

Windspeaker celebrates 5th anniversary this week

Windspeaker

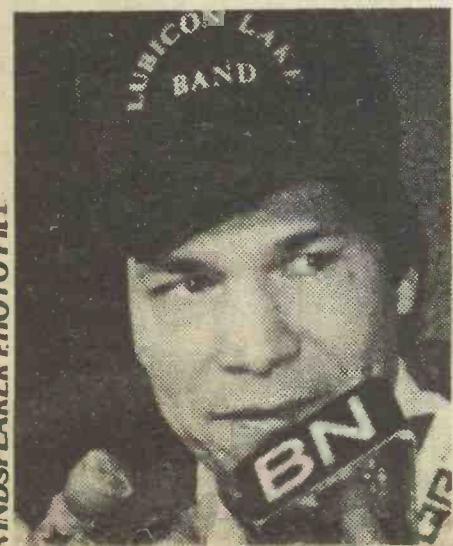
March 11, 1988

Volume 6 No. 1

Getty offers land, Lubicon cautious

By Albert Crier

Following a March 4 meeting in which Alberta Premier Getty offered an interim settlement of 66 square km of reserve land without prejudice to future negotiation for more land,



BERNARD OMINAYAK
...still waiting

the Lubicons have decided to wait for negotiation structure before considering the offer.

Getty also proposed a tribunal mediating process to monitor progress on negotiation talks and to personally encourage the federal government to move forward toward a settlement.

"The community has not considered the interim settlement, they want to see the negotiation structure first. However, they do favor the tribunal system as

suggested by the premier," said Chief Bernard Ominayak.

The Lubicon band wants 235 square km of land for a reserve, based on a present population of 459 members. They also want direct involvement into wildlife and environmental management over 10,000 square km of their traditional hunting area.

The federal and provincial governments have disputed the band figures and recently reached an agreement without Lubicon involvement that would set aside the original size of reserve land promised in 1939.

Getty's tribunal system would allow both the Lubicons and the provincial government to each select their mediator with these two people choosing a third member to form a tribunal.

"The way I understand the premier's offer is that the tribunal would mediate any disagreements between the negotiating parties. But the bottom line is that we have to settle with the federal government before we talk to the provincial government on related matters. The federal government has the sole responsibility to deal with this issue," explained Ominayak.

"We have to keep in mind that this is a proposal that was offered to us after a deal was struck between the federal and provincial governments. We were not involved," he added.

Ominayak was encouraged by the premier's offer to personally intervene with the federal government on the band's claim. "It's sure is a nice change from what we've experienced in the past. I think that the premier can do a lot to encourage improvement of the situation," the chief commented.

Meanwhile, Indian Affairs Minister McKnight suggested on March 9, that the Lubicons should quickly respond to the government's interim settlement offer. He repeated the offer to begin building roads, a school and a health centre after an agreement of the reserve boundaries is reached.



TERRY LUSTY, Windspeaker

GOING TO THE DOGS

Jerry Voyageur (right) of Fort Chipewyan and Sandy Saunderson of Fort St. John send their dogs flying in the crown-drawing six-dog sled race during the Fort McMurray Winter Carnival, March 5.

Though neither one placed in the top three, Voyageur did come second in the four-dog race the next day. He also placed second in the grueling 200 miler in the Fort Chip mushing contest in January.

Grants available for settlements that need power

Metis settlements to get electrified

By Dorothy Schreiber

Metis settlement residents are now eligible to receive grants under a \$14 million rural electrification program (REP), for all Alberta farmers, which will assist in opening up unused land for farm development and provide 100 per cent grants for residential services.

Most settlements contacted by Windspeaker say they are accessing the program to bring power to individual homes.

Paddle Prairie recently received verbal approval for about \$61,000 from the program administered by Alberta Transportation and Utilities for power line expansions to five settlement homes.

"It sure helps us because we're having problems with electricity," says settlement advisor Everett Lambert, adding that two of the homes now receive power from fuel generators.

Kikino settlement is also planning to utilize the program for three settlement members who require power immediately. The

settlement is planning to submit a budget of about \$14,000 before the end of this month, says chairman Floyd Thompson. Although they have not actually utilized the program, he is optimistic.

"I'm sure it's going to be a little bit better. What we were getting in the past was barely sufficient to meet the new housing needs. Last year our budget for powerline extension was only \$8,000. Settlement members have had to build power lines but Thompson hopes that REP will make it financially possible for settlement members to move into unused areas of Kikino.

A spokesman for East Prairie says they will also use the grant to extend power to new homes being built on the settlement.

The sum of \$165,000 has been tentatively approved for electrification projects on four settlements since the January announcement that the REP program would include the Metis settlements.

Fishing Lake, East Prairie, Buffalo Lake (Caslan) and Paddle Prairie submitted requests before the end of this fiscal year and other settlements applying for grants will be considered under next year's budget of \$285,000, explains John Mann, director of the Rural Electric Branch.

Elizabeth chairman Archie Collins says the new budget which will be divided between the settlements and land tenure program is not enough to meet the settlements.

"It's peanuts," he says, explaining that it costs almost \$10,000 per mile to install power lines in rural areas and each settlement needs between five to 15 miles of line extension to provide proper land development.

Mann admits the budget is not enough but points out it is an ongoing program.

"There's quite a pent-up demand," for electrification dollars and "right now the demand of all the settlements far exceeds the dollars. But by them prioritizing and bringing the

benefits to more and more families, eventually they'll be there," he explains.

The REA program will cover 100 per cent of the costs for residential services and will cost share services for farmers.

For example, if a service were to cost \$25,000, the settlement farmer or settlement would be responsible for 25 per cent or \$6,250 and the remainder would be covered by the rural electrification revolving fund, and a grant from the land tenure electrification program.

In the past, settlements received funds from Municipal Affairs for water and sewers, and surplus monies left over from these infrastructure projects was put towards electrification.

Mann says the former method of supplying power to the settlements didn't allow for any kind of planning.

"I think now that there's an ongoing program they can start to make some reasonable planning and start the development of the settlement."

Alexander election approved by gov't

By Dorothy Schreiber

The Alexander band election procedures declared illegal last December have been approved by the federal government.

The band, located 35 km northwest of Edmonton, experienced problems when they moved to custom elections and failed to notify

the government it would be setting up its own rules rather than following regulations governing band elections under the Indian Act.

Last month a ministerial order was issued to remove the band from under the section of the Indian Act governing band elections. With the repeal, the chief and council will be officially recognized by the Depart-

ment of Indian Affairs and elections will now be held under band custom.

Dennis Wallace, regional director general in Alberta said in a news release that the department will continue to work closely with the tribe and encourage it towards self-government.

"The ministerial order allows the tribe to conduct its own elections. I am

confident that the tribe will move towards a more progressive and positive Indian government and that development on the reserve will continue," says Chief Allan Paul in the news release.

Reached by telephone, the Alexander chief declined to comment further.

The chief and council were elected Sept. 11.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK



■ **Old Man Winter** goes into hibernation and lets the sun shine for a spectacular Ft. McMurray Winter Carnival '88. See page 6.



■ **Remembering when...** On this, AMMSA's fifth anniversary, we dust off our first issues and take a look at 1983 headlines. See page 13.



■ **In Brocket,** Renegade Music grabs the lead and holds onto it to win the Treaty 7 "B" basketball playoffs in Brocket. See page 22.

Wabasca people train to be nurses

By Mark McCallum

WABASCA — Nursing assistants are being trained here for Wabasca's first hospital, currently under construction.

Students from the Wabasca area have been training in the 10-month registered nursing assistant program since January. When they complete their training Oct. 14, six of the 10 students now in the program will be stationed at the Wabasca hospital, expected to open next year.

The students are in their third month of training in the joint AVC/CVC (Alberta Vocational Centre/Community Vocational Centre) program. Instructor Alice Taylor notes "all of the students are doing a great job. They're very dedicated."

Taylor says the students are being trained right in Wabasca at the post office. A spare room at the office was converted into a

Wabasca to open 15-bed hospital, will provide complete medical care

WABASCA — A 15-bed hospital being built here will provide residents with complete medical care.

Work on the new hospital, expected to cost \$6.3 million, began last October. So far, construction is on schedule and the facility is expected to be open February 1989, according to budget administrator Cliff Cottingham.

The facility has the potential to accommodate 10 more beds, over the above the originally planned 15, says Cottingham, explaining the expansion may be needed as the community grows. The one-storey complex will feature such medical facilities as an emergency

room, lab and a delivery room.

Cottingham is not certain how many doctors and nurses will be on staff but says enough funds have been set aside in the budget to completely staff the hospital with a full-time core of doctors and nurses. He explains it depends on how many staff members they can attract to Wabasca. "We feel confident that we can attract at least one or two resident doctors," he concludes.

Wabasca currently has a clinic called the St. Martin's health centre, which is open 24 hours a day. But, for serious and long term medical treatment, residents have to travel 130 km southwest to a Slave Lake hospital.

classroom and lab before the intense training program started. "The students are learning class room theory and practising it in the lab — putting splinters and bandages on each other," she explains.

The students are also

rotating from the community to hospitals in Athabasca and Slave Lake where they "take care of real patients." But first, the students have to meet strict guidelines by scoring at least 80 per cent on all written tests and 100 per cent on practical

training tests in the lab before being allowed into a hospital setting.

"We have pretty stiff requirements and expect a lot of the students. But, so far, they're all passing the required tests," says Taylor.

The students will spend

the last month of the program in hospitals of their choice, getting practical experience in patient care. At the completion of the program, the students will be required to take a provincial exam which will decide if they are qualified to be "registered" nursing assistants.

Wabasca-born student Karen Yellowknee is excited about the prospect of working in a hospital. But, she admits that she was nervous at the thought of it, in the beginning. "I was kind of worried that I would make a mistake," explains Yellowknee, noting she overcame her fears thanks to the experience she has received from the program.

Student Lisa Metzner, also of Wabasca, says she has experienced a "personal growth" since joining the program. "I'm finding that I'm more aware of how other people are feeling," she says, "and that's what you need to help other people."

Metis Children's Services pleas for volunteers

By Terry Lusty

Metis Children's Services in Edmonton is recruiting urgently needed volunteers to provide friendship, support and expertise to Metis families.

The statement "we want you" is a plea for help, comments family service worker, John Sinclair. He says the organization is seeking individuals from various walks of life who possess a variety of skills or education.

"The people out there have needs which vary from one person or family

to another. That's why we require volunteers with different skills," he explains, adding volunteers will also act as role models to clients.

Applicants must be 18 years or older, willing to donate three or more hours a week on one or two evenings a week, and perhaps some weekend time as well. As volunteers, says Sinclair, would have to be responsible, committed and able to provide their own transportation to travel to and from people's homes.

During a home visit, a

volunteer may perform a wide range of deeds: helping children with school homework, taking them to a museum or a movie, participating in recreational activities like sports or board games; or simply being around as a friend.

Among adults, a volunteer can extend support by lending an ear and talking about things on a one-to-one basis. Volunteers can suggest other support systems available, like education programs, and accompany their "clients" to the office where they

have to fill out an application.

Volunteers may also give emotional and psychological support, offer guidance in decision-making and problem-solving, as well as help handicapped clients to shop or do general chores.

Although they have set a goal of 50 volunteers by the end of March, the need for additional volunteers will be ongoing. Sinclair wants the public to understand that when you are dealing with that many people, the supply of volunteers can become depleted for many reasons such as illness, job

transfers and family priorities.

Though they come and go, their involvement is critical to operating a service which can meet as many needs as possible for Metis families. Our philosophy, Sinclair points out, is "with all of us contributing, we can and will make this city a better place to live for our Metis people."

Prospective volunteers will be interviewed at length to determine their interests and skills so they can be suitably matched with the needy.

Randolph gave much to his community

By Terry Lusty

Roy Randolph, an Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA) board member, passed away at 65 years of age on March 7.

As a community-minded individual, Randolph had a lengthy history of involvement with Native organizations and helped better their lives. He joined the AMMSA board in 1984 and became the second president of the Aboriginal Radio and Television Society (ARTS) in October 1985. He was also a member of the Fort Vermilion Bicentennial publicity committee and held the Olympic flame, one of his last formal duties, when it travelled through the community in February.

Randolph resided on an acreage on the outskirts of Fort Vermilion. His place became something of a stopping point for travellers and visitors because he and his wife, Helen, were known for their abundant hospitality. Guests were always welcomed warmly to their northern home. It was a region of the province he loved dearly and which was a part of him at all times despite his years of residence in Edmonton.

Born Isadore Rudolph LeFleur Oct. 22, 1922, he attended St. Henry's Mission at the Fort, leaving there in 1935 to strike out for Edmonton. At 17, though under age, he joined the war effort in 1940. To get on the roster he had to tell a white lie and it was then that he changed his

name to Roy Randolph. He was stationed in continental Europe and saw action shortly after the famous D-day invasion on the shores of France, near Cannes in '44 with the Calgary Highlanders. Other countries in which he served included Holland, Belgium and Germany.

In August of '45 he returned to Canada where, one year later, he met his wife whom he married five months later. Edmonton became their home where he spent 26 years with the city fire department, retiring in 1977 as captain. During those years he'd been a member of their championship provincial shuffleboard team. He was also a board member of the department's credit union and built booths for Edmonton's first

burn treatment society telethon.

Before retiring in '77, he had served on the board of the Canadian Native Friendship Centre. He then returned to Fort Vermilion, to the land of his ancestors, where he lived in an old log house while constructing a large, new frame home for his family. When completed about two years ago, it was the fifth such structure he had built for family members.

Besides his loving wife Helen, Randolph is survived by his mother Alice Menz and his stepfather John Menz, as well as three daughters — Rose, Ruth and Patricia; two sons — Allen and Roy; and three foster children — Linda Piche, Dwayne Desjarlais and Gerald Ward. A fourth foster child was the late Joe Desjarlais.



ROY RANDOLPH
...passed away at 65

Clinic bursting at seams with patients

By Mark McCallum

EDMONTON — A medical health centre here is "turning away" patients.

The Boyle-McCauley Health Centre treats about 10,000 patients each year — half of whom are Native people, says health coordinator Sherry McKibben, noting the clinic has been sending patients elsewhere of late. She estimates the clinic turns away about two people a day because it does not have "adequate space to deal with everyone that tries to get help at the clinic."

