of Justice doing about the fraud?

We believe that if enough people demand justice, the government could seek Peltier's return to Canada by voting in favor of private members' motion M-418, which could be approved by politicians in upcoming months.

For many people in North America, there is alarm at how easy both governments can collaborate and extradite at will without close examination of the evidence being presented.

And, then, in the face of this injustice to all people, turn a blind eye.

How long can these crimes against humanity continue unless we, the people, demand justice and hold these governments accountable?

For the Native people of North America, Peltier's case represents the genocidal treatment of indigenous peoples by governments which deny them their right to land and self-determination.

This case illustrates that a government can target an individual for prosecution, fabricate evidence against him, suppress evidence of his innocence, get a



American Indian activist Leonard Peltier

Windspeaker file photo

conviction and get away with it.

Canada rejected Peltier's pleas for sanctuary in 1976 and violated his aboriginal rights as sanctuary had also been granted to him by the Kwakiutl Nation of the west coast of Canada.

This nation of a distinct people, whose traditional institutions of culture and self-government are still intact, was not able to exercise its offer of sanctuary because North American governments don't recognize this fundamental right of nations.

Now, more than a decade late, Leonard Peltier's struggle for freedom has become a thorn that both governments can no longer continue to deny.

Beyond the reality of Leonard Peltier's frame-up lies the estimated 200 deaths and assaults between 1972 and 1976 on Pine Ridge Reservation as the government-backed tribal council and the FBI released its campaign of terror.

The motive was a collaborated effort by government and corporations to exploit and develop mineral-rich treaty lands.

Similar situations threaten the lives of Native people across North America today as the environment becomes more exploited, polluted and unfit for human and animal habitation.

As conditions of indigenous people deteriorate, Leonard

Peltier and others of these times remain the vanguard of a movement advocating the rights of all people to self-determination, their lands and cultures.

This struggle is an example to the Lubicon Cree, Innu of Labrador and other nations which are defending their lives and rights against the assault by governments, corporations and the military.

Peltier's case has been presented in the highest courts of both Canada and the U.S., and lobbied at the White House and Canada's House of Commons.

He was given the international human rights award by Spain and was the subject of 17 million letters to the U.S. government by Soviet citizens demanding his freedom.

We continue to lobby Native people in North America and, in particular, nations in Canada which recognize their sovereignty, to give support for what this case represents for the freedom of all.

This struggle has always been carried by a handful of dedicated people with limited support, no money, exhausted resources and strong prayers.

It is for this reason that we would like to thank our elders for their strong prayers so that our people may continue to carry on the struggle for justice, truth and freedom.

At this time we desperately need to upgrade our communication capabilities so that we can reach more people worldwide and together increase the flow of letters to the Canadian government.

WE NEED YOUR HELP.

Because we are small in numbers, we depend on technology to reduce labour and overhead costs.

WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF A FAX MACHINE. WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS. Tax receipts are provided upon request.

We would also like to thank our legal advisors Dianne Martin and Clayton Ruby, Lew Gurwitz and Bruce Ellison for their unselfish dedication to justice and freedom for Leonard Peltier.

Your Brother,
Frank Dreaver
Leonard Peltier Defense
Committee (Canada)

Government record on environment worries reader

Dear Editor:

The current controversy generated by the possibility of further development (this time pulp mills) on the Athabasca River system brings to mind earlier "development" in Northern Alberta.

In the early 1980s, Suncor Inc. were responsible for leakage of toxic materials into the Athabasca River.

It was not the Alberta Government that alerted those people living north of Fort McMurray that this had happened.

And it was not the government of Alberta that laid the initial charges. It was the people of the Fort MacKay Indian Band who took the action that brought this destruction to public attention.

The charges were ultimately taken over by the government of Alberta and after a number of the charges were dropped, Suncor Inc. paid a fine of \$8000 for polluting that beautiful and life-sustaining river.

Confidence in the government of Alberta's willingness or ability to monitor the environment, borrowed from our children, is very low in those of us who recall that

previous interference in the river. Traditional Navajo wisdom says the morality of our decisions is reflected in the impact those decisions will have on those living seven generations from now.

I urge those with decision-making powers to seek the wisdom and farsightedness to envision a planet that can be inhabited by those coming generations.

Progress also means saying "No" to that which is harmful.

Louis A. Loyer
Concerned Citizen

Columnist's writing has depth, emotion

Dear Editor:

Just a note to express my appreciation for one of your weekly articles, "Touching the Circle" by Richard Wagamese.

I feel that this article contains some of the finest writing I have ever had the privilege of experiencing.

I say this because his writing prompts more than just reading, Mr. Wagamese writes so much from his heart.

His messages and his stories flow with depth and emotion in such a quiet gentle manner.

Our world needs "Touching the Circle" more now than ever before.

I look forward each week to the product of Richard Wagamese's creativity — truly a gift.

Thank you, Richard.
Yours truly,
Mary Fisher

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Pulp mills benefit

Dear Editor:

In reference to a letter to the editor by Gordon Janvier concerning the Al-Pac mill.

I, as all communities and individuals, am concerned about the pulp mills being built.

But I also think we can benefit in a lot of ways.

We can upgrade ourselves,

develop businesses, encourage our children, teach our children about the changing world, and be directly involved in the proposed pulp mill (Al Pac).

If we "live and leave alone", where will our children be? And what will they write on to learn?

Sandra Deltess
Janvier/Fort McMurray

Windspeaker welcomes your opinion

Windspeaker welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be brief and include the name, address and telephone number of the writer. We will not print unsigned letters unless there is a good reason for withholding the identity of the writer. Windspeaker reserves the right to edit letters for taste, length and grammar.

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Community News

Time to bring out the flannel underwear... brrr!

Hi!

Yes, he did it!

Hobbema boxer Danny Stonewalker won a unanimous decision over Dave 'Machine Gun' Fiddler at Red Deer on Jan. 27 to officially become the Canadian light-heavyweight champion.

The night of the fight, I was listening to 'Sports Talk' on CFRN Radio with John Short and a guy called in and said: "The highlight of the boxing card had to be the Stonewalker/ Fiddler fight."

Congratulations, Danny!

How do you like the cold weather across Alberta? Did you see where Fort Chipewyan went down to 49 below zero! We should hold a contest and whichever town in northern Alberta is the coldest during this cold spell, wins 400 pairs of flannel underwear.

YELLOWKNIFE: Speaking of cold, George Tuccaro just called from CBC Yellowknife and he says it is so cold there, "a lawyer was spotted walking along the street with his own hands in his pockets!"

As you see, George is a comedian and during his spare time he sometimes travels across the country making people laugh at various functions he has been asked to appear at.

"I'll also be recording a few songs I wrote and putting them on CD. I'll be doing some of the work here and then we'll send them to a professional studio for everything else to be added," says George.

George gives much of his credit as a professional comedian to a friend of both of ours, Winston Wuttunee.



Droppin' In

By Rocky Woodward

"He has always been an inspiration to me. Winston once told me, 'Never be shy to make someone happy.' I live by his words," commented George.

I wish you and all the people at Yellowknife a great and fun time during your annual Arctic Winter Games, George.

AGASSIZ: And for all you people who don't know where Agassiz is, it's in British Columbia near Chilliwack.

