

Wind speaker

March 4, 1988

Volume 5 No. 52

Native people a distinct society says senate report

By Dorothy Schreiber

A senate task force recommending Aboriginal people be recognized as distinct societies under the Meech Lake accord has met with mixed reaction from Aboriginal leaders. The task force also suggests Aboriginal and treaty rights and self-government become ongoing items on the agenda of constitutional conferences.

The Native Council of Canada (NCC) says the proposals are a "good step forward" but fall short of creating rights for Aboriginal people.

Chris McCormick, vice-president of the NCC, says the council would prefer to have the first ministers conference process (FMC) revived to deal with the issue of Aboriginal rights rather than have the issue treated "as just one item on a long agenda. I think the Aboriginal people are owed more than that."

The NCC, along with the three other major Aboriginal groups have been working toward reopening the FMC process which ended in failure in 1987.

However, Georges Erasmus, president of the Assembly of First Nations, says he's happy with the recommendation to have Aboriginal people recognized as distinct societies.



GEORGES ERASMUS
...happy with findings

Windspeaker could not reach Erasmus for comment but he's quoted in the *Globe and Mail* as saying: "It's a further weapon that Aboriginal people can use in pressuring the provinces and the federal government."

Chairman of the task force, Senator Gildas Molgat, says if Quebec is recognized as a distinct society under the accord then how can Canada say the Aboriginal people are not a distinct society?

The task force made up of five liberal and three conservative senators held hearings in Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit to deal with Native grievances with the accord.

The report made seven recommendations in total, some include: allowing the territories the same right as provinces to nominate senators and Supreme Court judges, and giving the territories the right to decide their boundaries and provincehood without involvement of the provinces.

However, the three conservative members of the task force have expressed a dissenting voice and state in the report: "The members who support the government are in disagreement with any recommendations that the accord be amended at this time."

"They are taking the position that the government and the 10 premiers take that you can't change the accord or it will all fall apart," says Molgat.

But Molgat says the accord needs to be changed, "in particular, that the issue of Native rights be included in the ongoing agenda."



DIANNE MEILL, Windspeaker

BLOWIN' IN THE WIND

The strong southern wind threatened to blow away the feathers worn by these two at the Nakoda '88 powwow at Morley on Feb. 19, 20 and 21. Here, Tiffany Lefthand (left), 5, and her cousin Roxanne Lefthand, hang on tight.

Local media less enthused Lubicons attract foreign media

By Dorothy Schreiber

While the foreign media may have opened the eyes of the world to the struggle of the Lubicon band, the home town press seemed less enthusiastic about bringing the Cree band's message to Canadians during the Olympic boycott, says band advisor Fred Lennarson.

"We had far more inquiries and interviews from the international media than from the Canadian media."

But the media wasn't the only way to bring attention to the Lubicon land claim, the Olympic torch relay run was protested by supporters in every province. Lennarson feels this represents "a fair amount of education and information (being given) on an issue regarding a small band."

But he expresses disappointment with the coverage given to the Lubicon supporters during the arrival of the torch in Edmonton. Demonstrators jeered the arrival of torch runners and greeted Premier Getty with a chorus of boo's.

But the next day "there were news reports in Edmonton that 10,000 enthusiastic supporters welcomed the flame. I think it was a kind of self-censorship related to

Tentative deal struck

LATE BULLETIN — At press time Windspeaker learned the federal and provincial government had agreed to grant the Lubicon band a 66 square km parcel of land.

However, Bernard Ominayak was not part of the negotiations and will meet with Premier Getty on March 4 to discuss the tentative deal.

The two governments are already discussing possibilities of housing and hospital development for the band on the allotted land for which the Indians have waged a 48-year fight.

The Lubicon chief was also to have met with officials of Daishowa, the giant Japanese forest products company set to harvest trees on the Cree band's traditional lands.

Windspeaker will provide coverage of the land claim next week.

emotional, patriotic kinds of stuff."

Despite the lack of attention by domestic media he says the boycott was a huge success in terms of educating people about the Lubicon's situation.

"I don't see how anybody can deny that."

"They sought to inform people around the world about their plight and problems they face as a result of the way they've been treated by the Alberta government and the oil companies."

While the Olympics went on in Calgary a mini-media Olympics was taking place in Little Buffalo, 600 km from the host city.

In the past three weeks the Cree band in Little Buffalo has been visited by two German documentary TV crews, one Swedish crew and another from France. They have also been major articles written in the German magazine, *Stern*, as well as Italian, Austrian and French publications and the Washington Post is currently "working on a major piece."

The Japanese, Swiss and Dutch have also aired special on the band. Overall, Lennarson believes the Lubicon Indians were "spectacularly successful in educating people about their plight and the people responsible for their plight."

INSIDE THIS WEEK



As they portray Arctic legends, 10 twirling dancers and drummers mesmerize Calgary crowds. See page 13.



Carving on 20,000 year old Woolly Mammoth tusks is this man's specialty. He explains his unique art on page 12.



Scott Lawrence, 8, of Slave Lake plays a specially-made miniature violin and usually wins any fiddling contest he enters. He's one of our 'special achievers' profiled on pages 10 and 11.



The people of Anzac slogged through the slush and ate a lot of jello to celebrate their annual winterfest. See page 6.

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National

Bill C-31er's caught in "bureaucratic nightmare"

By Lesley Crossingham

Bill C-31, an amendment to the Indian Act, is "grossly flawed" and is leaving the lives of thousands across Canada in a "turmoil" says the Native Women's Association of Canada.

The organization addressed the controversial amendment when representatives appeared

before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, Feb. 23.

In a prepared statement this week acting president, Jean Gleason, said the legislation which was supposed to remove sexual and other forms of discrimination from the act as

well as correct the injustices, has not worked.

"As a result, the lives of thousands of families across Canada are being thrown into turmoil as their applications for status are caught in a bureaucratic nightmare."

Gleason says the government bungled when it underestimated the number of people who would be applying for status and has

"simply allowed the backlog of applications to pile up."

"It is not uncommon to find a waiting period of over two years for a decision on a relatively straightforward application," says Gleason.

In addition to the long delays Gleason charged that many people have received "unrealistic" demands for documentation and then "providing little assistance to those applying

for status."

Particularly hard hit are the elderly who are often asked to find documents that no longer exist, or that may be more than a century old. In other cases some people have been forced to travel hundreds of miles or hire researchers and lawyers.

"Essentially, the government has left the responsibility of implementing Bill

C-31 to those who it claims are supposed to benefit from the legislation."

The association has researched the problems and has concluded that much of the discrimination that Bill C-31 was supposed to end has continued.

"Until Bill C-31 is properly implemented, the federal government has merely engaged in a paper exercise," concludes Gleason.

Friendship centres to meet in Ottawa

OTTAWA — Secretary of State David Crombie has announced a \$90,460 grant to the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC). This grant will assist the NAFC to host a three-day national conference on issues affecting Aboriginal disabled persons in Ottawa in March 29, 30 and 31.

The NAFC represents some 99 friendship centres across Canada which provide services to Aboriginal people and assists them to adjust to life in urban communities.

A preliminary meeting sponsored by the Department of the Secretary of State was held in Cornwall, Ont. on Jan. 21 and 22, 1988 to facilitate an awareness of the problems of Aboriginal disabled persons and to discuss an approach to the issues.

The main objective of the conference are to ensure

that the needs of disabled Aboriginal persons are consistently addressed by friendship centres and to sensitize the urban communities to the needs of their disabled members.

"The National Association of Friendship Centres is best suited to coordinate this conference because of the role friendship centres play in the Aboriginal community," said Crombie. "Friendship centres are and always have been community centres for Aboriginal people and this conference will lay the firm foundation for Aboriginal disabled persons to voice their concerns and needs to the general public and the federal government," he added.

The funding for the conference comes from the Native Citizens Directorate of the Department of the Secretary of State.



ROADSIDE ATTRACTION

Workers on the gas station/restaurant/grocery store complex built by the Louis Bull band's Kisputinow Holdings take a break and pose for Windspeaker. The development, located on the east

side of Highway 2, 45 km south of Edmonton, may open this spring. Left to right are Richardo Cuadros, Louis Amyotte and Malcolm Howse.

— Photo by Dianne Meili

Plains Publishing release first of three books

Metis textbook gets mixed reviews

By Terry Lusty

EDMONTON — The unveiling of a recently published school textbook on Metis culture and history was greeted with enthusiasm and criticism on Feb. 17.

The book *Canada's People: The Metis* was a "collaboration of Dale (Ripley) and Phyllis (Cardinal) — a non-Native and a Native person," said Leith Campbell, supervisor of Native education for Edmonton's Catholic schools.

Gathered in the library of St. Pius X School, the crowd of about 50 included deputy minister for education, Reno Bossetti; Speaker of the House, David Carter; and Ralph Sabey, past director of the Native Education Project (NEP) which funded the research, writing and publication of the text.

Bossetti was visibly

enthused with the product which he thinks serves an important need. "In order for kids to do well in school they have to feel good about themselves." That, he said, is the object of the book, an objective he thinks has been met.

Superintendent of education, John Brosseau, complimented all who worked on the book and stated the significance of people being able to hold their heads high, something he feels the book will promote.

Printed by Plains Publishing of Edmonton, the 98-page book is color illustrated and bound in an attractive gloss hard cover. It will be sold at a retail value of \$18.50 through the Learning Resources Development Centre (formerly the School Book Branch) but education systems are eligible for a discount.

Within the system, the book is classified as a 'basic' text and is, therefore, a

required book. A few teachers at the unveiling said they think it will meet with a good deal of approval from instructors who can use it in the Grade 7 social studies curriculum to instruct Metis culture.

However, the book also drew a bit of criticism from Butch Plante, president of Edmonton's Metis Local 1885. Plante didn't think the book measured up to his expectations which, he noted, were high. He also alluded to the need for "more resources...(written) by Metis."

Laurent Roy, director of Native Outreach was the original principal writer for the book resigned after losing faith in the way the manuscript was being developed. The steering committees of those projects, he said "had no true authority in determining the development of study materials. In future, the director of NEP should allow more latitude for

Native input as defined in their policy statement of mutual cooperation and understanding."

The Metis perspective, he charges, was absent because their voices fell on deaf ears. "The steering and advisory committees never did their jobs because the writing committee catered to the whims and wishes of the director of the NEP due to politics."

The first in a series of books about the Metis was *Annette's People*. It was developed through the Medicine Hat Metis local for Grade 4 and published last year.

Also nearing completion are the final drafts for two additional books about Metis. One is the history and settlement of St. Albert by the Metis; the other is a junior high school art text developed through the Lac La Biche Metis local. Completion dates for these two books are not yet known.



CAROL WACOWISH — St. Pius X students looks through controversial book.

Provincial

Disputed dam slowly nears completion

By Lesley Crossingham

PEIGAN RESERVE — The dam threatening Napi's River is slowly nearing completion despite opposition from environmentalist and Native groups.

The dam is located about 10 km west of the Peigan reserve, just past the point where the three rivers join to become the Oldman River.

The dam will cost about \$335 million, most of which comes from the Heritage Trust Fund, a fund set up by former premier Peter Lougheed to channel funds from oil production into

diversifying the Alberta economy.

However, Peigan researcher Albert Yellowhorn says the dam will deprive his reserve not only of the water but also any economic development the river might provide within the reserve.

"Indians have no damned business to be on welfare... it is because they (the government) excluded them from the natural resources," says Yellowhorn in an interview in his Peigan band office.

Recently, members of the Peigan and nearby Blood reserves met to bless

the river and to call upon Napi, the Blackfoot prophet, to assert his influence and prevent the completion of the dam.

Peigan spiritual Elder Joe Crowshoe, along with the Blood Elder Harry Shade performed several ceremonies with the sacred waterpipes and a whistle made from the bones of an eagle.

Meanwhile, overhead a golden eagle circled the campfire and after the ceremony Crowshoe said he felt the eagle was a sign that the prayers had been heard.

