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INSIDE THIS WEEK

Windspeaker

February 5, 1988
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GET OFF MY BACK!

Chad Goroski of Zone 2 (Big Sky Country — Southern Alberta) attempts to choke out Nathan Sharuga of Zone 6 (Edmonton) in a judo match held at the Alberta Winter Games in Red Deer Jan. 28, 29, 30 and 31. Nathan went on to win the match and a silver medal in the competition. **BERT CROWFOOT, Windspeaker**



■ Northern trappers express anger against gov't lynx restrictions. See Page 3



■ Ex-heavyweight boxing champ George Chuvalo impressed with Hobbema fight card. See Page 6



■ Who's getting older? Who's getting married? Who was just born? Margaret let's you know and much more. See Page 10



■ What is this Indian businessman's secret for improving the lives of our Native youth? See Page 9

Women's group national prez to be replaced

By Lesley Crossingham

President of the Alberta Native Women's Association Donna Weaselchild, who was removed as the national president of the Native Women's Association of Canada last year, will be replaced during a special assembly next month.

The special meeting will be held in Ottawa March 18 to 22. Weaselchild was removed after she failed to gain support of the Alberta delegation shortly after her election.

Weaselchild, a Blackfoot band member, was elected national president in June last year. She was elected president of the Alberta association in June 1986.

In an interview Feb. 3,

association official Linda Jordan said vice-president Jean Gleason had acted as temporary president. However, the association has decided not to wait until the following financial year before electing a president.

"We are now negotiating with the government over Bill C-31 (which amended the Indian Act in 1983) so we need all the strength we can get."

The first duty of the new president will be to address the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development on Bill C-31. This meeting is set for Feb. 23, one day after the election.

The exact location of the assembly will be decided within the next few days.

Museum officials "playing with fire"

Mohawk false-face mask back on display

By Lesley Crossingham

A sacred false-face mask used by the Mohawk Indians for religious ceremonies is again on display in the Glenbow Museum's Spirit Sings exhibition.

The decision was made to allow the museum to display the artifact by a Calgary court Jan. 28. In an earlier ruling the mask had been removed after the Mohawks applied for an injunction.

In its argument, the Glenbow said the mask had been displayed in various museums for many years without objection from the Mohawks who wanted it out of the exhibition.

However, Mohawk leaders say museum officials are playing with fire by ignoring their wishes because the mask "has its own powers of persuasion."

Attempts will continue

In a statement after the ruling Joe Norton, grand chief of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake said it won't end their attempt to get back their artifacts.

"We're not going to go home in despair," he said, pointing out that the mask is a living spirit and

shouldn't be publicly displayed. Norton and the Mohawk Elders believe the mask will exert its own influence in reacting to the court decision.

During the hearing the Glenbow said the Mohawks only wanted to remove the mask to disrupt the \$3-million Spirit Sings exhibition. However, Norton says the Mohawk action was not just to embarrass officials but to bring about sensitivity to the issue of Native religion.

No photographs

In an interview from his Kahnawake office last week, chief Alvin Rice asked that no photographs of the mask be used as the battle with the museum will continue.

"We have consulted with our Elders and we believe we are taking the right action. We have to bring about more awareness within the non-Native community...we have to show that these articles are sacred."

Rice says the display of the mask violates the intended purpose of the mask and its sacred functions. It "constitutes a desecration, and ridicules and misrepresents the spiritual beliefs and practices

Protest buttons available

How can you support the Last Stand of the Lubicon?

If nothing else, you can wear a button or pin to show where you stand. They are available from the Calgary-based Committee Against Racism, which will be organizing a number of

information booths throughout Calgary, including one at the University of Alberta.

"We will be selling buttons and pins and giving away information packages," says volunteer Ellie Jelinik.

The committee will also

be organizing "quiet protests" of the Olympic torch when the runners travel to the city Feb. 13. A number of other protests will be organized, however, details are yet to be finalized.

of the Iroquois, including the Mohawk nation and its members," said Rice.

The mask has animal teeth and horse's hair and is used by members of a secret group, called the False Face Society, to heal illness. Only society members were allowed to see or keep it.

Great power

According to Mohawk evidence, the mask originally represented an evil spirit

that took part in a competition with the Creator to see who had the power to move a mountain. The Creator won and the evil spirit's face was disfigured by competing.

It then became a spirit that would protect and give spiritual health to the Iroquois nation.

Court documents this week indicated that the mask had been owned by Evelyn Johnson, sister of famous Native poet Pauline

Johnson, daughters of a Mohawk chief.

Evelyn Johnson was the last surviving member of the family whose ancestral home, called Chiefswood, is on the Six Nations reserve near Brantford.

According to documents, Johnson donated the mask to the Royal Ontario Museum in 1922. Johnson died in 1937 and was buried at the foot of her father's grave at the Mohawk churchyard.

Grouard family anxious Structural defects examined

By Dorothy Schreiber

GROUARD -- A Native family here is anxiously awaiting the arrival of an engineer to examine structural defects in the home they were evicted from last month because they failed to make mortgage payments.

The Gardiners, now living in a government trailer, had been living in a tent for six days following their eviction.

An engineer will be sent into the tiny community located 350 km northwest of Edmonton to evaluate the repairs needed to the

house, said Hal O'Neil, manager of communications with Rural and Native Housing.

"I gather the whole house in its entirety (will be examined)," explained O'Neil in a telephone interview from his Edmonton office.

Louise Gardiner maintains she will not negotiate the payment of mortgage arrears, close to \$6,800, until the house is fixed to her satisfaction.

"I'm not asking for a band-aid job," she stated. The Gardiners had been withholding mortgage payments for the past 20

months, claiming that Alberta Mortgage and Housing Corp. (AMHC) failed to repair problems with the house which caused the basement to flood and the sewer to back up.

AMHC officials say the family will have to set up a repayment schedule in order to get their house and land back.

The family bought the house nine years ago and are one of 26 families who purchased stack-wall houses built under a Native housing program ten years ago.

National Library of Canada
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Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N4

National

First Native ballet launched

OTTAWA — John Kim Bell, founder and president of the Canadian Native Arts Foundation (CNAF), hosted an official ceremony Feb. 4 to launch the first full-length Native contemporary ballet, *In The Land of Spirits*.

The ballet will make its debut at a gala performance at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa in November with a subsequent national tour extending into 1989.

"In *The Land of Spirits* is

unique because never before has a major artistic production, produced by a Native organization been staged for a Native and non-Native audience," said Bell. "The ballet will be promoted to bring Canadian Native culture to mainstream Canada with Native involvement at every level of production."

The ballet is adapted from the Ojibway creation story, the *Legend of Winona*. It will meld

traditional Native mythology, culture and music with state of the art technology.

Professionally trained ballet dancers of Native descent will be featured in the lead roles, with sets designed by esteemed Native artist, Maxine Noel. The original score will be provided by noted Hungarian composer Miklos Massey who has also studied traditional Native music.

The Canadian Native Arts Foundation was

founded in 1985 by John Kim Bell, a former apprentice conductor with the Toronto Symphony and New York Philharmonic Orchestras. The CNAF, a non-profit organization, was established to support and promote talented, young Canadian Native artists who would not otherwise enjoy the opportunity to do so.

For further information please call, Judy Tobe (416) 588-3328.



WINDSPEAKER PHOTO FILE

JOHN KIM BELL
...launches ballet

National Briefs

Over one hundred groups protest Meech Lake accord

TORONTO, Ont. — More than 100 groups and individuals are trying to get the Meech Lake constitutional accord changed.

Spokespersons for women's, Native, multicultural, a francophone and religious groups are getting set to make their pitches to the legislature committee scheduled to hold public hearings this week.

Most of the hearings will be held in Toronto but the committee plans to travel to London, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec City. No plans have been made to travel to western Canada.

Police chief hid documents

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia — A second witness at the Marshall inquiry has accused the police officer instrumental in sending Donald Marshall to prison of lying.

RCMP Sergeant Herb Davies said yesterday that John MacIntyre, the former Sydney police chief, tried to hide a police document as the RCMP re-investigated the case in 1982.

MacIntyre has denied that he ever did so.

Sgt. Davies' testimony said MacIntyre slipped a paper on to the floor behind his desk during a meeting and, when confronted, the officer turned it over.

"I'm telling you the truth and what Chief MacIntyre told you is not true," said Sgt. Davies.

The inquiry is in its 13th week and is investigating why an innocent Micmac Indian, Donald Marshall, was jailed for 11 years.

Grader operator falls through ice

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. — Frogmen recovered the body of a heavy-equipment operator who plunged into a lake after the grader he was driving broke through the ice.

Francis Moosenose, 34, died Feb. 1 after plunging into Sarah Lake, about 750 km north of Yellowknife, while grading an ice road. Temperatures in the area hovered around -10 F. An investigation is being carried out to find out why the grader fell through the 30-inch-thick ice, said the N.W.T. RCMP.

Child care agency investigated

THOMPSON, Man. — A 17-year-old boy who died of exposure on his way back to his reserve in northern Manitoba was one of two youths released by a child-care agency and left to find their own way home.

Philip Michael, of the Awasis Agency, said the release of John Bighetty violated the agency's guidelines and is being investigated.

The youth was found frozen to death Jan. 29 not far from his home in Pukatawagan.

Funds available for artistic youth

By Dan Dibbelt

CALGARY — An estimated \$10,000 is available for Natives who can demonstrate the talent, motivation and financial need to pursue their artistic venture, said Wanda Wuttunee, Canadian Native Arts Foundation (CNAF) regional director.

The monies are being offered in the form of grants and are available due to the success of a foundation art

auction held in Calgary last November. Any Native person, status, non-status, Metis or Inuit can apply.

The foundation definition is broad and includes writing, architecture, broadcasting and fashion, said Wuttunee, explaining the grants are aimed at young people "because I don't think there is any extra funding available for kids that age."

"And the grants are not just for somebody who wants to go to school and

needs funding," she added. "It's available for somebody who might be talented in piano, but can't afford the rental or perhaps an artist who can't afford to pay for supplies."

To apply for a scholarship, a letter must be submitted describing personal career goals, the project in mind and how it applies to goals, and a detailed budget including any other funding received.

As well, two letters of reference from a teacher or

an expert in the applicant's field of artistic endeavor must also be submitted. Because of the limited funding there will be a screening process to select recipients of grants.

All applicants or enquiries should be directed to Wanda Wuttunee, Regional Director, Canadian Native Arts Foundation, 1501, 3600 Brenner Drive, N.W., Calgary, Alberta T2L 1Y2 or phone 220-4053 or 282-9440.

Mohawks claim land as own

By Lesley Crossingham

The Mohawk nation of the Akwesasne reserve, on the Canadian-American border in Quebec, is preparing land claims to expand their nation and become the first reserve to get unequivocal self-government.

The Mohawk plan to claim ownership of the Thousand Islands is part of a claims package that already includes \$1 billion worth of land in New York state.

In a statement this week Mohawk officials say they are prepared to arrest any Canadian lawman or judge who might be boating on the St. Lawrence River to show they already have jurisdiction.