And guess who called?

"Tell everyone in Alberta, I miss them, I love them. But I'll never give up living in beautiful British Columbia!" says beautiful Christine Daniels.

One of the reasons Christine called is to remind us all here in Alberta that this week marks seven years since her beloved husband and our once beloved Metis leader, Stan Daniels, passed away.

"One of the things Stan said to me just before he passed away was, 'life must go on.' It does go on but it hasn't been an easy seven years for me," said Christine.

To some Stan was controversial but then I would have to say (and using this word in a positive manner) are not all great leaders

controversial?

Stan did a great deal of good for the Metis and served as an elected president for the Metis Association of Alberta and the people it represents for almost 11 years.

Stan Daniels passed away on Jan. 27, 1983.

"I am a firm believer that there is enough in this country for everyone's needs, but not enough for everyone's greeds. This is our problem." - Stan Daniels.

Christine is now employed as a liaison officer for Allied Indian and Metis Society at the British Columbia Federal Mountain Institution.

We miss you, Christine.

KIKINO: Exactly four years ago on Jan. 31, 1986 another great leader and spokesman, Adrian Hope passed away.

Just recently, I received a letter from his daughter, Charolette Hope of Salmon Arm, B.C., reminding me of the anniversary of Adrian's passing.

It doesn't make my heart feel good that not one but two loving ladies had to remind me about the anniversaries of both these leaders of the Metis and friends to all Native people everywhere.

It just goes to show how we sometimes (most of the time) have to depend on the memories of women in order to keep the memories of important people alive.

Adrian Hope was an ambassador for all the Metis and lived his life in true Metis fashion. He cared, laughed, shared and always dreamed of a better life for his people, the Metis.

Adrian Hope is missed by all the Metis of Alberta and especially, the people of Kikino... his home.

HIGH PRAIRIE: On Feb. 9, the third annual Crib Tournament will be held at the Golden Age Club. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the tournament offers trophies for first, second, third and for any skunks.

No... not the type of skunk you may be thinking about. Crib players will understand.

And according to the executive director of the High Prairie Friendship Centre, Loraine Duguay, a **SWEETHEART BALL** will be held at the Legion Hall on Feb. 10. Music will be supplied by **DESTINY** and a prime rib supper is also on the agenda.

Proceeds from the Valentine Ball will go towards the Eagle Fit-

ness Centre, a part of the Friendship Centre's program.

For more information, please call Loraine at the Centre at 523-4511.

On March 10, a Volunteer and Appreciation Banquet and Dance will be held and a free invitation is going out to all the volunteers of the High Prairie Native Friendship Centre.

Now that is something. It just goes to show you why these centers are called **FRIENDSHIP Centres**. They never forget their volunteers... what a friend to have.

There's more!

On March 24, the third annual **TALENT SHOW** will be held downtown or uptown, depending on whether you live on a hill or not, at the **ELK'S HALL**.

Cash prizes and trophies will be awarded to winners so all you dancers, jiggers, fiddle players and singers... go for it!

Loraine says all contestants must call the Friendship Centre to register.

That's all from High Prairie for now, but I must add, I sure appreciate the input from your community, Loraine and thank you.

ENOCH: For people closer to home, the executive director of the Enoch Recreational Centre, Gilbert Morin, says an archery program is coming up.

Equipment will be available and classes will start off free of charge.

"We're just in the process of starting the program up. As soon as archery is available, we'll let you know," promised Morin.

That's about it for this week. Remember to buckle up and always remember... we luvs ya baby!

To have your event appear in "Indian Country Community Events" call Tina Wood at (403)455-2700.

CREE MASSES; beginning Jan. 23 each Tuesday evening; Rocky Native Friendship Centre Society, Rocky Mountain House; for more info. call Iris Schenk at (403) 845-2788.

HEAD-SMASHED-IN BUFFALO JUMP; Mini-events every Sunday at noon thru to March 25; Feb. 4 - *Beadwork Display*; Feb. 11 - *Blackfoot Legends*; Feb. 18 - *Native Films*; for more info. contact Louise Crow Shoe, (403) 553-2731 or Calgary office, (403) 265-0048.

C.N.F.C. MODELLING PROGRAM; Feb. 7; male & female; 13-18 years of age; for more info. call Rene at (403) 452-7811. **16TH ANNUAL D.O.T.C. HOCKEY TOURNAMENT;** Feb. 1, 2, 3 & 4; Brandon, Manitoba; Keystone Centre and Kinsmen Arena; for more info. call (204) 725-3560.

GOODFISH LAKE NATIVE SONS HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Feb. 2, 3 & 4; Lakeside Arena, Goodfish Lake; for more info. call Leon Cardinal during business hours at (403)428-9501, ext. 24 or (403) 636-2863; after hours call Roland Bull at (403) 636-3903.

BUFFALO NARROWS RECREATION \$15,000 SENIOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Feb. 3 & 4; for more info. call (306) 235-4709, (306) 235-4225 or (306) 235-4633.

4th ANNUAL 1990 TUNE-UP GOLF; Feb. 2-5, 1990; Sahara Golf & Country Club, Las Vegas, Nevada; for more info. call

Gina (403) 585-4298 (home) or Bill (403) 585-2139 (home) or Emile (403) 585-3805 (home). **1990 NORTHWEST WINTER GAMES;** Feb. 3 and 4; Beaver Lodge, Alberta; bowling, cross-country skiing & snowshoeing; for more info. call (403) 354-2468. **CO-ED NATIVE VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE;** for interested Native groups and associations; registration deadline, Feb. 5; for more info. call Brian Gladue at (403) 452-7811.

CATCH THE RISING SPIRIT ART SHOW; Feb. 5 to Mar. 1, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; Beaver House Gallery, Edmonton; Mar. 5 to Mar. 30, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; NOVA Corporation of Alberta, Calgary; free admission; for more info. call Alberta Indian Arts and Crafts Society at (403)426-2048.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT; Feb. 9-11; sponsored by the **BLUES WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL CLUB;** University of Winnipeg Athletic Centre; for more info. call Nancy Chartrand at (204)586-8474 (work) or (204)783-9354.

C.N.F.C. VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DANCE; Feb. 9, 1990, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Westmount Community Hall, 10978-127 Street, Edmonton.

VALENTINE'S DANCE; Feb. 10; Britannia Hall (15927 - 105 Ave.), Edmonton; sponsored by health administration program, Y.T.C.; admission \$6; for more info. call Denise at (403) 489-5221 evenings.

SLAVE LAKE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL MEETING; Feb. 13, 1:00 p.m.; Slave Lake Native Friendship Centre; dealing with affordable housing and family programs.

1st ANNUAL LOOK ALIKE CONTEST; Feb. 14; Fishing Lake Community Hall; if you think you look like Larry Desmeules, Pearl Calahasen or Rocky Woodward, come on down and bring your sweetheart; dance to follow; free admission; for more info. call Margaret at (403)943-2345 or Gary at (403)943-2202.

NATIVE BROTHERHOOD ROUND DANCE; Feb. 14, 6:30 to 10:00 p.m.; 7802 - 101 Street, Ft. Saskatchewan Correctional Centre; for more info. call Annabelle McNaughton before Jan. 31. at (403)992-2440

POUNDMAKER/NECHI ROUND DANCE; Feb. 17, 8 p.m. to 3 a.m.; Poundmaker Lodge, St. Albert; lunch will be served; drummers will be paid; everyone welcome; (403)458-1884.