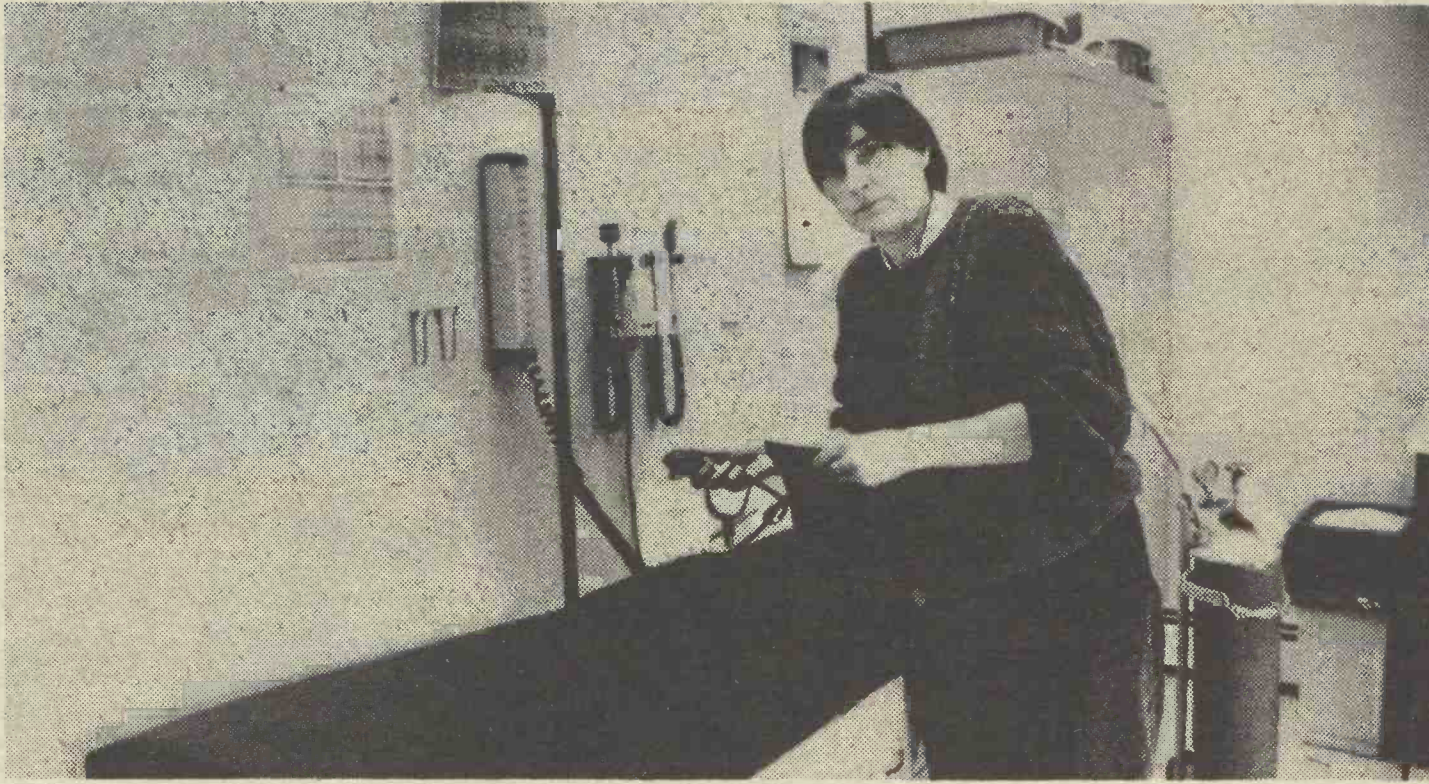
"If we don't expand soon, we'll be overwhelmed," says McKibben, noting plans are being made to build a new clinic in the next year and a half. She noted about \$150,000 has been earmarked for the new facility, which is expected to cost \$500,000.

The clinic is searching for Native people to participate and share their ideas with

the "community-oriented" establishment. McKibben is confident they can raise the money needed to build a new centre but says they need Native representation on the board level, to ensure that everyone has a voice in the direction the centre is taking.

The Alberta Indian Health Care Commission often refers people to the health centre. "It's the only place in Edmonton that will take people who don't have Alberta Health Care coverage," says urban health worker Rose Martial. She noted the centre has expressed interest in having her sit on the board of directors. She turned down the offer because she had other commitments.

The clinic has been operating in Edmonton's inner city core (10604-96 St.) since 1980, treating patients for various physical and mental disorders. When the centre was being built, it was originally



MARK MCCALLUM, Windspeaker

SHERRY McKIBBEN

...displays treatment room in clinic that's short of space

constructed to be an apartment building. To meet the needs of the clinic, changes were later made in the design of the building. There are still three apartment suites on the upper level of the two-story clinic.

The clinic has since outgrown its original purpose. The second story of the building is virtually unusable for medical purposes because it's "hard to get at," explained McKibben, noting the

patients often have poor motoring skills brought on by sickness and self-neglect.

McKibben says they plan to keep the centre in the inner city district within walking distance of the patients. She explained the people the clinic serves are the working poor and other low income residents who can't afford vehicles. By keeping the new centre in the district, she added there's a better chance that

these people will go to the clinic for help.

McKibben added many of the people who come to the clinic have foot problems brought on by neglect and poor footwear. To remedy the problem, the clinic offers a foot care treatment service to patients with such ailments as ingrown toenails, callouses and corns. Nurse practitioners also do home visits for patients who can't make it to the clinic.

The clinic also offers a maternal/child care program, which provides parenting education, weekly check-ups and counselling. A community therapist from Regional Mental Health Services also treats patients with mental disorders at the clinic. And, an AADAC counsellor visits the centre weekly, helping people with substance abuse problems.

The clinic staff are open to new ideas. McKibben noted the clinic was used by a Native healer two years ago to treat patients with psoriasis, a painful skin disease.

The medicine man, Russell Willier, treated patients at the centre over the course of six months. The temporary experimental project set up by the University of Alberta was deemed a success by university researchers.

Despite space problems, McKibben concluded the "bare-bones practice" will remain open until the new facility is built. For more details on the clinic, call 422-7333.

Women's group may restructure

By Lesley Crossingham

The national Native Women's Association of Canada may undergo massive reconstruction if a bid by acting president Jean Gleason gets delegate approval during an upcoming special assembly scheduled for March 18-22

in Ottawa.

The assembly will also see the election of a new president and second vice-president who will each receive a two-year term. Three more executives will be elected at the August '88 assembly.

Gleason says the special assembly is being called to deal with outstanding business left over from the August assembly in New Brunswick which saw Alberta's Donna Weaselchild, a Blackfoot band member, elected national president. Weaselchild later stepped down from office.

"At that assembly we set up sub-committees and had meetings with our Elders who have been making recommendations on the restructuring," says Gleason who adds it is premature to discuss the recommendations before the assembly.

During the five-day assembly the association will conduct a series of workshops on a wide range of subjects, including self-government.

"We will be devoting two and a half days on self-determination and we have invited former Department of Indian Affairs official Walter Rudnicki to speak at the conference."

Gleason says the focus of the conference is to outline and reinforce the role of Aboriginal women in Native society. "One of these roles is our role in helping to construct an Indian charter of rights," she adds.

The five-day conference takes place March 18-22 at the Holiday Inn on Kent Street, Ottawa.

Apartments, hotels to come

Homes built to meet serious shortage

By Mark McCallum

A "critical housing shortage" at zero-vacancy rated Fort Chipewyan is being curbed with the building of new homes for the town's 1,500 residents, says John Rigney, manager of the Fort Chipewyan band.

An official opening ceremony was held at Fort Chip in January to acknowledge the completion of seven new houses built at the townsite with financial assistance from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Athabasca MP Jack Shields, minister responsible for CMHC, said the housing project "is evidence of the federal government's ongoing commitment to provide adequate housing for Canada's Native people."

The new CMHC homes are "a way for people here

to afford better housing at a modest cost," noted Rigney, adding the houses are subsidized with government funds and are rented to residents according to income.

The two and three bedroom units are hooked up to municipal services. The homes, which have a total capital cost of \$557,203, are located in the townsite and three are designed for the use of seniors.

Rigney explained the housing shortage started in the early '70s after the WAC Bennett Dam was closed down in 1968. This caused the world's largest delta to dry up and destroyed the livelihoods of trappers in the area. The Peace/Athabasca Delta, which covers about 3,000 sq. miles, provided the perfect breeding ground for muskrats. Trappers hunted the muskrats for its pelt

which provided a "basis of living" for trappers. When the dam shut down "it virtually eliminated all of the muskrat trapping."

Some 1,000 people relocated north to Fort Chip, where about 200 new homes were built to meet demand. Rigney says the community was financially overwhelmed by the flood of new residents. Mass housing projects were conducted but Rigney pointed out the houses were "not designed to last a lifetime," leaving Fort Chip faced with the task of replacing and building better homes for the residents.

Rigney explained the houses built at that time were "simple and cheap" and cost about \$10,000 a unit. But, he says the new homes are more sturdy, costing between \$50,000 and \$80,000 a unit. Both the

Chip and Cree bands in the area are building new homes every year. The Chip band builds about three homes a year and the Cree band has been building an average of 10 houses a year.

Rigney says the condition of the old houses at Fort Chip are liveable but crowded. He estimates that about 30 to 40 young couples, some with children, live at home with their parents.

Rigney also noted in the townsite there are no apartments or hotels. But, he predicted, the community will see such accommodations in the next 10 years. By that time, there should be a major road leading into the community, which currently only has a winter road and is isolated by a few rivers that surround Fort Chip.

Lubicon band sues

The Lubicon band is suing McKnight for failing to order an environmental study on the proposed Daishowa pulp mill.

The Japanese forest products company was given government approval and financial assistance to begin a \$500 million pulp mill operation which involves cutting down trees on land claimed by the Lubicon band.

The band charges McKnight's trust responsibility as Indian Affairs minister conflicts with his duties as minister in charge of Western Economic Diversification. The band, in a letter to the prime minister, has also called for the federal minister's resignation.

Lubicon Chief Bernard Ominayak met last week with a senior Daishowa official who was sympathetic with the band's situation.

"Daishowa appears to want to be a good corporate citizen...we were able to hear each others concerns," Ominayak is quoted as saying in an Edmonton Journal report.

Gladue runs 'business of the year'

By Andrew Stuckey

LAC LA BICHE — Businessman Archie Gladue was in Edmonton Feb. 11 to receive an award from Alberta Indian Investment Corporation for operating the Indian Business of the Year.

Gladue, who owns Lasso Contracting with Terry Hanlon, received the Honourable Ralph Steinhauer Award for his business.

Gladue has been with Lasso Contracting since its inception nine years ago. The company contracts in the construction and oil



ARCHIE GLADUE

...business smarts win him title

industries. About 50 per cent of his work comes from Indian reserves and communities in northern

Alberta. "They are a major part of our success," he says.

The Alberta Indian

Investment Corporation is an offshoot of the Indian Equity Foundation and is the latest organization to be opened in an evolution of Alberta Indian economic development organizations.

Its primary function is to provide loans to Indian businesses in Alberta considered viable and, in some cases, to invest in new and existing businesses.

The Honourable Ralph Steinhauer Award is presented in memory of the former Alberta Lieutenant Governor, the first Native to hold such a position in Canada.

Syllabic typewriter sought

Dear Editor:

After reading a few issues of the Windspeaker, my interest in Joe Redcrow's Cree syllabic section has heightened to the point where I would like to request of you, the availability of a Cree syllabic typewriter.

Upon looking at a few issues of your Cree syllabic writing I am now reassured that there exists a typewriter of that nature. Although I have been informed orally and in the written form that such a typewriter does not exist.

Your attention and reply on the above request would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Peter Bughins
Fort Chipewyan

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joe's typewriter is a rare piece of machinery; there may be another such typewriter lurking around. Joe's looking into it and will get back to you.

Opinion

Poem presents other side

Dear Editor:

I am sending a poem to your paper in hopes that you can print it somewhere in the Windspeaker.

After I read the Feb. 19, 1988 issue Vol. 5 No. 50 - page 7 about the young person who wrote a letter to Robbi LaFrance, I wrote this poem. It does sort of fit in somehow about how we as parents and our youth cry out in different ways for communication with one another. It is a two-sided situation but there has to be a medium somewhere. Anyway, I think my poem says it quite well. Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,
Denise Calliou
High Prairie

A PARENTAL PLEA

You say we don't listen,
You say we don't understand,
We say you don't listen,
We say you don't understand.

There is a lot of confusion
Between you and I,
Perhaps we both only listen
Partially, that we can't deny!

Understanding is hard to do,
But if you wish to chat
About things that bother you,
Come, and do just that!

It's true that we parents compare
To our own experience and past,
But it's only because so much we care
And we want our caring to last!

You say we are unfair,
But if you only knew
How much we really care
What will become of you!

So let's try to listen and understand
Our differences and expectations,
It isn't such a great demand,
The reward can be jubilation!

Windspeaker proudly presents our 1988 poster, now available to readers.

If you'd like one, take advantage of our special offer. With a purchase of a yearly subscription to Windspeaker, you will receive a **free poster**. There's no better way to keep on top of who's who and what's going on in Alberta's Native community than to have Windspeaker delivered to your door or mailbox.

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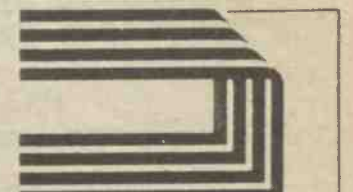
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Fort McMurray extravaganza

Wabasca/Desmarais team takes coveted crowns

By Terry Lusty

This year, the Gods were kind. On the March 5 and 6 weekend Fort McMurray held one of its most successful winter carnivals in years thanks largely to the elements of nature.

Full co-operation by old man winter was a welcome treat to the hundreds of avid enthusiasts who turned up at the Syne (River) where the event is celebrated each year.

The three days of activity fell into three basic categories of competition: the prestigious 12-event King and Queen of the North contest, the traditional and fast-paced dog sled races and broomball.

There was a lot of local hype, something winter carnivals generate and certain names and faces become well known. One is



KATIE SANDERSON
...first queen in '64

that of 75-year-old Katie Sanderson, who in 1964, became the first Queen of the North, a title vigorously contested these days.

Sanderson held the title for several consecutive years and last won it in 1985 when she retired. She was then a spry and youthful 72 years of age.

This year's carnival proved a banner year for



MOOSE CALLERS — Matthew Beaver of Wabasca and Hobbema's Red McDonald take in the three-day event. While Matthew is hanging on to a real moose calling funnel, Red only needs his hands to make the mating-call.



man-woman teams from Wabasca-Desmarais which, in the end, captured the coveted King and Queen of the North crowns with 67 points, seven more than their runner-ups. Lenore Mulawka of Anzac and Robert Pew of McMurray, with 60 points; third place went to 1986 king and queen, locals Albert Peters and Annie Auger of Wabasca with 55 points.

Unfortunately, the sportsmanship of the competitions was marred by one contestant who criticized the opinion of the judges (many of them Elders) when it was announced she had placed fifth in the moosecalling event.

This year's carnival was kicked off Friday March 4 at the Nistawoyou Friendship Centre which hosted a brief powwow, and a few initial king-queen contests such as best northern dress, squirrel skinning and jigging. Music for the evening was provided by



BERTHA AUGER and JUDGE
...shoots for title and wins.