"We're going to have to assert ourselves and be harder in our positions than ever before. Our way of doing business from now on is going to be more nationalistic," said Mike Mitchell, grand chief of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.

Akwesasne is one of 40 reserves negotiating with Ottawa for self-government. The government has granted only the Sechelt reserve in British Columbia a version of self-government modelled after a municipality. But

Akwesasne wants more than that.

"We've been studied to death. And everything we do, we have to double-

check to get permission," says the chief who says the reserve has more to fear from federal government bureaucrats than from a

violation of its territory by smugglers who use the reserve to move untaxed cigarettes and alcohol from the United States.

Prepare for self-gov't - McKenzie

By Dan Dibbelt

CALGARY — If the government handed self-government over to the Metis people of Alberta it would do them no good anyway because they are not prepared to manage themselves, said Saskatchewan Metis vice-president Wayne McKenzie.

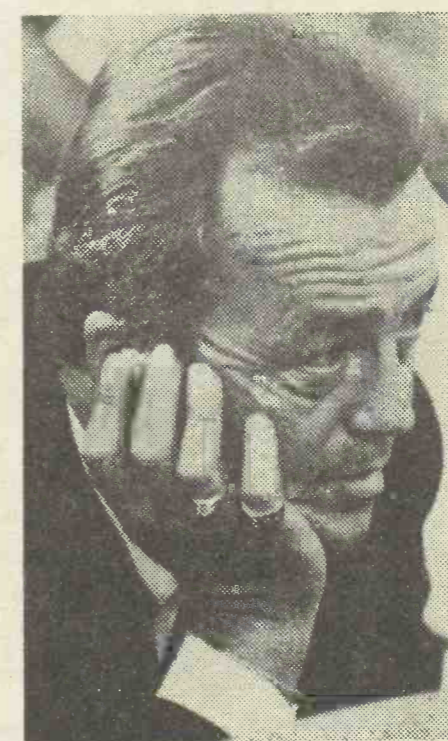
"We can't just ask for self-government," he said. "We have to do our homework."

McKenzie was addressing a recent workshop of Metis Zone 3 members on the topic of self-government.

"Do we have social workers, teachers or stock brokers," he questioned. "Do we have the necessary facilities? What are we going to do with the land? Are we going to have Native universities?"

McKenzie told the group of 30 people that the homework has to begin with the general membership.

"We shouldn't elect our friends to the executive," said McKenzie. "We should



WAYNE MCKENZIE
...questions self-gov't

elect our better people, the people who are qualified."

McKenzie stressed the need for higher education for Metis so that they can start to take over projects in their own communities. He also told the group that Metis need to become more business-minded and should start to work together.

McKenzie gave the example of northern Metis supplying the southern Metis with fish to sell. And

the company that trucks the fish down south should be Metis-owned and run. McKenzie also said it was necessary for the Metis to better define themselves. "What constitutes a Metis?" he questioned. "No darker than him? No lighter than him?"

While McKenzie's humor helped to lighten the topic, he stressed the serious need for recognition.

"They (the governments) know who's responsible for rats and dogs," said McKenzie. "But they don't know who's responsible for Metis."

McKenzie also likened the Metis to the Palestinians. "In half the countries in the world we would be termed economic and political prisoners, and that's illegal in most countries in the world, except Canada."

McKenzie said self-government was a long way away for the Metis, but added this could be an advantage in allowing them to better prepare for it when it does finally come.

Provincial

Splinter group reps speak to Local 14

By Dianne Meili
and Dan Dibbelt

Representatives of the Alberta Metis Nation Alliance recently spoke at a meeting of the Calgary Metis Local 14, to gain support for their splinter group.

AMNA president Ron LaRocque and vice-president Jo-Ann Daniels spoke at the assembly at the request of the local. About 25 members, including Zone 3 vice-president Peter Pelletier, listened to the speakers and expressed concern over the Metis Association of Alberta (MAA).

Some in attendance were upset over the lack of progress they say is occurring with the MAA. But Pelletier defended the organization, saying the MAA is not receiving adequate input from its membership.

"We have to receive direction from you in order for us to act on it," Pelletier told the group.

But LaRocque and Daniels say the MAA no longer represents the true Metis spirit. "The main reason the people in my zone left is that we felt our will as Metis has been submerged in the Metis Association of Alberta," explained Daniels.

To the suggestion that she and LaRocque formed AMNA out of bitterness after losing in the September Metis elections, Daniels replied the decision to form a splinter group arose from pressure from the local of which she was formerly president.

"It wasn't an easy decision for me (to form a new group)...a number of people came to me and asked for direction," she said. LaRocque added, "We felt the leadership did not represent Metis people."

LaRocque and Daniels formed AMNA in October of 1987 and have a present membership of 250. Two

members of Local 14 joined AMNA on Jan. 31 and several more picked up application forms.

In a telephone interview after the meeting, Peter Pelletier told Windspeaker he felt AMNA "upsets" the unity of Alberta's Metis "and that's just what the government wants." He added he was not worried about losing his members to the splinter group, adding he thinks "they'll stay united."

Jim White, president and treasurer of Zone 3, felt all Metis locals are strong in the south. "Sure, any group has disunity but you always have opposition

parties. Look at the opposition parties in Alberta...they're just voices in the wilderness."

White added "there is 100 per cent participation by locals in regional council meetings." He felt some presidents are not as active in these meetings as others "but that's no different than any other place. Some participate and some just belong."

He compared the leadership of the splinter group to "a kid that doesn't like what's going on so he takes his boat and goes home."

But Daniels and LaRocque hope to see the

number of AMNA members grow to 5,000 by the end of the year. "I don't see that as an unreasonable number. The first 250 came to us. This is the first time we have gone out looking for members," said LaRocque.

Because AMNA has rejected core government funding, the group has a membership fee of \$20, payable in installments. Members of AMNA are not required to give up their membership with the MAA, but according to LaRocque, once new members see AMNA prove itself, members will readily leave the MAA.

Trappers vs gov't

Lynx restrictions scorned

By Terry Lusty

Provincial government restrictions on the number of lynx that can be trapped each year has angered many northern Alberta Native trappers.

Trappers claim government is endangering their livelihood and forcing them onto the welfare roll. On the other hand, government officials say the restrictions protect endangered lynx which could become extinct in time.

A quota of one lynx per trapper per year was instituted in late September as a means of preserving the species according to Alberta Fish and Wildlife unit manager, Arlon Todd.

He claims, "There is a large amount of circumstantial evidence which indicates that lynx have been really depressed by trapping." He bases his assessment "on analysis of fur harvest records, reports from trappers and fur buyers, detailed biological studies and radio collars."

"However, there are trappers in the field who do not agree with the quota system or the government's assessments. Oliver Bourke, of Fort Fitzgerald is one of them. He resides in Fort Smith but traps in Alberta and says he is "hauling firewood to sell in Smith because it doesn't pay to trap when there's a limit of one lynx."

Bourke admits he doesn't know what he'll do if he cannot make sufficient money from wood sales. His wife Liz, charges "the government is forcing our people to go on welfare."

The restrictions on lynx apply throughout the province but many northern Native trappers believe it is unfair of government to apply the ruling in all areas, because the North has an



BELINDA BELCOURT — Hangs lynx pelts at dad's Edmonton shop 'Ken Belcourt Furs.'

abundance of lynx in their estimation.

Biologist disagrees

Shirley Nelson, a Metis biologist, disagrees. While her heart lies with Native hunters and trappers, she fears for wildlife species whose survival is threatened. She contends that cougar, lynx and bobcat populations are low when compared to other wildlife and are therefore, "more susceptible to the pressures of hunters and trappers."

Even if lynx are plentiful in a given area "you can't just think of one area," says Nelson. "You have to think of the province as a whole."

Todd concurs that "lynx, right now, are a little bit more abundant...are on their cyclic increase." But, points out, "Lynx must be allowed to spread out to repopulate some of the vacant areas of the province."

While in agreement with

Todd, people like Fort Smith's Betty Sinclair and Irene Sanderson, whose families are trappers, counter the statements made by Todd. Both women state trappers are conservation-minded and would not overtrap any particular animal simply for the financial rewards. That, they say, would be against their better judgment and only endanger their future livelihood.

Another trapper, Robert Grandjambe of Chipewyan, asserts that the imposition of government restrictions makes trapping as a way of life very unfeasible. On the other hand, he adds, there are ways of getting around it if one really wants to. This point conforms with that of the national park warden, Dan Frandfen, who is based at Fort Smith.

Frandfen "has a suspicion" that trappers who get more than one lynx bootleg their pelts through trapper

friends in Wood Buffalo National Park which has no lynx quota. He also feels that the lynx population is nearing, if not at, "a high."

Lynx cycle high

If fur returns mean anything, Fort Chip's Archie Simpson, who has been trapping for 55 years, has taken in about 20 lynx so far this winter. He feels the lynx cycle is at a high and maintains he would have really been struggling if he were required to follow Alberta's restrictions on lynx. His brother, John, has also fared quite well. Both trap at Peace Point in Wood Buffalo Park.

Treaty 8 vice-president, Lawrence Courtoreille, says he does not have much faith in the government's assessment of the lynx population and questions the validity of research conducted, no matter how sophisticated it may be. He also wonders about the expertise of some of the people used in the research.

Courtoreille believes government "is buckling into international pressure from 30 or more other countries. They are protesting the killing of animals just so their pelts can be marketed."

"Next year, maybe they'll shut down (the trapping of) muskrats," complains Courtoreille. He would like to see a survey conducted to determine how many Natives rely on natural plants and animals for income and for food.

A meeting last November between Native leaders and Alberta's wildlife department, which included the minister, LeRoy Fjordbotten, failed to alter the lynx quota. Courtoreille says an approach to the provincial ombudsman may be their next move.

Provincial Briefs

Woman needed specialized care

CANMORE — Despite a lack of equipment, the Canmore Hospital did what it could to save a Morley woman who had overdosed, a fatality inquiry heard Jan. 22.

Rose Anne Ear, 42, died of respiratory arrest in an ambulance enroute to Calgary last July after Canmore Hospital staff discovered it did not have the facilities to detect methanol in the blood or to cleanse the blood of toxins.

Ear apparently drank a combination of household cleaners and a painkiller before she lapsed into unconsciousness. A provincial toxicologist told the inquiry that Ear had a lethal amount of methanol in her blood.

A hospital spokesman later said the hospital would not obtain blood analysis equipment because the hospital is not a specialized care facility.

Blackfoot want sacred objects returned

CALGARY — The Blackfoot band is considering taking legal action to return sacred Blackfoot objects currently in museums across the country to the band.

Blackfoot band manager, Adrian Stimson, who travelled with Calgary Mayor Ralph Klein to Europe last year to publicize the Olympics says many museums have sacred artifacts. "We can't even do our ceremonies now because some (artifacts) aren't even there," he said.

Chief speaks for himself on Lubicon boycott

GLEICHEN — Blackfoot Chief Strater Crowfoot says he supports the 1988 Winter Olympics but sympathizes with the Lubicon land claim.