PITCHING CLINIC (ADRIAN

HOPE YOUTH CENTRE); Feb. 16 - 18; Edmonton; for more info. call Gordon Russell at (403) 456-1039 or (403)479-8609.

SNOOKER TOURNAMENT; Feb. 16 - 18; Donny's Arcade, Bonnyville; for more info. call Donny at (403)826-6810, Eugene (Ext. 14) or Herman (ext. 10) at (403) 826-3333 or Ray at (403)826-4732.

C.N.F.C. NATIVE RECREATION HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Feb. 16-18; Enoch Recreation Centre; for more info. call Rene Houle at (403) 452-7811.

REACHING JUST SETTLEMENTS (LAND CLAIMS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA); Feb. 21 & 22, 1990; University of Victoria, Victoria B.C.; for more info. call (604) 721-8055.

C.N.F.C. SENIOR NO-HIT HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; Feb. 23, 24, 25; for more info. call Rene Houle at (403) 452-7811.

SENIOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT; March 16, 17 & 18; Regina Exhibition Stadium - Exhibition Park; Regina, Sask.; entry deadline Mar. 9; for more info. contact Milton Tootoosis at (306) 584-8333.

EDMONTON NATIVE SNOWBIRDS (LADIES FASTBALL) TRYOUTS; Mar. 31 to Apr. 1; Enoch, Alberta; for more info. call Gordon Russell at (403)

456-1039 or 479-8609. **NATIONAL FILM BOARD;** every Wednesday at noon; special screenings; NFB Theatre, 120 Canada Place, 9700 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton; admission is free; for more info. call Muriel at 495-3012.

ST. HENRY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL; every Sunday; Ft. Vermilion; 10:15 a.m.; children 3-8 years old are invited to attend; for more info. call Leona Skulmoski at (403) 927-3712.

AA MEETINGS; Tues. & Thurs. starting at 8:00 p.m.; Bonnyville Native Friendship Centre Hall; for more info. call Larry Ducharmes at (403) 826-3374.

BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE: LIVE IN CONCERT; Mar. 30, 1990 at 8 p.m.; Calgary Centre for the Arts, Calgary; for ticket info. call (403) 294-7472.

NATIONAL INDIAN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS; (Men/Ladies), April 7-8, 1990; University of Regina Physical Activity Centre; entry deadline Mar. 29; for more info. contact Milton Tootoosis at (306) 584-8333 or fax (306) 584-0955.

12th ANNUAL SPRING POWWOW; April 14-15, 1990; Canada Centre, East Building, Regina Exhibition Park; for more info. contact Melody Kitchemonia at (306) 584-8333 or fax (306) 584-0955.

BIRTLE INDIAN SCHOOL REUNION; July 1990; Winnipeg, Manitoba; for more info. write to W.C. Thomas, Box 280, Hodgson, Manitoba, R0C 1N0 or call (204) 645-2648 (bus.) or (204) 645-2456 (home).

Arts and Entertainment

Laura Vinson named female artist of the year

By Josie Auger
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Metis country-pop singer Laura Vinson received a standing ovation from her peers Jan. 28 at the Alberta Recording Industry Association Awards (ARIA) ceremonies when she was named Female Recording Artist of the Year.

She also won Music Score of the Year for 'Paint Me A Story', which she wrote for an ACCESS Network TV film. The ceremonies were broadcast live from Edmonton by Shaw Cable.

A visibly-surprised Vinson beat out last year's winner — female recording artist of the year Mary Lou Somnor — and promising young singer Kerri Anderson.

"This was the first time I ever won any vocal award. It was pretty surprising. I screamed my head off!" she gushed in an interview last week.

Last year, Vinson received an award from the Calgary Country

Music Association and another from Alberta Achievement.

Vinson has been nominated for half a dozen Juno Awards and many other country music awards throughout her career, but had never won.

Ironically, while she took a break from the country music scene last year and in semi-retirement, she won a number of awards.

But Vinson might not have garnered the accolades from her peers and fans had she pursued her ambitions to be a teacher.

In the early 1970s, she lived what some may call a double life. By day, she attended classes at the University of Alberta and by night she played with 'Bitter Sweet', a house band at the Corona Hotel.

"It paid my way through school. I eventually had to drop my early morning class," she recalled.

In 1973, Vinson received her Bachelor of Education from the U of A. At the time there wasn't a demand for teachers, so Vinson changed her career goals and she

followed her heart to pursue music.

It has taken her 22 years in the music business for the Metis singer to gain the popularity and prestige that she has.

Last year proved to be a great year for her. Both she and Dave Martineau, a fellow musician, put together a single titled "Gunshy" for Alberta Country, a showcase album of Alberta musicians.

The promo package, which was sent to the United States and Europe, has received a lot of interest.

In 1989, the plight of the Lubicon Lake Band tugged at the Metis singer's heart and inspired her to put together a song titled "Spirit Sings". It soon became the title track for a special request album.

And last summer, the country-pop singer came out with a popular song titled, 'Indian Summer'.

In 1989, she had what many would call a good year in the music industry, providing three music scores for an ACCESS se-



Singer Laura Vinson

Josie Auger, Windspeaker

ries titled 'Native Imagery' with two of the scores receiving ARIA nominations.

This year Vinson will be collaborating with other musicians

on a music score for film producer Stu Mitchell's 'Decade of Champions', which will be seen on CFRN. An airing date has yet to be set.

Ben Cardinal: Putting truth behind the stereotype

By Leta McNaughton
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

"They give Native actors Native roles. It's wonderful to be able to play the character and put some truth into it instead of the stereotype."

Ben Cardinal, a Metis originally from Lac la Biche, first began acting when he was only 10 years-old.

As a child he had this restless energy and a "big mouth" which sometimes got him into trouble, he recalls. His teacher thought drama was the way to harness that energy and he told young Ben about a school play and the role of Tom Sawyer.

"I think I was the first Native Tom Sawyer in Canada," he chuckles.

It was that first role which made Cardinal decide he wanted to make a living as an actor.

Now 31, Cardinal says he's been doing it for so long, acting comes naturally despite his lack of formal training. His most recent role was in Theatre Network's 'Third Ascent'.

"I've played Big Joey (in Dry Lip Oughta Go To Kapuskasing, a Thompson Highway play). He's a mean non-caring individual."

He says Big Joey was interesting and a challenge to play because he had to learn to be mean, something he wasn't used to.