Don Gladue and set the tone to instill an atmosphere of festivity.

The broomball on ice was contested by 10 teams with the local Nighthawks beating out the Oilpatch Kids.

The only remaining events of any real consequence were those involving dogs — pulling dogs and racing dogs.

This was the second year the carnival hosted the Canadian National Weight Pull. The dogs pulled a 160 pound sled with additional weight, a distance of 16 feet. First, second and

third places of the two lowest weight divisions were monopolized by just two dog owners, Dave Larson and Tary Runde of Montana. To the enjoyment of spectators, a novelty exhibition of pulling by people's pet dogs proved entertaining. The dog sled races drew contestants from Alaska, the Yukon and N.W.T., B.C., Idaho, Montana, etc. Fifty-six teams involving over 350 dogs contested categories that attracted world class competitors, Ed Streeper who leads the ISDRA (International Sled Dog Racing Association) point standings and Amy

Lesmeister who ranks third.

Streeper, from Fort Nelson, is the reigning world champ and the 1985 Canadian, North American and world champ. He was beaten by one of the few female entries, Dorothy Arthur of Idaho, who won the two 8-mile runs in a total of 55:38:00 minutes. Prize money for the top three was \$800, \$600 and \$350. Streeper won the ten dog, 12-mile run beating his brother Terry and Prince Albert's Robert Peebles. Prize money was \$1,200, \$900 and \$500. The four dog, 4-mile race was also won by a female musher, Amy Lesmeister of Fort Nelson. She beat out Jerry Voyageur of Fort Chip by a narrow half-minute. Voyageur ran second to Ernie Campbell of Fort Smith in the Fort Chip 200 mile mushing contest back in January. Prize money in the 4-mile was \$600, \$450 and \$300.

Carnivals continue throughout the province, with the Fort Vermilion extravaganza planned for March 18-20.

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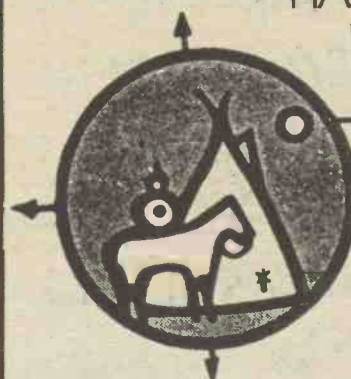
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DROPPIN IN

By Mark
McCallum

Although Windspeaker is celebrating its fifth anniversary this month, this Droppin' In column won't be turning five until October. It was started by former Windspeaker reporter, Rocky Woodward, and intended to present news and little known facts from communities throughout the province.

That hasn't changed. Of course, there's a new face and name above this column, but the intent is still the same.

One significant thing that has changed, though, is the name of this product we now call Windspeaker...

It was right around the time Windspeaker was turning three years old. In fact, Windspeaker wasn't Windspeaker, it was called AMMSA, a short term for the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta. But, the newspaper was simply called AMMSA. I recall seeing the paper then and its name proudly inscribed in bold print on the front page. I pondered it for a short moment, trying to figure out just what the word meant.

I finally came to a conclusion and was even a little proud of my smarts at solving the riddling word. It's an Indian word, I thought. And, I wagered I even knew its meaning. It's a word for something clever like "birch bark that speaks."

With 12 major Native languages in Canada, I thought, how could I go wrong? Well, as you already know, what little Cree that I do know and my great sense of deduction were not enough to unravel the mystery.

On March 14, 1986, the first newspaper with the name Windspeaker rolled off the press. AMMSA has now become the name of the society, of which Windspeaker, The Native Perspective radio show and the Native Nashville North television program are all a part of.

Windspeaker, or AMMSA if you like, turns five years old on March 16 this year.

HIGH PRAIRIE: A volunteer appreciation night was held at the Native Friendship Centre March 5, to honor some of the dedicated people that make the centre work. This year's volunteer of the year was Nora Anderson.

Anderson was honored with a plaque, a wall hanging and a dozen peach colored roses for the time and effort she puts in at a lot of the centre's bingos and other programs.

"She's just an all around great gal," notes Loraine Duguay, the centre's assistant director. Duguay adds that the outstanding volunteer is a "very cheerful" person to be around.

The centre also held a mortgage burning ceremony on the same night. It's now completely paid off. Facilities at the centre that are open to the community include a fitness room, hall, lounge and arts and crafts store.

Duguay also wanted everyone to know that a family violence workshop will be held at the Catholic Church Hall on March 15 and 16. She says it will focus around

Does AMMSA mean birch bark that speaks?

the alternatives open to battered women. Guest speakers at the workshop will include Mike Crawford, the director of the institute for the prevention of family violence in Edmonton, and Mona O'Keefe, of Odyssey House, a centre for abused women in need at Grande Prairie. RCMP guest speakers will also be on hand.

FORT CHIP: Congratulations! It seems good things are happening at the Fort Chipewyan band of late — thanks to Chief Pat Marcel. The chief is encouraging sobriety with traditional activities such as an upcoming potluck feast. You're not alone, Mr. Marcel, Fort Chip's Joanne Mercredi sends her best to you. Keep up the good work!

SUNCHILD/O'CHIESE: Another note of encouragement goes out this week to the Sunchild and O'Chiese bands. They will be hosting a health roundup at the local school March 15. The theme of the event is "Taking charge of your own health." The roundup will have a lot of colorful displays set up by guests such as Nechi Poundmaker, the Heart Foundation and Red Cross, to name only a few of the 15 groups expected to the event. Good luck with your conference!

EDMONTON: Gordon Russell, the recreation director at the Canadian Native Friendship Centre, wanted to remind everyone that the centre is still serving up lunch between 11:30 and 1:30 every Thursday afternoon. The lunches normally include soup, salad, bannock and 12 oz T-bone steaks "cooked just the way you want them."

WABASCA: Resident Alice Taylor, an instructor for a nursing assistant training program now running in Wabasca, would like to send out a big thank you to everyone in the community who helped the program get off the ground. It seems local groups which include the St. Martins Health Centre, Opportunity Corp and the Family Community Services program at Wabasca have been giving the nursing assistant program a helping hand. She also credited other groups, including the Athabasca Health Unit Clinic, which supplied much of the medical equipment for the program, the local AVC/CVC training centres and hospitals in Slave Lake and Athabasca for helping the training program come this far (see story page 2).

Have a great week!

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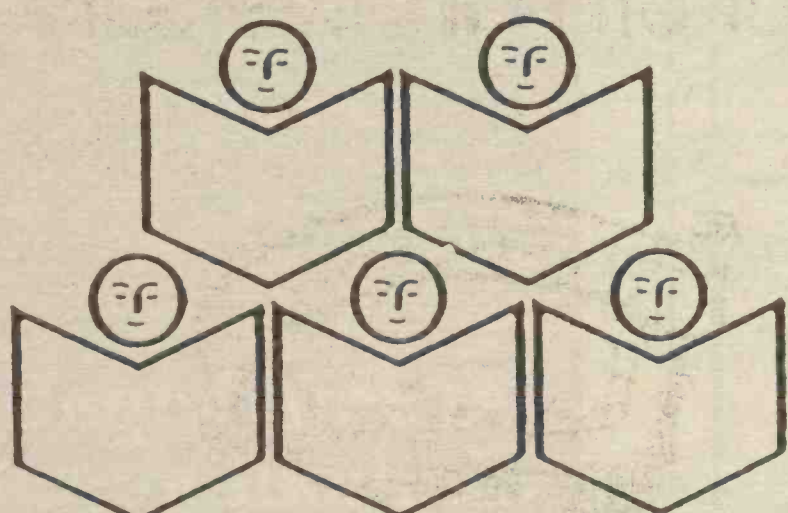
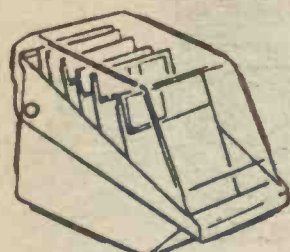
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Positive outlook for future

By Mark McCallum

SMITH — A Native education counsellor here believes a new generation of Native people is going to shape a more positive life for their children.

Jacqueline Cardinal explains: "I think what we will see in the near future is a large group of well-educated Native people coming out of school that will help make some positive changes."

Cardinal is a Native education counsellor at a

school in Smith, located about 90 km north of Athabasca. In her job, she encourages Native students to set their goals high and stay in school. She is proud to note that the attendance among Native students at the school is steadily increasing.

Aside from counselling the students, Cardinal says she uses workshops that stress cultural identity and career development and planning to reach the Grade 1 to 9 students that attend the Smith school.

She notes that a group of Grade 7 to 9 students from the school is planning to attend an "All-Native Career Fair" in High Prairie March 24, to hear guest speakers and see displays.

Cardinal says one of the biggest barriers Native students have to knock down is stereotypes. "A lot of times students come to me complaining about racism, but I tell them not to quit because we can change that by proving ourselves," she explains.

Youth to discuss nuclear age concerns at Slave Lake meet

SLAVE LAKE — Today's youth face an uncertain future. The threat of nuclear war has become a part of their lives. How does this affect their attitudes and behaviors?

Nuclear Age Concerns is just one of the topics to be covered at the Conference on Youth in Slave Lake, April 21 and 22.

Christopher Lewis will present information on the nuclear age and how it affects our youth. As a doctoral student in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Alberta, Lewis has been involved in the Canadian Children's Concerns About the Future Survey. Survey workers interviewed 8,000 children nationally about their thoughts and concerns on issues of unemployment, job career planning and the nuclear threat.

Join us for an exciting and informative conference. Let's open the way for communication by informing ourselves of the problems and concerns our youth face today.

Contact Student Services at 849-7140 for more information or write to: Conference on Youth, P.O. Box 1280, Slave Lake, Alberta T0G 2A0.

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Fishing Lake students stage own Olympics

By Diane Parenteau
Community
Correspondent
Fishing Lake

The Fishing Lake Elementary school "shared the flame" of the 1988 Winter Olympics on Wednesday Feb. 24.

The students and staff of the **J.F. Dion school** staged their own version of the Olympics, complete with a torch relay and awards ceremony.

The Olympic flame was carried and lit by grade six **Fergus Brosseau**, signalling the start of the games.

Outside, teams pitted strength and speed against each other in toboggan pulling races. Other individual athletes slid to the finish line in cross-country skiing.

At the same time, within the walls of the school gymnasium, floor hockey teams competed for a top spot in their event.

"Everyone is a winner," said school principal **Ken Klein**. All participating students received ribbons. Throughout the day-long event, techers, support staff and volunteers manned the finish lines, side lines and inside concession booth which offered home-made goodies like cake and cupcakes, with the hotdog proving to be a favorite.

Mandy Laboucane, a floor hockey player, called the mini-olympics "quite a bit of fun." There was no further need to ask. The enjoyment of the kids was glowing in their cheeks and heard in their shrieks of laughter.

By the looks of it, the teachers had fun too.

Best wishes to the newly married couple **Raymond and Hannah** (nee Brend) **Durocher**. They were married on Friday, Feb. 12. Raymond is from Fishing Lake and his bride comes from the community of Marwayne. They have made their home in Elk Point.

Congratulations are going out to **Rudy and Terry Parenteau** who have a brand new baby boy. **Jeremy Ryan** arrived on Monday, Feb. 22, weighing 7 lbs. 1 oz. at the St. Theresa Hospital in St. Paul. Grandparents are **Florence and Oliver Parenteau** from Fishing Lake and Mr. and Mrs. **Lionel Gagne** of St. Paul.

Jessie McGillis is continuing his utilities officer training. This week he was in Ardmore for five days.

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We are happy to support the ongoing importance of Native communications. We anticipate AMMSA will continue to set new standards in Native media this year. We look forward to expanded coverage via radio & TV.



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Band gets federal aid for economic projects

By Joe Steinhauer
Community
Correspondent
Saddle Lake

The Saddle Lake First Nations is once more involved at the highest level of negotiations in Ottawa. In what was regarded as a successful and productive meeting on Feb. 8 in Lloydminster, the Saddle Lake chief and council received firm commitments

from Deputy Prime Minister **Don Mazankowski** and federal Indian Affairs Minister **Bill McKnight** concerning funding support for on-going development of the self-government process and various economic projects. These include a sawmill and a cement batch plant which are already in operation, and a proposed bakery and buffalo farm.

It was at this meeting that the Saddle Lake chief and

council expressed their dissatisfaction of McKnight's policies and his continuing support for his bureaucracy. **Chief Eugene Steinhauer** stated his people will continue to maintain a strong stand against McKnight's devolution policy of termination. McKnight explained the approval and use of self-government monies will not commit Saddle Lake to accept Indian Affairs self-government policy. He also

mentioned that the new leadership in Saddle Lake has already shown a good track record and he is now prepared to visit Saddle Lake at some point this year to review the pace of social and economic development. The Export Development Corporation, an arm of the federal government, is supporting the band to pursue international investments and exports. Also, Saddle Lake is in the process of

embarking in joint ventures with South Korea by setting up a distributing centre, including various projects and investments.

* * *

A Native Youth Development Conference is being held on March 18 to 19 at the Onchaminahos school in Saddle Lake. Guest speakers that have been confirmed are: **Gordon Tootoosis, Celeste Tootoosis** (former Miss Indian World), **Jim Thunder, Ron Many Wounds, Robert Gopher, Carl Quinn** and well-known entertainer **Winston Wuttunee**. Conference organizers **Gloria McGilvery** and **Clifford Cardinal** are expecting a good turnout and if anybody would like more details, feel free to call the Onchaminahos school at **726-3730**.

* * *

The **Blue Quills First Nations College and Blue Quills Post Secondary Students Union** are hosting a Native Awareness Week from March 21-25, 1988. **Darrell Brertton**, the president of the Blue Quills Post Secondary Students Union has stated there is a great need for Native students to be aware of

their own culture. There will be workshops identifying barriers that hinder unity, identifying the indigenous concept of land, as well as various guest speakers. A traditional powwow has been scheduled for March 24 and an Indian Princess Pageant is to be held as well.

* * *

In sports, the **J.D. Blues Classic Invitational** 16-team tournament is being held at the **Moccasin Square Gardens** in Saddle Lake on March 25 - 27, 1988. **Vincent Steinhauer**, the head coach and owner of the **J.D. Blues**, has informed us that they are out of the playoffs in the Centennial League, however it was an excellent season and the team has established itself as the team to contend with in the future.

* * *

It sure has been busy in Saddle Lake lately, and congratulations going out to **Terry and Sandra Cardinal** on the birth of their baby girl, **Kayla Shannon**, on Valentine's Day. Well, that's about it for this month and remember, never play leapfrog with a unicorn. See you next month.