A week after the ceremony environmentalist groups announced they would be heading back to court to fight the government's construction licence.

Late last year a judge ruled the licence had been improperly issued because the government hadn't given sufficient public notice nor had it notified local officials and authorities in the area.

The government originally planned to appeal that judgment but instead issued itself a new licence, again, says the environmentalist group, Friends of the Oldman River Society, without public notice.



WINDSPEAKER PHOTO FILE

JOE CROWSHOE

...says prayers have been heard

The society, and other environmentalist groups are also upset over remarks made by Environment Minister Ken Kowalski when he charged they had ticks in their hair and wear shoddy looking clothing.

During a recent meeting of the Pincher Creek Crowsnest Progressive Conservative Association Kowalski said those who really "love the air we breathe and the water we drink are not those with patches on their blue jeans and long hair with ticks, but people like yourselves who come out to meetings wearing suits."

This comes soon after Kowalski's comments last

fall that environmentalists to oppose the dam are anarchists who get high on more than thin mountain air.

Author Andy Russell, who recently released a book on the Oldman River, said he was surprised by the ministers "outlandish" comments.

"I think his (Kowalski) remarks show bad taste and a real lack of responsibility," he said in an interview after the river blessing.

Russell had been blessed by Crowshoe during an effigy ceremony for his work to save the river.

Peigan Chief Peter Yellowhorn says he and the

band oppose the construction of the dam and are puzzled as to why the government would want to dam a river that only runs deep for three weeks of the year.

"Only during the spring runoff does this river flood, then the whole valley is covered with water. But after that it runs shallow again," he said.

Yellowhorn explains the band considers the river the backbone of the world and to dam it would kill Napi's river and deprive future generations of the blessings of the river.

However, a bid to hold a public hearing into the dam was quashed last week by the Alberta Energy Resources Conservation Board.

The Friends of the Oldman River Society had applied for a hearing saying that although the dam is being built for irrigation, plans have been made to allow electrical generation turbines to be installed.

Peigan officials say they are watching the situation carefully, and will be taking action. However, they refuse to give details at this time.

The dam is expected to be operational within two years.

Provincial Briefs

Hunting charges dropped according to treaty rights

STONY PLAIN — The Aboriginal rights section of the Canadian Constitution has helped a Treaty Indian win a court case over hunting rights.

Stony Plain Provincial Court Judge acquitted Ernest Arcand of violating the Migratory Birds Convention Act saying that the regulations of the Act violate Treaty 6 and therefore do not apply to the Native hunter.

Arcand shot two mallard ducks last year during the closed season.

"While the defendant has been without a remedy, I think Section 35 (1), — the Aboriginal rights section of the Canadian Constitution — now gives him one. His treaty is no longer a contract subject to breach; quite the contrary," said the judge.

He went on to say that the treaty which allows Natives to hunt and fish "subject to such regulations as may from time to time be made by the government" cannot be interpreted to include the severe hunting limitations placed on treaty Indians under the Migratory Birds Convention Act.

Settlement man faces murder charge

GIFT LAKE — A 23-year-old man from the Gift Lake Metis Settlement facing a second degree murder charge appeared in court March 1 and was remanded into custody and will appear in court again March 7.

The charges are in connection with a 25-year-old man from Gift Lake who was found shot to death on the weekend after he tried to stop an argument between two brothers.

Marvin Henry Beaver's body was found by a passerby on the road near the settlement.

Gift Lake is located about 300 km northwest of Edmonton.

Group returns to court over dam issue

CALGARY — An environmental group went back to court last week to try to halt construction of the Oldman River dam project.

Friends of the Oldman River Society filed a notice of motion in the Court of Queens Bench asking that construction licence granted to the province three weeks ago be cancelled.

Last December the society was successful in having the court quash the provinces original licence on the basis that the government had failed to properly notify the public, local officials and regulatory authorities.

The group now says the province has contravened last December's ruling by re-issuing the licence.

The group contends the province has once again failed to give the proper public notice before they issued the licence three weeks ago.

Church expected to turn the tide

By Mark McCallum

PEERLESS LAKE — Residents here are working together to complete a special project they hope will combat the fatal effects of alcohol and drug abuse, marriage breakups and suicide.

Members of the community are raising money and working without pay to build a new church for Peerless Lake, which was struck with tragedy about two years ago when six of its young people died after drinking xerox copying fluid.

The community has since pulled together and turned the tide in the other direction, says Peerless Lake resident John Cardinal, noting the tiny Cree community desperately needs a new church because the one they have now is "falling apart."

Cardinal explains Christian masses are currently being held out of an old school trailer, converted to a church six years ago. He says the condition of the trailer is "terrible" because it has no electricity and is scarcely heated by a wood stove.

The poor conditions prompted the Peerless Lake Faith Centre Associa-

tion to start a fund-raising and building campaign early last summer for the new church. Work on the church, which can seat about 300 people, began almost immediately after the community raised \$3,856 for building supplies. Cardinal, who is the centre's administrator, explains nine volunteers from the community earned the money by clearing land and making cut lines for oil companies in the area. With the aid of axes, chainsaws and horse teams, the job was completed in three days.

The money they raised was used to open a line of credit at a Westlock building supplier, which gave the community a

charge account totalling \$9,670.

The church is now close to completion, only some interior work remains, but Cardinal says they have run into some "snags." He explains they have plenty of willing workers but are in need of qualified electricians, to get permits and wire the 48 x 32 sq. ft. church. To make matters worse, he adds they also need an estimated \$5,500 for labor and more supplies.

Cardinal is not certain when the church will be completed, but he notes Municipal Affairs has assured him that the department will give them \$3,500 for the church. He is still waiting for replies from local businesses in the area

and other government funding sources and notes one High Prairie business has already responded and donated \$100.

When the church is completed, it will offer "counselling through the Bible" to Peerless Lake's 450 residents and the 500 residents of neighboring Trout Lake, located about 25 km south. "We're using the Bible to counsel our people," says Cardinal, concluding Peerless Lake is a stronger community today than it was in the past.

"It's getting better all the time because everyone here is getting more and more interested in helping build our community up."

Sending out 'smoke signals'

EDMONTON — Concordia College will hold its first Native Student Awareness Week from March 21 through 25, 1988. Hosted by the Native Student Club, the week's activities are planned to celebrate and inform the campus and visitors about the Native students seeking higher education.

The theme for the week is *Smoke Signals* to

Satellites and daily themes focus on the past and present to the future of Native people in Canada.

Activities will include guest speakers, displays of crafts, art, fashions, and historical artifacts. There will be traditional and modern folk dancers and music.

On Wednesday, the college cafeteria will serve traditional Native foods for

lunch. A tipi will also be erected on campus.

On Thursday afternoon, from 1:15 to 3 p.m., a public meeting will be held to discuss the topic of "Native self-government." The public is invited to attend all events.

Detailed information regarding the program can be obtained by calling 479-8481, extension 267.

Editorial

Are schools giving us all of the facts?

Several years ago, one of the greatest criticisms about education curriculum materials focusing on Native people, history and issues had to do with how Natives were portrayed and the existence of multiple inaccuracies, omissions and negative stereotyping. Simply put, certain materials did not present a true reflection of the Native world and often, such material was counter-productive, due to biased viewpoints within the text.

To compensate, Alberta Education embarked on a mission which, on the surface, appeared as if it might resolve the enigma. It unveiled a plan that would hopefully right the wrongs of curriculum. The province established the Native Education Project (NEP), a department that would organize, promote, monitor and fund the development of Native textbooks for use in schools throughout the province. The labor was conducted by local representatives of the Native and non-Native community — what the NEP coined as "a mutualistic mode" and involved teachers and lay people.

Last month, the fifth of a series of nine books on Native people rolled off the presses. Visually, they are very attractive and well illustrated but how accurate and meaningful are they?

Just how "mutualistic" have the writing projects been? How many of the participants were Native and how many were non-Native? What amount and type of input did the two groups have in what was ultimately produced? Is the end product a factual and fair representation of the subject matter?

The books now in print include two about the Metis and one each on the Blood, Peigan and Sarcee Indians. Already, behind the scenes, there have been some rumblings that the books are not what they should be, that they require modifications. If such is the case, who will see to it that changes are made? If the concerns are not true, there is no need to pursue the matter further.

Who evaluated the material is a legitimate concern of the Native community. This leaves us with one final question. Who ratifies the material produced and what qualifies them to do so?

Wind speaker

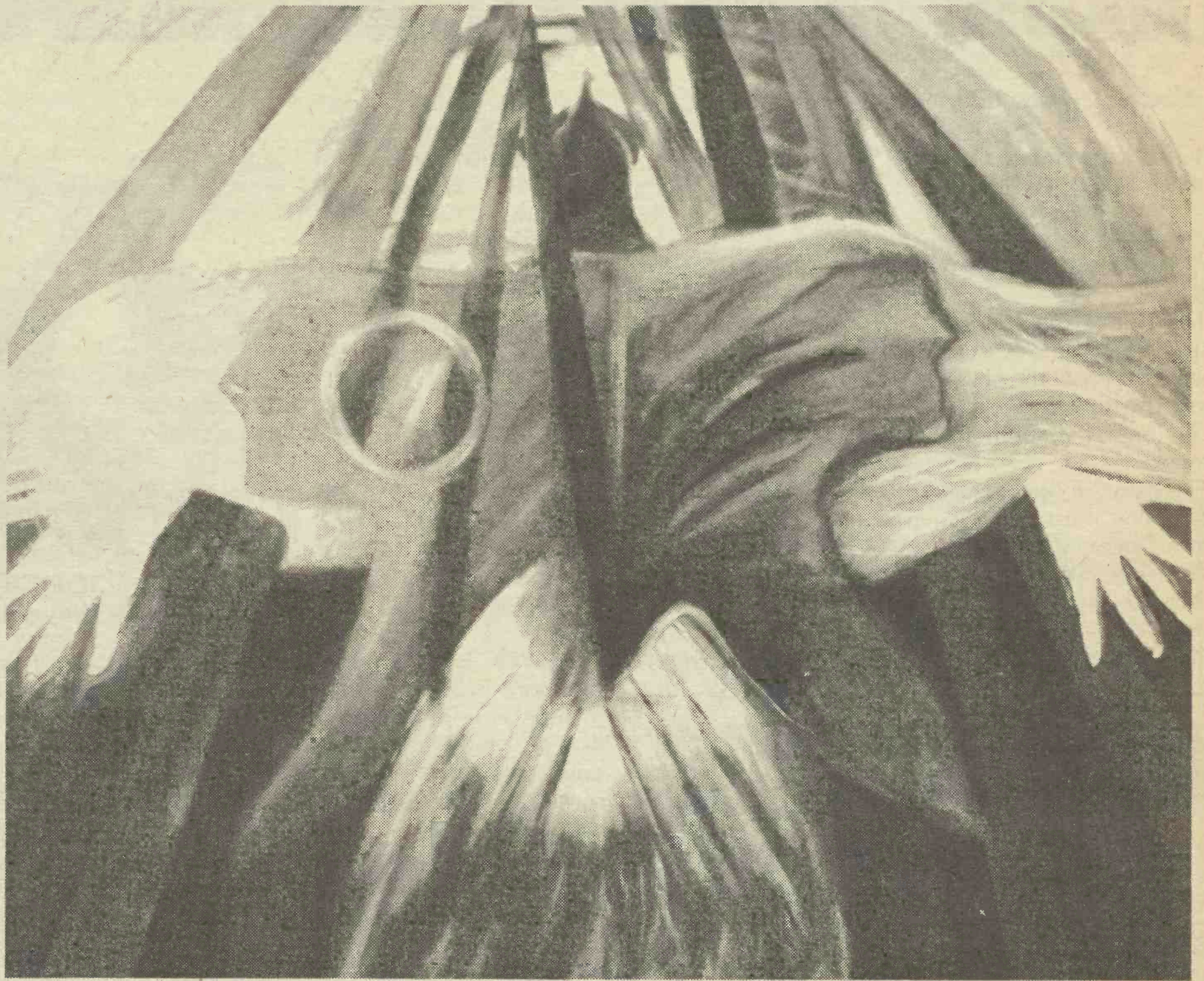
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Windspeaker is a weekly publication of the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society of Alberta. Windspeaker is published every Thursday at 15001-112 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5M 2V6, Phone: (403) 455-2700.