"Native land claims are issues that should be dealt with, Olympics or no Olympics. We have our own land claim concerns," he said in a prepared statement this week.

Crowfoot, elected in December, says he and his council cannot dictate the sentiments of individual band members.

Peigan band supports torch run

BROCKET — The Peigan band will forgo politics and celebrate the passing of the Olympic torch when it moves through their reserve late this month.

The Peigans earlier endorsed the Lubicon band land claim and plans for demonstrations in support of the Lubicons, the band's own land claim and the controversial Oldman River dam have been postponed.

Band councillor Nelbert Little Mustache said band members made the decision to postpone the demonstrations after a plea from band Elders.

Editorial

Thanks Gadhafi, but no thanks

So-called terrorist Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi wants Native people and blacks to unite with revolutionary movements south of the U.S. border and set up our own states in North America.

He says we should recover our ancestral lands in line with the UN principle of self-determination and the struggle should start now! We "red Indians" must set up a state in northern America...in California, Chicago, Texas and Mexico.

Gadhafi was speaking to the first international conference of "red Indians" in Libya's capital of Tripoli when he made these remarks. Canada hasn't got the international profile that the United States has, so Gadhafi likely has no idea of the land claim struggles that are going on now in this country. He was likely referring only to American Indians.

But, if he wants to send us money for self-government, heck, he should go ahead and do it. We'll take it. Too bad that won't likely happen because Libya isn't the rich country it once was with the downfall of oil prices.

But, how did someone like Gadhafi even become aware of the Indians' problems? Doesn't he know about Indian reserves and other facts of Native life here in North America? Apparently, he doesn't know the finer details, but he makes it a point to learn about any minority in the world faced with a struggle. Since his people and country are suffering under "imperialists," he also feels the pain that a struggle for rights means to so many of the world's other oppressed people.

At any rate, Gadhafi's message must have brought amused smiles from Natives who read the news articles about his speech to the "red Indians" this week.

He can send us money, but we don't want the terrorist tactics he's supposed to be famous for to give us our freedom here in Canada. Thanks, but no thanks.

Your opinion, please...

Windspeaker welcomes letters to the editor and unsolicited editorial material. Only those letters which are signed will be published. Correspondence may be edited in length, for libellous content and readability.

The views presented on this "Opinion" page are not necessarily those of Windspeaker or the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta.



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\$'s for words

Is your kookum celebrating her 82nd birthday? Is your sister getting married? If so, Windspeaker would like to know about it. In an effort to better serve our readers, Windspeaker is seeking community correspondents to submit articles about what's going on in their corner of the world. If published, we'll pay for your community reports. Call Dianne Meili, editor, at 455-2700, for more information about being a Windspeaker community correspondent. Or, if you have some community news tips, especially about births, deaths, weddings, reunions and anniversaries, just call Margaret Desjarlais, at the above number, and she'll include it in her upcoming column called "Have you heard...?" We hope to hear from you soon.

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Opinion

Prof interested in Cree writing

Dear Editor:

I was very interested to read, "Syllabary still disputed, Cree script's ancient origins probed" (Windspeaker, Dec. 18, 1987), in which Dr. Anne Anderson and Buff Parry question the generally-accepted view that the Rev. James Evans (1801-1846), a Methodist missionary, invented the Cree syllabics.

Recently I completed a biography of Kahkewaquonaby, or Peter Jones (1802-1856), a Mississauga Indian chief and Native Methodist minister — *Sacred Feathers. The Story of the Rev. Peter Jones (Kahkewaquonaby) and the Mississauga Indian of Upper Canada* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1987). In my book I mention Kahkewaquonaby's acquaintance with James Evans in the 1830s in Upper Canada, as Ontario was then called. Although they were fellow Methodist ministers, apparently a personality clash separated the two men who were not close at all. Evans, who had learned Ojibwa, criticized Kahkewaquonaby's translations of the Christian gospels.

Evans presented his position in the preface to, *The speller and interpreter, in Indian and English, for the use of the mission schools, and such as may desire to obtain a knowledge of the Ojibwa tongue* (New York: D. Fanshaw, 1837) p. 4: "All who have attempted to represent the Indian dialects by written characters, have proved the impracticability of accomplishing this object by the use of the Roman character,

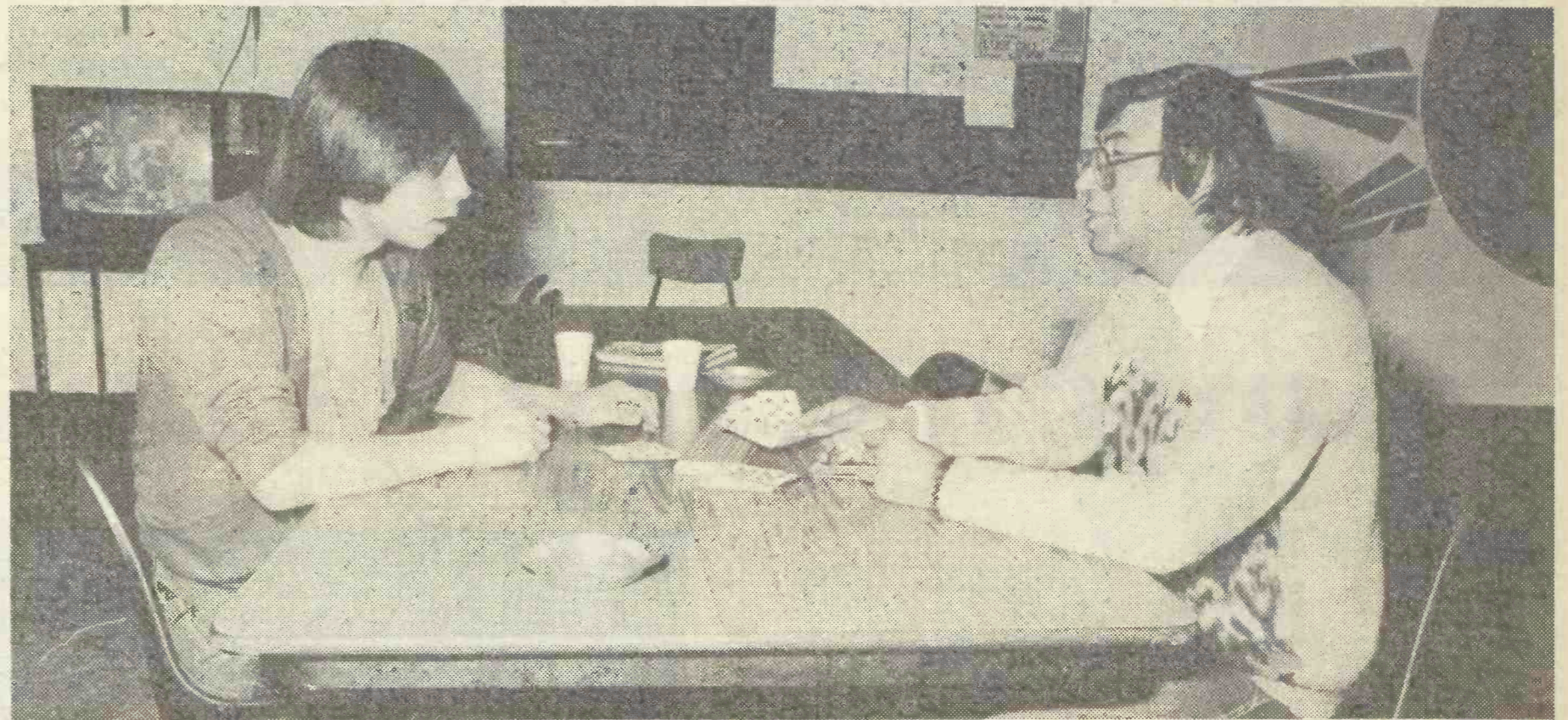
while it retains its English sound; and almost every writer has a method of notation peculiar to himself, while none have presented us with a complete system, in which each sound is rendered invariable, by a distinct and appropriate character." Already — three years before he left Upper Canada for Norway House in present-day Manitoba — Evans was concerned about evolving a new system of writing Indian languages, and avoiding Roman characters. At Norway House he would evolve the syllabic system for writing Cree.

Kahkewaquonaby, although hurt by Evans' suggestion that his own Ojibwa translations of the Christian gospels were faulty, recognized his antagonist's later contribution. In his *History of the Ojibway Indians* (London: A.W. Bennett, 1861), the Mississauga Indian wrote: "Some years ago the Rev. J. Evans and Rev. T. Hurlbert commented a syllabic character for the Ojibway which they have since applied to the Cree language at Hudson's Bay, and I am informed that it is well adapted for that language, being both easy and simple. All that the Indian has to do is to learn the characters, and when he has done so he can read and write the language." (p. 140).

This testimony of Kahkewaquonaby suggests to me that James Evans did indeed first develop the Cree syllabary.

Sincerely,
Donald B. Smith
 Associate Professor
 Department of History

WINDSPEAKER GALLERY



GOTCHA!

Nelson Gladue (left) can't believe his crib opponent Oliver Badger's winning card hand. The card duel saw Badger come out on top at the Grande Prairie Native Friendship Centre drop-in recently. But, it was only a fun game for match sticks. So, the only loser was a piece of timber.

MARK Mc CALLUM, Windspeaker

Reader supports Lubicons

Dear Editor:

Why must the MP's and MLA's we elect be so miserable about returning a few acres of land and mineral rights that our governments took from the Lubicons?

A few weeks ago in one issue of an Edmonton paper was a story of MP's giving \$600,000 to cover legal fees for an MP who was proven to have done wrong. In the same issue another story, along with a picture, showed that our MLA's spent \$10,000 to shovel snow to make it look like winter at the legislature.

I saw what Alberta government did to the Cree at Wabasca a few years ago. When land tenure was finally allowed for about 1,000 Metis and non-Status. The largest lots went to Alberta Housing Corporation. Choice lots went to recent arrivals like teachers and Bay managers while some Cree who were born, raised and still living in Wabasca, got nothing.

The lots were double in size to what most of the Cree had requested and signed for. But it went to the head of the household instead of each adult. The big lots made people happy at that time. They were to

get electricity, water and sewer. There would be plenty of room for the children to build a house when they grew up.

Surprise! While water and sewer for government buildings went two miles out of its way (where no one lived) to a vacant canoe factory, it could not go a shorter distance to the recreation complex. It passed many homes on another road and families must continue to use outhouses. The reason given: "You requested lots that were too large." New government rules won't allow more than one house on each lot. The Cree

people have long been convinced that all non-Native bureaucracy is stupid. Why do our government people work so hard to prove them right? It's not necessary.

How they hassle over who is a Lubicon. Should Ottawa or Edmonton decide? Who knows better than the Lubicons? Why spoil the Olympics and our pride to be so stingy over a few acres of bush and mineral rights along with the animals, fish and land our governments took from the Lubicons?

Floyd Griesbach
 Wabasca

NADC Public Forum

Beaverlodge
 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 16, 1988
 Community Centre

The Northern Alberta Development Council holds regular public meetings throughout Northern Alberta, giving everyone the opportunity to present briefs on matters of concern and general information.