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Youth against impaired driving

PADDLE PRAIRIE — "Thinking before drinking" is the theme of Paddle Prairie's youth against impaired driving project.

Scheduled for Saturday, March 19, the Paddle Prairie Family Community Support Services advisory committee will stage a full day of activity devoted to drawing awareness towards drinking and driving.

Thanks to a grant provided under Health and Welfare Canada, Paddle Prairie is pleased to welcome well-known Native entertainer **Winston Wuttunee** back to their community. During an afternoon concert, Wuttunee will use his music and storytelling skills to enhance the message of the harmful

effects of alcohol to his listeners.

During the morning, kids will have a chance to view films, talk with individuals such as RCMP officers, the local magistrate, AADAC workers and Native Counselling Services workers during a morning workshop. The participants will also have an opportunity to test the seat belt "convincer" which will be on hand for those who dare.

The evening will wrap up with a special teen dance featuring dance contests, prizes and a whole lot of fun. All events are drug and alcohol free, of course.

Everyone is welcome to attend the workshop and concert. The dance will be restricted to youth only.

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Talent show raises money for Conklin youths to travel

By Mark McCallum

Conklin is sending its young people around the province on field trips with money the tiny Metis community raises at annual talent shows each year.

Conklin, located 150 km south of Fort McMurray, held its third annual talent show and dance March 5, to raise money for field trips planned for the school's 58 students this year.

Community health worker Yvonne McCallum says the community came out to support the talent show and just to get a peek at some of the fine entertainment on hand for the event. Conklin raised about \$1,200 through the event.

McCallum explains all of

the proceeds from the door admission, contestant entries and a food concession stand will be going towards trips planned for Edmonton and Fort McMurray later this year. She notes in the past years the children have gone on trips to Jasper and the Expo spectacular in Vancouver in 1986.

The trips usually last about a week and give the "kids a chance to see how people live in other parts of the country," explains McCallum, adding the children participate in activities such as roller skating and skiing on the trips.

Proceeds were also raised through donations from the Conklin recreation board and the local

volunteer fire department. Syncrude also donated 18 trophies awarded to the winners at the show.

Fort McMurray's Ronnie "Guitar" Quintal took first place in the adults vocal entertainer contest while Conklin's own Amy Pruden finished in the top spot in the youth category.

Russell Quintal, of Conklin, used some fancy steps to win the adult's jiggling contest and seven-year-old Terri Ann Boche from Lac La Biche won the youth portion of the contest.

The instrument contest was won by fiddle player George "Chuck" Berland. It's the third time in a row the Lac La Biche entertainer has taken the title, giving Berland the "top dog"

honor every year since the show began.

McCallum sent out a big thank you to special guest MC Ray Fox and judge member Russell Whitford, who are both disc jockeys for the Alberta radio show, The Native Perspective. She also sent out a special thank you to school teachers Jim and Susan Moore, who helped get the talent show off the ground. The couple will be leaving Conklin at the end of the school year.

McCallum says the talent show has become a tradition and adds that they plan to host the entertaining event about the same time again next year at Conklin, located 151 km south of Fort McMurray.

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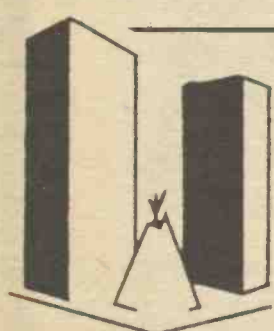
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a very happy
5th anniversary and
best wishes from the
chief, council and staff



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- All games are 10 ends -
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RULES FOR PARTICIPANTS

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2. Reinstated.
3. Metis Status.
4. Must be resident of province one year.
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Hosted by Hobbema Curling Club



Remembering when...the stories of 1983

Time marches on and as the newspapers roll off the presses they reflect the progress, or lack of it, of Native issues. Here's a sample of the headline stories featured in the first editions of Windspeaker (then known as AMMSA) back in 1983.

Communications vehicle incorporated — March 18, 1983 issue

A new dawn in Native communications in Alberta begins. The Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA) is incorporated under Alberta's Society's Act — its primary objective to provide a link between Native Albertans. It will endeavor to link the grassroots people from northern Alberta to mainstream society. AMMSA will also establish an outreach communications program to assist northern and central communities to establish efficient communications network, a must in today's modern world.

Stan Daniels, a people's man, passes away — March 18, 1983 issue

Mr. Daniels, a self-educated individual, was a realist who saw and experienced the struggles of the Indian and Metis people. He passed away on Jan. 27, 1983.

He devoted his time and energy to develop principles for various Native organizations in Alberta and dedicated his life to the goal of self-sufficiency for Native people.

The 10-year president of the Metis Association of Alberta was an individual who had the Metis interests at heart; he was a fighter for Metis rights; he was an antagonist and a controversialist toward the government.

He once said, "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."

Oil companies face a court injunction — April 22, 1983 issue

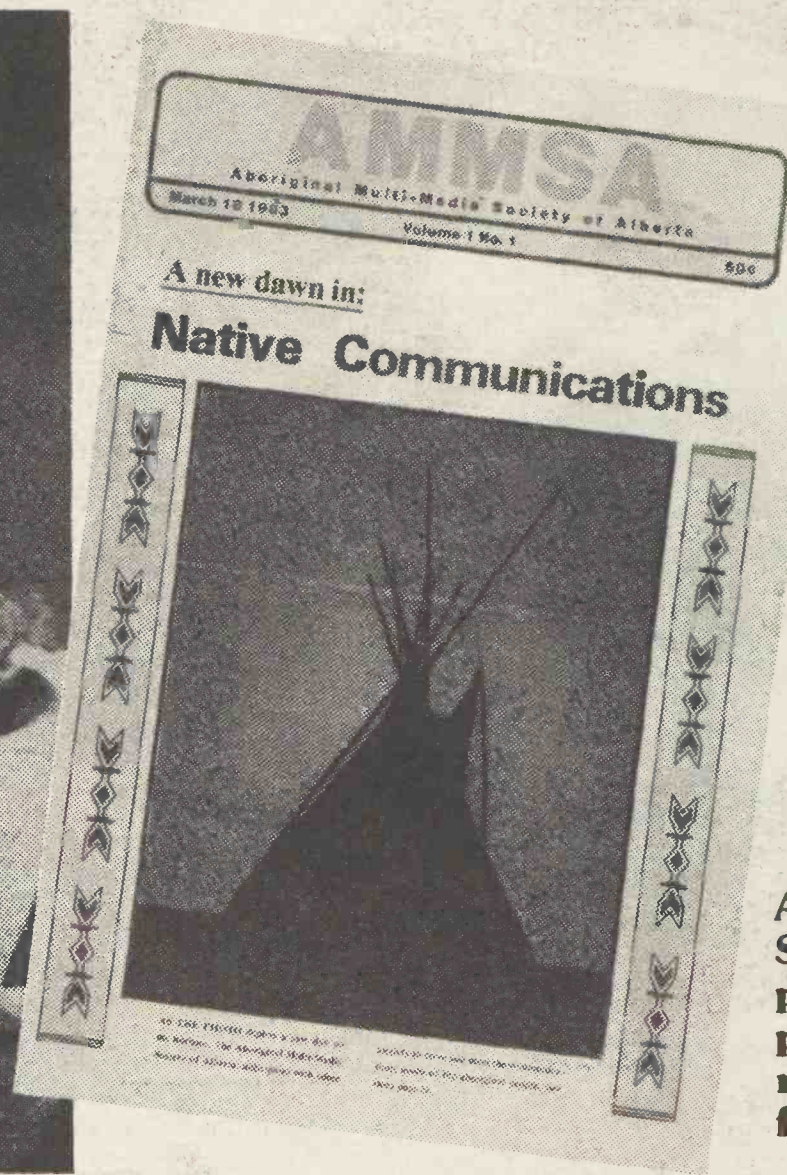
The Lubicon Lake band places a court injunction against oil companies sinking wells on their claimed land.

A hearing for the injunction is set for Sept. 26, which if successful, will stop the companies from further

AMMSA records the losses and gains



WINDSPEAKER PHOTO FILE



At left respected Stan Daniels presents position paper and, at right, AMMSA's first newspaper.

exploration until the courts make a ruling on the lawsuit the band has laid, claiming Aboriginal rights to the 11,944 square miles of territory "were never legally surrendered, but instead have been recognized and affirmed by the constant usage, practice and policy of the crown."

Lougheed addresses conference — March 18, 1983 issue

The first ministers conference occurs in March, under the terms of section 37 of the Constitution Act, 1982, and

government leaders agree on a constitutional accord calling for further conferences before April 1987, participation of Aboriginal representatives at these conferences, an equal guarantee in the constitution of existing Aboriginal and treaty rights to males and females and recognition and affirmation of rights acquired through both existing and future land claims settlements as treaty rights.

In general, Alberta's Premier Lougheed recognizes the

Continued on Page 16

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future endeavours.



Meet the people who bring

Bert (Luke Warm Water) Crowfoot



Position: General Manager
Age: 34
Born: Gleichen, Alberta
Pastimes: Coaching, judo, photography & sports
Favorite Movie: The Champ
Favorite Book: Sports Illustration
Pet Peeve: Welfare mentality
Heroes/heroines: John Wooden, Jack Donahue, Al McGuire
Motto: "Winners never quit and quitters never win"
Goal: To own my own business
How I would spend a million dollars: Invest in real estate

Carol Russ



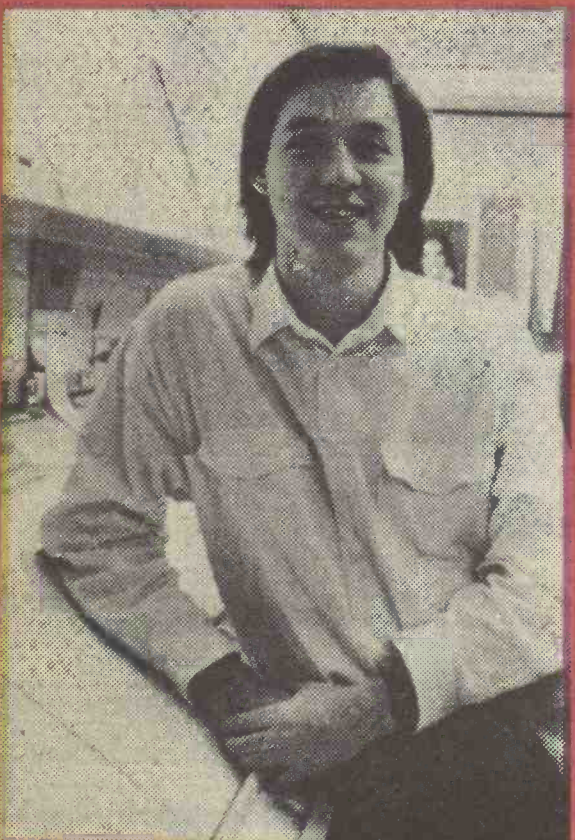
Position: Director of Finance & Marketing
Age: Privileged information
Born: Bienfait, Sask.
Pastimes: Family, sports and reading
Favorite Movie: White Christmas
Favorite Book: All of Robert Ludlum's
Pet Peeve: Waiting in line at the bank
Motto: "Take time to smell the flowers"
Goal: Be Happy! Drive a Porche
How I would spend a million dollars: Buy my Porche

Colleen Agecoutay



Position: Executive Assistant
Age: 30
Born: Virden, Manitoba
Pastimes: Family and church activities
Favorite Movie: Annie Hall
Favorite Book: Sacajawea
Pet Peeve: Anyone who says, "It's not my department."
Heroes/heroines: My wonderful husband
Motto: "What's really important"
Goal: Masters of Psychology and own business
How I would spend a million dollars: Buy a large home and farm and raise family. Provide a farm and support for youths in conflict situations and social re-entry for ex-cons. Contribute to church.

Kim McLain

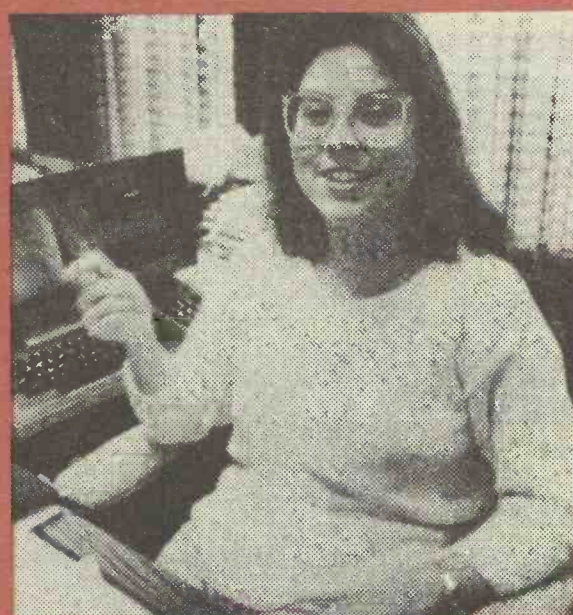


Position: Layout & Design/Sports Roundup writer
Age: Twenty something
Born: Feet first and one week late
Pastimes: Art, music, biking & procrastination
Favorite Movie: Movies directed by Zeffereilli & Spielberg
Favorite Book: Books written by Heinlien, Tolstoy, Niven, Vonnegut
Pet Peeve: Standing in line-ups, doing dishes, being broke
Heroes/heroines: Van Gogh, St. Francis, George Jetson & Vicki Smith
Motto: "Let go and let God"
Goal: Discover the meaning of life or visit Disneyworld
How I would spend a million dollars: A house in the mountains designed by Doug Cardinal, helicopter and worldwide travel

So, what does it take to put out a weekly newspaper and operate a communications society? Well, it takes lot of committed people, a lot of work, and you — our reader, to provide us with information for our news stories and features.

The staff you'll meet on this page are part of a larger group of people who make up the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta. There are also six committed board members: president Fred Didzena, vice-president Noel

Dianne Meili



Position: Editor
Age: 30 going on 60
Born: Near my mother
Pastimes: Pottery, reading
Favorite Movie: Name of the Rose
Favorite Book: Seven Arrows
Pet Peeve: I sold it, now I have a pet cat
Heroes/heroines: Tantoo Cardinal
Motto: "Climb every mountain, ford every stream, 'til you find your dream"
Goal: To write a bestseller
How I would spend a million dollars: Build a retreat in the mountains; produce Native movies

Margaret Desjarlais



Position: Production Assistant
Age: 30+
Born: Boondocks
Pastimes: Reading, sports & bingo
Favorite Movie: Ben Hur
Favorite Book: On the Beach, Life with Billy
Pet Peeve: Greed
Motto: "Set your goals high and soar like an eagle"
Goal: To eventually become my own boss
How I would spend a million dollars: Share it with family, travel and go on a shopping spree for a week.