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WINDSPEAKER GALLERY



SILENT, BUT POWERFUL

The exhibit also featured the work of Native artists Rick Beaver, Jim Logan, Al Manybears, this year's winner of the Asum Mena art contest - Kim McLain, Maxine Noel, Jane Ash Poitras, Dale Stonechild, Roy Thomas and the Peace Hills art contest winner, David B. Williams.

This untitled acrylic on canvas by Joanne Cardinal-Shubert was but one sample of the creative art exhibited at Edmonton's Bearclaw Gallery Feb. 12-26. The display was a silent yet powerful statement of support for the Lubicon Indian land claim.

TERRY LUSTY, Windspeaker

Wind speaker

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Opinion

Indian history experts questioned

Dear Editor:

In response to Donald B. Smith's letter regarding the Cree syllabic, published Feb. 5 in Windspeaker.

Indian experts play with the languages, cultures and histories of Aboriginal peoples as if they were playing with tinker-toys, regardless of the prevailing Native perspective. It appears my suit against Glenbow and its associate director Hugh Dempsey is exposing those who are tinkering at the expense of a people they are profiting from. Prof. Smith presents in his letter to the editor "testimony (that) suggests Evans did indeed first develop the Cree syllabary." But tinker-toys and comfortably-dogmatic theories all fall down:

Evans himself not once claimed this invention anywhere in his complete archives, correspondence, or otherwise;

A minimum of three missionaries either claimed the invention or have been attributed with the invention of this syllabary: Reverends T. Hurlbert, Mason and Evans, according to the Steinhauer and Kahkewaquonaby testimony, despite Cree Chief Fine Day's prophecy in which he gave the precise warning that the missionaries "will

change the script and will say the writing belongs to them" (Edmonton Journal, Sept. 28, 1986). The fact is, many Blackfoot, Ojibway and Cree Elders narrate accounts of the pre-Evans use of the syllabic symbols on hide, bark, stone, tipis, etc. The Elders include Louis Sun Child at Hobbema; Joe and Josephine Crowshoe at Peigan; George Baubanekis of the Cree Cross Lake Education Authority in Manitoba; Dr. Anne Anderson and every Elder I've talked with on this subject. The professor of history specializing in Native studies, U of A's Dr. Olive Dickason holds the view that the Cree syllabary's origin is connected with the Cherokee whose own alphabet is ancient according to Chief Sequoyah's family members and secret-society brothers who were interviewed last century. Dr. Marie Batiste,

a Micmac and a Micmac scholar, presents another view in her Stanford University dissertation of Prof. Smith would do well to study carefully;

The syllabary in question matches up with the early Basque (see Basque Encyclopedia), Aramaic, Arabic and other syllabaries. Where it originated no one knows with certainty but the statistical probability of Evans independently "inventing" a system is millions to one. The combined Cree, Blackfoot and Hopi traditions of a Badger-Clan led by a teacher-healer named both Rainmaker and Badger-Call who taught syllabic writing is to me the most compelling and inspiring of all the scenarios and it is Native!

Prof. Smith makes some serious errors. He begins his letter referring to "the generally accepted view that Rev. Evans invented

the Cree syllabics." Yet, among indigenous Elders "the generally accepted view" is quite the opposite. Just ask the Peigan Elders Resolution Committee who I had the honor of meeting with last week. Without one exception, 25 Peigan Elders approved what is to be a chief and council resolution on this matter. So who counts here, Native Elders or Indian experts in ivory towers? And then in the third paragraph the professor states Evans presented his position in 1837 - "Already three years before he left upper Canada for Norway House in Manitoba at Norway House he would (in 1840, three years later) evolve the syllabic system for writing Cree." But Evans himself wrote, and this is taken from his archives provided to me by Toronto's Victoria University: "...I prepared a syllabic alphabet such as I presented to the Bible Society in Toronto in 1836...It is composed of nine letters, varied to represent every sound in the language."

So how did he evolve the syllabic system in 1840 in Norway House when Evans is showing it in Toronto in 1836? Eh, Prof. Smith?

Buff Parry
Native Heritage
& Cultural Centre
Edmonton

Your opinion, please...

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

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

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HAVE YOU
HEARD?...

By Margaret
Desjarlais

Congratulations to **Perry John** and **Charolette Morin** who are now officially husband and wife. The couple tied the knot on Valentine's Day last month at the Ermineskin band. Congratulations again Perry and Charolette and many happy moons.

For all you single girls out there — remember this is leap year entitling you to propose to that wonderful guy who sets your heart on fire. So get with it!

Congratulations also going out to proud parents, **Ruby Ducharme** and **Ken Armstrong** on the arrival of a baby daughter born Feb. 17 at High Level. A sister for **Cole** and a granddaughter for **Mr. & Mrs. Jean Ducharme** and **Jim Armstrong** of Paddle Prairie.

Maria Campbell, author of Halfbreed, has filed for divorce recently. She and hubby **Shannon Twofeathers**, who were married about a year and half ago, resided at Gabriel Crossing near Batoche, Sask.

Belated birthday greetings going out to the following people: **Steven** who was seven Feb. 22 — coming from your parents **Allan** and **Irene Badger** of Kehewin; **Georgina Ducharme**, Cadotte Lake; **Jean Ducharme**, Paddle Prairie; **Terri McLean** of Fort Vermilion; **Kimberly Ahnassay** who turned four Feb. 22; **James** and **Harry Danaïs** of Assumption; **Mary Anne Chonkolay** — coming from **Carolyn** and **Charlotte Danaïs**; and,

A quick look at the people shaping Alberta

Albert Salopree of Meander River who celebrated a birthday Feb. 11.

Mrs. Florence Lapp, a long-time resident of Fort Vermilion, passed away Feb. 13, 1988 after a short illness in Edmonton. Lapp was predeceased by a baby daughter, her only brother and both parents. She leaves behind many friends and relatives who will miss her warm and gentle spirit.

Who Do You Share Your Birthday With?

March 2 - Vern Durocher, Caslan

March 5 - Cory Durocher, Caslan

March 7 - Terrance Patenaude, Caslan

March 8 - Jennifer Desjarlais, Caslan

March 9 - Doug Patenaude, East Prairie; Marlene Desjarlais, Edmonton

March 11 - Lee Dion, Caslan

March 15 - Lillian McCallum, Conklin; Joe Desjarlais, Elizabeth

March 16 - Archie Desjarlais, East Prairie

March 17 - Kathy Durocher, Edmonton

March 19 - Lindsey Amahoose, Kehewin

March 22 - Grace Richards, Fort McMurray

March 24 - Kimberly Cunningham, East Prairie

March 25 - Kenny Howse, High Prairie; Donna Grier, High Prairie; Helen Cardinal, Hinton

March 26 - Clayton Supernault, East Prairie

March 27 - Jonathan Patenaude, Edmonton; Allan Supernault, East Prairie

March 29 - Mary Patenaude, East Prairie

March 30 - Dennis Supernault, Edmonton

March 31 - Clara Patenaude, Edmonton; Harry Supernault, East Prairie

Community

'The kids just loved it'

Anzac festival features jello-eating to dog racing

By Shelley Shehinski

Neither melting snow or a slushy lake could stop the icy celebration of winter at the fifth annual Anzac Winterfest last weekend.

This small hamlet, 43 km southeast of Fort McMurray, paid tribute to winter for two days, Feb. 20 and 21, with their two best resources: snow and children.

Snowshoe, snowmobile and ski races, games for the children and the traditional Siggow (a test for outdoor skills) for all ages kept the social schedule in Anzac, for the 250 who passed through the gate, filled for the entire two days.

Keeping a lid on rambunctious children in the unseasonably warm weather was the task of organizer Joan Tornberg,



SHELLEY SHEHINSKI, Windspeaker

CLAYTON ROY ...jello-eating contest

president of Metis Local 334 — this year's sponsor for the now-traditional celebration.

When all the pillow fights, jello-eating, snowshoe-racing and Siggows had finished, Tornberg confirmed the resounding success of Winterfest days and the financial cause: the children of Anzac. "Last

year we had a hard time but this year we're trying to get things going again," said Tornberg. "It started small five years ago and then last year nobody got behind it; the enthusiasm just wasn't there. It started to come back again this year. A month ago, they were already asking when the Winterfest was."

While the final tally isn't in, it's expected about \$1,300 will support Anzac children. Because the Anzac school only teaches up to Grade 6, it will help fund educational field trips for Grades 7 and 8 pupils.

"I was just happy with the kids that came out. Nobody got down about the weather and the kids just loved it. That's why I stayed involved."

Of the nine, 10 and 11-year-olds, Ryan Marten snowshoed, pulled a sled and sawed logs to a first-place finish in the junior Siggow. Roy Mulawka netted himself firsts in the 12, 13 and 14-year-old Siggow category and moose-calling categories.

With \$380 from skidoo race registration, business donations and gate sales, Anzac children should have a little extra educational help this year, said another Winterfest organizer, Larry Avery.

"We don't have a lot of money in the community to give these kids some different things to do, especially at night," said Avery. "We're just trying to get something going for



SHELLEY SHEHINSKI, Windspeaker

ANZAC KIDS ...pillow fight bashing

McKenzie third.

Although runs were shortened due to soggy ice conditions on Gregoire Lake, 11 dog teams showed up raring to go for the now-annual dog races in three categories, said dog-race organizer Paul Madsen.

Finishing first in the highly competitive six-dog race was Richard Ladouceur followed by Ed Ladouceur and Cal McGonigle. Steve Forest won the three-dog

race with Gordon Hogg second and his daughter Jackie third.

Jack Tobin took first in the four-dog race and Karen Hogg second.

"Except for the weather, it was excellent," said a jubilant Madsen. "We only had to shorten the course because of the weather but it was really something to see."

Swan River grads finish lifeskills

By Wayne Anderson

KINUSO — Swan River Band completed their first Lifeskills Course on Feb. 5, 1988. The graduates have learned a great deal in the areas of personal growth, communication skills, drug and alcohol abuse, parenting

skills, job readiness, goal setting, cultural awareness, as well as many other areas. This five month course also included a month of field placement, learning about the work place and what career choices the students may be interested in.

Instructor Belinda Pack

is pleased to announce the graduates of this course: Marilyn Davis, Virginia Davis, Wanda Giroux, Brenda Sound, Rose Sowan, Alex Whitford and Mary Whitford all of Kinuso.

Many congratulations and best of luck in the future to you all.

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Peace River man fiddles up a storm

By Mark McCallum

PEACE RIVER -- The big winner at the Sagitawa Friendship Society sixth annual talent show this year was fiddle player Marcel Allain, who walked away with an armful of trophies.

The 77-year old won three trophies in the open instrumental contest, oldest entertainer category and the Dan Sawan Memorial Award. "I'm glad I got something anyway," said the modest winner. He notes proudly that he used the violin of his late brother (Al Allain, who passed away two years ago) in the talent show.

To accommodate overwhelming crowds that were expected for the celebration, the talent show was moved from the Sagitawa Centre and held at the Al "Boomer" Adair Recreation Centre on Feb. 26. The society's executive director, Judy Norstrom, says audience response was "just great!"

Some 180 people turned out to watch contestants compete for trophies in music and dance categories.

In the vocals contest, Norstrom says it was close. In the end, Rene Metecat, Mishi Donovan, Tex Napio and Edward Gray were all awarded trophies, finishing in their respective order.

The jiggging contest featured young competitors who put on an entertaining display for the audience, notes Norstrom. The winner was Darcy Lizotte, who also took the best entertainer trophy. The 11-year-old was followed by eight-year-old Lawna Knott and seven-year-old Martina Cardinal in the jiggging contest.