The Council consists of ten members and is chaired by Bob Elliott, MLA for Grande Prairie.

Groups or individuals interested in making submissions at the Beaverlodge meeting should contact the Chairman at 538-1800 in Grande Prairie, 427-1858 in Edmonton, or the Northern Development Branch in Peace River at 624-6274 for assistance.



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Red Deer Native
 Friendship Society
 requires:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

■ Previous work experience with a Native friendship centre preferably in a management capacity would be an asset. Effective verbal and writing skills. Knowledge of the various funding sources and skills in being able to apply for funding effectively. Sound, knowledge in organizational development. Excellent interpersonal skills. Ability

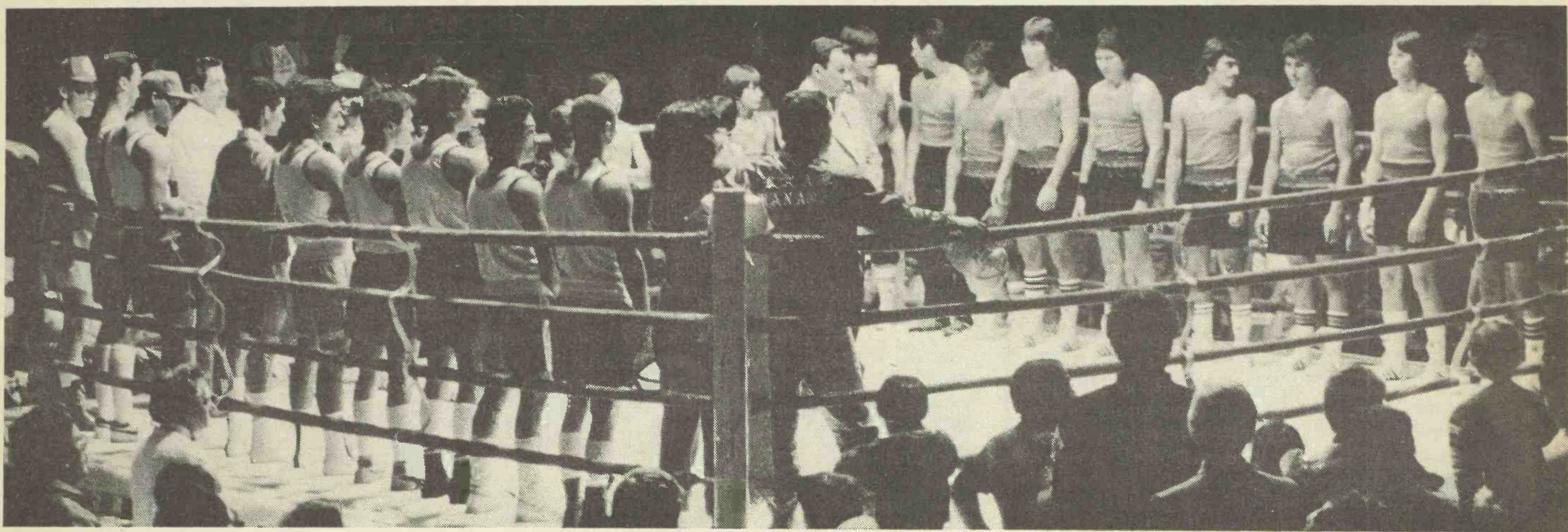
to initiate and coordinator short and long range planning. Public relations skills.

■ Salary negotiable.

■ Competition closing date is Feb. 12, 1988.

■ Please forward resumes to:
 Red Deer Native Friendship Society
 5217 Gaetz Avenue
 Red Deer, Alberta
 T4N 4B4
 ATTN: Bev Keeshig-Soonias





Samson Cree vs Los Angeles

TERRY LUSTY, Windspeaker

By Terry Lusty

Last Monday, Hobbema's Samson Cree Nation boxing club took on the more experienced Los Angeles Golden Gloves boxing club, managing three wins against the tough competition.

The 13-bout fight card attracted a capacity crowd of over 1,200 to Samson's Howard Buffalo Memorial Arena, indicating strong community support of the local boxing club. The crowd yelled appreciation for local fighters. Equally impressed was special guest George Chualo, Canada's heavyweight champ of the '60s and early '70s.

Chualo, who fought 97 pro-fights and was never knocked down (not even by Muhammad Ali whom he fought three times) heaped praise on the Samson fighters. "I was surprised. Most of the (Samson) kids looked really good," he said, adding that their "limited training" was a drawback but the outcome "should be very encouraging."

Samson trainer and co-coach Stan Crane explained his boys have only had one or two fights, while most of the L.A. boxers were far more experienced. He added he is proud of how well his boys performed in taking three of the nine bouts, with Jose Acosta winning by unanimous decision.

Samson's head coach, Jim Gilio said he saw the fights as a progressive and productive step for his fighters. The rounds the boys fought adds to their experience, he said.

Upon entering the Samson club dressing room after the fights, Chualo praised and encouraged the youngsters to "keep up the good work...forget the smoke, drink and drugs." He pointed out the Cree Nation fighters "showed good moves, jabs and hooks" but added that they can't simply rely on just training. "You've got to have real fights, experience

is very important."

Master of ceremonies, Vern Spence, kicked off the evening event by introducing guests, officials and fighters. Elder Fred Nadeau offered a prayer, asking the Creator to look out for the safety of the fighters.

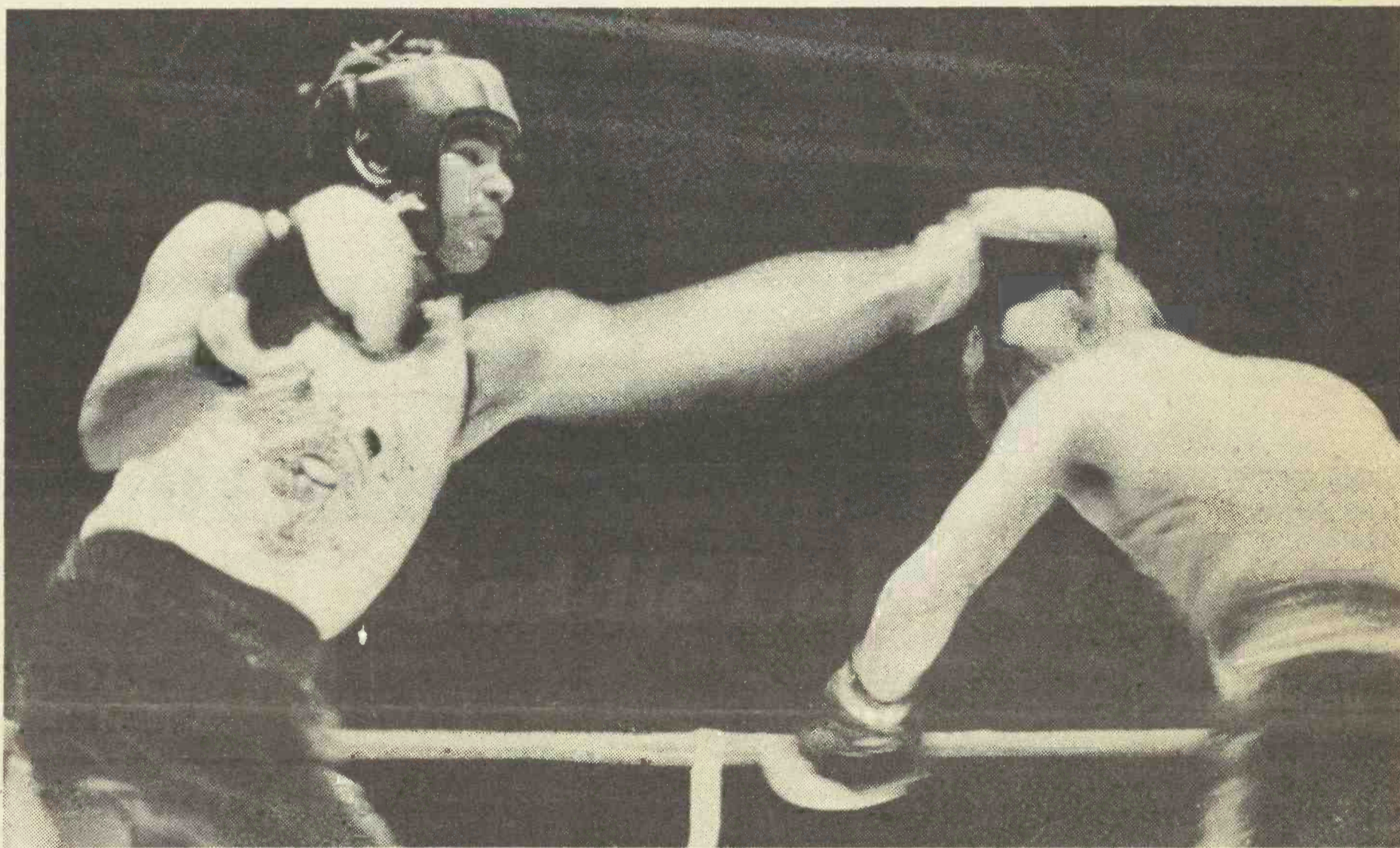
Another special guest was former world lightweight champ Mando Ramos of L.A. At age 20, he was the youngest to ever hold the title. After the fights, he voiced his respect for the Samson boxers and admitted that "Indian kids are tough" but the greater experience of the L.A. fighters "made the difference."

The first four bouts of the fight card featured local boxers ranging from 78 to 110 pounds. Except for Terry Nepoose's split decision win over Dwayne Soosay, the other three bouts were unanimously decided with Marty Soosay defeating Donny Soosay, Jake Soosay over Brenden Firingstone, and Gordon Morin defeating Herman Soosay. In the fourth bout, Morin nearly put his opponent away near the end of round two when he rained a flurry of punches and combinations on Soosay. A possible TKO (technical knockout), however, was thwarted by the bell.

The evening's entertainment gained momentum in the remaining nine matches which pitted local boys against L.A. With the exception of David Wong, all the L.A. fighters were Chicanos (part Mexican Indian).

Bout five, the first of the Samson-L.A. series, matched two very determined and aggressive boxers. Although Samson's Reuben Moses appeared to better his opponent in the first round and nearly put him away in the second, he got in trouble in the third to lose by a split decision.

L.A.'s Carlos Hernandez easily outmatched Larron Northwest in the third round of bout six. The only TKO of the night occurred in the third round of bout seven when Samson's



(Above) — JULIO VALASCO tags FRANKIE MORIN with a left. (Middle) — GORDON MORIN, 13, meets "the champ," GEORGE CHUALO. (Bottom) — Samson's DONNY SOOSAY prepares for the fight.

Frank Morin succumbed to a barrage of cross punches from Julio Valasco who forced him to take two standing eight counts.

The eighth bout was a unanimous win for Samson's Jose Acosta, 132 lbs, who defeated David Wong, 128 lbs. Clearly in command from the outset, Acosta knocked his man to his knees in the first round with a tremendous right cross and repeated the performance twice more.