Irene Willier



Position: Secretary/Receptionist
Age: Internationally legal
Born: Northern Alberta
Pastimes: TV viewing, dancing, "men watching," singing and listening to all types of music
Favorite Movie: Thornbirds, Top Gun & Officer and a Gentleman
Favorite Book: Thornbirds, White Indian, Outsiders
Pet Peeve: Hypocrites
Heroes/heroines: Father Jacque Johnson, Bernard Ominayak
Motto: "I mind my own business"
Goal: One of them is to nab a man
How I would spend a million dollars: Fast, real-I-I fast

Larry Erutse



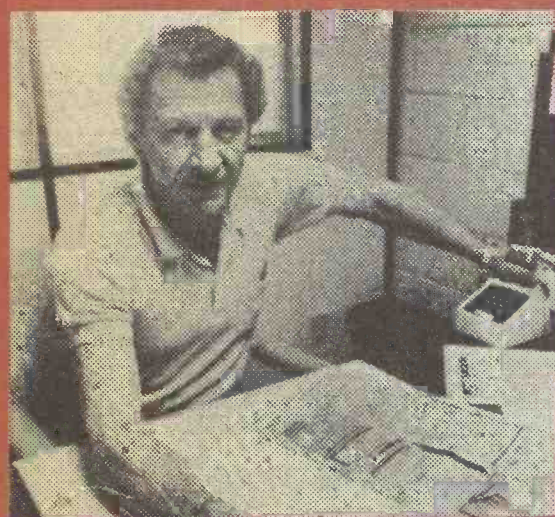
Position: Editorial Assistant
Age: Too young to mention
Born: Fort Good Hope, N.W.T.
Pastimes: Reading, listening to albums
Favorite Movie: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, The Last Mooseskin Boat
Favorite Book: Denendah, On the Trail of the Hare
Pet Peeve: None
Heroes/heroines: Geronimo, Sitting Bull
Motto: Be the best I can be
Goal: To spend a million dollars
How I would spend a million dollars: Very sparingly

bring you Windspeaker...

**Wind
speaker**

McNaughton, secretary June Fleming, treasurer Chester Cunningham, and Leona Shandruk and Rose Marie Willier. As well, there is a raft or freelance writers, who put in countless dedicated hours to bring you the news: Terry Lusty, Lesley Crossingham, Jackie Red Crow, Albert Crier, Diane Parenteau, Donna Rae Murphy, Dan Dibbelt, Mark Calliou, Joe Steinhauer, Shelley Shehinski, Al Burger, Clara Yellowknee, Everett Lambert, Perry Mah, Joe Redcrow, Jamie McDonell, Richard Wagamese, Owenadeka and Robbi LaFrance.

Mel Miller



Position: Advertising Sales Rep
Age: I've quit counting
Born: Yes
Pastimes: All I can find to enjoy
Favorite Movie: Dr. Shivavgo
Pet Peeve: All pet peeves
Heroes/heroines: Vince Lombardi
Motto: Enjoy yourself — you only pass this way once!
Goal: Too many to mention
How I would spend a million dollars: Which one? The first or second?

Sharon Barbeau



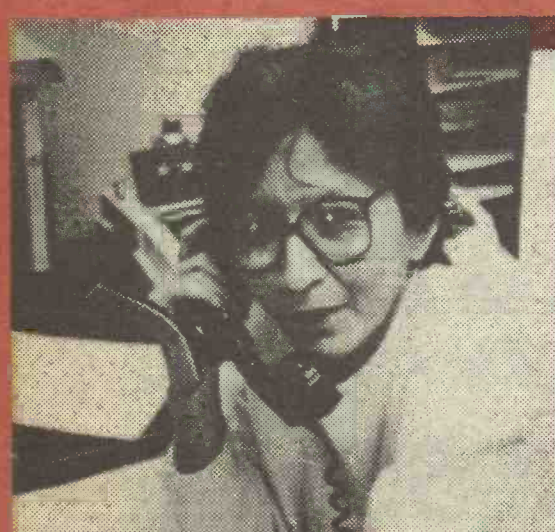
Position: Advertising Sales Rep
Age: 37
Born: Smith, Alberta
Pastimes: Bingo, crossword puzzles
Favorite Movie: Tour of Duty (shows the real Vietnam war)
Pet Peeve: Waiting for someone when I'm in a hurry
Motto: Patience and persistence (Faith, hope & charity)
Goal: Someday own my own publishing business
How I would spend a million dollars: Start my own business, charity and buy a home for myself and one for parents on an acreage

Elvis Arthur-Leigh



Position: Probationary Sales Rep
Age: 1/3/5
Born: Yes
Pastimes: The moment of my conception to the present
Favorite Movie: Can't remember the name
Favorite Book: The Gospels
Pet Peeve: Inconsideration for others
Heroes/heroines: Isaac Newton/St. Augustine
Motto: "Do unto others as I would have them do to me"
Goal: To be the best that I can be
How I would spend a million dollars: Fix my car, buy a dress for my wife and soup bones for my dog.

Corrine Desjarlais



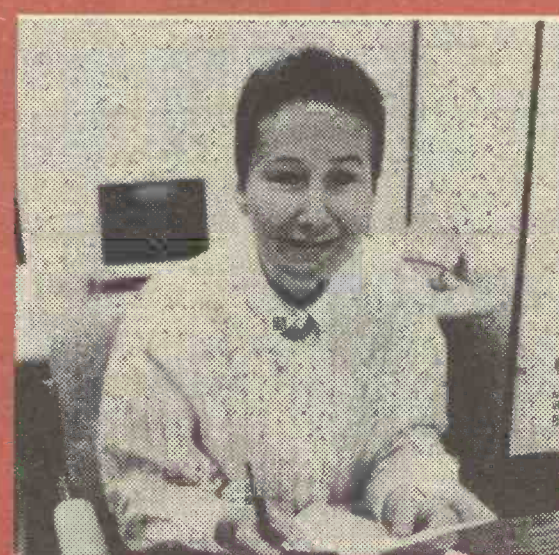
Position: Receptionist Trainee
Age: Young
Born: Regina, Sask.
Pastimes: Confidential
Favorite Movie: Planes, Trains & Automobiles
Favorite Book: Hillside Strangler
Pet Peeve: Late mornings
Heroes/heroines: Don Johnson
Motto: "Live and let live"
Goal: Andy Moog & Grant Fuhr
How I would spend a million dollars: With great difficulty

Dorothy Schreiber



Position: Reporter
Age: 34
Born: Grandmother's house
Pastimes: Daydreaming and staring into space for no apparent reason
Favorite Movie: A Streetcar Named Desire
Favorite Book: Most books by Canadian authors
Pet Peeve: People who spit in public
Heroes/heroines: Charlie Chaplin
Motto: "It all comes out in the wash"
Goal: To determine what my goal is
How I would spend a million dollars: Very easily

Susan St. Laurent



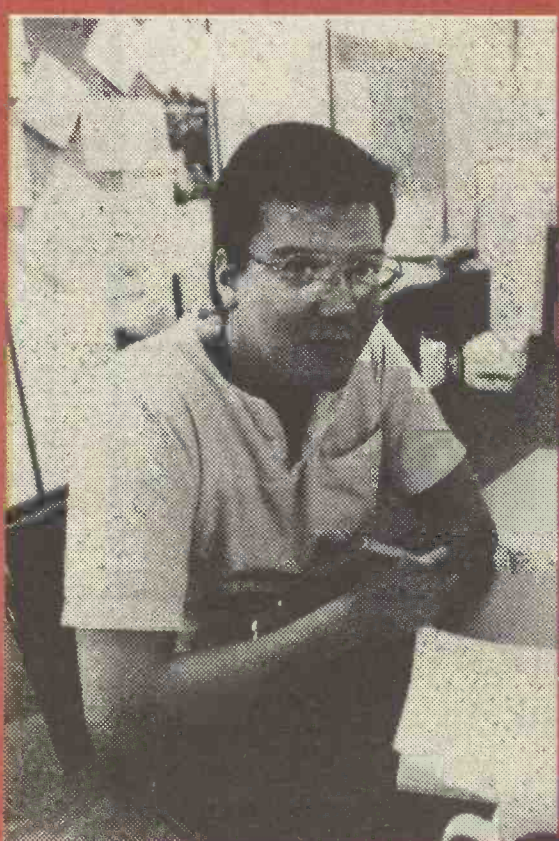
Position: Assistant to Director of Marketing & Finance
Age: 32
Born: Cowtown
Pastimes: Skiing
Favorite Movie: Out of Africa
Favorite Book: Any Sidney Sheldon book
Pet Peeve: Perpetually full "in" baskets
Heroes/heroines: Pee Wee Herman
Motto: "Make everyday count"
Goal: Wealth
How I would spend a million dollars: Happily and generously

Gwenn Thiele



Position: Accounting Clerk
Age: 24
Born: Yes
Pastimes: Reading, baseball
Favorite Movie: The Big Chill
Favorite Book: Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin
Pet Peeve: Inconsiderate drivers
Heroes/heroines: Superman/Lois Lane
Motto: "Oh, sure"
Goal: To become a general manager of Windspeaker
How I would spend a million dollars: Travel around the world

Mark McCallum



Position: Right now, I'm sitting in front of my typewriter trying to make a living as a reporter.
Age: 22
Born: I already said, I was born 22 years ago in Edmonton, geez!
Pastimes: Sleeping. You can do it anywhere, even at work and it's cheap.
Favorite Movie: Gidget Meets Godzilla (in the movie, the pair take turns destroying each other's reruns. So, we all come out ahead.)
Favorite Book: Auto Mechanics -- Five ways to fix your fan belt using erotic clothing, whips, chains and accessories
Pet Peeve: Don't have one of those, but I have a pet dog, Spot. Boy, I can't stand words that sound like they were invented by a talk show host.
Heroes/heroines: Martin Luther King and my granny, Mary-Ann McCallum.
Motto: If you have it in you to dream, you're probably asleep. So, get up and get on with your life.
Goal: To retire early... 'cause the body, mind and spirit need lots of rest -- I hope to go to bed early and sleep well for the better part of my life.
How I would spend a million dollars: Trying to figure out how to get a million green backs in the first place. Then, I think I would hit the beach in Hawaii.

VOTE

Donna Badger for Kehewin Band Council



I'm a NAIT graduate with a Business Administration diploma. I would like to help the people from my community with my education background—with this education I would like to create employment and help start up new businesses in the community. I would also like to establish a Scholarship Fund to help my Native people with their education. I feel I would be an asset to the community, if I get elected.



Donna Badger

Congratulations AMMSA for 5 years of faithful and informative service. We look forward to working with Windspeaker in the years to come.

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Continued from Page 13

special place of Aboriginal people within the Constitution, but says he is not prepared to make changes in laws until he fully understands what is being requested and the consequences of such requests.

MNC rejects pardon for Riel — March 25, 1983 issue

Recent efforts to gain a posthumous pardon for Metis Patriarch Louis Riel receive a major setback from the Metis National Council (MNC), a new Metis organization representing prairie Metis from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

The MNC says it is open to discussing an acquittal of the charges against Riel, but not a pardon.

Saddle Lake band takes over services — April 8, 1983 issue

As of April 1, the Saddle Lake band will enter into a two-year experiment where it will be responsible for its own health care. The experiment, initiated by the Saddle Lake band and in co-operation with Canada Health and Welfare, is the first of its kind in Canada.

The project was initiated by Saddle Lake Health Centre director Ben Whiskeyjack and his staff over an 18-month period.

Dr. Anderson spearheads society — April 15, 1983 issue

Dr. Anderson's often-lonely battle to preserve the Native language and culture takes a giant step forward as she heads a new society in Edmonton to create a cultural centre.

The Dr. Anne Anderson Native Heritage and Cultural Centre's first priority is "to make sure we don't lose the language and culture of our people, especially Metis people," says Anderson.

The language preservation goal will emphasize Cree syllabics and the symbols "which are where our language started from."

Dr. Anderson will also write a book about Natives who are a part of history. "Too many history books tend to ignore contributions made by our people," she states.



DR. ANNE ANDERSON



PETER LOUGHEED

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From Chief Johnsen Sewepagaham
Council & Band Members

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ON

WINDSPEAKER'S

FIFTH

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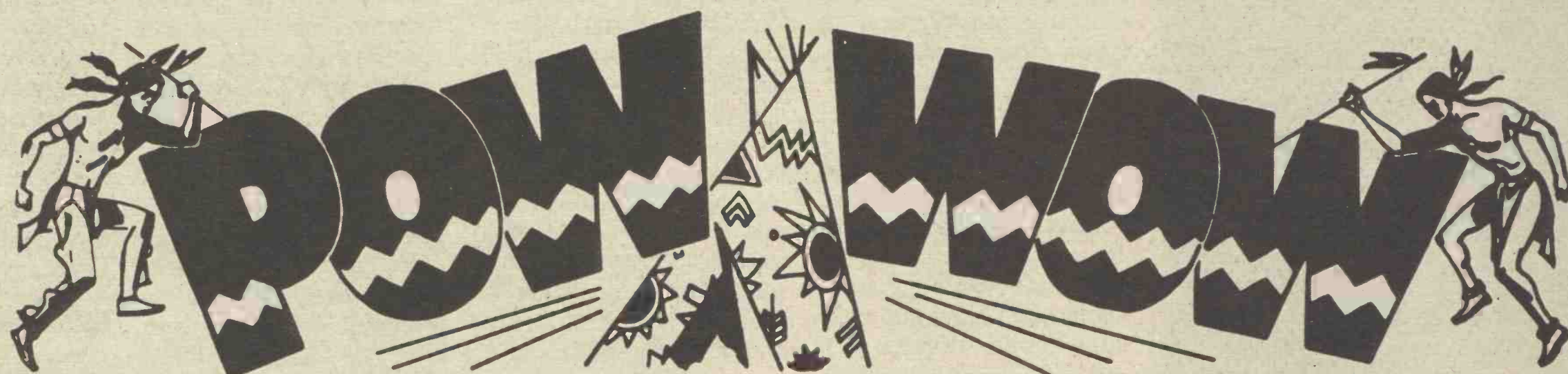


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Evans Melting Tallow, Standoff
MEN'S GRASS —
Gerald Lightning, Hobbema, Alta.

LADIES FANCY —
Noreen Saddleback, Hobbema, Alta.
LADIES TRADITIONAL —
Florence Nepoose, Ma-Me-O Beach, Alta.
JINGLE DRESS —
Lucille Littlechild, Hobbema, Alta.

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Arts & Entertainment

Rising stars come out to shine at Cook County

By Terry Lusty

After seven long drawn-out weeks of semi-final competition in the annual Country Star Search at Cook Country Saloon in Edmonton, the finals were run off Feb. 28.