Norstrom hopes the talent show is equally successful next year as she notes that contestants came from as far away as Calgary, Fort Vermilion and Grande Prairie for the annual event.



DROPPIN IN

By Mark McCallum

Young people at Peerless Lake are funnelling their time and energy into sports and more traditional activities of late, according to Peerless Lake school principal Rod Giles.

Giles credits the community for becoming more involved. He explains the community began participating in a load of activities after the school gym was open to the public for the first time ever at the beginning of this school year.

Now, the community is welcome to participate in gym nights and floor hockey tournaments such as the most recent one held at the school in mid-February. It was a 14-team tourney that lasted two days, says Giles.

The gym was also used by junior high students in January for a one-week trapper training program. Giles notes that everyone, all of the boys and girls as well, took part in the program that was offered to the school by the Lac La Biche AVC (Alberta Vocational Centre). "They learned everything from setting snares to selling furs," he explains.

The school children are also taking part in cultural activities such as beading and storytelling time, provided by community Elders at the school.

Giles says another reason there's more activities and participation is because a bus was recently posted at the school. The school bus is serving a dual purpose, safely delivering children to school and joining Peerless Lake with its neighboring community, Trout Lake (24 km away).

A big finale is being planned for the community that will take place towards the end of the school year. Giles explains that some 100 students at the school will have a chance to take part in building traditional handcrafted canoes that should be ready in time for the spring thaw.

Great stuff Peerless Lake, keep it up! Now, let's see what else is happening around the province.

STURGEON LAKE: The health centre is looking for a square dance instructor. If you're wondering what square dancing has to do with your health, aside from getting your body in good physical condition, it's a great way to meet people and have a good time. According to the Sturgeon Lake band's addiction counsellor, Phillip Campiou, it's also a great alternative to alcohol and drugs.

Campiou explains that he has been trying to set up a square dance group "because there's been a demand for it here for some time now." He says AA groups that meet at the health centre have shown interest in learning how to square dance. Everything is set, adds Campiou, noting they have pre-recorded music on tape that is ready to roll. Money has also been put aside to pay the instructor. Plotting out the program very carefully, Campiou says if they get the group off the ground, they would like to hold sober dances and use proceeds to take trips to alcohol and drug abuse treatment conferences and roundups.

Anyone interested in the job can call him at 524-5520.

BIG HELLOS!: Edmonton resident John Sagutch would like to send his best to his foster parents at Wetaskiwin, the Rolls family. And, Debra Cardinal would like to pass on a really, really big greeting to the whole city of Lethbridge where she is currently living.

COLD LAKE: Resident Lorraine Loth says the turnout for the Cold Lake second annual winter carnival was great because the reserve was fortunate enough to be blessed with mild temperatures during the week-long event. She notes that warm temperatures helped make a load of activities that took place at the carnival more enjoyable. About 300 people from surrounding communities such as Frog Lake, Goodfish Lake and the Elizabeth Metis Settlement flocked to the reserve, which held the carnival Feb. 19-21. She says one of the biggest thrills at the event was a horse harness parade, which was only one of more than a dozen events that took place. Judging from everyone's response, she adds it looks like next year's winter carnival should be just as successful if this one is any indication.

Have a great week!



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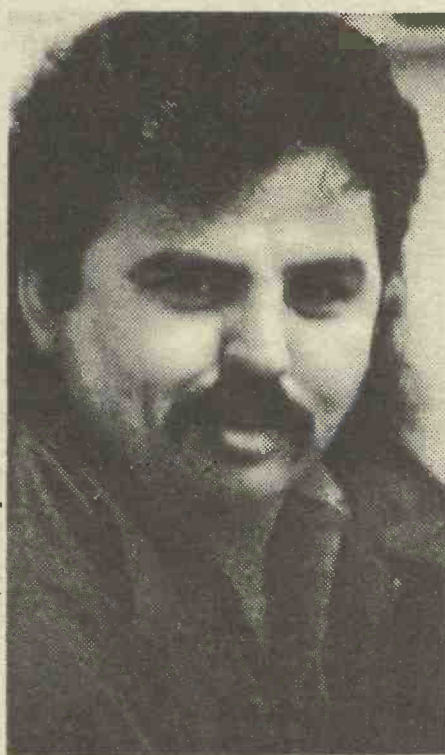
Community

Metis community in city is just a hoppin'

By Lyle Donald
Community
Correspondent
Edmonton

Well, it's been a long time since I have had to do my own typing and pounding out a freelance story for Windspeaker, that I almost forgot how much fun it really is. In this column we hope to report and keep up with what is happening in the Metis community all across Alberta and after countless meetings, I think it was about one meeting with the editor and big push around here, Dianne Meili, we worked out an agreement on what should go into this report and this is what it is going to look like. If feedback is good it may become a regular feature.

On February 18 we took the Canadian Native Friendship Centre **junior square dance group** from **Edmonton** to entertain at the Native Awareness Days at the friendship centre in the Olympic host city. Despite a poor turnout for the event



LYLE DONALD
...enjoys writing

the people who showed up for it got more than their money's worth. Not only the kids showed their fancy footwork, but Native entertainer **Winston Wuttunee** gave the audience his funny versions of the Metis National anthem — the Red River Jig, showing them the fatman, the shyman, RCMP and missionary jigs. It was also good to see well-known artist and photographer originally from Faust, **Dale Auger** and his better half **Grace** (maybe I should say three-

quarters because they are just a little time away from having child number two). Dale and Grace have been going to school in Calgary the past few years and are enjoying it down in Cowtown. If you have been following the last couple editions of Windspeaker you will have seen some of the beautiful work Dale puts on canvas.

Being the busybody I am, I have been taking in a couple of the Friday night dances at the Elks Lodge hosted by the **United Metis Locals** of greater Edmonton. On Feb. 12 the **Silver Creek Band** played for the Valentine's dance, hosted by the **Spruce Grove local**. The only bad thing about the dance was that the cupid's arrow somehow missed me. A couple weeks before that the **Fourth Generation Band** entertained there to an enthusiastic and noisy crowd.

A lot of good things are starting to come out of these dances, good entertainment and any money raised goes

into buying recreation equipment for the Oteenow Sports and Recreation Club. Just recently **Gary Boudreau** has been asked to volunteer his time and efforts to promote these dances. He has already gotten together a house band to play for next to nothing, their promotions also include a jam session at which anyone who wants to can go up and sing. Also, if you are celebrating a birthday, they will bake you a cake. They even have a shuttle service — if you have a little too much to drink they will either drive you home, or pay your taxi. How many bars provide a service like that? So get out there, help out a good cause and have a good time enjoying the Metis entertainment. By the way, it's on 119 St. and 129 Avenue.

Since November '87, **Metis Children's Services** has been training 20 women to work as family support workers, directed by a woman known as the Mighty Metis Midget, **Lucille McLeod**. These ladies will be going out on

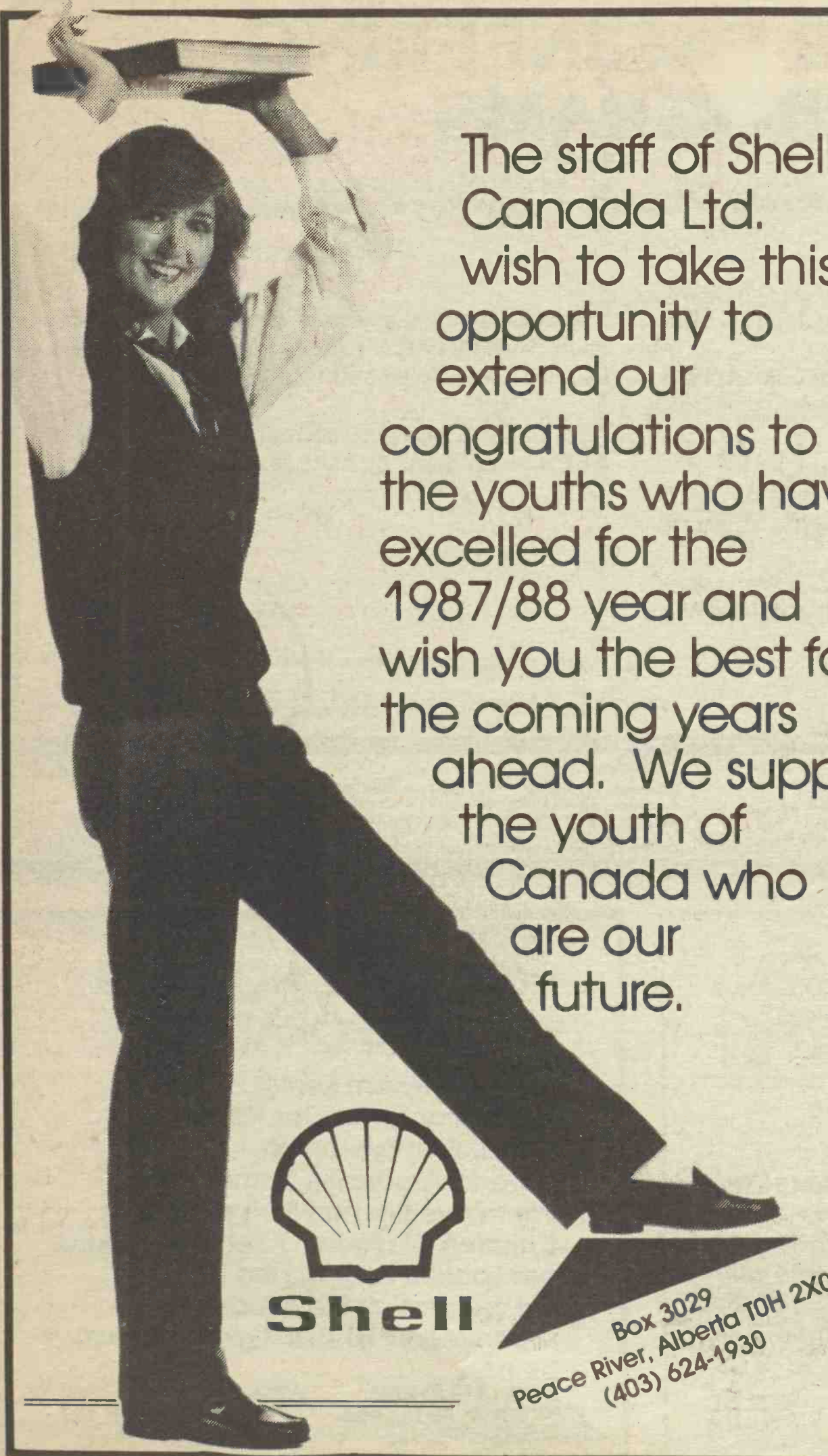
their field placements, mostly in child welfare units at several Social Services district offices. They will be helping Metis families going through child welfare fulfill their case plans and get the file closed. There will be more on this story in an upcoming issue.

Getting back to the **Oteenow Sports Club**, they held a dance last Friday Feb. 26, featuring Moose Mountain's great fiddler, **Homer Poitras**. A lot of people who remember Homer showed up and took part in some high-stepping Metis aerobics (jigging and two-stepping).

Homer was telling us about the good time he had playing a benefit **Calihoo** last month for the **Mitchell** family who were victims of a house fire. Despite the -28 C temperature they had a real big turnout. Homer said his brother **Fast Eddy Poitras** was calling the square dances and that there were always four groups doing their Metis aerobics.

Great singer **Karen St. Jean** we are very proud of you! What a cheering section she had (at the CFCW Star Search competition finals on Feb. 28) with the likes of **MAA prez Larry Desmeules**, **Butch Plante** of Local 1885, **Andy Collins** from Bonnyville and numerous other people from our community. It's good to see such a close and supportive family like Karen has; you can see the harmony when they are together and hear it in their music when they play. Other Native artists like **Priscilla Morin**, the **Fourth Generation Band**, **Terri Daniels**, **Laura Vinson** and others need our support, too. So when you see their names on posters or in the papers playing in your communities, get out there and support them, they are all very approachable people.