A gutsy Roy Crane refused to give in to L.A.'s Danny Perez who was definitely superior. Perez, ever aggressive, was constantly advancing and driving Crane back into the ropes. He went on to win unanimously.

The final four bouts were won by split decisions with L.A.'s Jaime Benitz overpowering Pierre Tylee; John Martinez defeating L.A.'s Anthony Garcia; Samson's Keith Nepoose beat a wildly swinging Hector Palafox; and L.A.'s Joe Perez at 178 lbs, with a plodding style, somehow managed to outpunch a dancing Dennis Tylee.

The last time Hobbema sponsored any serious

boxing match was in 1985 when the Ermineskin band hosted about ten boxers from Florida. Coach Stan Crane hopes Monday's card will lead to others. He is enthusiastic about the response in terms of the attendance and says they are trying to line up the North American Indian Championship in April which would be a first for Canada.

The club is also planning to enter fighters, perhaps ten, in the Feb. 20 golden gloves competition in Lethbridge.



'Didn't expect it'

Firths win Order of Canada

By Dorothy Schreiber

What would you do if you were sitting at home and heard a CBC news report saying you had just been appointed the Order of Canada, the highest award bestowed on this country's citizens?

If you're Sharon Firth, Canada's premiere cross-country skier, you'd pick up the phone and congratulate your sister Shirley, who was also appointed on the 1988 Governor Generals New Year's list.

"I was quite shocked," says Sharon Firth. "I didn't know what to do or what my reaction was at that time. I was fairly excited, I guess."

Even though she and her sister had received application forms as possible candidates for the award, the announcement still came as a complete surprise.

"I didn't expect it at all. I just followed the directions (on the form) and sent it back. I didn't think that Shirley and I would get it."

The veteran skiers,

whose careers span 17 years, first began competitive cross-country skiing at the age of 14. Both Loucheaux women from Inuvik have competed in national and international events, as well as four Winter Olympics (1972 to 1984) and have skied longer than any other North American female skiers in cross-country and alpine events.

Jarl Ohmolt-Jensen, a former skier who has known the twin sisters since 1968, says the award is long overdue and well deserved.

"We're very pleased and proud," he said.

The "phenomenal" number of national titles won by both skiers, along with their overall contribution to the sport and longevity on the ski team, has made them deserving of the honor.

"I think the reason we have such a strong women's team today is simply due to the fact that the twins lasted so long and were able to be there...they gave

everybody a good opportunity to train hard."

Both sisters have amassed numerous medals in the sport which Ohmolt-Jensen calls the "toughest in the world." Shirley Firth leads the Canadian women's medal standing with 42 in total; she is followed by Sharon who has won a total of 37 medals for cross-country skiing events in Canadian senior championships.

Despite their outstanding achievements and years spent in the ski world spotlight, the Firth sisters have remained unaffected by the attention.

"It's none of the Mohammed Ali, 'Hey, I'm the greatest!' It's very much humbleness and self-assuredness that these young ladies have projected over many years," said Ohmolt-Jensen.

Sharon Firth retired from competitive skiing in 1985 and is currently working with the territorial government in a two-year training program in Yellowknife.

"This is what happens when you stop competitive skiing, you've got to work for a living," quips Firth.

She says she doesn't miss competitive skiing and is no longer involved in the sport. "I'm completely out of it because I need a break from all the pressures and everything else that goes along with it. I'm just keeping a very low profile."

Twin sister Shirley Firth, who retired in 1984, now lives in St. Etienne De Crossey, France, with her husband and two children.

Firth says over the years support from the territorial government and the people was always an important factor to both skiers.

"Shirley and I were very fortunate because we had both the government of the Northwest Territories and the people behind us. You can't do it on your own. I don't care how rich or poor you are, you still need someone there to support you. I don't care if other athletes say they make it on their own. They don't. You need the support and



FIRTH TWINS
...leaders in cross-country skiing

sponsorship and you need your family behind you too."

Firth, who comes from a family of 12, says she was also fortunate to have her sister on the ski trail with her.

"I don't think we could have made it without one another," she said.

Firth says she will travel to Ottawa to receive the award from Governor General Jeanne Sauve sometime this April.



SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Kim McLain

The Saddle Lake Tykes, seven and under, went on a successful and short road trip recently. Not short, as in three-feet short, but short, as in only one stop-over.

And successful, as in first place. They won the tykes tourney at Alexander last Jan. 29-30 weekend. They just edged out the Paul Band in their first game 5-4. Then they skated circles around Alexander 11-0. In the final game, they came from behind to win over Alexis 4-2.

I wonder if they made the other kids cry? Or even the parents?

Those same tykes won in Enoch in early January, too.

Meanwhile, back at Saddle Lake, two hockey tournaments were cancelled; the Bearcats and the peewees.

Oh and by the way, remember that problem they were having with their artificial ice at the arena? Well, it's fixed now.

Thanks for the info, Joe Steinhauer. He and six others have started work on a Saddle Lake newsletter called Mamoacimonsa, meaning a gathering of stories. Joe can be reached at 726-3829 ext. 137.

I used to go to school with Joe back at St. Paul in Grade 6, and his cousin Vince. I remember one day we were sitting around the class during lunch hour telling "knock, knock" jokes.

"Who's there?" said Vince.

I said, "Dan."

"Dan who?"

"Dan Druff."

And we all broke out into hysterical laughter for almost five minutes - laughing so hard we couldn't catch our breaths. Joe almost passed a bologna sandwich through his nose!

Weird kids, eh.

HOBBEMA: Four Band recreation employee Rubin Soosay phoned me this week wanting information on Teddi Littlechild's accomplishments. The Four Bands will be honoring athletes Feb. 11 when the Olympic torch is run by the Howard Buffalo Memorial Centre,

Saddle Lake's Tykes win, again

Teddi being one of six to be given a medal.

I think Rubin was little bit shocked once I started to read the file we have on Teddi. "How am I gonna fit all that in!" said Rubin. I was a bit shocked too. It took me about ten minutes to give him all the info on Teddi. Did you know that she owns 15 trophies, 40 medals and more than 340 ribbons — finished first about 80 times in swimming, gymnastics, golf, and track and field? Wow!

Other recipients for Celebration '88 medals will be Roddy Baptiste, Art Littlechild, Herman Cutknife, Jimmy Simon and Dennis Samson.

The Olympic flame is expected to arrive around 8:50 a.m. But go early, early enough for the pancake breakfast at 7:30. Then stick around for some cultural entertainment and cheer on Hobbema torch bearers: Kelly Saddleback, Nelson Littlechild, Scotty Bull and Orville Strongman.

BLACKFOOT: They were mixing basketball and football at the Deerfoot Sportplex last Jan. 29-30 weekend, says Blackfoot's recreation director.

"We had pretty good crowds for a "B" division basketball tournament," says Rick Running Rabbit. "That's the division where no college or university players are allowed — or division one teams."

A team from Airdrie, near Calgary, got a good return on their \$175 entry fee — they won \$600, T-shirts and trophies for their first place win over Blackfoot Renegade Music. The score in that final game was 93-77. But Renegade Music didn't go home empty-handed, they won \$300 and baseball caps. A team called Calgary Express won \$200 for third place.

Just out of the money and fourth were the Blackfoot Lakers. Teams that lost out early were: Sarcee, Blackfoot Chieftains, Calgary Friendship Centre and Peigan.

Airdrie's Glen Patrick won the Mr. Hustle title. Most valuable player went to Jeff Cahoon, also of Airdrie.

Here's the allstars: Wayne Bishop, Airdrie; Elroy Panther Bone, Renegade Music; Sid Edwards, Renegade Music; Tyrone Wells, Calgary Friendship Centre; Alvin Yellowfly, Calgary Express.

Then came the football — party, that is. Running Rabbit said about 100 spectators and quite a few players stuck around for a Superbowl party at the sportsplex. They had big screen television, buffet and a cash bar.

"Most of us were going for the Redskins," said Running Rabbit.

SLAVE LAKE: The Slave Lake Native Friendship Centre has just published their fall and winter newsletter complete with a recreation schedule.

The newsletter which is printed in newspaper format is called "Ototemowin Masina Higan." It's a smart looking publication full of pictures, stories, letters and even a word search puzzle.

Here's a list of some of the activities offered this winter:

Judo taught by Gabre Neumier. This program is for children and adults.

Newly appointed board member Daryl Ripely is taking charge of the basketball action. This program runs every Wednesday night at 7:00 at the Junior High gym for people 16 and over.

And ladies who are a little shy can take over the weight room for one hour every Wednesday evening 6:30 to 7:30. Oh yeah, no men allowed.

Weightlifting equipment, sauna, jacuzzi or ping pong, sounds like the Sawridge Jasper resort, but that's what the centre offers the youth (12-18) Monday through Friday 3:30 to 5:30 for \$1.

For more info on these programs and more — more than I can fit in this humble column, contact the centre at 849-3039. It's open seven days a week.

CONKLIN: A sports day that was to have been hosted by the Conklin school was cancelled because the visiting teams couldn't travel in the heavy snow and cold weather.

The school had invited students from Fort McKay, Anzac and Janvier to a sports challenge last Jan. 30.

"But the roads were really bad — we must have had a foot of snow over the weekend," said Pat, secretary at the school. "It's cold up here — the temperature is -40." They'll try again on Saturday Feb. 13.

WABASCA: Heavy snow and cold weather forced officials for the Alberta provincial finals for the Arctic Winter Games to cancel the event last weekend. Many competitors couldn't get through the bad roads so the finals are scheduled for this weekend.

WANTED: Party animals or a reasonable facsimile for the Goose Loonies Presents the Edmonton Strikers 1988 Volleyball Bash on Feb. 18.

There will be all kinds of door prizes, like a night for two at the Fantasyland Hotel or a free bar tab for a month. Drinks will be \$1.95 and shooters will be on special all night.

"We have 500 tickets to sell," says Robert George, coach of the Strikers, so you better find a Striker — they all have tickets to sell. They cost \$5.

If you can't find a Striker, phone one of these: Robert at 426-4859, Dion at 424-9578, Audry at 426-1213 or Leo at 484-6550.

That's all for this week.

Senior A's give fans exciting hockey

By Kim McLain

There were low scores and close games all weekend at the Kainai Sports Centre in Stand Off last Jan. 29-31 as seven hockey teams faced off in senior "A" calibre hockey.

"It was very close...couple of overtimes...final game ended up in overtime," said Randy Mills, an official and

coordinator at the tournament. "Most games were only one-goal differences."

By Saturday afternoon, it was the Lethbridge Big Rocks and the Blood's Old Agency Northern Nights who filled the showdown slots on the "A" side round robin. Mills said about 200 spectators watched the final showdown that saw the Big Rocks win in

overtime 4-3.

Then, in another close game, Stand Off's Farm Four Oilers edged out the Stand Off Bulldogs 6-5.

In the only blow-out of the tournament, Big Rock, a team made up of Lethbridge college and university students, defeated a team from Peigan 9-3.

By 9 a.m. the next morning, Stand Off's Cree

Coulee waited patiently for the rest of the Laverne team to show up. By 9:30 Cree Coulee had won by default.