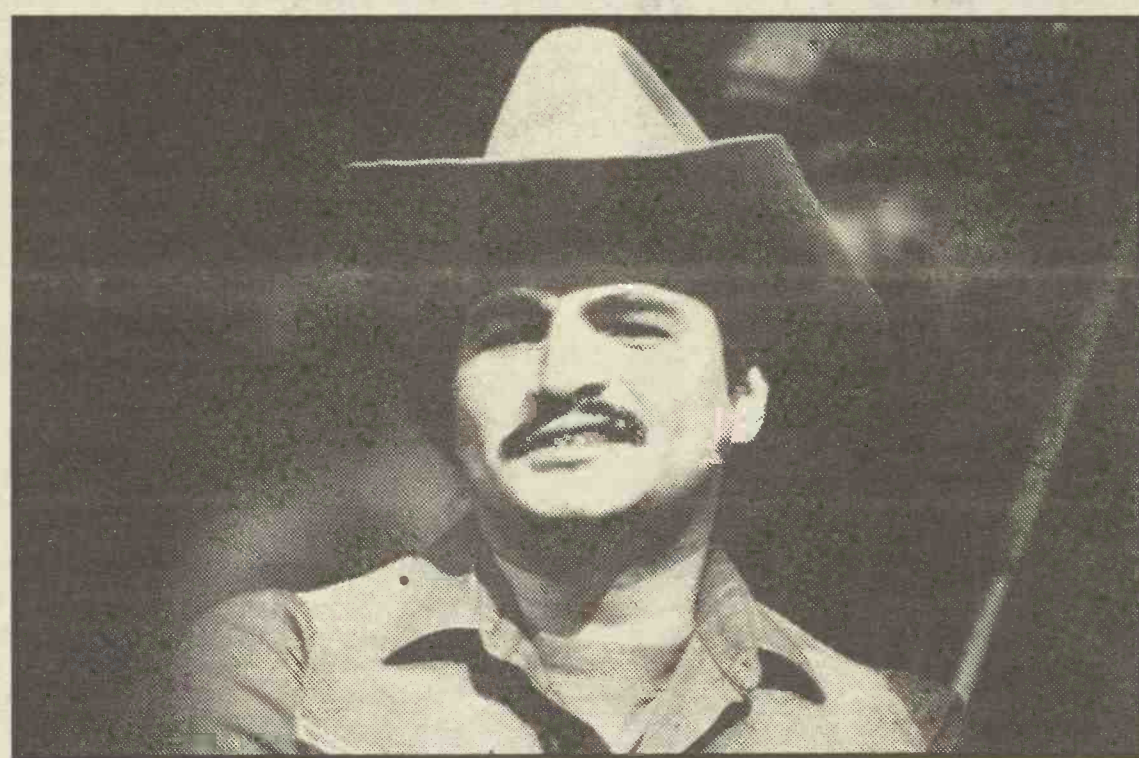
"I'd come out of the show and people wouldn't even talk to me because of how mean a character he was."

He's also played Sam, a Native activist, in Northern Light's production of 'Jessica' and he had a part in 'The Ecstasy of Rita Joe'.

In between acting he worked at different trades like glazing and carpentry.

Cardinal says he's played lots of Indian chiefs and would like to play a doctor or a lawyer sometime, but says Big Joey was his favorite role.

"It was an all-Native cast and was written by Thompson High-



Actor Ben Cardinal

way, a Cree from Manitoba," he reminisces. "I got to work with some really wonderful guys — some Mohawks, Iroquois and a bunch of Cree guys."

He gives credit to his high school drama teacher who taught him how to mould his ideas into a project by letting him and the other students write their own stories. That helped launch his second career as a playwright.

"I really wanted to write because I got tired of the Native stereotype," he says.

"When a mooniyaw (non-Native) writes about the Native community, a lot of it's not really true. I wanted to show some truth, so I said it's time to write parts."

He gets his ideas from himself and the people around him. Cardinal says his plays aren't traditional but are more like mirrors of the past and present.

Learning lessons from the past have to be passed on because "people forget", he noted.

"Being an actor makes it a little bit easier for me. I talk as I go along, I play the parts. The characters write for me after I start, I just happen to be there at the conversation."

Among the plays he's written have been 'Bones', 'Generic Warriors' and his current project, a television script called 'Mocassin Flats'.

In 'Third Ascent', he played

four different characters, including a middle-aged Native, a college student at Yale, a U.S. diplomat and a Japanese diplomat.

The play, directed by Stephen Heatley, played live at Roxy Theatre (10708-124th St.) for 12 performances and has now moved on to the Magnus in Thunder Bay.

Cardinal found it difficult accepting a part in the play because it was written from a non-Native point of view about a Native legend.

He explains non-Natives try to portray Native culture but really show their misunderstanding. In the end, they look naive.

Cardinal had gone to the writer to express his feeling that the legend may have been misinterpreted. But the playwright indicated he was showing how non-Native people don't understand Native culture.

Cardinal also had a few problems with a buffalo skull and an eagle feather being used as props in the play.

"I thought about it, but they've done the show before. It's theatre."

After this, Cardinal says he saw it as "just a story."

Acting is a double reward for Cardinal, offering the challenge of the character he must play and the opportunity to work with other talented actors.

"Someone once said artists are

a privileged people," he said, smiling.

"It's always going from one job to the next. But I've been fortunate that I've been able to make a living at this. It's hard to make a living at this, but it's the people you get to work with," he said.

While Cardinal doesn't see himself as a role model, he does like to encourage young adults to write and act.

"I really see a lot of kids writ-

ing and doing things. I'm really proud to see that," he says.

"Good writing is very important, to get things happening, to show ideas and truth. Theatre is a really interesting way to go about it."

Cardinal has lots of plans to keep him active. While he plans to continue writing plays, he eventually wants to move on to writing movies.

"I want to learn and see the growth of Native artists."

Alberta Family Day Monday, February 19, 1990

Monday, February 19, 1990 will be observed as "Alberta Family Day". This new general holiday will be observed in Alberta each year on the third Monday in February.

The Employment Standards Code now designates the following 9 days as general holidays:

New Year's Day	Labour Day
Alberta Family Day	Thanksgiving Day
Good Friday	Remembrance Day
Victoria Day	Christmas Day
Canada Day	

Employers and employees requiring further information regarding the Code or its general holiday pay requirements should contact one of the regional offices of the Employment Standards Branch of Alberta Labour listed in your local telephone directory.

Alberta

LABOUR
Employment Standards Branch



The people saw a young woman as beautiful as the sunshine itself. Before her, there on the stone bridge, burned a fire.
Loo-Wit, The firekeeper
Graphic by John Kahionhes Fadden

Arts and Entertainment

'Keepers Of The Earth' brings Native legends alive to children

Stories renew Native conservation values

"Keepers Of The Earth"
By Michael J. Caduto and Joseph Bruchac
With illustrations by John Kahionhes Fadden and Carol Wood, 209 pp., \$22.95
Fifth House Publishers

Reviewed By Josie Auger
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

"Keepers Of The Earth" is a very special resource book for anyone who would like to help children develop a sense of wonder and respect for the natural world. — Ann Coxworth, Program Coordinator, Saskatchewan Environmental Society

The authors of "Keepers Of The Earth" use Native legends to promote the environmental cause.

One legend from the Nisqually tribe titled "Loo-Wit, The Fire-Keeper" depicts how Mount St. Helens came to be.

It begins with two brothers quarrelling over land. The Creator isn't pleased, so he gives the brothers each a bow and an arrow to shoot in the air. Where the arrow fell determined where they would live. The older brother's arrow fell to the south of the river and the younger brother's to the north. The Creator provided the brothers with a stone bridge between them to symbolize peace.

The peace lasted for many seasons until the people from the north got jealous of the land the people in the south had. Quarrelling began and once again the Creator intervened by taking away the fire. The people prayed to the Creator to give back the fire.