For the second year, the winner was almost a Native vocalist. A talented Metis, 18-year-old Karen St. Jean who sings with The Fourth Generation band put on a superb performance but not quite good enough to snag number 1 spot. The competition does not announce the standings of anyone but the winner, so it's a secret as to just where she placed.

St. Jean's rendition of Charly McClain's Radio Hear and Hey Doll Baby, recorded by Sweethearts of the Rodeo, were fine selections with a rollicking lilt to them. Both numbers suited her voice and sufficiently demonstrated her abilities and vocal qualities.

The ultimate winner of this year's Country Star Search was 27-year-old Greg Paul of Edmonton

who exhibited tremendous vocal control, good enunciation, vibrato and feeling with his styling of Hard Trouble and, especially, Wind Beneath my Wings, a Gary Morris song which helped him to the finals.

Radio station CFCW's Al Anderson agrees the competition gets tougher each year and this year's was "most definitely" the toughest yet in the contest's six years. He confided St. Jean was "close to the top and in the top three" this

year. Anderson was impressed with the selection of this year's winner and bets Paul will take top honors at this fall's annual Country Music Association Awards in Toronto.

Although St. Jean did not win, she was one of the first people to congratulate Paul. Her family is proud of her and she may move on to a recording career. If she does put out a record, unfortunately she will be ineligible to compete in next year's star search.

Canada's Queen of Country Music and Juno Award winner Carroll Baker was one of four judges and had high praise for all the contestants (seven of the semi-finalists were Native) whom she said were "excellent."

Last year's winner, 17-year-old Metis, Priscilla Morin of Lac La Biche was also on hand at the Star Search.



TERRY LUSTY, Windspeaker

KAREN ST. JEAN, 18
...vocal abilities nearly win her first place

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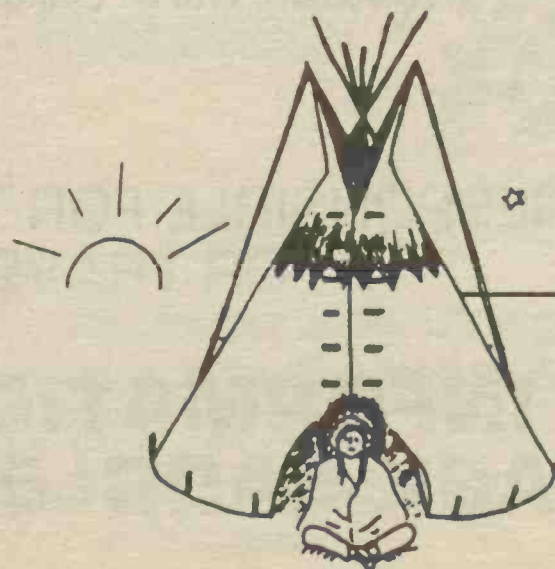
On behalf of the Executive, the Board of Directors and the Staff of the Indian Association of Alberta we extend best wishes and Continued Success to AMMSA as they celebrate their 5th anniversary.

Native communications are an integral part of the way Native people reach each other and is a valued source of communication between Natives everywhere.

Gregg C. Smith, President

5th Anniversary

Congratulations
to AMMSA &
Windspeaker
from the Board
& Staff Members



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Innovators

Students graduate from roughnecking school

Straight A's for Slave Lake students

By Mark McCallum

A class of adult Native students graduated with straight A's from a "roughnecking" school that has an international reputation for producing quality workers in the oil industry.

Now the graduates are all working for oil companies after finishing the eight-week training program that began at the Slave Lake Community Vocational Centre (CVC) and was completed on Feb. 12 at the Petroleum Industry Training Service (PITS) institute near Edmonton.

PITS is renowned worldwide for its excellence and quality training methods in the oil industry, which is a big reason the students travelled about 450 km south from Slave Lake to complete their training at the PITS institute, in the small town of Nisku.

"We could have offered the same training program here (in Slave Lake), but it wouldn't have as much credibility as the PITS program," explains Jim Leary, Slave Lake CVC senior instructor, noting

the reputation PITS has for producing quality workers. "We felt in order for our people to have the best opportunities in the job market, we'd give them the best training we could get."

By giving students this competitive edge in the job market, Leary says they will have an easy time of

PITS training co-ordinator Bill Mann says the reason the \$11 million training institute has such a world class reputation is because it prepares students for the real working world. "The oil companies know that PITS training is like being on the job. (For example) if a student comes late two or

inclined." And, above all, "he must be a team player because that's the way rigs operate."

Mann notes that the students in the program were "very impressive and dedicated."

Supervisor trainee Chucky Beaver agrees with him, adding "the students really worked hard and took advantage of this opportunity."

When the students began training at the Slave Lake CVC, they took a lifeskills course that showed them how to budget money wisely and deal with everyday working situations. They also received first aid training, which is required by most oil companies, says Beaver, explaining toxic gases are a constant threat for rig workers.

The students were then transferred to the PITS institute where they completed training that will give them an opportunity to work their way up in oil companies, says Beaver. "I think the students have all kinds of doors open to them now. Aside from financial benefits and the

'The end product we wanted was not the training...we want it to translate into some dollars for the trainees.'

securing stable employment, which is the main objective of the program. He explains: "The end product we wanted was not the training, but employment... we don't want to train for training purposes -- we want it to translate into some dollars for the trainees."

As a result of the training program, all six of the graduates have secured jobs with oil rigs and four more students left the program early to join oil companies that promised them employment.

three times in a row, he's gone because that's what would happen in a real working situation. So, the oil companies know we do our best to screen out all of the students who aren't serious about working," explains Mann.

Funded by oil companies in the province, PITS trains people in the prevention of rig disasters such as blowouts, says Mann. The people PITS looks for are "oil patch material," he explains that's "someone who's not afraid of getting dirty and is mechanically



INSTRUCTORS CHUCKY BEAVER and BILL MANN — display fully-operational mini-rig (30 times smaller).

security of long-term employment this industry has a lot of opportunities for people to work up to the top position of tool push."

Beaver explains that the tool push is the supervisor of the whole oil rig operation. He says the students will be starting at the bottom of the totem pole as a "roughneck" or "floor hand" before working to the top. "Roughnecks do all of the odd jobs, clean up and put pipe in the hole. It's the dirtiest job in the oil field, but if a person

sticks with it, they can go a long way," concludes Beaver.

Future "roughneck" training programs depend largely on the province's oil companies need for workers, so students are generally trained when the oil industry is on a high note.

The graduates are as follows: John Wayne Campiou, Dennis Willier, Ron Gladue, Nelson Shaw, Harold L'Hirondelle and Alvin Orr.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Kim McLain

Five years ago this week the first Windspeaker (known then as AMMSA) newspaper rolled off the presses featuring a full-color silhouette photo of a tipi at dawn on the front page. Now, about 1,800 days later, we've since discarded our old slogan of *A New Dawn in Aboriginal Communications*.

Here's what was happening five years ago in the Native sports scene: Things weren't too different for the Hobbema Hawks. They finished the season out of the playoffs with 24 wins and 39 losses. The latest stats today have the Hawks with 18 wins and 36 losses.

At the Ponoka rec centre, John Nepoose wins the Ivor Wildcat memorial curling bonspiel. He won over the Ken Spence rink. Then, in the Native curling provincials, Clarence Weaselfat of the Blood reserve wins.

Edmonton hosts the Universaide '83, something like a college Olympics. Chief Walter Twinn is honored as the largest financial contributor other than the governments.

The Sarcee Arrows win at the Enoch Interprovincial hockey tourney. The Arrows defeat the Enoch Falcons in the final. The tourney attracts teams from Saskatchewan, British Columbia and New Brunswick!

Meanwhile, in Goodfish Lake, the Flames play an exhibition game with a Japanese hockey club. The Japanese team wins 10-9.

Enoch opens their new recreation centre.

The Sarcee men's and ladies' basketball clubs win the NIAA western Canadian championships. They go to Albuquerque for the nationals but lose.

The Swan River band hosts an eight-ball pool tourney at Kinuso. They attract 26 competitors, some from Washington state. Slave Lake's James Ominayak beats Kinuso's Lawrence "Moon Dog" Dumont in the final matchup.

Leo Sasakamoose was still winning golf tourneys. On the ladies side, Betty Gosselin was a big name on the golf circuit.

The Montana Band had a Spring Bustout rodeo that saw Louis Littlebear win saddleback, Bill Bruised Head win bareback and Buddy Rain win bullriding. The boys' steerwrestling event was split three ways between Alex Potts, Richard Bish and Darcy Cressman.

Goodfish Lake had a huge baseball and fastball tournament. In the fastball, the Hobbema Expos won over the Goodfish Lake Selects for the men's title while the Rich Lake team won the ladies' side. In baseball, the Cold Lake Cardinals were reported to be "too awesome" for any challengers.

Those were the days.

GOODFISH LAKE: Only three out of six teams showed up for that senior "A" hockey tournament last March 4-6 weekend and when it was clear that the other three teams weren't going to show up Rene Houle cancelled the event.

"It's very tough to get contact teams, especially senior 'A,'" says Houle in a telephone interview. He adds the trend toward rec hockey and strict regulations are the reason contact hockey turnouts are slumping this year - "not only with Native hockey teams but with everybody."

Apparently, the Alberta Native Hockey Council demands that teams register at the beginning of the season and only registered teams can compete in ANHC sanctioned tourneys. But in other provinces, registration takes place at every tournament, one event at a time. So Alberta teams can play outside the province but teams from outside Alberta can't play in ANHC contact tourneys unless they're registered with the council. Houle says even though "Alberta Native hockey is suffering," he feels Alberta is on the right track. "There's got to be some kind of consistency," he says.

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A trip down memory lane — the sports scene five years ago

REGINA: "Together, again," might be a good theme song for the Edmonton Strikers and Spirits volleyball teams. They've changed around the structures of their clubs so that Dophus Denehy becomes the manager for both the teams, Robert George coaches the Strikers and Rich Boudreau coaches the Spirits.

Last March 4-6 weekend the two volleyball powerhouses crammed into two vans and made a 10 hour trip to Regina for an all-Native volleyball tourney. Both teams came home with third place and \$200 finishes.

This weekend both teams will go north to Frog Lake. **ALEXANDER:** Martin Arcand, coach for the Alexander atoms, took his 10 and 11-year-olds to Morley last March 5 for the Native provincials.

They played the hometowners in their first game, defeating Morley 4-3.

Then in the second game, they won over the Peigan atoms 9-3.

In the final showdown they tied with Saddle Lake 3-3, but Alexander had the most points so they earned the title of provincial champs.

Alexander's own James Strong earned himself the most valuable player award while his teammates Clint Arcand and Terry Newborn got all-star awards.

But their season isn't over yet, says coach Arcand.

Right now they're in the middle of the Sturgeon Minor Hockey League playoffs. They ended the season in second spot.

Sports Roundup will keep you in tune with their progress.

WANTED: Received a call for someone on the Hobbema Jazz basketball club who wanted to let everybody know about a men's and ladies' basketball tourney they'll be hosting on March 18-20. The caller said that the two top ladies' clubs will go to the nationals in Mexico. For more info call Joanne Buffalo at 585-2648.

Also, some volleyball fanatics at the University of Manitoba are looking for clubs to attend their second annual intertribal men's and ladies' tourney on March 25-27. The event, hosted by the Red Feather ladies' and the Southeast Stingers men's clubs, offers money prizes in the top four spots on both sides totalling \$9,000. Teams are guaranteed two games and rooms are available at discounted rates. But hurry, phone in your confirmation before March 19. Contact Stephen at (204) 477-6050 work or 788-4191 home, or Sharon at 477-6050 work or 694-5989 home or Emily at 589-3134 work or 667-8793 home — three numbers are Manitoba numbers.

That's all the space we have for this week. Bye.

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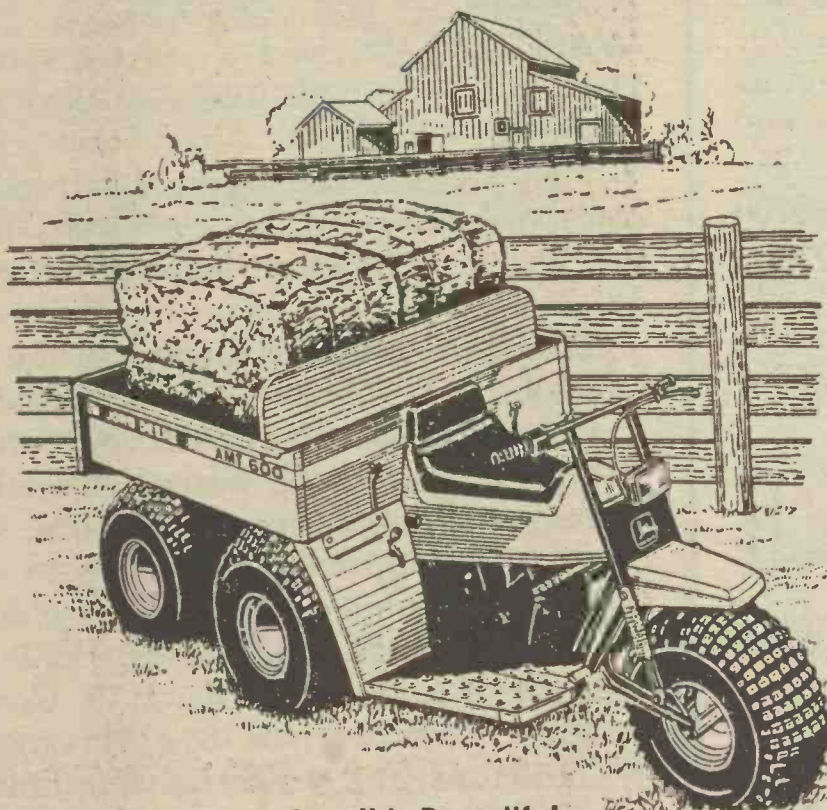
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Blackfoot team emerge as champs in basketball

By Mary Ann Crow-
Healy

BROCKET - Renegade Music from the Blackfoot reserve edged the Sarcee Steelers out 65-56 for first place at the Treaty 7 B calibre basketball playoffs held in Brocket March 4 to 6.

The Blackfoot team advanced through the Stand Off Twist Caps and the Cardston Lakers to the championship game against the Sarcee team which had come through the Lethbridge Friendship Centre team and the Peigan Pistons.

In the championship game, Renegade Music grabbed a lead and hung on from start through finish, although there were times when it looked like Sarcee might break through. Game stars were Ed McMaster for Renegade Music and Frank Smallface for the Sarcee Steelers.

The second place Sarcee Steelers' top scorers were Sid Edwards with his 22 point contribution and Frank Smallface with 18 points.