The next game on the schedule was the final "A" side showdown.

Organizers for the tournament were pleased with the turnout, averaging 175 people per day. The organizers charged \$3 for

adult admission, \$2 for students and \$1 for children.

Once the \$200 entry fee had been collected from each team the organizers paid out cash - \$600 for first and \$400 for second.

Winning individuals honors were Rusty Wells, most valuable player; Campbell Eaglechild, sportsmanship; Clarence Blackwater Jr., top scorer;

Shawn Yellow Old Woman, Mr. Hustle.

Allstar awards went to Tom Redcrow, best center; Boddy Shade, left wing; Rudy Heavy Shields, right wing; Tom Dixon, right defence; Gilbert Weaselfat Jr., left defence and Bill Rabbit, best goalie.

Officiating the tourney was Randy Mills and Lloyd Many Fingers.

Edmonton Spirits big winners at volleyball tournament

By Kim McLain

Things were working like a dream for an Alberta ladies' volleyball team at a Saskatchewan tournament last Jan. 29-30 weekend - but for an Alberta men's team, it was like a nightmare.

"They provide good competition - good teams," said Barry Opekow, organizer for the Meadow Lake, Sask., men's and ladies' volleyball tourney. "The games were long and interesting to watch."

The Edmonton Spirits got a lot attention; they were the ladies team that emerged over six other teams, all from Saskatchewan.

Naturally, the Spirits were happy with the \$700 first prize, but the thrill of victory was heightened because they defeated the

Saskatchewan provincial champions, the Saskatoon Classics, in the final matchup. The Classics won \$400 for their efforts. Placing third were the Ile a La Crosse Chicks winning \$300. Defeated early were two teams from Meadow Lake, Prince Albert and North Battleford.

Winning the most valuable player award was Edmonton's Darla Ferguson. Best spiker went to Elaine La Freniere of the Classics, best setter went to Connie Badger of the Spirits and most sportsmanlike player was Donna La Freniere of the Classics.

Allstars chosen from the final showdown were: Classic Sandy La Freniere, Classic Elaine La Freniere, Classic Donna La Freniere, Spirit Darla Ferguson, Spirit Connie Badger and

Doreen Cardinal, also of the Spirits.

The Spirits' last Alberta win was at Hobbema, when they won the ladies' provincials. This weekend the Spirits will try for their third win in a row at Edmonton's friendship centre tournament.

On the men's side, things didn't work out so well in Alberta.

"It was terrible," said Wilson Faithful, coach of the Frog Lake Bounty Hunters. Faithful said they were disadvantaged by the height of the Saskatchewan teams plus their speed and intricate spiking plays.

"But we're not going to give up," said Faithful. "We're going to work on those Saskatchewan teams."

Although the Bounty Hunters won the last all-



THE 1988 CHAMPION SPIRITS - (L to R) coach Delbert Wapass, Tracey Poitras, Stephanie Poitras, Darla Ferguson, Alison Poitras, manager Dolphus Dennis, (front row) Doreen Cardinal, Connie Badger and Val Cardinal.

Native provincial title, this was their first time they journeyed over the Alberta-Saskatchewan border.

Winning the men's side were the Saskatchewan Federated College team. The Ile a La Crosse Huskies came second and the

Meadow Lake Sub-Traders were third. Just out of the money were the National Indian Forestry Institute, the host team and the Red Earth Rebs. Other Alberta teams, other than the Bounty Hunters, were the Frog Lake Rustlers and

the Atikameg Drillers. The Bounty Hunters will have a chance to try new plays on the Saskatchewan teams at Regina in two weeks. Robert George, coach of the Edmonton Strikers, says his team will be there too.

COUNSELLOR POSITION WABASCA/DESMARAIS/SANDY LAKE ALBERTA

Classification: Bachelor's degree in a counselling field. Experience in working with adolescents and Native people will be considered an asset.

This individual will, under supervision, counsel clients with thought, emotion, and/or behavioral difficulties.

A primary emphasis will be with the adolescent population. Additional responsibilities include community education, liaison and needs assessments.

Salary: Commensurate with education and experience - Northern living allowance

Further inquiries, letters and resumes may be sent to:

**Peekiskwetan "Let's Talk" Agency
General Delivery
Wabasca, Alberta T0G 2K0**

Closing Date - Feb. 22, 1988

Hay River Dene Band Requires a **BAND MANAGER**

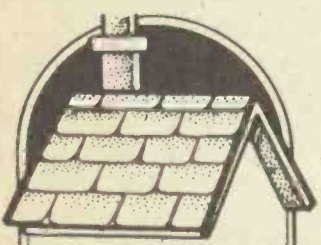
Qualifications: Must possess knowledge of accounting, budgeting, proposal writing and management principles. Ability to speak Slavey would be an asset.

Salary: Will commensurate with experience.

Send resume to:

**Chief Roy Fabian
Hay River Dene Band
P.O. Box 1638
Hay River, N.W.T. X0E 0R0
Telephone: 874-6701**

Deadline for applications February 26, 1988.



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**Happy 13th!
Rhonda
& many more
to come...**

Love Mom & Dad

Sports society challenges youth

By Kim McLain

A successful Indian businessman wants to change the way we think about ourselves — and he's going to do it through sports.

"We're bombarded (with negativity) about Native communities," said Willie Littlechild over the telephone from his Hobbema law office. And to counter that negativity, Littlechild has founded a unique sports group called WIN-Sports; he made WIN-Sports official June 1987 through the Society's Act.

"Shifting attitudes toward a more positive direction is easier through sports... because results can be readily seen," Littlechild explains.

Once a positive and disciplined pattern has been adopted by athletes, they can then apply that same winning procedure to academics, business and their role in the Native community.

Littlechild example

"The best example I can give is myself," says



WINDSPEAKER PHOTO FILE

Ex-NHLer WILLIE LITTLECHILD — Wants Natives to see a positive image in the mirror.

Littlechild. "I've taken that positive mental attitude I used in sports and translated that to academics...then I translated that to business and now I apply it to life."

Evidence of his success began in 1964 when he won the "Best Defenceman of the Year" award. He was 17 then and played college hockey for St. Anthony's in Edmonton. From that day on, the awards have been pouring in. First the sports awards, including ten Athlete of the Year awards

— some local and some Canada wide. Then he extended his achievements to school where he got three university degrees — a bachelor and masters in physical education and a law degree. The province of Alberta recognized Littlechild with achievement awards in excellence while he attended the University of Alberta. But the awards didn't stop after he left school. He's been recognized as the Indian Businessman of the Year

by his peers all across Canada. Littlechild is especially proud of his latest honor — that of being added to the University of Alberta's Sports Wall of Fame "where I hope another Native will someday join me," said Littlechild.

Youth conference

Now Littlechild wants to show Native athletes the psychological secrets to his success. He, along with 23 other "super achievers" will meet with 60 youth delegates

Feb. 16-22 for a seven-day youth conference during the Olympics in Calgary.

WIN-Sports has been planning the conference since last August — ever since the society got the \$328,000 contract for the event from the federal government.

Sports groups meeting

After the youth conference, WIN-Sports invites recreation directors from Alberta Native communities to attend an information meeting March 1 and 2 at Red Deer. The society wants to inform all the recreation directors of the WIN-Sports concept. There will be other sports organizations there, too, like Alberta Parks and Recreation, Alberta Sports Council, Sport Canada, Department of Culture, Alberta Native Hockey Council, WIN-Golf and Indian Affairs.

Right now, these are the only concrete plans the society has, but Littlechild is hopeful that more projects can come to birth at the Red Deer seminar.

Responding to critics

But it hasn't been all roses for the society, there's been some thorns of criticism.

One thing critics have pointed out is that the society's interim board members might not be close to the sports scene pulse in their communities.

Littlechild, who is a board member, doesn't deny that. "We're not just sports directors — we have a wide scope of expertise which is beneficial (to the society)," explains Littlechild.

The society is also being criticized for not coordinating province-wide competi-

tion because WIN-Sports was unable to bring together representatives from the entire province.

Caen Bly, vice-president for WIN-Sports, says the intent of the society "was not to coordinate sports tournaments, like minor hockey, province-wide."

Littlechild adds there's "other organizations that would better benefit" those kinds of activities. "The concept was not really understood and hopefully we'll (critics) sit and talk it out."

Into action

In the meantime, the society has fresh business cards hot off the press and a Hobbema telephone number for any inquiries about the society.

In place is an interim board with Ray Arcand of Alexander as president; Caen Bly of the Blood reserve, vice-president; John Fletcher, secretary-treasurer; Harvey Meguinis of Sarcee; Laverna McMaster of Blackfoot; Vern Spence of Hobbema and Willie Littlechild. But Bly and Fletcher were quick to point out their positions were actually vacant at this time — they said they removed themselves from the board so they could work on the youth conference and will return to the board after the conference is over.

Those who expect only to find body and brawn at WIN-Sports will be surprised that the society is reaching for a development that is deeper — a growth of body plus mind and spirit.

"It's not about just winning," says Littlechild. "It's about a winning attitude over yourself — challenging yourself."

Inquiries about WIN-Sports can be directed to Leona Lafond at 585-4101.

Youth honor Indian leader

By Kim McLain

A youth conference is being dedicated in memory and honor of Ralph Steinhauer, Alberta's first Indian lieutenant-governor, who died last Sept. 19, according to a WIN-Sports official.

"He's being recognized for preserving rights for Indian people," said Caen Bly, adding the conference will bring together 60 youth delegates and 23 resource personalities in Calgary Feb. 16-22 during the Winter Olympics.

In choosing the delegates, WIN-Sports sent out 1,000 applications to Native communities across Canada. They then selected 60 delegates from the 200 applications they got back, basing their choices on the applicant's community involvement, leadership

abilities and academic standings. Eleven of the youths are from Alberta.

Some of the resource people are: Elders Albert Lightning and Wilton Goodstriker; Olympic gold medalists Alwyn Morris and Billy Mills, actresses Margo Kane and Joy Keeper, Mohawk symphony conductor John Kim Bell, champion calf-roper (now a lawyer), Jim Gladstone.

The purpose of the conference is to encourage and assist Native youth to win in life through positive development in mind, body and spirit with workshops like: leadership development, how to give presentations, development of mind, body and spirit, turning professional, feeling comfortable in contemporary society, promotion of athletic abilities and motivation.

The delegates, who don't drink or smoke, will stay at Entheos, a non-denominational retreat 10 miles west of Calgary. Mornings will begin with quiet moments and prayers from the Elders. After that, a daily exercise routine will precede breakfast.

By 9 a.m., the delegates will be in workshops at Calgary's Southland Leisure Centre.

Delegates will also go skiing, attend the Russia versus Czechoslovakia hockey game, perform in a talent night and tour the Olympic venues and sites.

A dedication ceremony for Steinhauer that includes smudging with sweetgrass and passing the peace pipe will be the first item on the conference agenda. The

ceremony will begin at 4:30 p.m. at the retreat residence, Feb. 16.