The Creator pitied them so he visited Loo-Wit, the keeper of the last fire. If she agreed to share her fire, Loo-Wit would be granted one wish.

Loo-Wit agreed and asked to become young and beautiful. The next day she went to the people of the North and South. The chiefs of both clans saw how beautiful Loo-Wit was and both wanted her for a wife.

Again, fighting began. The Creator saw this and threw a stone at the bridge and turned the northern chief into what is now known as Mount Adams and the southern chief into Mount Hood.

Loo-Wit was heartbroken over the pain caused by her beauty. She could no longer find peace as a human being. The Creator pitied her and changed her into Mount St. Helens where she stands between Mount Hood and Mount Adams. She slept peacefully.

The Creator had placed her between two quarrelling mountains to keep the peace, and it was intended that humans, too, should look at her beauty and

remember to keep their hearts good, to share the land and treat it well.

If humans do not treat the land with respect, the people said, Loo-Wit will wake up and let us know how unhappy she and the Creator have become again.

That was long before the day in the 1980s when Mount St. Helens woke again.

In the book, a discussion about moral issues like greed is held after each story. For instance, a science experiment is conducted to demonstrate the three forms of energy: heat, light and motion. The reader is then instructed to discuss how today's society obtains its fuel and to discuss why it's important to conserve energy.

Native legends like "Loo-Wit, The Fire-Keeper" are intended to educate children between the ages of five to eight years to see that future generations of Native and non-Native environmentalists share the same empathy for the earth and each other.

It is a renewal of Native values.

"Keepers Of The Earth" will prove valuable for resource material in any library.

It glorifies the Native traditions of storytelling.

Part I of the book emphasizes the qualities of a good storyteller and gives helpful hints on becoming a better one.

In Part II of the book, 25 legends from 20 different Native cultures are used. Those legends are based on the earth's natural elements of fire, earth, wind and water and covers the topics of plants and animals, life, death, spirit and the unity of earth.

"Keepers Of The Earth" links ancient Native legends to easy-to-understand scientific information and provides instructions for hands-on activity.

It's a wise choice for your bookshelf.

Athabasca Health Unit

The Athabasca Health Unit is pleased to announce the following as Board Members:

Member	Area of Representation
Phil Coutney, Chairman	Town of Lac La Biche
Berkley Ferguson, Vice Chairman	County of Athabasca
Arno Birkigt	County of Athabasca
Norm Colquhoun	I.D. 17 East
Lucien Bourassa	I.D. 18 South
Dennis Barton	Town of Slave Lake
Joanne Onrait	Town of Athabasca

Athabasca Health Unit
Box 1140
Athabasca, Alberta T0G 0B0

Fort Smith Native Band Band Manager

You will be responsible for the management of all band responsibilities and the supervision of staff. You will work under the direction of the chief and council.

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A diploma in business administration or proven managerial skills is required. Must be self motivated. Salary is negotiable.

Close date: February 15, 1990

Apply to: Chief Henry Beaver or
Fort Smith Native Band
P.O. Box 960
Fort Smith, N.W.T. X0E 0P0
Phone: 872-2986

A job description is available at the Band Office.



Good News
Party Line

NATIVE BROTHERHOOD ROUND DANCE

Feb. 14, 6:30 to 10:00 p.m.;
7802 - 101 Street, Ft. Saskatchewan Correctional Centre; drumming-singing group available but volunteers welcome for their singing, drumming and dancing services; for more info. call Annabelle McNaughton at (403)992-2440 before Jan. 31.

PUT IT HERE.

Call or write the editor to include good news of non-profit events you want to share, courtesy of AGT.

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY

GUARDIANSHIP TO:
JANET MAXINE
POTTS

Take notice that an application for Temporary Guardianship of your child, born on May 12, 1980, will be made February 14th at 9:30 a.m. in Wetaskiwin Family Court.

Contact: Shonda Kiester
Alberta Family and Social Services,
Wetaskiwin
Telephone: 352-1214

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Our quality of life and health depends on the continued excellent quality of our environment. To protect, improve and wisely use our environment now and into the 21st century, Alberta Environment has developed ten principles on which to base new environmental legislation.

These principles have been evolving over time and will continue to change to reflect the expectations of Alberta.

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These ten principles are presented in a document, "Toward the 21st Century", that provides you with an opportunity to give us your views.

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**The Hon. Ralph Klein
Minister of Environment
Room 130, Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6**

Yes, I want to give you my views on Alberta's environmental principles. Please send me "Toward the 21st Century" and postage paid reply envelope.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____, Alberta
Postal Code _____