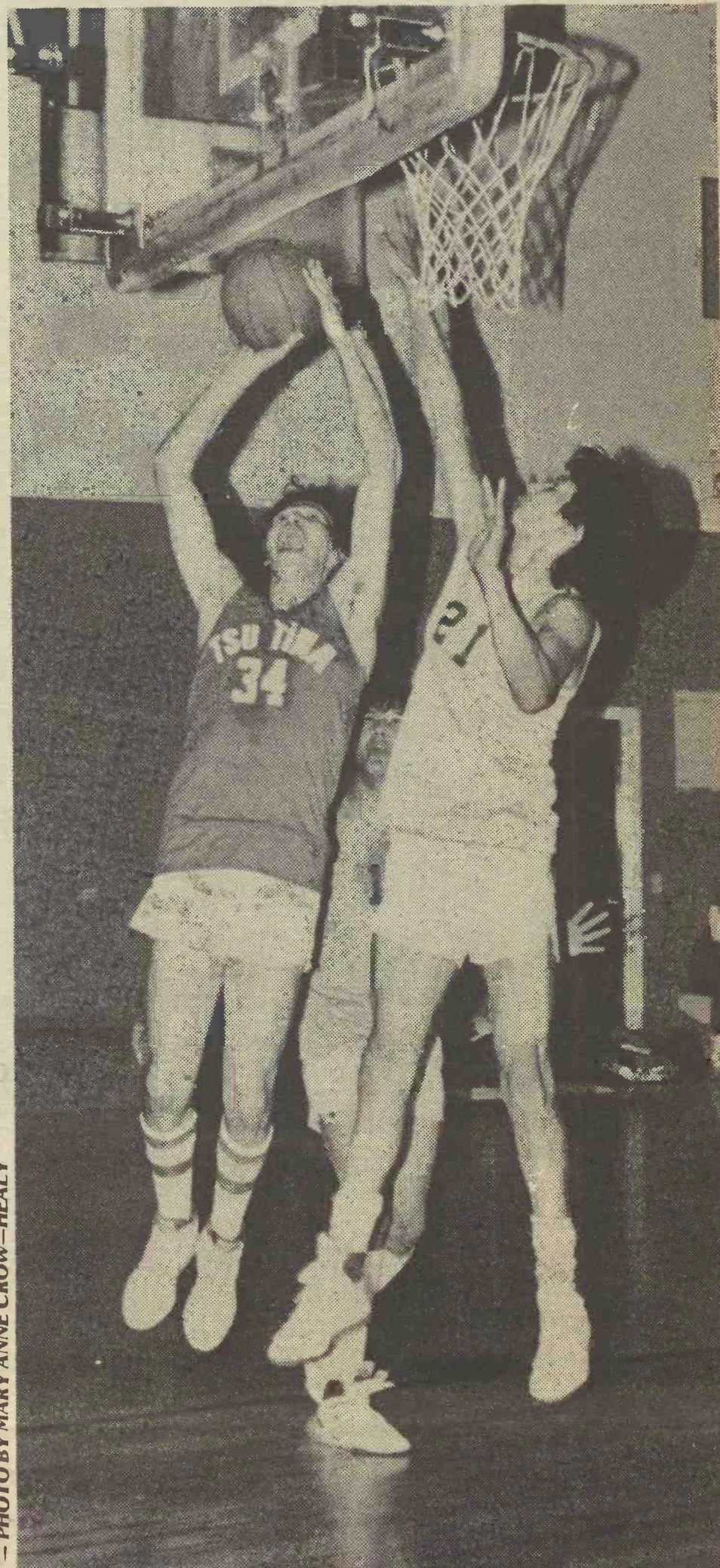
In third place were the Cardston Lakers who won their first game against the Brocket Bulls, lost the second to Renegade Music but came back in the third beating Lethbridge to vie for the B side championship against Peigan Pistons. The Lakers took the game 79-57.

Cardston Laker top scorers were Alden Wells with a 28 point contribution and Tom Healy with a 20 point contribution.

Ladies' playoff on the ladies' side, Lethbridge Friendship Centre took first place, winning over Peigan Nation 58-36.

Lethbridge coach Marvin Many Fingers said the team was "just in better shape." This team had recently finished in second place on the league.

"We have a good, sound team," added Many Fingers.



FRANK SMALL FACE (34) and DUCANTE McMASTER (21) — Lethbridge player (left) is stuffed by a Renegade Music guard.

"We started off slow but came on in the end."

Lethbridge played against the Peigan Nation, first losing to them by nine points but gained ground when they took the Gleichen ladies' team by 26 points in the round-robin point system tourney format.

Top scorers for Lethbridge were Trina Heavy Shields with 13 points and Renee Heavy Shields with 14 points.

Peigan Nation top scorers were Rebecca Yellow Horn, who contributed 10 points, and Vicky White Cow with 10 points.

Tourney all-stars for Lethbridge were Trina Heavy Shields and Rochelle Good Striker; Vicky White Cow and Rebecca Yellow Horn for Peigan Nation, and Many McMaster for Blackfoot. The MVP title went to Renee Heavy Shields of Lethbridge.

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Slave Lake stages 'silver broom' curling

By Jean Lacey

"Just like on TV" and "When you're hot, you're hot," were some spectators' comments as Domart Services skip, Jed Willis, laid down a shot that cleaned two Leo Brost Trucking rocks from opposite sides of the 12 foot ring. The winning Domart rink curled like they were playing for the Silver Broom with good strategy and great shots when they were needed. Brost Trucking kept in the thick of things and the "A" final went to 12 ends before Domart emerged victorious.

The 24th annual Oilman's Bonspiel in Slave Lake began Thursday, March 3 with 64 rinks. "This is one of

the biggest bonspiels in Alberta," said spokesman Art Smith. "We had to turn 22 rinks away. We are really thankful to everyone who donated in any way. We had lots of help from everyone." Prizes valued at \$10,000 were up for grabs.

This year's event was in memory of Gordon Bruce, a prominent Slave Lake sports figure who succumbed to cancer last year. A plaque which was presented to his widow will hang at the Slave Lake Curling Rink.

The Oilmen staged a stag banquet and Calcutta on Saturday night while the Oilwives Club hosted a wine and cheese party for the ladies. Both functions melded into a dance later the same evening. All were

held at the Sawridge Hotel. Plans are already being made for an even bigger and better 25th (silver anniversary) annual in 1989.

In the A final, Domart Service, Grande Prairie defeated Leo Brost Trucking, Slave Lake 6-5 in 12 ends.

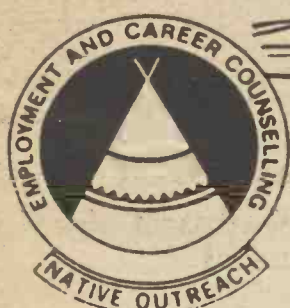
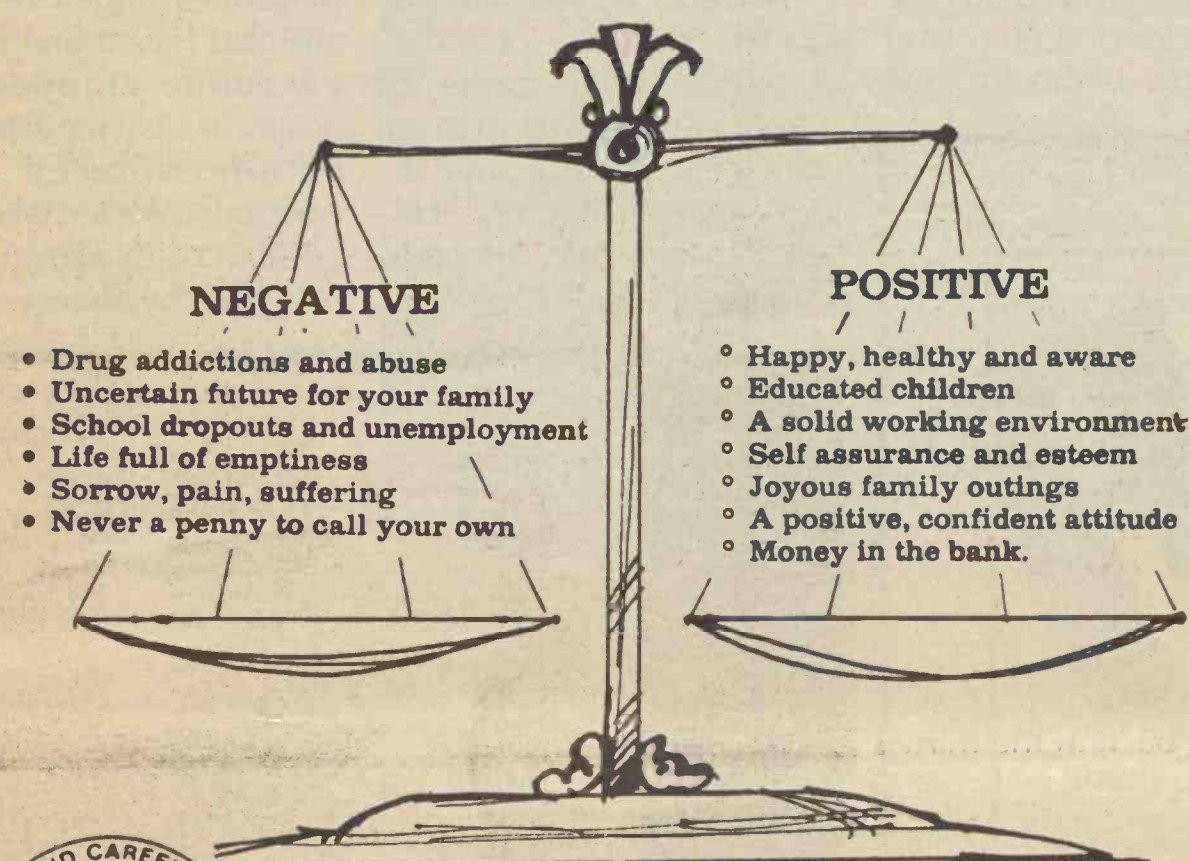
In the B final, Canuck Well Services, Slave Lake defeated Alpine Pumpjack, Slave Lake 7-3.

In the C final, D'Lanne #2, Slave Lake defeated Joe's Oilfield, Smith 9-6 after nine ends.

In the D final, Slave Lake Hotshots defeated Frach-Tech, Red Deer 8-2.

In the E final, Canuck Well Services #1, Slave Lake defeated Swan Alta.

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20 YEARS

Paul Band journeys to Japan for hockey

By Mark McCallum

It was a case of David meets Goliath.

But this time the sling snapped and the stone fell uselessly for the Paul Band Black Hawks who had the gigantic job of playing overseas against Japan's finest hockey teams.

The Paul Band Alberta Major Senior hockey club returned from an eight game tour of Japan on Feb. 3, tired and bruised, but not broken. Each of the 25 players on the team held their heads high at a banquet honoring them recently, proud of what they had accomplished, although the best they could manage against the more superior Japanese teams was one tie.

That might not seem like much, but given the hurdles the Black Hawks had to overcome — it's plenty.

Paul Band never got a chance to get on track after

they arrived at Tokyo International, Jan. 19. For starters, the Hawks played against the finest professional teams the Japanese Hockey Federation could throw at them. And, they played eight games in only 10 nights. "It didn't give us much time to prepare or recover in between games," explains Paul Band player/coach Alex Belcourt, noting some of the players got homesick soon after arriving, with an ocean separating them from friends and family.

Paul Band toured Japan in an effort to continue friendly relations in an ongoing exchange program between Alberta and sister province, Hokkaido.

"It's a culture shock," says Hawks centre Breen Neeser, who also played for the U of A Bears for five years before joining Paul Band. "There's so many distractions to take you away from the game...the

food, scenery, people — everything is so different."

The teams they played against were better prepared. About a dozen players on the Japanese teams also play for the national team, which tied

Brent Weller, who admits that physical conditioning played a big role in the outcome of the tour. The Japanese teams on the average train two hours daily in the weight room and four hours on the ice

'It's a culture shock. There's so many distractions to take you away from the game...the food, the scenery, people — everything is so different.'

Canada's Olympic squad last year in international play, 5-5. And, many of the Japanese clubs open training camp as early as May, training on the dry land and the weight room for a month before they even get on the ice. "We might play hockey two or three times a week, but hockey is their job," notes Paul Band defenseman

for six days a week. And, one of the Japanese clubs has two former Russian hockey players on it that were members of past National "Red Army" teams. The former Olympians coach and play on the team.

"They don't play the same kind of bump and grind style of hockey we

play in Canada," explains coach Belcourt. "They rely more on their speed and passing skills."

Despite their hockey talent, Belcourt says the Japanese also took a lot of "cheap shots" and "like using their stick." That was the difference in the tour, according to Paul Band right winger Ken Kowalchuk, who was the Hawk's top scorer with 10 points even though he suffered a dislocated shoulder and a knee injury before the tour ended.

Kowalchuk says officials would let hooking and slashing go and eventually some of the Hawks retaliated and were sent to the penalty box. "It seemed like every time we got the momentum going or got a lead, the refs would start throwing us in the box."

Belcourt agrees with his player, adding "a lot of the Japanese goals came in short handed situations with only three or four of our guys on the ice." He also notes the officials were calling coincidental penalties

that "really hurt our team because that left fewer players on the ice. And, the Japanese would capitalize by using the extra skating room and their speed to beat us on the rink (which is larger than arenas in Canada)."

Things might have gone different for the Hawks if a few breaks had come their way, but Belcourt says his team was there to play from the opening face-off to the final whistle. "A hockey club could play a best of seven series and lose in four straight and still play pretty good hockey...whether it was game one or game eight, we came to every game to play."

The Hawks played eight games in 10 nights, travelling about 12,000 km across a strange country an ocean away from their loved ones.

"You might hear a lot of negative things...but, I'm still glad I went and I think everyone enjoyed the hospitality that the Japanese people showed us," concludes Weller, who says he would do it all over again if he had the chance.

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Youth

SPEAKING OUT... "What did you enjoy most about the youth conference held during the Olympics?"



Cindy Cullen, 18, Goose Bay, N.S. (high school student):
"I really enjoyed the hockey game and the seminars but most of all I enjoyed meeting all my new friends."



Cassandra Goudie, 18, Goose Bay, N.S. (studying psychology):
"This was the first time I've experienced buffalo meat and a powwow. I think that is what I enjoyed most."



Gordie Rendell, 19, Goose Bay, N.S. (studying physical education):
"The role models were excellent and I also enjoyed the powwow."



Garard Wall, 18, Goose Bay, N.S.:
"I enjoyed meeting the role models and viewing the Olympic facilities."



Susan Olson, 16, Brandon, Manitoba:
"Calgary! It's wonderful, I wish I could live here."



Chris Bird, Pine Point N.W.T.:
"Meeting Billy Mills, the seminar on goal setting, and skiing for the first time in my life."

Youth seek success at Calgary conference

By Dan Dibbelt

They came from Edmonton, Fort Resolution and Labrador. They were 60 strong and represented, almost every Indian nation in Canada.