So, if you would like to give some input on what your community is up to, please give us a call at Windspeaker at 455-2700 and we will try to get it into the column. Until next time, stand up and be proud of what you are.



The staff of Shell Canada Ltd. wish to take this opportunity to extend our congratulations to the youths who have excelled for the 1987/88 year and wish you the best for the coming years ahead. We support the youth of Canada who are our future.

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VERONIQUE CARDINAL
...passed away Feb. 16

Remembered as independent

OBITUARY Veronique Cardinal

Veronique Cardinal (nee Ladouceur) passed away on Feb. 16, 1988, in Hay River, at the age of 96 years. She was born on June 10, 1891 to Narcisse and Julie Ladouceur who lived in the Lac La Biche and Plamondon areas.

She married Solomon Cardinal in 1909. When the

First World War ended, she and her family moved to the Fort Chipewyan region. They settled at Big Point, on the south shore of Lake Athabasca, with other Metis families from Lac La Biche. There they trapped, hunted, fished and gardened.

Later, they moved to the Northwest Territories. Solomon died in 1972 and Veronique divided her time

between her daughter Mary in Fort Chipewyan and her son Felix in Hay River.

She was an independent woman. Shortly before she died, she was talking about going out on the trapline.

Veronique is survived by her half-sister, Peggy Sanderson of Fort Smith, four children, 20 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren.

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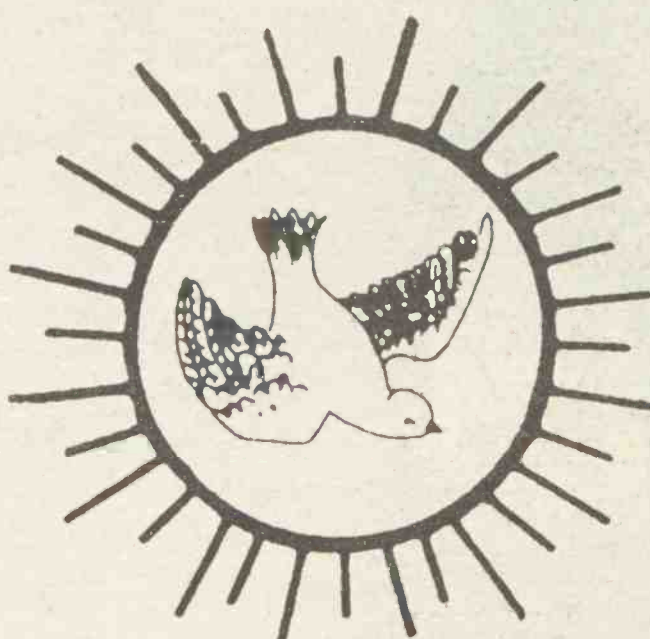


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I'm a NAIT graduate with a Business Administration diploma. I would like to help the people from my community with my education background—with this education I would like to create employment and help start up new businesses in the community. I would 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

MARGO KANE



DIANNE MEILL, Windspeaker

Edmonton-born Metis actress Margo Kane, 36, overcame prejudice, drug and alcohol abuse and thoughts of suicide to become a successful actress and national Native role model.

She has starred in television shows — the *Beachcombers*, *Danger Bay* and *Spirit Bay*, as well as numerous plays including a self-written, directed and acted one-woman play. She is now attempting to set up a national network for Native actors and actresses.

"The network would help develop communication among Native actors across Canada," said Kane, who also sees the network acting as a type of referral and information bureau.

It is the type of network that someone like Kane could have used during her formative acting years. She was adopted at an early age says she has always wanted to work in the performing arts.

"I've always been performing. I used to sing to the songs on the radio. When I babysat I would make up stories to tell the kids and when I was 12 I was a go-go dancer with a bunch of friends," recalls Kane.

But the actress, despite her optimistic outlook on life faced many obstacles in her life including prejudice and drug and alcohol abuse. At 18, having dropped out of school even though an honor student, Kane even contemplated suicide.

"I felt I had failed," says Kane. "Nothing I could do was ever good enough. I had dropped out of school and I had no one to turn to for help.

"Then I stopped and began to ask myself questions and I asked myself what was I here for?" Eventually, it was her craving to perform that pulled her from her slump.

"When I heard the music and when I danced I could feel this energy in me. I felt complete with the universe and I knew I had a gift." Kane went on to study dancing, acting and singing. And her new energy led her to look more closely at her culture and her Indian origins.

"The prejudice I saw and felt because I was an Indian made me more proud and more determined to be an Indian," says Kane. But in acting that prejudice took a new form. Kane, like most — if not all Native performers, was continually cast in the role of a Native.

In the *Beachcombers* Kane played a doctor — a Native doctor. Similarly, in *Spirit Bay* she played a Native teacher and in *Danger Bay* a Native lawyer. "Being typecast into Native roles is a problem," says Kane. But I think it is something we could work on if we can get this network set up."

Kane, who now makes her home in Vancouver, sees a future for young Native performers but warns there are often financial and emotional barriers to overcome and live with.

"I think attitude is the most important thing," says Kane. "You have to be always willing to watch, to listen and to learn.

"Life is a classroom and we are the students."

By Dan Dibbell

MAURICE L'HIRONDELLE

PHOTO COURTESY OF FEDERATION OF METIS SETTLEMENTS



Maurice L'Hirondelle is still waging the battle for Metis rights, a struggle he's been a part of more than 50 years.

The 77-year-old is a key source and representative of Alberta's eight existing Metis settlements, currently searching for clues they hope will establish claims for the surface value (trees for harvesting, soil for farming etc.) of four disassembled Metis settlements and the below surface mineral rights for the 12 original settlements set aside by the provincial government for the Metis people.

A founding member of the Metis Association of Alberta in 1932, L'Hirondelle says the government set aside the settlements for "homeless" Metis families in 1938. But, he claims the decision was met with anger from farmers and loggers at the time because it was the "Hungry '30s" during the depression when "everyone was starving." What followed was the disassembling of four Metis settlements — Wolf Lake, Dutch Wood Lake, Cold Lake and Marlboro.

Born at Lac La Nonne near Barrhead, L'Hirondelle says the Metis people have come a long way in the past 50 years. He recalls early Metis settlers could rarely afford to even hold organized meetings. Raising what little money they could, he says many used the Lac St. Anne religious pilgrimage as a meeting place. Today, although government funds assist Metis people to a larger degree, L'Hirondelle concludes Metis people must continue to struggle for their rights.

By Mark McCallum

IAN WILLIER

WINDSPEAKER PHOTO FILE



Actor Ian (Dale) Willier has scripts after appearing in two feature pictures — *Loyalties* and *Daughters of the Country*. The 15-year-old's biggest algebra and finishing high school. Although the teen actor from the reserve is still pursuing his movie. Willier is currently in his second Grade 10 studies at the Blue Quill facility near St. Paul.

Willier has balanced both acting in the past. "I can do both," he says. school tutor held classes with him on his second acting job. He passed his completed work on a four part mini-series, *Daughters of the Country*, follows the course of a Metis family from the century to modern day.

Willier was 13 years old when he landed acting role in the movie *Loyalties*, which to win five major awards at the 13th annual Alberta Motion Picture Industries Association (AMPIA) presentations last year. In the available at some video outlets across the he appears as the son of a strong-willed woman, played by seasoned actress Tara Cardinal.

Willier has his mind set on finishing high school and acting. He also enjoys portrait painting. he may later develop into an art career. On weekends, he usually spends his free time with relatives at the Hobbema reserve.

By Mark McCallum



PHOTO COURTESY OF "TO RUN WITH LONGBOAT"

STEVE COLLINS

He is one of the top 10 best ski jumpers in Canada and at 23 years of age he was one of the country's brightest hopes for a medal at the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary.

While he didn't win a medal at the Olympics, Steve Collins, an Objibway from Thunder Bay, Ontario, did win the admiration of more than 60 Native youths gathered at an Aboriginal youth conference in Calgary.

"If they've (the youth) got goals for downhill skiing they should never let down on themselves," advises Collins. "They have to go out and try their hardest and then try harder yet."

Collins began his skiing career when he was only five. He says it was a passion that possessed him. "I was just skiing all the time," he says. By the time Collins was 10 he started competing in downhill and at 14 he began ski jumping.

In 1984 Collins participated in his first Olympics placing ninth in the 90-metre jump and 28th in the 70-metre.

"I've set goals for my life and have always aimed for them," says Collins. "You have to do what you want to do. Don't let anyone else tell you what that is."

By Dan Dibbell

SCOTT LAWRENCE

WINDSPEAKER PHOTO FILE



While most children were still learning their ABC's, eight-year-old Scott Lawrence was becoming a country music sensation. Lawrence learned his alphabet. But, unlike most children his age, he began playing the violin at age three. The toddler later learned to sing and took the show on the road, accompanied by his parents, of course.

Father Leonard J. Lawrence explains that although his son cannot read music, Scott has a "musical ear" and natural talent for entertaining. The Slave Lake-born child prodigy has won about 50 trophies for singing and fiddling, says Leonard, noting 80 per cent of these are first place finishes. The proud pop adds Scott's biggest stand-out was at last summer's "Back to Batoche Days" where he took first place in the singing and fiddling categories.

"I mostly like fiddling," says Scott bashfully. He explains he picked up his musical talent from his father and enjoys country music above all other forms of entertainment. His dream is to play fiddle and sing at "The Grand Ole Opry" in Nashville.

By Mark McCallum

EXCELLING

...in everything from acting and politics to music and sports

Arts and Crafts

Mammoth tusks turned into jewellery

Yukon carver uses ancient medium

By Dan Dibbelt

Fred Edzerza is one of only a few artists who can claim to work on a "canvas" that's more than 20,000 years old.

The Tahltan Indian, who lives in Whitehorse, Yukon, is an artist who carves his masterpieces on Woolly Mammoth tusks, animals that haven't lived on earth for thousands of years.

"The tusks are not something easily found," said Edzerza. "But they are to be found in the permafrost." And they can also be bought from trappers and hunters in the area who find them on their treks — but they are expensive.

"Usually they run about \$60 to \$75 a pound while walrus runs at about \$30 a pound," explains Edzerza. "But mammoth is also about twice as heavy, therefore you get half the size of a walrus tusk for the same price."

From the tusks, Edzerza carves intricate animal sculptures and striking jewellery, many with gold inlay.

But Edzerza does not limit himself to mammoth and walrus tusk carvings. He has also worked extensively with sheep and goat horn, bear claws and teeth, abalone shell and even a narwhal (small whale) tusk.

"I was carving on-site at Expo 86 in Vancouver," explained Edzerza. "I was to have carved a mammoth tusk but it was not available at the last moment." A friend with a narwhal tusk stepped in and for two months Edzerza patiently carved seven scenes of northern transportation on the seven foot tusk.

Other exhibits

While the Expo exhibition was one of Edzerza's

longest exhibits it was definitely not his first. The Festival of Native Arts in Fairbanks, Alaska; World Assembly of First Nations, Regina, Sask.; and the North American Foundation for Wild Sheep Exhibition in Hawaii are but a few of his exhibits.

And now Edzerza can add the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary to his list. There, his work was displayed for sale at the Alberta Crafts Council store in the Performing Arts Centre. He also carved in an exhibition for the athletes at the Athletes village.

"I got a lot of very positive response," says Edzerza of his exhibition. "A Russian diplomat told me he was very impressed and expressed hope that this type of work be passed on to others."

Edzerza's work is indeed impressive, largely because of the detail he incorporates in each piece and also because of his understanding of animal musculature and structure. He credits this to his upbringing in Telegraph Creek, B.C. There, his family owned a

hunting lodge and Edzerza's frequent exposure to wildlife educated him to their anatomy.

His first carvings were not on tusks or horns but on wood and then leather. Wanting to expand his artwork, Edzerza moved onto tusk and horn carving, a traditional art of Indians.