A Salute to Alberta RCMP Special Constables



6. Cst. P. Cardinal



5. Cst. Noskey



4. Cst. R. Cardinal



3. Cst. M. Moore



3a. Cst. P. Tourangeau



2. Cst. W. Auger



1. Cst. E. Shortman



7. Cst. Calahasen



8. Cst. W. Poitras



9. Cst. G. Henson



10. Cst. E. Jenkins



Sgt. Tony Mahon



12. Cst. Boucher



12a. Cst. Dion



12b. Cst. Jobson



13. Cst. F. Waskewitch



14. Cst. Arcand



14a. Cst. Bruno



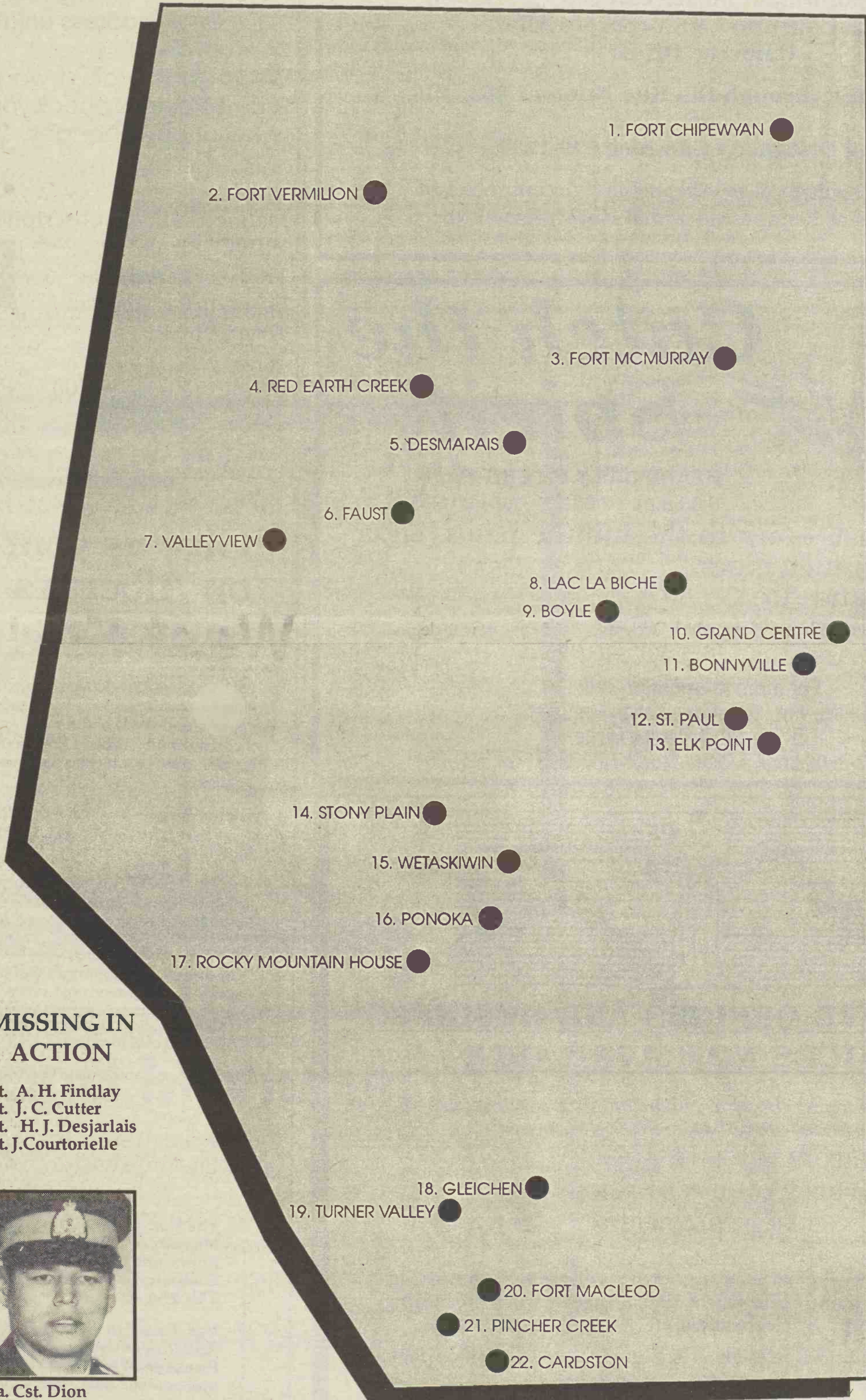
15. Cst. W. Steinhauer



15a. Cst. J. Cardinal



16. Cst. G. Sokowaypnace



22. Cst. M. Blood



21. Cst. T. Potts



20. Cst. H. Potts



19. Cst. W. Bigsmoke



18. Cst. D. Weaselfat



17. Cst. R. Freeman

A Salute to Alberta RCMP Special Constables

Special constable recruitment on target

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

EDMONTON

Alberta has hired 20 per cent of the 600 special constables hired nationwide since the program began in 1974.

There are about 52 Native constables and special constables in Alberta.

But recruitment for the regular constable program has not been as successful with Native people because constables are stationed out-of-province when training is completed. Meanwhile, special constables can stay in their province when their training is finished.

"The majority of them are at Native policing detachments and are stationed at different places other than their home reserves. The job is difficult enough to do without having to go back to your own reserve and enforce laws on your relatives," said Constable Arrol Crier, a Cree recruiter with the personnel directorate in Ottawa.

The RCMP identified long before current justice inquiries in Alberta and Manitoba that aboriginal people need to police their own people, Crier stated.

But being Cree doesn't prevent racism in the Native communities, he observed.

"(Native) people look at me different because I'm an RCMP... or the non-Native community might look at me differently because I'm Native. They don't see the uniform, they only see the color of my skin."

Crier, originally from Hobbema, became a special constable in 1977 and a constable in 1985 to prove that aboriginal people could show they are as capable "as the next man" in attaining goals and objectives.

Natives have to increase their



Const. Arrol Crier

involvement in solving policing problems, Crier commented.

The current inquiries investigating strained relations between RCMP and the Blood band in southern Alberta as well as between RCMP and Manitoba bands should teach that, he said.

"If we are going to have any changes, I believe we as Native people have to get involved in complaints we have, rather than complaining that the system doesn't work for us, why don't we get involved and make it work?" he questioned, adding that was one of the reasons he joined the RCMP.

The police force currently has about 700 indigenous constables, according to staff sergeant Larry Dyck of the Aboriginal Policing Directorate in Ottawa.

As well, there is a national maximum of 254 special constable positions, which Dyck says the department has almost filled.

The number of Native recruits have increased since the RCMP relaxed its hiring policies in autumn 1987, according to Crier.

In the past, special constables had to serve for a minimum of three years and upgrade their education to Grade 12 on their

own before being given the chance to be considered for promotion to constable, said Cpl. Peter Nash, the head of Alberta's RCMP recruiting office.

Now under the RCMP's preferred hiring policy, special constables can apply to become constables as soon as they graduate and get the necessary education and training from the RCMP.

The objective of the preferred hiring policy is to ensure the RCMP force is representative of the Canadian population, explained Nash.

The RCMP used the 1986 Statistics Canada census to get a breakdown of the Canadian workforce, then set a target date for each group to be fully represented in the RCMP, according to an official in the RCMP's multicultural advisory office in Ottawa.

By 1999, aboriginal peoples should comprise 3.2 per cent of the RCMP, visible minorities should make up 6.3 per cent by 2003, women should make up 20 per cent of the force by 2008 and francophones should make up 20.8 per cent by 1996.

A hiring campaign began in the summer of 1988 with a five-person recruiting team representing the target groups. Crier was amongst them.

"We no longer only processed applications from individuals who had a university degree, were female, bilingual or indigenous. (For) example, approximately 16 to 17 per cent of the general work force have university degrees. The RCMP only had 13.5 per cent with degrees," Nash declared.

To make aboriginal people in Alberta more aware of the preferred hiring policy and encourage more Natives to join the RCMP, Crier began a recruiting campaign last year and met with two-thirds of the province's Native bands and organizations.

'Just doing the best job we can'

By Leta McNaughton
Windspeaker Staff Writer

LAC LA BICHE, ALBERTA.

Special Constable Wanda Poitras, 25, has been with the Lac la Biche RCMP since July 17, 1989 and finds the greatest reward of her job is "the excitement of not knowing what you're facing (each day)."

Originally from Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement, Poitras decided to become a policewoman because curiosity piqued her interest about the exciting life of a policewoman while growing up.

So far she really enjoys her work where Poitras is assigned to two reserves and one Metis settlement in north-central Alberta.

In her job, Poitras is asked to attend schools and talk to school-age children.

She says the message to young kids is that the RCMP are just there to do their job.

"The elders (older siblings) seem against us."

By talking to the kids in school, "the young bring the understanding home, and change the views (of the rest of

the family members). Then they say: 'Hey maybe the cops ain't that bad'," she noted.

The questions asked most by older children are about drugs and alcohol while younger children are curious about the gun a policewoman uses, her cruiser and the uniforms she wears.

Poitras also spends time talking to the community. When someone is arrested, she explains to them why they are being detained. Coming from a Native background, Poitras is often asked by other non-Native RCMP to translate.

"I'm on call. If they (other RCMP), need my assistance, I help out when I can."

She says that because she is Native, other Natives who have been arrested find it easier to "open up and speak clearly" to her, than to non-Native RCMP.

Poitras says she has grown close to the other people she works with.

As for the community, she says they have to get to know her. Once they do, she says she is welcomed by the people she has met.

"We're just here to do our job the best we can."

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A Salute to Alberta RCMP Special Constables

Constable dreams of flying for the RCMP

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WETASKIWIN, ALTA.