But while these young delegates had diverse backgrounds, they all had one thing in common - they were winners selected from more than 500 entries to participate in the Aboriginal Youth Conference in Calgary, Feb. 15 to 22.

"We are leaving one area of our lives but at the same time entering another one with optimism and promise," said Stacy Beaver, a youth delegate from Rosemeath, Ont., chosen to speak on behalf of all delegates at the closing awards dinner.

"The sky's the limit, shoot for the stars and follow the yellow brick road," she added, receiving excited applause of the youth and guests at the banquet.



WILSON OKEMOW and DELEGATES
...encourages youths to set goals

And indeed, shooting for the stars sums up the theme of the conference aimed at teaching Native youth to set goals and aim for them.

While the \$260,000 conference was sponsored by the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse program of Canada Health and Welfare, organizers

tried to avoid preaching to them. Instead, youth role models like Olympic gold medal winner Alwyn Morris, actress Margo Kane and symphony conductor John Kim Bell spoke of their experiences and successes to convince the young people their goals are within reach.

"The road to success is not an easy one," advised

Morris. "It's hard work but it is well worth it."

Morris, a Mohawk from the Kahnawake reserve in Quebec, exemplifies of his advice. At 15, he first took to the water in a kayak. At 16, he placed second in the country in his age category and by 17 he was number 1. He went on to become the best in the world, winning a gold and bronze medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Summer Games.

Margo Kane's advice

comes from her own experience. Adopted at an early age by non-Native parents, she grew up unfamiliar with her culture like many Native youth of today. She quit school, despite being an honor student, and considered suicide after dealing with the deaths of two stepmothers, prejudice and drugs and alcohol.

Fortunately, Kane was able to change the hopeless pattern and attack life with new vigor, totally restructuring it around her ambitions.

"I think having gone through what many teenagers and kids go through today makes me a more compassionate person," said Kane.

The conference began in the early morning of Feb. 17 with welcoming statements from Olympic dignitaries and Calgary Mayor Ralph Klein. International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch addressed the youth telling them the Games paid homage to Indians and the Olympic opening ceremonies where "maybe the

best ever (and) some Indians took a very important part."

After the welcoming, the young people participated in goal setting and personal development seminars.

Elders' presentations, leisure activities, Olympic venue tours and the viewing of the Russia vs Czechoslovakia game rounded out the activities.

"All aspects of the conference went well," said conference organizer George Calliou. "We certainly hope to see this become an annual event."

The conference was hosted by the Western Indian Native Sports Association (WIN) and formed part of the Olympic Native program.

WIN's main purpose, according to the group's mission statement is "to encourage and assist athletes to achieve excellence in sports and win in life through positive development of mind, body and spirit." Organizers hope the delegates will take what they learned back home and share it with others.



Have you considered a career in **JOURNALISM?**

The Program in Journalism for Native People at The University of Western Ontario is now accepting applications for the next academic year beginning: **SEPTEMBER 6, 1988.**

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Direct inquiries to:



Director
Program in Journalism for Native People
The University of Western Ontario
Middlesex College
London, Canada N6A 5B7
(519) 661-3380

Blue Quills Native Education Centre is now accepting applications for the **SOCIAL SERVICES WORKER PROGRAM** (Year 1)

(Grant MacEwan Community College)
which is being planned to begin in
SEPTEMBER 1988

Interested applicants should contact:



The Director
Post-Secondary Programs
Blue Quills Native Education Centre
P.O. Box 279
St. Paul, Alberta
T0A 3A0
Telephone: 645-4455

Application Deadline: April 15, 1988

World

Samis ignored by homeland gov't

By Terry Lusty

Since approximately 1770 when Norway exerted sovereignty over Samiland, the northern half of present-day Norway, the Samis language and culture have been suppressed so systematically that it very nearly disappeared.

The Sami have suffered a fate worse than that of the Lubicons because the Norwegian government has failed to recognize and designate land or land rights to the Sami who claim to have occupied the area long before the Norwegians.

A small group of Samis who were in Edmonton for about 10 days to participate in the Winter Cities Showcase recently told Windspeaker of their struggles for basic rights. One of those persons was Sami singer, Mari Boine Persen.

Persen, accompanied by two of her four band members, performed at the Convention Centre during the third week of February as representatives of Norway. Her group also had a strong desire to investigate the conditions of Canada's Natives and to

publicize their own situation.

She also performed at the University of Alberta's Native club. Accompanying herself on guitar and sometimes a drum, Persen sang a few traditional songs which, although foreign to the audience, did attract their attention. She and a few of her countrymen promote Sami culture and issues through their songs. Throughout her performance, her love and deep feelings for her people and her culture were apparent. Pride of her heritage shows through, but it wasn't always this way for Persen, who only really began singing in earnest about nine years ago.

Ashamed to be Sami

At that time "the Norwegian government wanted to dam, and did dam, one of our rivers," recalls Persen. The river, she explains, is one of the richest in the world for salmon fishing. "Back then, I was ashamed to be a Sami." The incident, however, led to self-discovery, a situation heightened even more when her people conducted a hunger strike to protest the dam. That was Persen's

signal to sing for her people.

Persen remembers singing since she was about five years old and that both her parents were singers. About nine years ago, she learned to play the guitar but was usually backed by other bands. Later, when radio and television stations started airing a lot of her songs, officials began asking her to perform at meetings, conferences and ceremonies; tours of Scandinavia followed.

Apart from her traditional and light rock material, Persen also likes "a little blues and some ballads." More importantly, she notes, "I want to actively express myself - the way I think and feel about my culture and people."

Most of her songs are self-compositions and tend to carry a sad melody and message. Persen revealed her songs "tell of not giving up. When they took our land, they never asked. They also took our pride and dignity." One song called Begging was written because "we had to beg to use the land."

She says the Samis received support from Norwegians and Swedes. At the same time, she

confesses, some of her own people tried to employ scare tactics about the drawbacks of being Sami. A consequence of the protest was a promise from government to "look at our situation and our land."

Love of the land

As a people, the Sami identify with and respect the land. They draw many parallels to the lifestyle, culture and history of Canada's Aboriginal groups. Although the vast majority are fair-haired and fair-skinned, they do perceive of themselves as Aborigines and are members of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples.

A mere five to 10 per cent of the Sami people may have a dark complexion resembling that of Canada's Indians, says Persen, adding it should not detract from the reality of her people. Gradually, she says, "We are resurrecting past traditions from the memories of our Elders."

Persen feels a bit uncomfortable with the fact that many of the Elders do not help the Samis in their drive to recover what they can of their culture and religion. "They have been



SINGER MARI BOINE PERSEN
... 'we had to beg to use the land'

so heavily influenced by standard christian religions that they now think of our traditions as pagan and blasphemous."

She states the Sami number only about 40,000 with about half living in Norway and the rest in Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Russia. As many as 10 per cent herd reindeer, 10 to 20 per cent hunt and fish, and the rest are in service occupations or the military.

Inadequate education

Persen complains the education system also works against the Sami. "We are culturally and linguistically deprived" in the schools. She adds Norwegian is the first language taught, the second is English.

The Sami's view of the land is similar to that of other Aborigines "to be used, not owned," says Persen. She also tells of shamans being killed off in the past, drums being burned, and Samis punished for using their mother

tongue.

Persen estimates the suicide rate to be well above the national average, something that was not common "mainly because of cultural differences they don't know who they are or where (to Samiland or Norway) they belong."

Students seldom go beyond Grade 9...they (schools) are about other cultures, strange and foreign," she declares. Up until recent times, it has been "pretty touchy" to politicize and people are afraid to speak out, but slowly that is changing.

Today the Sami are more organized with about 2,000 members lobbying government to gain certain rights. Persen thinks people outside of Norway should write the Norwegian government and embarrass them just as the Lubicons are doing in Canada.

In the interim, Persen will continue to send her message through songs of her people, her way of contributing to her cause.

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Phone: (403)952-2330
Fax number: 952-2212

Crier publicizes global struggles at university talk

By Dorothy Schreiber

Canada's Aboriginal nations experience the same struggles as other indigenous peoples around the world to attain individual freedoms and rights.

Albert Crier, who facilitated a discussion on the global struggle for Aboriginal rights, told an audience gathered at the University of Alberta on March 5 that Palestinians, Samis of Scandinavia and the Miskito Indians of Nicaragua are caught in situations similar to those faced by Native people in this country.

"The battleground between the Scandinavians and the Contras" is the land belonging to the Miskito Indian, Crier pointed out, indicating Canada's Aboriginals are not the only ones fighting for their land.

But, during the discussion it became apparent land struggles are not the only parallels between Aboriginal people in Canada and other countries.

One audience participant pointed out, statistically, indigenous people share high mortality, suicide rates and poor economies similar to those of Third World countries.

Crier expressed dismay with people who support the rights of people "across the ocean" when similar conditions exist in this country amongst Aboriginal people in Canada.

"We don't question the atrocities here."

He also suggested audience members take

the time to look at how the government treats Aboriginal people and relate it to their own lives.

"What they do to Native people they also do to mainstream (groups)," he said, citing the government's treatment of unions and nurses in Alberta.

Concluding the hour long discussion, Crier encouraged audience members to continue to learn about Aboriginal issues.

"It's important that we (Natives and non-Natives) keep that communication road open and we keep talking," he said.

The discussion group was part of International Week held on the University of Alberta campus from March 4 to 12.

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Alberta
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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

DIRECTOR, METIS SERVICES Competition No: MAM342-5-WDSP

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Salary: \$37,164 - \$59,868

Closing Date: March 18, 1988

Municipal Affairs

Please send an application form or resume quoting competition number to:

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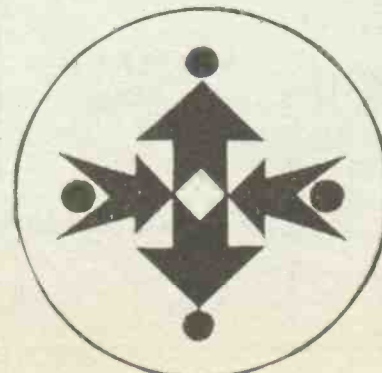


NATIONAL NATIVE ACCESS PROGRAM TO NURSING

A program sponsored by the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College, University of Regina, and the College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan, to train men and women of Native ancestry to the baccalaureate degree level of nursing — is proud of our twelve present students in pre-nursing and first and second year B.S.N. classes.

This degree program will help them to build stronger, healthier communities when they graduate.

Inquiries are invited for applicants to the next orientation program, May 2 to June 20, 1988. Write or phone to:



**Gerri Dickson, Co-ordinator
College of Nursing, NNAPN
University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7N 0W0
(306) 966-6224**

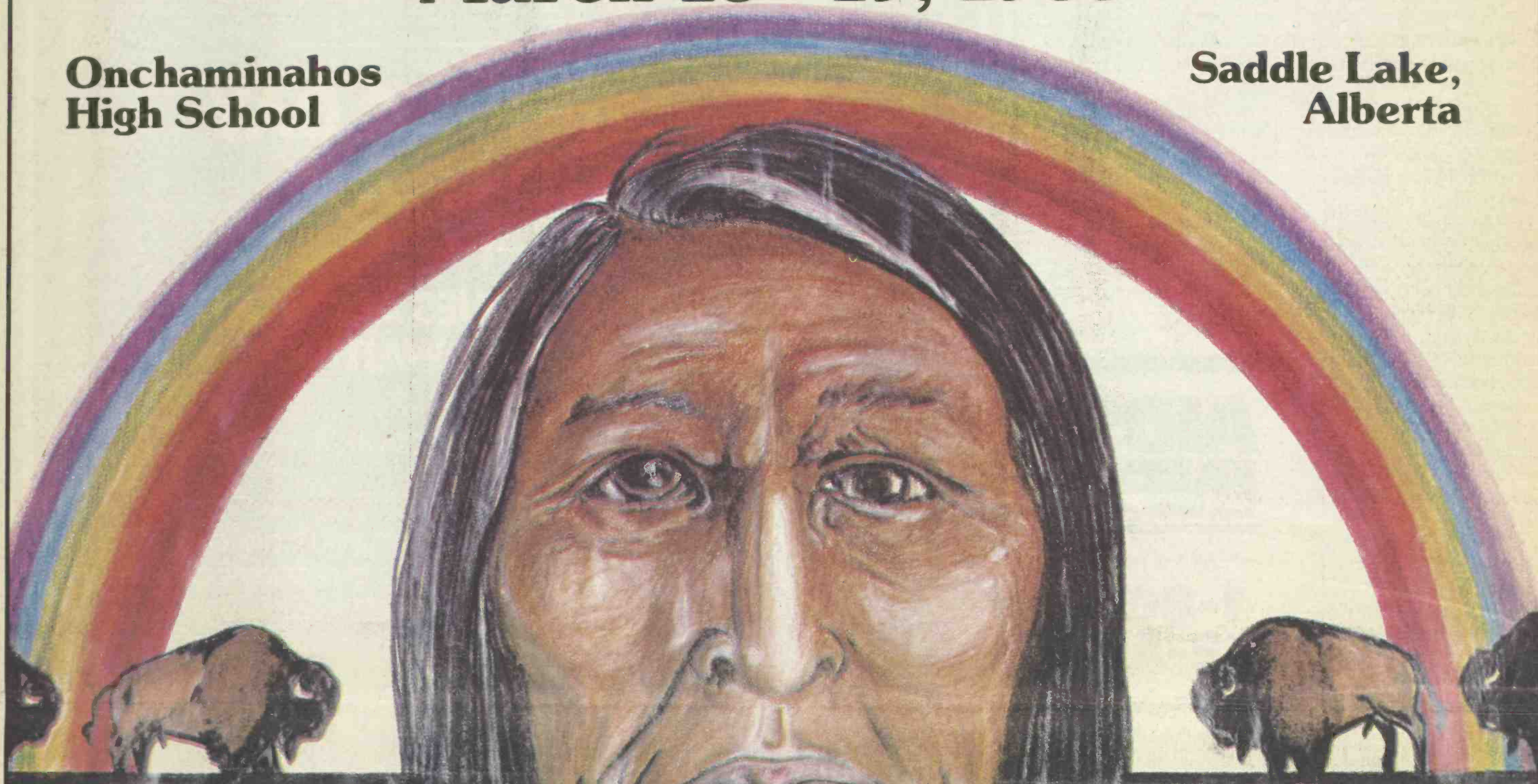
*"They are not dead, who live in the hearts
they leave behind."*

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, Allan Fibbs, Ron Fox, 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**

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

8 a.m. - Pipe Ceremony
9 a.m. - Crime Prevention - Guest Speaker, Ron Fox
10:30 - "NATIVE AWARENESS WORKSHOP" - Guest Speaker: Ron Many Heads
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

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

For more information please phone
(403) 726-3730