Rainbow of colors

Edzerza found this type of carving fascinating. The different animal tusks and horns contained a rainbow of colors and textures creating a more diverse potential for each art piece.

In some of his work Edzerza has incorporated several different horns and tusks. His most stunning example, and the piece he is most proud of, is a medallion he was commissioned to create for the Andy Philipson Law Centre in Whitehorse.

The medallion created by Edzerza incorporates walrus and mammoth tusk, moosehorn, abalone shell as well as silver, gold and copper, in the sacred spiritual circle design.

The medallion is divided into four quadrants



DAN DIBBELT / WINDSPEAKER

ARTIST FRED EDZERZA
...work displayed at Olympics

representing east, west, north and south as well as the four seasons. On permanent display at the law centre, the \$15,000 medallion took Edzerza four months to create.

For those with a smaller budget Edzerza has created pieces for as little as \$100.

"The carvings usually start at about \$250," said Edzerza. "The jewellery generally runs from about \$60 to \$350, depending on the type of horn or tusk used, the amount of gold and the detail involved."

Spirit shields

One of his most popular items is his traditional spirit shield, a representative of the warrior shields. The size of the shields depend, again on the type of horn or tusk used, but usually run from the size of a quarter to a silver dollar.

"Shields made from goat horn are the most expensive," explains Edzerza.

"The goat horn are very hard to get, but extremely beautiful." These shields are usually smaller because of the size of the horn but are a striking black color, usually with gold inlay and feathers provide contrast.

While Edzerza's work is not easily found outside of the Yukon it is starting to make its way around the country, including a woolly mammoth sculpture carved out of a mammoth tusk now on display at the National Indian Art Centre in Ottawa.

"I hope to continue doing shows around the country to get exposure," said Edzerza. And his eventual hope is to market his products internationally.

Until then his work can be seen at the Alberta Crafts Council Store in Calgary until May. Or those interested in commissioning a piece, Edzerza can be reached in Whitehorse (403) 668-2728.

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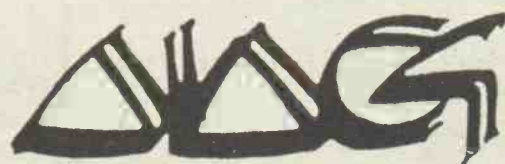
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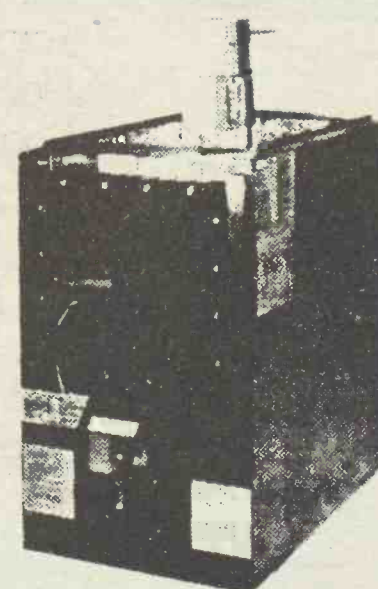
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Culture

Dance group will bring Native culture to the world

By Lesley Crossingham

Members of the White Braid Society have exhibited their unique style of dance all over the country. But they are about to venture overseas to appear at the upcoming international children's festival in Ankara, Turkey.

This is the first time a Native Canadian dance troop has performed in Turkey, says White Braid president Martha Campiou-Zarutsky. A number of new dances have been devised in celebration of this unique festival, she adds.

"A lot of people asked us why we are going to Turkey when we could put the money to other use. But I say that the world needs to know about Native people, and our ways and culture," says Campiou-Zarutsky.

Twelve young dancers accompanied by seven adults will fly to Turkey for the opening day of the festival set for April 14.

"We want to explain our entire way of life in the form of dance," explains Campiou-Zarutsky, adding she feels her society is best qualified because "not



CAMPIOU-ZARUTSKY
...heads overseas

every Native person can put on a costume and do it justice."

Vice-president Lloyd Auger says he is excited about the upcoming trip and has been working with the youngsters on a number of new dances.

"We have been working on the shield dance and there will be new presentations of the feather, fish and round dances, as well as the snake dance," he said.

Auger points out that when the youngsters are performing the dances, the narrator (usually himself or Campiou-Zarutsky), inform the audience of the true meaning behind the display and give information on Native culture and heritage.

"We let people know

about our Native spirituality," explains Campiou-Zarutsky. "We let them know that we have the high power of the great spirit and we ask for blessings using the sweetgrass at the opening and closing of all our dances."

Auger and Campiou-Zarutsky also explain the meaning behind the Native costumes and regalia worn by the dancers. The symbolism of such traditional Native adornment as the eagle feather is also explained.

Plans are going ahead for the Turkey trip; Campiou-Zarutsky admits it will cost \$22,486 and although much of the money has been raised by bingos and funding drives, the society still needs about \$12,000.

"All our people are volunteers and they have been working with us for a long time," she explains, adding the fundraising campaign is continuing with the raffle of a ghetto-blasters radio, a swatch watch and a ribbon shirt. The tickets cost \$1 and the draw will be made at the May 7 Ben Calgrobe powwow.

The dancers travelling to Turkey are: Wasesquan

Bellerose, Mark McKennit, Bobby Hunter, Christina Auger, Bradley Cote, Maria Carop, Michelle LaFleur, Rhonda Cardinal, Craig Auger, Stoney Whiskeyjack, Rita Bellerose and Rick Boudrea.

Accompanying the youngsters will be Martha Campiou-Zarutsky, Lloyd Auger and Marguerite Auger, Frank Morin, Theresa Bellerose, Cecil Redstar, Christine Daniels and drummer Morris Crier.

For donations or raffle tickets contact the society at 10176 - 117 Street, Edmonton, 482-4549. You can also contact treasurer John Gray at 487-2641 or Martha Campiou-Zarutsky at 447-3493.

Delta dancers dazzle Calgarians

An Inuit dance and drum group mesmerized the audience at Calgary's Glenbow theatre Feb. 26 when they displayed their dances and songs dressed in their traditional parkas.

Ten dancers and drummers whirled and turned to the sound of the small hand drum the Inuit have used for centuries. However, commentator Billy Day explained that the modern drums are now made of plastic rather than the traditional caribou skins of years ago.

Many of the dances portrayed stories of hunting expeditions across the pack-ice of the Arctic and other dances celebrated an event such as marriage or birth.

The dancers all come from Alkavik, Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik, N.W.T., and many are over 70 years old



LESLEY CROSSINGHAM, Windspeaker

INUIT DANCE and DRUM GROUP
...mesmerizes all who watch

explained Day. He added that the traditional parkas worn during the dance have been passed down the generations.

"Many of us have been approached by museums to display our outfits. But we prefer to keep them," he said.

The dancers are: Mark Noskana, Amos Paul, Kathleen Hanson, Sarah Tingmiak, Billy Day, Norman Felix, Ralph Kimeksana, Alex Gordon, Georginne Gordon and Dorcus Allan. The troop will be returning to Inuvik later this week.



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Sports



DAN DIBBELI / Windspeaker

OILER PLAYER
...helping build a winner

Hobbema Oilers take defeats during team rebuilding phase

By Kim McLain

The word is out that the Hobbema Oilers can be beaten, says Oiler coach Peter Johnson.

"We're in the middle of rebuilding the team," says Johnson in a telephone interview from his office in Hobbema. He explains that during this "rebuilding" time the Oilers are vulnerable as the veteran players move on to make room for rookies.

Experience, says Johnson, is one of the team's strongest points. The Oilers boast about their offensive power, too.

"We're not a big team," he says, "but we're strong in puck handling, experience and penalty killing." And captain Dennis Buffalo proves that point. He's the 14-year veteran who still leads the club in goal scoring. Another powerhouse in the offense is Joey Potts, ex-Hawk, now a center for four years.

Dennis Whitebear is known as "quick and tricky" with the puck. Johnson adds that Dwayne Johnson is a mainstay for the defence. "He holds the defence together pretty well...helps out the younger players, too."

But not long ago, the Oilers were defeated by the Blackfoot Miners in Sarcee. It was the Oilers first loss in nearly ten years.

Most recently the Oilers drove eight hours east to Regina for a 12-team tournament. They lost out there too, but they were already halfway beaten before they even played one game. Their first game was scheduled for Friday evening — too early for most of the Hobbema players, many who were still at work or waiting to cash pay cheques. So the Oilers had to forfeit the first game and take a loss — not good in a double knock-out tournament.

By Saturday afternoon all the players were ready for action as they smoked the Broadview Ochapowace Pontiacs 5-1. That same day the Oilers went on to defeat the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College team 5-1, another blowout for the Oilers.

Then on Sunday morning the Oilers found themselves up 4-1 against the infamous Dog Lake Raiders in the second period. Coach Johnson says that the offense started to relax a bit and let the defence take over. "But they were asleep, too," he says. "The next thing we know, we've lost in overtime 6-5."

Manager for the Oilers, Buddy Currie, says the team was "overconfident and careless." He adds that they "beat the winning teams before. But this even happens to the (Edmonton) Oilers."

A coordinator for the Regina competition, Milton Tootoosis, confirms the

Oiler's performance. He says the forfeited game might have hurt the Oilers' chance at the \$3,000 prize.

As it turned out, the Dog Lake Raiders went on to snare the huge cash purse. The Cody Selects earned \$1,500 for their second place finish while Manitoba's Ebbandflow Flyers took home the \$800 third place purse.

Tootoosis calls the tournament "one of the best so far." He says there was about 1,200 to 1,500 people on the final day — a capacity crowd for the Regina Exhibition Stadium.

"Both dances were sellouts," he says. "And at the Saturday night cabaret, which was out of town, we ran out of liquor and had to go buy off-sales."

For now, the Oilers are resting up until the Siksika Cup, hosted by the Blackfoot Miners, in two weeks.

"We got a bone to pick over there," says Johnson.



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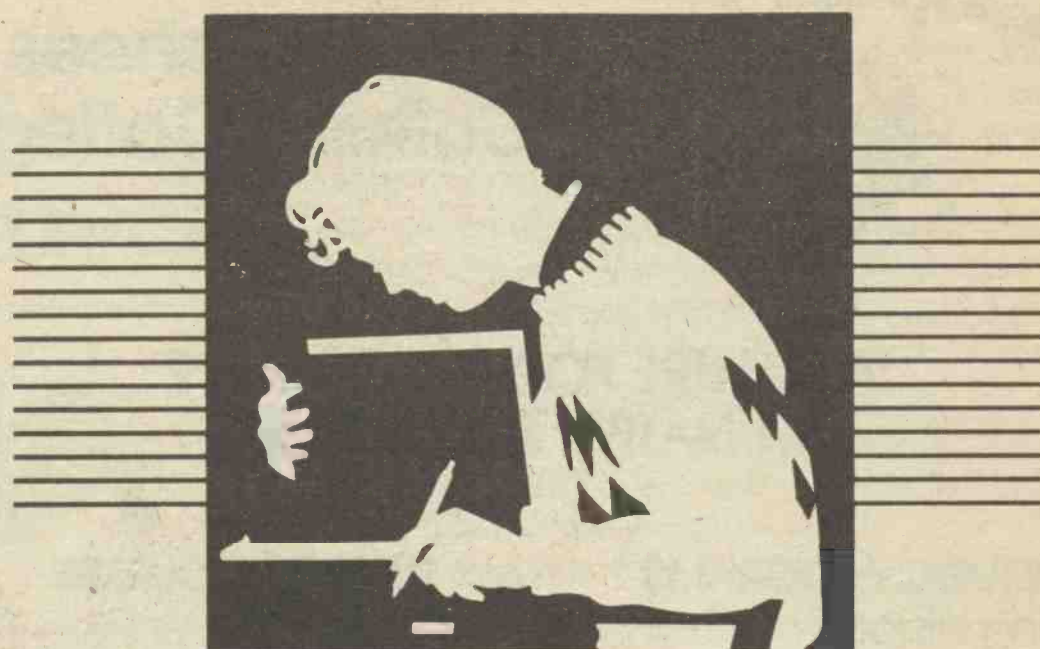
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Morley peewees win provincials

By Larry Erutse

The Morley Winterhawks were less than two minutes away from defeating the Saddle Lake Eagles 9-1 at a peewee (12 to 13 years old) hockey tournament held at the Blackfoot arena on Feb. 20-21 when the game was cancelled due to fighting.