Native people should reach for their goals and dreams no matter how high they are and what obstacles are in their way, advises West Steinhauer, a Cree special constable in Wetaskiwin.

He should know because his objective is sky-high, literally. "My ultimate goal is to fly for the RCMP. They don't have any Natives at all for pilots," he noted.

Steinhauer, 34, joined the RCMP in 1977 after a string of jobs in Edmonton where he grew up.

After returning from RCMP training in Regina, Saskatchewan he was stationed in St. Paul and had to patrol Saddle Lake Reserve, Goodfish Lake Reserve and the surrounding aboriginal communities by aircraft.

It gave him the idea that he should get a pilot's license. So Steinhauer pursued the idea, wanting to be the first Native RCMP pilot and among the few Native pilots in Canada.

Now he has been flying for nine years and is qualified to fly anything that weighs up to 12,500 pounds. That means he can fly a Twin Otter and lighter

aircraft.

In July of 1984, he got his pilot's license. The following year, Steinhauer got a commercial pilot's license and his "night-rating", allowing him to fly at night.

"I had to drive (myself hard) to do this on the side," said Steinhauer, since he received no help from the RCMP.

"It's tough, believe me."

At times there weren't enough hours in the day to build up flight time in preparation for tests. Working 12 hours-a-day sometimes did not help much, he added.

As a special constable, he tours reservations and schools, facilitating drug and alcohol awareness with Nayo-Skan Human Resources Program, a treatment facility in Hobbema.

After Nayo-Skan staff tell the youth of the physical effects of drugs and alcohol, Steinhauer tells them of the legal implications if they are caught in possession of drugs or alcohol.

"I want to help steer them away from this stuff and look at a future, rather than going into the bars and wasting their lives," he said.

For Steinhauer, helping kids reach their goals and dreams exceeds what he originally joined the police force for — to develop a career working with Native people in Alberta.

Toughest policing job in Indian country?

Patrolling the Blood Indian reserve

By Dana Wagg
Windspeaker Staff Writer

BLOOD RESERVE, ALTA.

Special Constable Mike Blood has one of the toughest policing jobs in Indian country.

While allegations of racism, cruelty and meanness by non-Native police towards members of the Blood Indian band have captured headlines for months in the province's daily and weekly newspapers, he's been patrolling the reserve.

Blood was one of the first to testify at the inquiry by Judge Carl Rolf into relations between Bloods and southern Alberta RCMP.

Members of the tribe ran from the Lethbridge-area reserve to Edmonton in June 1988, successfully petitioning Premier Don Getty to call the \$2-million public inquiry.

Expected to wrap up this spring, the inquiry has looked into RCMP investigations of the deaths of several Blood Reserve members.

Const. Blood is one of two Native officers in the Cardston RCMP detachment, which bor-



Special Constable Mike Bloodders the 355,000-acre Treaty 7 reserve, formally established in 1883.

It's a mixed blessing, but the 38-year-old Blood man was born and raised on the reserve.

From family members he draws his support. But he is often under fire or shunned by others.

"It's quite hectic for Native specials on their own reserves. You get really attacked," said Blood during a recent telephone interview.

"I've been attacked in public a

lot of times verbally and threatened.

"I'm just doing my job," he says. "I still have a lot of friends here.

"You learn how to turn the other cheek and just ignore it. If I charge one person, the whole family won't talk to me and I get attacked (verbally) in public," he says.

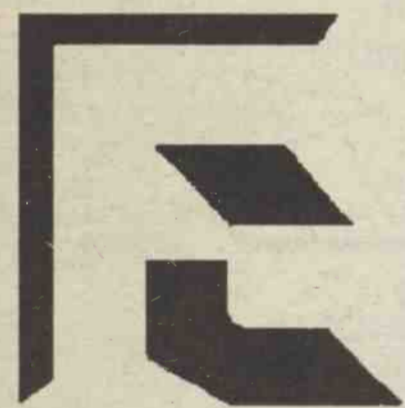
"If I talk back, I'm letting them get to me."

He admits he'd prefer to be working on another reserve, where he doesn't have any relatives.

A special constable at Cardston since Dec. 1984, Blood does enjoy some aspects of his job like meeting people, especially children in the reserve's three schools and band elders.

The special constable program does help break down barriers between Natives and non-Natives, he says. At the moment he's teaching some non-Native officers the Blackfoot language.

And despite the pressures of policing, Blood hasn't had enough — he hopes to become a regular constable in the force in the near future.



Northern Region

FAIRVIEW COLLEGE

ABORIGINAL SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

The Aboriginal Social Work Program is a two year diploma designed to prepare students for social work practice with Native people and their communities. In cooperation with the High Level Tribal Council, this program will be brokered from Grant MacEwan Community College and will involve instruction at the High Level Campus. Field placements may also be available throughout the Northwest Region. To enable students to meet entrance requirements, a Foundations Program will be offered involving academic upgrading, personal development, and a summer field placement.

Location: High Level Campus

Duties: June 1, 1990 - December 1990 - Foundations Program (Pre: Social Work Program)
January 2, 1991 Start Date of Social Work Program.

Deadline: For accepting applications - February 23, 1990

Entrance Requirements:

Applicants must be least 19 yrs. and have been out of school for at least 1 year. Applicants will be assessed by pre-testing, personal profile questionnaire, reference letters, and an interview.

Note: The commencement of the Social Work Program is contingent on sufficient number of applicants.

For further information and/or application forms contact:

Fairview College/Northern Region
P.O. Box 810
High Level, Alberta
T0H 1Z0
Phone: 926-2573

Sports

A hockey tourney to remember. . .

By John Holman
Windspeaker Staff Writer

WHITEFISH LAKE RESERVE,
ALTA.

The Goodfish Lake Blackhawks triumphed at the 2nd Annual Clifford Metchewais tournament with finesse, persistence and a defence that equalled their indomitable offence.

Their skaters were fast, powerful and adept puck-handlers.

As a result, the team made almost effortless passing plays that sent opponents scrambling for position, while sharpshooters drifted in through the middle or up the sides to score goals.

The championship game against the Kehewin Silver Eagles, like most of the games at the tournament, was quick and clean.

After nearly eight minutes of scoreless play, Joe Halfe of the Blackhawks scored.

But it would stay a 1-0 game until 1:25 into the second period when the Blackhawks collected their second of the game. As the period ended their passing accuracy and speed proved too much for the Eagles. They saw the possibility of catching up sink when the score became 6-0 at the end of the second period.

But the shut-out Blackhawk goalie Cliff Sherstabetoff had been looking for ended when Eagle player Gordy John scored with nearly 10 minutes left.

The final half of the third period proved interesting with the Eagles desperately trying to catch up. They collected two more goals but the Blackhawks'

defence proved too strong.

The Blackhawks won 10-3 and received \$1,200 and a trophy while the Silver Eagles took second place and \$900.

The tournament kicked off on the evening of Jan. 26 and finished two days later.

After the first round of tournament play, the Kehewin Silver Eagles, the Paul Band Eagles, the Goodfish Lake Blackhawks, the Goodfish Lake Flames, the Peigan Knights and the Sarcee 7 Chiefs advanced to the A semi-finals.