Then on Feb. 17, at nine in the morning, the conference will be officially opened by Willie Littlechild, founder of WIN-Sports and Ray Arcand, president of the society. Other opening speeches will be given by Jaun Antonio Samaranch, official on the International Olympic Committee and Frank King, chairman of the Calgary Olympic committee.

Officials at WIN-sports are optimistic the conference will shift some attitudes toward a more positive direction.

"Balance through mind, body and spirit," says Caen Bly, is one of the biggest goals at the conference.

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Christian Marriage

By Rev. M. Galvan

February 29 - March 4, 1988

Native Catechesis

By Sister Kateri Mitchell, SSA

Session II - February 1 - 5, 1988

Please inquire (403) 751-3775. Registrations should be sent in a week prior to the date of the course is announced.



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Community

Rich history highlighted

By Mark McCallum

FORT VERMILION — Residents here are celebrating the 200th birthday of their historically rich community with a host of activities that will continue throughout the year.

Fort Vermilion became a service centre and trading post two centuries ago when Charles Boyer of the North West Company built a provisions post called the Old Establishment on the banks of the Peace River. Present day Fort Vermilion

is located 8 km upstream from the site, about 200 km south of the Northwest Territories border.

Today, Fort Vermilion has a population of 1,500 residents. It has a fully-staffed hospital and school, as well as a full range of tourist facilities.

The North West Company (which united with its rival the Hudson's Bay company in 1828), built other posts until the present site was settled in 1830.

Hudson Bay records

show that Boyer planted a garden at the first site which is "how farming began in this area," says bicentennial coordinator Claire Goldsmith.

Goldsmith explains farming is also a large economic resource for Fort Vermilion. Despite its northerly climate, a sample of wheat won top prize at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition in 1876 and in 1908, the federal government established an "experimental farm" in the area.

"We like to say that he (Boyer) is responsible for the trend," adds Goldsmith, noting the community is also largely dependent on the logging and forestry, fur trade and services industries.

Mercy mission

Aviation history was also made in January 1929 when two "bush" pilots made a 500 mile "mercy flight" from Edmonton to the community, delivering medication needed to treat a local diphtheria epidemic.

"Wop" May and Vic Horner left Edmonton in the dead of winter in an

open cockpit aircraft on Jan. 2, flying in temperatures that reached -34 C before their mission was completed four days later. The emergency prompted the federal government to build a telegraph line to Fort Vermilion.

Although Fort Vermilion is celebrating its 200th birthday, Goldsmith says Cree and Dene (which include Beaver and Slave) tribes inhabited the area about 4,000 years before Boyer built his first post. She explains ancient weapons and tools such as arrowheads found in the area "prove that it had an interesting human history that dates back thousands of years."

The tribes befriended early explorers and on July 8, 1899 Treaty 8 was signed in the area.

"Where Alberta began" is the popular slogan used by Fort Vermilion residents to describe its bicentennial celebration. The birthday party began on New Year's Eve with a bicentennial dance.

"Many people attended wearing historical cos-



BICENTENNIAL STAFF — (L to R) Cathrine Buntun, Brenda Romolliva, Claire Goldsmith and Sharon Shelton.

umes," says Goldsmith. Most of the bicentennial activities will take place during February and are being sponsored by the Fort Vermilion District Recreation Board.

Celebration highlights

Some activities planned for the year are as follows:

- Feb. 6, bicentennial queen and Indian princess pageant
- Feb. 9, Olympic torch relay run
- June 17, Chief Harry Chonkoly 50th anniversary as chief of Dene Tha' band
- June Treaty Days
- July 1, bicentennial

fashion show and birthday cake

- July 1 to 3, Fort Vermilion rodeo
- July 8 to 10, High Level rodeo
- July 29 to Aug. 9, bicentennial homecoming "88"
- Aug. 20 & 21, Rocky Lane rodeo
- Aug. 3, La Crete Pioneer Days

- Aug. 27, La Crete agricultural town and country fair
- Dec. 31, New Year's Eve Ball: "Fort Finale"

Call Travel Alberta for events update at 1-800-222-6501 or 427-4321.

Schedule of fun for Ft. Chip birthday bash

Here's a list of events occurring throughout the year in Fort Chipewyan in celebration of their 200th birthday. You won't want to miss the Dog Musers' race in late February or the traditional bush food and games at the picnic on the Victoria Day long weekend.

Feb. 23-26, Dog Musers' Race — From Fort McMurray to Fort Chip - four days and three nights; Historical and traditional use of WBN Park by trappers; Banquet and Dog Musers' Ball.

March 11-13, Roderick Mackenzie Rendez-vous — Winter Carnival (CBC & CBC TV); Annual hockey tournament; Curling tournament; Banquet - old time costumes; PTA Metis Local Old Time Dances; Skidoo Races. Ice Car Races

May 21-22, Victoria Day Long Weekend — Pancake Breakfast; Interpretive Centre Sod Turning Ceremony; Historic Sign Unveiling; Picnic on Monument Hill with traditional bush food and games; Dance

June 17, School Fair — Poster display; Historical Themes and Pageant

June (end), Treaty Days — School awards

July 1-3, Canada Day — Bicentennial Parade; Fishing Derby; Ball Tournament

July 25-31, Homecoming Celebration — Walking and boating tours; Open air Religious Service; Monument Hill Picnic; Banquet, Dance

Aug. 14-20, Canoe Trip — Fort McMurray or Fort Smith

Aug. - Sept., Bicentennial Conference — Edmonton with participation of Fort Chip people and including one day in Fort Chip; Fort Chip Mini-Bicentennial Conference

Sept. 10, Horticultural Fair — Local Exhibits; Alberta Museum Travel Exhibits; WBN Park Exhibits

Dec. 26-31, Closing Celebration — Banquet & Dance

Have you heard...?

EDITOR'S NOTE: Have you heard...? is a new Windspeaker feature designed to include news that doesn't make quite front page, but is just as important because it's news about you, our reader. Each week or so writer Margaret Desjarlais will keep you up-to-date on

the comings and goings of people in Indian Country. If you know of someone who's having a birthday, getting married, planning a reunion, opening a new store or any others news tips, just call Margaret at 455-2700 and she'll make sure everyone hears about it.

Believe it or not! Alberta's first **New Year's baby**



Good News Party Line

Round Dance, Feb. 13, 8 p.m. - 4 a.m., Poundmaker/Nechi. Contact Carl Quinn at 458-1884 for more information.

PUT IT HERE.

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

was born to proud parents, **Norma Janvier** of the Cold Lake First Nations and **David Cocker**. **Cheetreh Chaundelle Lynn** was born 20 seconds past midnight (Jan. 1) at the Cold Lake Regional Hospital. Congratulations to the proud couple!

You all remember **Ivan Morin**, former sports columnist for Windspeaker? (The guy who went to every Oiler game in town during his time with us.) Well, rumor has it that Ivan is now living with a "lucky girl" by the name of **Vona**. Ivan is now working for an Indian news magazine in Saskatoon.

Tantoo, our very own Indian actress, got married to American actor **John Lawlor** in Edmonton Jan. 12 — but no honeymoon cuz John had to work in California and Tantoo is having a bit of a problem getting over the border. U.S. Immigration thinks she's going to work down there. By the way, Tantoo starred in *Loyalties* and a soon-to-be-released movie, *War Party*, filmed in Montana last summer. Tantoo is also expecting March 23.

There's a lady out in the **Caslan** area who makes these top-quality and neat looking bomber-style jackets. I seen a few of



MARGARET

...new gossip columnist

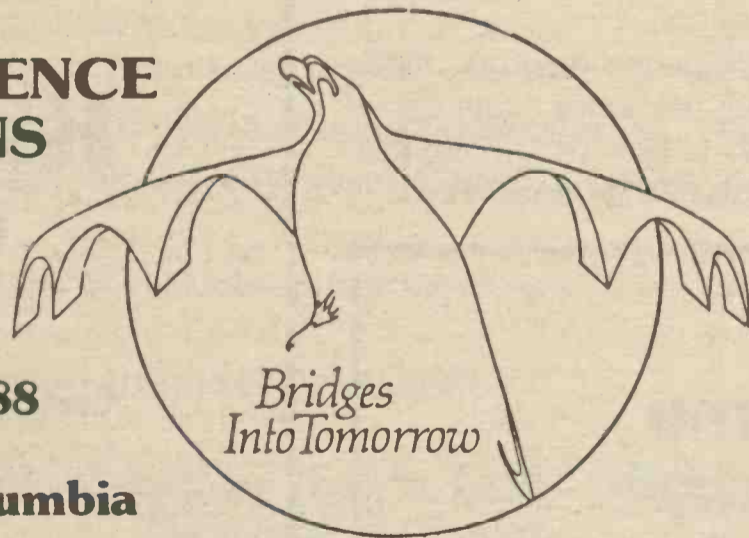
them around and I'm seriously thinking of putting in an order to **Theresa Patenaude** in the near future.

Kinroq, a Native rock group from the Blood reserve, will be celebrating their 10th anniversary (as a band) this year. More on that later — watch for our Feb. 12 issue on profiles and photos of Native entertainers by our very own **Terry Lusty**.

Birthday greetings going out to **Kim John** who will be celebrating his 2nd birthday March 5. Coming from your loving daddy, **Rodney**.

Our sympathy goes out to the **Sawan** family of **East Prairie** (Metis Settlement) who recently lost their father, **Greg Sawan**.

A NATIVE CONFERENCE ON ADDICTIONS



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Vancouver, British Columbia

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Some topics presented will be: Recreation is Wellness, Addictions and AIDS, Adult Children of Alcoholics - Co-Dependency Issues, A community Development Tool - Grieving and Griefwork, Building a Community Support System, Human Sexuality, Chemical Dependency and Native Peoples - A Connection, Nutrition and the Rehabilitation Process, Inhalant/Solvent Abuse - A Multifaceted Approach.

Please join us as we bridge the gaps and build **Bridges Into Tomorrow**, thereby ensuring the restoration and wellness of our proud Nations.

For registration forms and further information contact the:

National Native Association of Treatment Directors

P.O. Box 1882

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

S7K 3S2

(306) 934-1646

Locals open business**New car wash and gas bar impresses northern folk**

By Clara Yellowknee
Community
Correspondent
Wabasca/Desmarais

Hi! My name is Clara Yellowknee and I'll be writing this community events reports from Wabasca/Desmarais. The following are some of the happenings going on in this neck of the woods.

D-R is the name of the new car wash and gas bar that recently opened here, run by **Dennis** and **Jeanie**. It is the first-ever in Wabasca/Desmarais. There is a three-bay car wash and attached to it is a very impressive looking gas

bar. Jeanie informed me that **Mr. Ed Cossowin** helped with the installation of the car wash. It is good to see local people running a business in a Native community. Good luck to both Dennis and Jeanie. They opened for business Jan. 13, 1988.

Harvey Gladue is a young man of 40, born and raised in Wabasca, along with eight sisters and three brothers. He is a family man with five children of his own and three adopted and he's worked for the Hudson's Bay Company for 24 years.