The Winterhawks were still awarded gold medals for their win because "there was no way the Saddle Lake team could have scored eight goals in one minute," says tournament organizer Malcolm Sitting Eagle.

The Eagles were given silver medals for their second place finish. The Blackfoot Braves, the host team, received the bronze medal for defeating the Kehewin Peewees 7-3. The Peewees took home a fourth place trophy and the team sportsmanship award.

The MVP went to Steed Wesley of the Winterhawks. The all-stars of the tourney

are as follows: Linol Badger, Kehewin Peewees; Clay Pellittier, Blackfoot Braves; Allen Simion and Cody Labelle, Morley Winterhawks and Samuel and Lenny Cardinal, Saddle

Lake Eagles.

The two players chosen as all-stars in each of the 10 games in chronological order are: Mike Cardinal, Saddle Lake Eagles and Linol Badger, Kehewin

Peewees; Rambert Red Crow, Blackfoot Braves and Walter Little Poplar, Hobbema Royals; Joseph Alexis, Alexis Peewees and Cody Labelle, Morley Winterhawks; Lenny Cardinal, Saddle Lake Eagles and Lance Big Crow, Sarcee Seven Chiefs; Darnell Favel, Hobbema Royals and Derrick Potts, Alexis Peewees; Clay Pellittier, Blackfoot Braves and Garet Baptiste, Morley Winterhawks; Lee Dodging Horse, Sarcee Seven Chiefs and Dayton Gadwa, Kehewin Peewees; Keith Steven, Blackfoot Braves and Shawn Agina, Alexis Peewees; Keith Kawechak, Kehewin Peewees and Kirk Yellow Fly, Blackfoot Braves; Samuel Cardinal, Saddle Lake Eagles and Collin Simion, Morley Winterhawks.

Sitting Eagle was pleased with the tournament although the final game ended in fighting.

Oldtimers hockey at Saddle Lake

By Kim McLain

Old hockey players don't fade away -- they just enter oldtimer tournaments, like the one at Saddle Lake last Feb. 26-28 weekend.

"Most of the teams were in good shape," said Ken Kakeesim, recreation man at Saddle Lake. "They used the skills they have...there were a lot of good passing."

It was the Alexander oldtimers who got the best return from their \$200 entry fee, winning the "A" side to snare the \$800 first place finish. The Alexander

team's finesse with the puck proved to be too much for the North Battleford, Sask. oldtimers -- Alexander won 8-6. The Saskatchewan team bagged \$600 for their second place finish.

On the "B" side, Kehewin fought back in the third period from a two goal deficit to an 8-7 victory over Wabasca. Kehewin took home \$500 while Wabasca pocketed \$400.

Other teams on hand were from St. Paul, Goodfish Lake, Alexis and Saddle Lake.



SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Kim McLain

Time to pursue more sports trivia

Time for another sports trivia contest -- and more prizes. This week the question is: Who is the first and only Indian to be added to the University of Alberta Sports Hall of Fame?

If you need a clue, look in the Feb. 5, 1988 issue of Windspeaker.

I'm looking forward to taking your calls until Friday, March 18. So phone in your answers to 455-2700.

As usual, Droppin' In's Mark McCallum will pull five names out of a hat. Those five will get a free Windspeaker poster. Good luck!

BEAVER LAKE: Things are chugging along okay, but they're going to be moving fast this fall. That's when rec man Eric Lameman and his assistant Terry Gladue will graduate from a full-time community recreation program in Lac La Biche. Lameman wants to use what they'll learn to set up a good rec program on the reserve.

The 6 x 10 mile reserve has three ball diamonds, an outdoor rink, community hall and a school gym. Right now there's gym night on Tuesdays and Thursdays and all 325 people who live on the reserve are invited.

EDMONTON: They were "sitting on the John" at the friendship centre here on Feb. 16. That's the name of the charity roast that was held for local radio sports talk host John Short.

The evening was hosted by Jack Donahue, national basketball coach. Special guests included Oiler Kevin Lowe, U of A basketball coach Don Harworth, Vancouver newspaper writer Jim Taylor, Oiler PR man Bill Tuele and Tiger Goldstick.

About 100 people paid \$60 a ticket for the event. The price included a roast beef rib roast cooked by Gordon Russell's wife and friends. And the CNFC junior dancers jiggled up a storm for the audience.

The money raised at the roast will be used to help finance the CNFC girls fastball team's trip to New Zealand this September.

In boxing news: Milt Pahl, ex-MLA and ex-boxer, is helping Gord train the CNFC's Native boys boxing club. The boys train three nights a week getting toughened up for coming fights. They're hoping to host a card in March sometime.

SLAVE LAKE: The friendship centre here hosted a mixed curling bonspiel last Feb. 26-27 weekend and although the turnout was "disappointing," the event drew rinks from as far as Atikameg, Driftpile and Kinuso.

In fact, it was a Kinuso rink that won the tournament. Taking home the first place trophy was the Peter Sound rink. His wife, Yvonne, Harold Twin and Carol Ann Auger made up the rest of the team.

Skip Joe Scotho rocked his way to the "B" top spot while Doug Boisvert earned the "C" side title.

"Normally there would be about 32 rinks," reports Lesley Geiger, a centre employee. "But curling is down all over -- there's lots of curling in Slave Lake and all the bonspiels are running short." Twenty-one teams, or rinks, showed up for the centre's ninth annual bonspiel.

Peter Sound and Leonard Sinclair tied to split the award for the most rocks on the ice at one time. Tom Nehering was the first rink to be eliminated, winning the "skunk award."

The curlers let off steam on Saturday night when they danced to the music of the Star Seekers, a band made up of Slave Lake and Wabasca people.

CORRECTION: Oops! I guess the Edmonton Spirits didn't get beat by the Saskatoon Classics as reported in the Feb. 26 issue. Connie Badger, captain of the Spirits volleyball club, says they never met the Classics at the Regina tourney. They were fourth, she states, but they were defeated by the Regina Shooters, not the Classics.

I get another chance to get it right this weekend when the Spirits go back to Regina for an all-Native men's and ladies' tourney.

WANTED: Sports people and sports happenings that I can add to this column. If you know of a tournament or a person who should be mentioned here, call me at 455-2700 Mondays and Tuesdays.

That's all for now. See you next week.

OUTREACH



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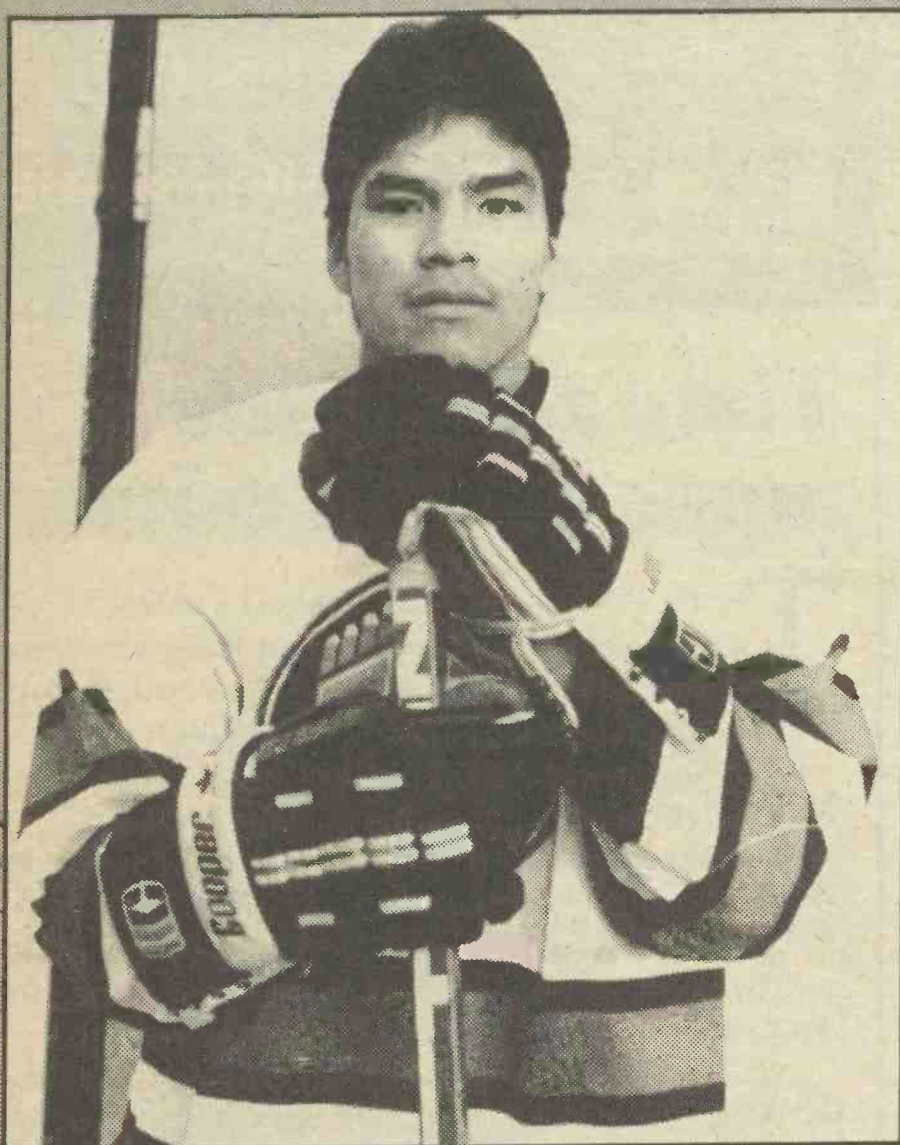


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MEET THE HAWKS



MARK McCALLUM, Windspeaker

Kevin Ned Right Wing

Eighteen-year-old Kevin Ned is a card-carrying Treaty Indian from the Upper Nicnicola, B.C.

"I'm a fair player...and I'm always out there if he (coach) needs me," says Ned, the 6 feet, 170 pound right winger.

He comes from a town in mainland British Columbia called Merritt — about the same size as Wetaskiwin. His father is a carpenter there while his mother works at the Native administration office. Ned has two older brothers and two younger sisters.

Right now Ned is boarding with a farm family just outside of Ponoka while he's a full-time high school student at Ponoka Composite High.

The soft-spoken but confident youth says he's not sure what his plans are after hockey and school is finished. "Hockey is mostly on my mind," he says.

AJHL Stats Compiled Feb. 24, 1988

SOUTH DIVISION	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Calgary Canucks	44	9	0	357	184	88
Red Deer Rustlers	34	14	2	309	221	70
Olds Grizzlys	25	26	3	268	297	53
Calgary Spurs	18	33	3	241	317	39
NORTH DIVISION	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
St. Albert Saints	40	15	0	299	186	80
Fort Saskatchewan	24	28	1	245	254	49
Sherwood Park	18	38	1	195	280	37
Hobbema Hawks	18	36	1	213	292	36
Fort McMurray	14	36	0	207	303	28

Frog Lake tourney attracts 12 teams

By Kim McLain

Larry Quinney has packed away his handgame hardware. Right now he's getting a lot of use out of his hockey equipment.

Most recently, the Frog Lake hockey team he plays defence for hosted a no-hit recreation tourney last Feb. 27-28 weekend.

"And it was 100 per cent successful," said Quinney, 35, Frog Lake band member, over a telephone interview. He explained that the organizers got 12 entries, like they wanted, and the stands at the Elk Point arena stayed full of hockey fans. Adding to the good turnout, Quinney said there was "good volunteer spirit." With lots of volunteers and no bounced cheques the organizers cleared \$11 short of \$2,000.