The B semi-finalists included the Cold Lake Arrows, the Saddle Lake Blues, the Kikino Chiefs, the Alexis Crusaders, the Wabasca Blues, and the Frog Lake Thunderbirds. But the Thunderbirds did not show up and defaulted on their only two games.

The Silver Eagles advanced to the A finals, beating the Arrows and the Eagles. After the loss the Arrows defeated the Blues, but the Arrows were later knocked out by the Chiefs in the B semi-finals.

The Blackhawks advanced to the A final, shutting out the Flames 11-0 and beating the Chiefs 10-3.

The most valuable player of the tournament was No. 9 Brian Half of the Goodfish Lake Blackhawks; best left defenceman was No. 35 Ray Thompson from the Kikino Chiefs; best left-winger was No. 20 Wayne Young Chief of the Kehewin Silver Eagles; best right-winger was No. 15

Goodfish Lake Blackhawks win memorial tourney



Blackhawk players crowd the net looking for the puck so they can jam it into the net past the Sarcee Chiefs goalie.

Ashley Janvier of the Cold Lake Arrows.

Janvier was also the top scorer, racking up 9 goals and 6 assists. The best centreman was No. 14, Dan Houle of the Goodfish Lake Blackhawk while the best goalie was No. 31 Cliff Sherstabetoff.

The tournament was named after Clifford Metchewais who was killed in a car accident at the age of 22 in 1986. He is survived by his parents, two brothers, three sisters and his family who organized the tournament with the help of other relatives.

Metchewais was full of determination and did well in school, crowned by the completion of his 4th Class certificate in heavy oil operation and technology,

according to relatives and friends.

"He always played a lot of hockey wherever he went," said brother Randy, who had been his linemate on the Cold Lake Arrows. Clifford captained that team.

So the family decided to organize the tournament in memory of Clifford. But they had to wait a couple of years so Randy could be the main organizer of the tournament, though it is a family effort.

When young Randy turned 18 last year, they organized the first tournament at the Whitefish Lake Reserve, commonly known as Goodfish Lake.

"If we go back in tradition,

you were allowed to mourn someone's death for four days. That's been translated now to four years if you run memorial (activities)," Metchewais added.

"But we're looking to put it on as long as we possibly can. We really enjoy it, and we always put our hearts into it."

The Arrows play clean and try to avoid a lot of fights, following the example Clifford had set.

"We still have his attitude, we have to try and the only way you're going to win anywhere is to try hard no matter what you do," Randy noted.

A round dance was also held in memory of Clifford at Goodfish Lake's new community hall on Jan. 27, the first dance held in the building.

Hockey tourneys dominate winter sports agenda

That's all folks!

The first month of a new decade is already over. Sports activities were far and few between, except for some hockey tournaments across the province, the latest held last weekend in Goodfish Lake.

Now activities are popping up in Indian country.

This weekend, for the second tournament in a row, Goodfish Lake will host the Native Son's Hockey Tournament for B category teams.

As well, the Dakota-Ojibway Tribal Council's 16th Annual Hockey Tournament is taking place in Brandon, Manitoba, and far away in Buffalo Narrows, Sask. there's a recreational tournament.

In addition, the Northwest Winter Games are taking place in Beaver Lodge, Alberta. Good luck, people!

And last but not least, the Treaty 7 Winter Games kick off on Feb. 7 at Rocky Mountain House.

Fort McMurray: The Fort MacKay General Contracting team won the Peeewe B division in the Minor Hockey Week tournament hosted by the Fort McMurray Minor Hockey Association.

They finished with three wins and a loss in the four-game round robin, suffering a 7-2 defeat at the sticks of the Fort McMurray Home Builders.

But the General Contractors advanced to the finals with their eyes on the trophy, trouncing

the Home Builders with a convincing 5-1 win. The Builders had been undefeated in the round robin.

"The kids just played a lot better on Sunday," said General Contracting coach Rod Hide. "Mentally, they were better prepared to play."

Contractors Elvis Lacorde and Sammy Howe gave great goaltending, saving their best efforts for last. Contractor goals came from Chris Wilson with two, and Earl Faichney with two, and to top it off Barry Cooper scored one. But, Hide noted, those goals would not have been collected without a team effort.

He said out of the 11 teams in the Peeewe B league, his team is the only one with female players. Dana McDonald plays defence and Melinda Stewart is a right winger. They are "just as good" as the boys, Hide declared.

In their regular Peeewe B league, the General Contractors are tied with the Blackhawks for first place with 21 points, as of

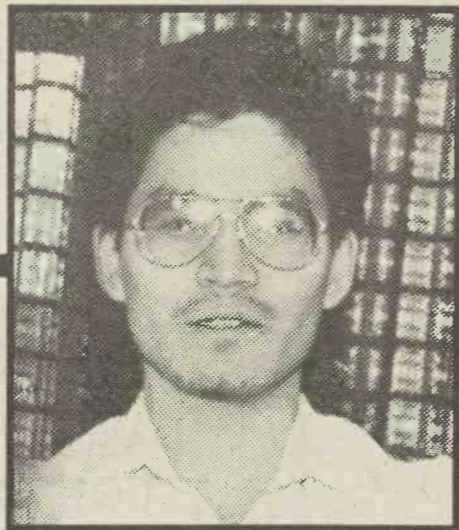
Jan. 19.

Saddle Lake: Now let's get into the apology department. We apologize to Gloria McGilvery of the Onchaminahos High School in Saddle Lake for not using the photos and the news she sent us in December (last year no less!) when the Mistassiniy Mustangs beat out seven other teams to capture the Senior Boys All Native Volleyball Championship held Dec. 2-3.

The normally flawless machinery in *Windspeaker* broke down somewhere and we did not run it. We had thought the story had been run previously when the Mistassiniy Mustangs captured the Senior High School Provincial A Championship in November at Acme, Alta.

They are two entirely different competitions! Anyway, Gloria called us and corrected us when she saw the story and picture missing from the paper. Sorry, Gloria.

The Mustangs consist of players from Wabasca-Desmarais and



Sports Beat...

With John Holman

of 10 men's teams and eight ladies' teams. Prizes for the men are: 1st, \$2,000 and warm-up suits; 2nd, \$1,000 and hooded sweatshirts; 3rd, \$700 and T-shirts; 4th, \$500.

Prizes for the women are: 1st, \$1,000 and warm-up suits; 2nd, \$700 and hooded sweatshirts; 3rd, \$500 and T-shirts; 4th, \$400 and a trophy.

There also will be prizes awarded to the all-stars and Most Valuable Player. Interested teams can contact Faron McMaster at 734-3838.

Edmonton: The Canadian Native Friendship Centre will hold the 1st Annual Native Co-ed Volleyball Tournament Mar. 16-18.

The entry fee is \$200 and the first 16 teams will be accepted. A finalists will receive \$1,000 for 1st, \$700 for 2nd, while 3rd and 4th place teams will get \$150 each.

The B finalists will get \$500 for 1st place and \$400 for 2nd. For more information call Rene or Cathy at (403) 452-7811 in Edmonton.

To conclude, I have to apologize again to Gloria, because we did not have enough space to run the picture. We are sorry. Truly.

But don't let that scare the rest of you into not submitting tidbits, results and dates of future sports tournaments or competitions! *Sportsbeat* needs you! If you have anything for me, give me a call at (403) 455-2700.

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