Harvey started with the Hudson's Bay store at the age of 17 as a clerk on Jan. 28, 1963. He worked at the

Wabasca Bay store for 14 years. He then took a year off to take a basic management course in Grouard. Upon completion of the course he returned to Wabasca in July 1978. He was then transferred to Fox Lake on August, 1979 where he was promoted to manager of the Hudson Bay store. In September 1984 he was transferred to the Desmarais Bay store as manager, where he works at present. Harvey has asked that an honourable mention be given to **Mr. Marien Wolitski**, a former Bay manager, for his encouragement and support when the going got tough.

We in Wabasca are

proud of Harvey as he is the first Native boy in Alberta to make it to the top. Harvey will also be the youngest, if he were to retire on his 25th anniversary next year. His wife, **Irene**, is always beside him offering support. Congratulations Harvey!

Anna Marie Auger turned 80 Jan. 1, 1988. She has lived in Desmarais all her life. She jokingly told me that she has always lived on the reserve; now in her old age she is living off the reserve.

Hats off to **Marie Rose Gladue**, 76, a Metis who has raised 12 of her children plus three grandchildren. She still enjoys doing beadwork.

**DROPPIN IN**

By Mark
McCallum

As a fashion model you can travel far

Wanted: People who want to feel good about themselves.

An accomplished professional model is searching for people to model in a fashion show being put on by the Yellowhead Tribal Council at Edmonton.

Helen Calahasen has until March to organize the fashion show. But she's worried that people from the Native community will not come forward because they don't have enough confidence.

Since Calahasen began modeling for John Casablancas, later free lancing in Europe on her own, she has met "a lot of people who have the potential and face to be a model, but not the confidence or support."

Calahasen says many of these people are from broken homes or families with social problems. "They don't have anyone they can look up to or get support from," she explains, adding she hopes modeling will help build a positive self-image in participants.

"It gives them a chance to travel and earn some spending money," says Calahasen, who is offering modeling courses to hopefuls out of her Edmonton home. If you're interested, call her at 427-2523.

PEACE RIVER: The Sagitawa Friendship Society annual talent show is getting so popular they had to find a bigger place to accommodate larger crowds. Last year, when they held the show, Sagitawa executive director Judy Norstrom says they had to turn away about 100 people because "there just wasn't enough room for everyone." To make room for what they expect to be an even bigger crowd this year, the talent show has been moved to the Al "Boomer" Adair Rec. Centre, which can fit about 300 more people in it than the Sagitawa building. The 6th annual show will be held on Feb. 26.

Norstrom says they also want to show the audience the different drumming styles of the Cree and Slavey tribes in the area. She explains that the Slavey groups usually tune their drums at a higher pitch than the Cree. Other contests that will take place at the event will include jiggling and vocal competitions for people of all ages.

ENOCH: A Valentines Box Social and Dance will be held at the rec centre, Feb. 13. Community relations coordinator Ken Ward explains "it's a social event for young people (12 to 17) where the girls make a lunch that gets bids on it from the guys."

Basket lunches are prepared before the event, but bidders won't know who they'll be dining with until all the bidding is done. The girls will be asked to keep their baskets a secret.

The first-ever sober dance will also be held at the rec centre on Feb. 20. Ward says the dance is an indication that "the reserve is slowly turning away from drinking." Music will be provided by A Taste of Nashville.

A Native awareness workshop on theatre, film and television will be held March 26 and 27 at the reserve. Metis producer and director Gil Cardinal will be one of the instructors at the workshop.

Ward explains the workshop is being held to prepare people for a theatre group that will be starting up later this month. The group will perform productions that will take a look at sensitive issues that the Native community faces. "It's a self-help project. And, hopefully, the performers and audience will get something out of it."

Ward also wanted to remind everyone that they're still offering square dance lessons at the centre every Wednesday evening.

SLAVE LAKE: The Native Friendship Centre will be hosting its first-ever round dance Feb. 20. If all goes well, executive director Lester Willier says they hope to make the traditional event an annual one. A feast will be served to guests at the event and dance groups from as far away as Fort McMurray are expected to perform at the round dance.

On Feb. 17, Willier notes that the centre will also be welcoming guests from as far away as Japan for a cultural dance demonstration which will see dancers from that country and Slave Lake perform traditional numbers. The Slave Lake Aboriginal Dancers, made up of residents from four to 16, will be performing at the "exchange of cultural dance."

Keep smiling and don't forget to drop in next week.

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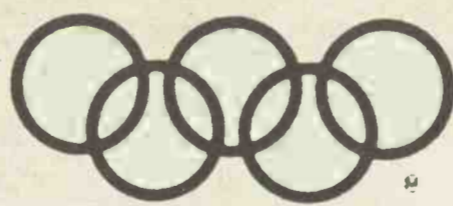
Welcome you to join us for our celebration on the arrival of the Olympic Flame at Howard Buffalo Memorial Centre on February 11, 1988 at 9:21 a.m.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST 7 - 7:30 P.M.

CULTURAL ENTERTAINMENT

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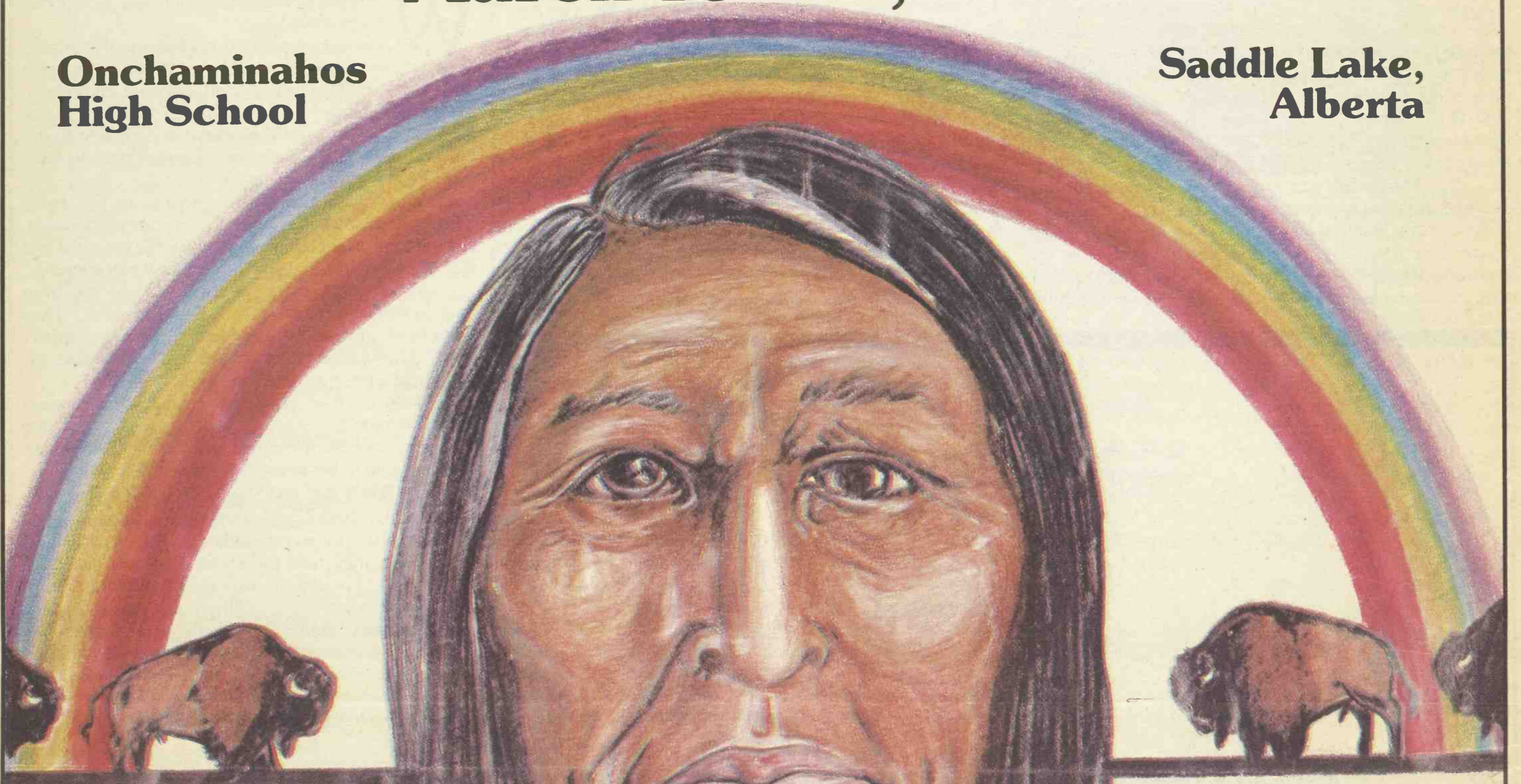
*"They are not dead, who live in the hearts
they leave behind."*

NATIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

March 18 - 19, 1988

**Onchaminahos
High School**

**Saddle Lake,
Alberta**



FRIDAY, MARCH 18

Noon - Pipe Ceremony
1 p.m. - Registration & Welcome from Committee
2 p.m. - Welcome Speech from Eugene Steinhauer, Chief of Saddle Lake
3:30 - Guest Speakers - Address the theme to the people: Winston Wuttunee, Gibbs, Fox, Gordon Tootoosis, Carl Quinn, Robert Gopher
4:30 - Committee member to identify key issues to be addressed in the workshop including: Native awareness, crime prevention, interracial marriages
6 p.m. - Indian Feast - Entertainment by Winston Wuttunee during part of the feast.
7:30 - Group Sessions: Crime Prevention, Native Awareness (values & beliefs), Pride & Dignity, Interracial, Alcohol & Drug Abuse
9 p.m. - **ROUND DANCE**

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

8 a.m. - Pipe Ceremony
9 a.m. - Crime Prevention - Guest Speaker, Ron Fox
10:30 - "NATIVE AWARENESS WORKSHOP" - Guest Speakers: Ron Manywounds, Celeste Tootoosis
Noon - Dinner
1 p.m. - Guest Speaker: Jim Thunder
2 p.m. - Group Sessions
4 p.m. - Winston Wuttunee - Keynote Address
5 p.m. - Banquet & Awards
7 p.m. - **ROUND DANCE** to follow

PURPOSE

Make students aware of what culture really is - Develop "unity" in our youth.

THEME

"From Nowhere to going Somewhere" - Give the youth an idea of what to expect in means of keeping your culture for the future.

ACTIVITIES

Lectures and presentations (groups) - Ceremonies (information from Elders), Sharing and Giving, Round Dance and Feast

ENTERTAINMENT

Winston Wuttunee - Teen Round Dance/Powwow Singers from visiting reserves.

SPEAKERS

Gordon Tootoosis, Celeste Tootoosis, Winston Wuttunee, Ron Manywounds, Jim Thunder

9 p.m. - **ROUND DANCE**

Questions & Issues to be Discussed

- How are We Gonna Keep our Culture
- The Question of Indian Blood
- Self-government in 2000s
- Preservation of the Indian Mentality
- How to Deal with Hatred amongst Indians
- Indian Spirituality
- Development of an Ongoing Youth Organization
- Alcohol & Drug Abuse