But when it was all over, it was the St. Paul Bruins who took home the first place trophy plus \$900. They defeated the Minnistikian Islanders of Saskatchewan 7-6 in the final showdown. The Islanders earned \$600 for their second place finish. The Kehewin Redwings placed third, snaring \$225 for their efforts.

On the "B" side, the Kikino Chiefs won over the hosting Frog Lake T-Birds. The Chiefs pocketed \$600 while the T-Birds settled for \$400. The Onion Lake Juniors won third and \$225.

Quinney said that trophies donated by Elk Point businesses were handed out to all-stars in all positions. He added that the organizers were "grateful to the businesses of Elk Point for helping out."

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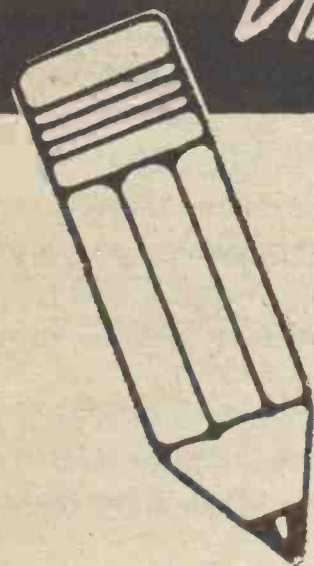
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Tomahawks go undefeated at Onoway

Enoch squad a hockey power

By Kim McLain

The Enoch Tomahawks are carving a niche for themselves among the top hockey contenders in the all-Native senior "C" division.

"We've been the top three of every tournament so far (except Sarcee)," said Robert Morin, coach of the Tomahawks. The team has competed in six tourneys up to now.

Most recently, the Tomahawks made their most decisive victory at the Onoway arena in a tournament hosted by the Alexis band. Morin's players held on through four games without defeat at the Feb. 26-28 weekend event.

Things started out tough for Enoch on Friday night in their game against Goodfish Lake. After three periods of fast-paced hockey the Tomahawks walked away with a 4-2 victory over

Goodfish Lake.

Then on Saturday, things got even dicier with the Alexis Jets. The Tomahawks nearly lost to the Jets but managed to win in overtime 5-4.

Sunday saw the Tomahawks defeat another Alexis team, the Saints, 5-2.

For the final showdown, the Tomahawks found themselves face to face with the Goodfish Lake team again. The score sat at 4-3 for Enoch near the end of the game so Goodfish pulled their goalie in the last minute. But Enoch scored on the empty net, clinching first place and \$1,200 with a 5-3 win. Goodfish Lake took home \$800 for their second place win while the Alexis Saints earned \$400 for third.

Teams that attended, but were just out of the money, were the Alexis Jets, Alexis, Alexander,

Sturgeon Lake and the Paul Band.

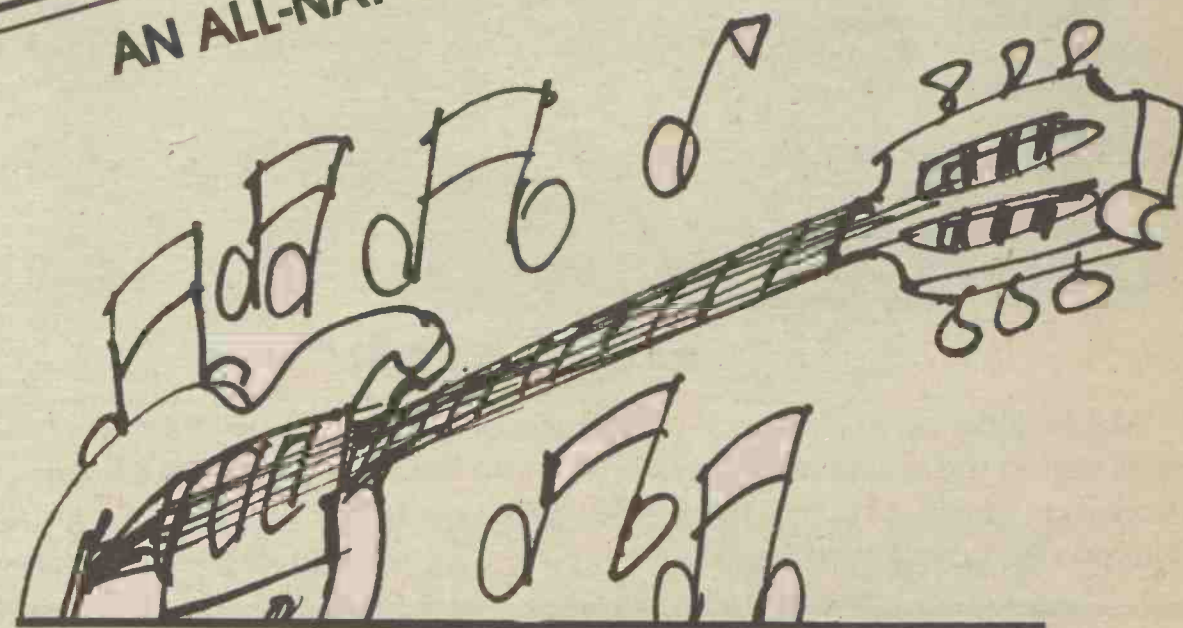
Enoch bagged quite a few individual awards too. Donovan Fiddler's hard work played off, winning him the most valuable player award. Enoch goalie Craig McDonald scored himself a best goalie award, Stan Jackson snared the best center title while Fabian Cardinal impressed the organizers enough to win the best left defence trophy.

Although tournament organizers were unavailable for comment, Enoch coach Morin commended Alexis's job of organizing the tourney. He added that the officiating was "fairly decent."

Enoch recreation will be hosting the Native hockey provincials March 11-13, contact Robert Morin at 470-5645, 470-5646 or 470-5647 for more information.

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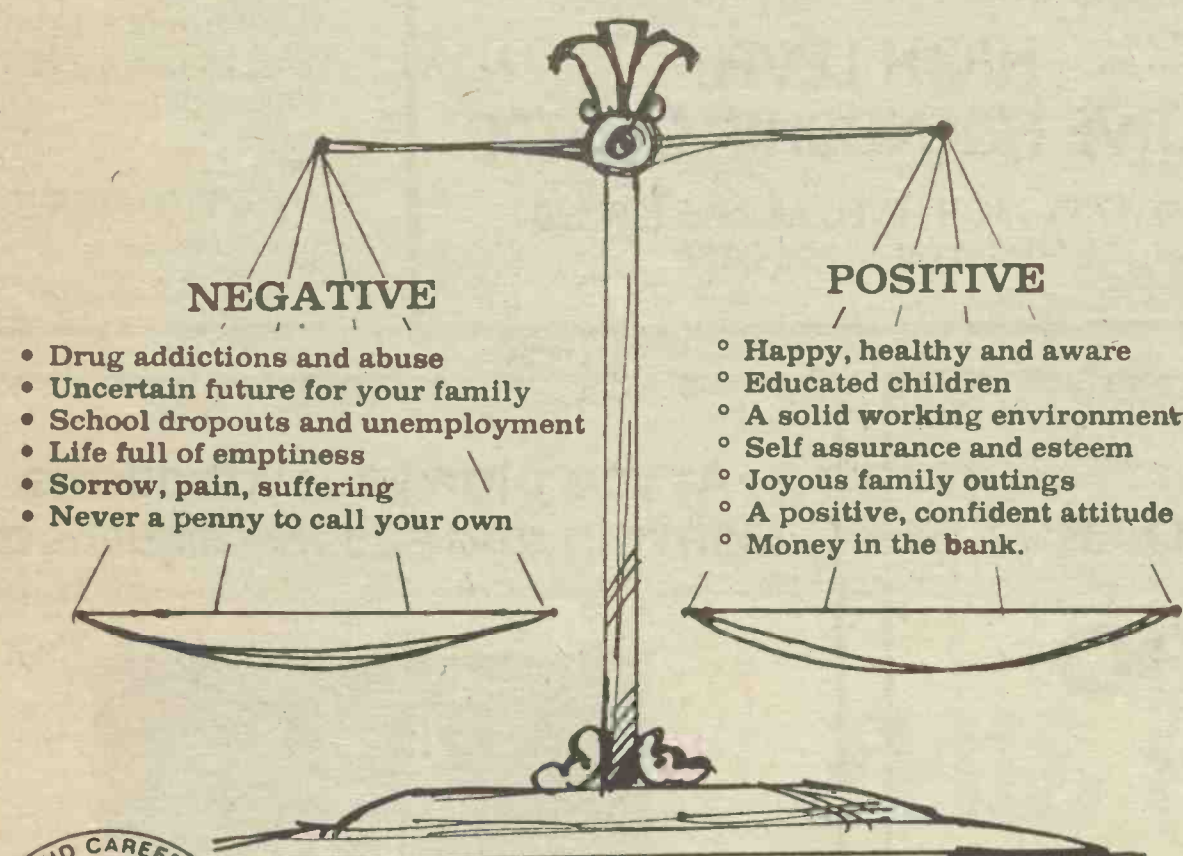
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ALL SMILES

Maybe little Terry Anderson, 7 months old, is giggling because she has the best seat in the house at the powwow — on her daddy Gordon's back. The Anderson family, of Carry the Kettle, Sask., recently attended the February Nakoda '88 powwow in Morley.

DIANNE MEILI, Windspeaker

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St. Joseph	March 8, 7:30 p.m.	10830-109 St.	426-2010
Archbishop MacDonald	March 9, 7:30 p.m.	10810-142 St.	451-1470
Archbishop O'Leary	March 10, 6:30 p.m.	8760-132 Ave.	476-6251
J.H. Picard (English)	March 10, 7:30 p.m.	7055-99 St.	433-4251
Austin O'Brien	March 14, 7:30 p.m.	6110-95 Ave.	466-3161
Holy Trinity	March 15, 7:00 p.m.	7007-28 Ave.	462-5777

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People

Coast to coast tour

Play about land claims takes to the road

By Dorothy Schreiber

While many Indian land claims take place behind closed courtroom doors, a British Columbia tribal council is taking their's on the road in the form of a stage play.

No X Ya (Our Foot Prints), an innovative play about ancestral land, is the brain child of the Gitskan-wet'sawet'en tribal council and Headlines Theatre Co. in Vancouver.

Vice-president of the tribal council Herb George says the play is a way to educate people in a non-threatening way about the land claim.

The territory under claim is the size of Nova Scotia

and is 700 km north of Vancouver. There are also about 20,000 non-Indians living within the boundaries of the land claim which includes Smithers and Hazelton, B.C.

The play is just one way of counteracting provincial government tactics which have created "hysteria" amongst the white community who believe the Indians want to "kick them off their land," says George.

"It has caused a lot of ill feelings in the community... I think people are really surprised by the message in the play that we're not trying to displace anybody."

The 80-minute play unfolds in three movements. The first is a dance segment which takes place in "time out of memory" and shows

how Indian self-government operated before European settlement. The second movement begins with the introduction of European settlers in about 1910 and the inevitable clash between two cultures. The last movement takes place in the present and deals with the Hereditary Chiefs' land claim action and the province of B.C. and federal government.

Last year the play was performed to rave reviews in 28 cities and towns in the province. This spring it will begin a national coast to coast tour on March 30.

The play, which was written by both Native and non-Natives is scheduled to arrive in Alberta in June. The Alberta tour includes the towns and cities of Lac La Biche, Edmonton, Red Deer, Medicine Hat, Calgary and Lethbridge.



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Youth Conference, March 18 & 19, On-chaminahos High School, Saddle Lake. For more information call 726-3730.

Ultreya, March 26, Alexander reserve. Everyone welcome — sponsored by the At. Alexander Catholic prayer group.

Frog Lake Carnival, March 12, Frog Lake school grounds. Contact Blance Noskey at 943-3780 for more info.

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